

E Monarch 491

Chapter 491: A New Wave Rises Before the First One Settles

The corners of the Young Master's mouth curled haughtily. He spoke slowly, "Jun Mo Xie was nothing but a debauchee and a wastrel half a year ago. He was only at Xuan Level Three. He was at the insignificant Jade Xuan Level before going to Southern Heaven City. Jun Mo Xie might not have become as strong as the Tian Fa's Xuan Beast Kings by now, but he has still reached the Sky Xuan middle-level. Young Lady Mei has experience of uncountable years. So, she is very far-sighted. But, how can she judge that I won't be able to reach the level of the Great Masters in these two years plus that will follow? Or an even higher level...? Moreover, you could be calling tomorrow's fact as the ravings of a lunatic!"

Mei Xue Yan was left stumped after she listened to Young Master Jun's "Ravings." [He has transformed from a 'nobody trash' to a Sky Xuan middle rank expert in half-a-year! This transformation isn't something an ordinary person can pull-off. So, why can't he make more breakthroughs in the next two years or so?]

Young Master Jun's voice again rang inside the ears of the stunned and beautiful Mei Xue Yan, "Nothing in this world can stop me from doing something if I want to do it. Even the heavens are no exception!"

The tone of Jun Mo Xie's wordings had been very dull. But, the heroic spirit contained in them had stirred both the women.

Mei Xue Yan narrowed her eyes slowly and absentmindedly. That was because she had found herself believing Jun Mo Xie's arrogant words for some mysterious reason. In fact, she believed them wholeheartedly.

She was someone who possessed a firm and resolute mindset. So, it could be said assumed that his words must've been extremely terrifying to bring about such a change in her.

"I heard that your Aristocratic Hall is auctioning a legendary Bone Tempering pill?" Mei Xue Yan smiled lightly. But, she was circulating her Xuan strength to calm herself as quickly as she could; she was doing this in order to tranquilize her pounding.

"Ha ha, legendary? It's merely an insignificant plaything. Is Young Lady Mei also interested in it?" Jun Mo Xie replied with a smile.

"Insignificant? Young Master Jun speaks very daring words! This 'insignificant plaything' may not be very useful for us Xuan Beast Kings. But, it can make a world of a difference in the Xuan strength of you humans! In fact, it is akin to getting a new lease on life! Hasn't your master told you even this much? Moreover, you've even managed to put them up for auction! I have no choice but to admire the immensity of your courage!"

Mei Xue Yan flashed a slight smile at first. Then, she put on a dignified expression, "I believe that even the Three Holy Lands will send their people to the auction once the authenticity of your pills have been confirmed. After all, pills that can temper one's natural bone structure... something as divine as these pills have never occurred in this world!"

"The Three Holy Lands will also send people? Isn't that impossible? These pills can only make the bones of an ordinary human very compact; that's all. But, the experts in the Three Holy Lands have been consolidating their strength for centuries. So, why would they be interested in this?" Jun Mo Xie was somewhat stunned.

"How is that impossible? You think those pills are ordinary? And, you dare call yourself a Xuan expert!? Don't you know that the human body always remains be a bit uncoordinated? This fact doesn't change even if the individual is a heavenly genius who has trained extremely hard. Consequently, an expert can't make one after another. Therefore, the martial skills of Xuan experts have relative defects. And, we usually call such defects, 'break points.' Moreover, the speed of their movements is directly related to their bones, muscles, and veins.

"A large number of human experts exhaust their natural capacity. They continue to strive hard in order to increase their strengths. But, they fail to make their breakthroughs."

Mei Xue Yan continued helplessly, "However, most experts can easily make their breakthroughs if they have these kinds of pills in their hands. And yet, you've put these pills up for auction... You know... even experts stronger than the Great Masters can only train in accordance to their natural bone structure. Even they have no means of changing that. But, these Bone Tempering Pills will enable such people to

increase their strength a step further since they'll be able to alter their very bone-structure. In fact, even the smallest of transformations would wield results. And, you should know how difficult it is for such strong people to go even a step further in their cultivation..."

"It seems that... I've been negligent in this matter!" Jun Mo Xie pondered and nodded, "It seems that I've been going about this matter in a simple manner."

Jun Mo Xie looked up and said, "Young Lady Mei, many thanks for telling me about this. You two are obviously very strong, but living here must be inconvenient for you. It'd be better if you come to my place. And, you already know Guan Qing Han. Moreover, it'll also be easier for us to have any discussions that way. In fact, we can refer with each other as per convenience."

Jun Mo Xie was already making calculations for the future. [Asking these two pretty chicks to come to my home is akin to getting two extremely powerful defense-type amulets for the Jun Family! These two women are as beautiful as heavenly fairies. And, their strength is even more heavenly!]

[And, they can seriously turn into demons when messed with!]

[This Mei Xue Yan is much stronger than the Great Masters. And, Green Hunter is as strong as the Great Masters. Moreover, Solitary Falcon is already sitting at home... Our family can easily defend itself against the entire Tian Xiang Empire's Imperial strength with this kind of strength. In fact, all the remaining Great Masters wouldn't be able to do anything if they joined hands. We could even withstand against the strength of the Three Holy Lands if they tried to invade. There are many people around me who can't defend themselves. But, even they will be protected in this manner...]

[I can finally lay down my worries and pay a visit to the Dongfang Family. Then, I can make that long journey to the Silver Blizzard City in order to settle that long-fermented debt.]

The crumbling of the Sword Snow Mountain, and the fulfillment of his third uncle's love — these were the two things that Jun Mo Xie was presently striving to achieve.

[I must train crazy hard whether they stay at my house or not. I must, and I must. I will train hard to break through the levels of Art of Unlocking the Heaven's Fortune and the Hong Jun Pagoda! A breakthrough is the only way in which I can gather more power!]

"Good! Then, we'll shamelessly accept your hospitality. I'll also take this opportunity to have a proper interaction with your master in the hope that we can deepen our cooperation," Mei Xue Yan hesitated for a moment. However, she finally agreed to it.

Jun Mo Xie was left to rejoice.

Therefore, the three people started to move towards the Tian Xiang City. Jun Mo Xie asked a question out of curiosity while they were on route, "Young Lady Mei, you had said that those Wolf-Men roar a chant every time they make a move. What chant was that exactly?"

Mei Xue Yan's pretty eyebrows shot up. She pondered for a while before she spoke, "It was 'Tyrant Crush'... something... I had heard it a very long time ago during the last battle... So, I don't remember it clearly."

Jun Mo Xie became extremely angry when he first heard those words. He gnashed his teeth and cursed, "Tyrant crushes everything along the path!"

"Ah, yes... that's what they'd say... how do you know...?" Mei Xue Yan wobbled her head a few times before she was able to recall it. However, she then looked at Jun Mo Xie with extreme amazement, "How do you know this? Don't tell me that your master participated in a Battle for Seizing the Heavens!"

"..." Jun Mo Xie remained silent, and started to walk faster.

Jun Mo Xie brought the two women to the Jun Household. He then arranged for them to stay with Guan Qing Han. After all, the women already knew each other. Then, Jun Mo Xie started his unrelenting training. He received a pile of invitations in the days that followed. In fact, these invitations had stacked several feet in height. There were invitations from the Three Princes, and every powerful family of Tian Xiang. Even the Xuan Families while hailed outside the city had come looking for him...

However, Jun Mo Xie had ignored all of them. After all, he had no time to waste on such trivial matters and insignificant individuals while in training.

Tang Yuan had been extremely busy during this period. He had to set up the auction for the Bone Tempering Pills on one hand. And, he also had to deal with the Huang Family on the other. However, he did everything in a very swift and decisive manner.

Fatty soon realized that the upcoming auction wouldn't be an easy affair. It at least wouldn't be like any of the easy auctions he had conducted in the past. But, this auction couldn't be altered even after he had realized that.

The unluckiest was the Golden East City's Huang Family. Their son had left for Tian Xiang City. And, they had been dreaming that he would return with good tidings. They were even hoping for him to return with a promise of marriage from the Dugu Family. After all, this would make their desires for a rise in the Huang Family's strength come true. They had been waiting and waiting for great tidings... But, they received the grievous news instead...

Their son had suddenly been killed. Moreover, Dugu Zong Heng was extremely angry with them. And, he even wanted to have a tough word with them. The Huang Family obviously began to panic when they heard of this...

The Huang Family hadn't even dealt with Old Man Dugu about that matter when their affiliated businesses were pushed into an all-round crisis. Most of their business partners left overnight and cut any-and-all affiliations with them. Moreover, their main businesses were being suppressed to a point where they couldn't even recover. In fact, they were suffering huge losses on every transaction.

These issues hadn't even subsided when hooligans suddenly started to smash into their venues in order to extort them every few days. Moreover, their family's people couldn't even go out without getting beaten up. In fact, most of them would return covered in bruises.

Some of the local government officers used to sit and chat with their Family's old lord over a bottle of wine under usual circumstances. However, the offices of these officials had suddenly turned into hell for the Huang Family. For example, let's assume that a normal procedure would require three days for completion. However, it could be done in half-a-day for the Huang Family in the past. But now... not even one-third of those procedures were completed in half-a-month. And, they still couldn't complain... That's because the procedures would come to a complete standstill if they did so. This obviously meant that they'd have to go through the entire process again...

As the matters stood, the Huang Family could be called 'stupid' if they didn't realize that they had offended a powerful entity. Old Man Huang personally went to the Dugu Family. However, he wasn't

treated well. In fact, he was able to see his daughter only after going through many difficulties. It was then that he had found out that his grandson had genuinely died. He also learned of the entity his deceased grandson had offended. It turned out that the youngster had offended a family their Huang Family couldn't afford to offend. Plus, the offense was also one they could never afford to commit...

Moreover, this offense was the reason which had led to the youngster's death!

Old Man Huang's legs went weak after he heard the real reason everything that had been happening. In fact, he nearly fainted. He couldn't help but let out violent cries. [Boy, I would've never objected if you had wanted to fight a rival for your love. But, couldn't you have first considered your own standing in front of him? You acted with jealousy towards the Tang and the Jun Family's heirs... And, you even plotted to kill them...? Your heart was cursedly bold!]

[I naturally hate them since they've killed him! But, this hatred seems negligible when compared to the interest of the entire family's survival. After all, there are hundreds of people left in the family. And, all of them still have to eke out a living! And, these issues are more important than that sole boy's life! Much more important!]

The family's wealth had been decreasing at an increasing rate. In fact, it was declining at an extremely alarming rate. Therefore, Old Man Huang decided to discard his dignity and beg forgiveness of Young Master Tang. However, the Huang Family's situation suddenly took a turn for the better just before this happened...

And, this unexpected turn of events made Old Man Huang doubly confident about his situation. He forgot about his plan to apologies. Furthermore, he also decided to make them suffer instead. [I'll make that Fatty Tang and that Debauchee Jun kneel while begging for forgiveness! I won't let them off easily!]

In fact, Old Man Huang had openly declared, "My Huang Family won't submit to force. It doesn't matter who has offended us — they will pay the price! And, whoever has committed the offence of killing my grandson will repay this debt with their life!

"It doesn't matter who you are!"

"One must pay with their life if they kill someone! This is the heaven's law!"

Old Man Huang gnashed his teeth, and announced the 'truth' of this whole matter, "We had an agreement for marriage with the Dugu Family. But, they've reneged on that agreement in order to get their daughter married to that brat from the Jun Family! They've sold their daughter for glory! And, my Huang Family holds their actions in contempt! But, the engagement has been fixed. So, it must not be altered. My boy has certainly died. But, the Dugu Family's girl will still marry into my Huang Family in accordance with the wedding contract!

"The Heavens are watching the actions of men! Truth and false will be differentiated when the heaven spread their light!"

Old Man Huang was even more unyielding towards Tang Yuan, "My boy accidentally pushed you into that latrine pit since he thought that it was a 'bath', didn't he? And, you refused to forgive his mistake? You kill him at first. But, you didn't stop there. You then used those malicious methods to deal with us! How is this the heaven's law? How is this justice?"

This created a huge uproar. After all, everyone had now learnt that Fatty had fallen into that pit. This made Old Man Tang extremely angry. And, Fatty Tang obviously suffered several times the humiliation and pain once the matter became public. However, it could be said that Fatty Tang had smashed his own foot with the rock that he had picked. After all, these patrons of the Huang Family might not have appeared if it weren't for the auction of those Bone Tempering pills. Therefore, they would've never learned about the death of that youngster...

Then, the Huang Family also took a meticulous aim at Young Master Jun, "You are the greatest debauchee and wastrel of Tian Xiang? You think that you can do whatever you want because of your master's backing? Do you think your family is super-strong? You ignore the laws, and oppress the people with tyranny! You stole another man's beloved. And then, you even had him killed! What sort of malice is this? How can this behavior be tolerated? Moreover, the girl you're trying to snatch is still my Huang Family's future daughter-in-law! You're courting death!"

The Huang Family also sent out many experts to beat up the low-lives who had caused so much trouble for them a few days ago. They even had the non-cooperating merchants beaten up. And, they only stopped once the grievous howls of pain had started to echo everywhere.

The Huang Family had taken a clear stand — they had vowed to fight against these three powerful and shameless Families. They would never surrender.

The Huang Family was filled with wrath!

All levels of society were shaken and sent in uproar as this new spread. [Who would've imagined that the insignificant Huang Family could be so crazy?! They even have the guts to take on the Dugu, Tang, and Jun Families! And, that too at the same time! Have they eaten something bad and lost their minds?]

[Was that Old Man Huang's head kicked by a donkey? Has his head filled with water? Has he gone insane after his grandson's death? He's provoking the Dugu, Tang, and the Jun Families at the same time. These are the actions of a lunatic! Calling his action 'completely crazy' won't be an exaggeration!]

Countless people were watching these events unfold from a detached point of view. Most of them thought that the Huang Family was done for.

Then, there were others who speculated that the Huang Family had some backing. After all, how else could they do something like this? How could they even dare to?

Chapter 492: Three Great Pills

However, every family seemed to have smelled different flavors. They continued to watch in a detached manner whilst minding their own business. But, the strangest reaction had come from the Emperor. He had ignored all matters — whether serious or not — ever since the army had returned from the Southern Heaven City. He sat on the throne like a calm fisherman sits on the shore when the sea is enveloped in a storm. [I'll act deaf and mute. It doesn't matter what you do. It doesn't matter what noise you make. Why should any of this affect me?]

However, his obscure behavior had set even more tongues wagging...

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The news of the Bone Tempering Pill's astonishing strength spread far and wide. And, the Tian Xiang City instantly became a very popular place. A new chariot would enter the city almost every day. It would usually be carrying members from the various Xuan Families. The carriages would leave deep ruts in

their wake. This symbolized that they were transporting heavy stuff. Many of them also seemed to be carrying something yellow and white.

There were many people who had arrived as lone travelers. But, they too had brought huge amounts of paper money with them. And, they would start converting them into gold and silver once they had entered the city. Every bank in Tian Xiang had filled with paper money in a few days' time, while all the gold and silver had been transferred into the guest houses and taverns.

And, the people were still endlessly streaming-in from far off places ...

Jun Mo Xie had stepped into the Hong Jun Pagoda the moment he had gotten a second's time after returning home that day. He would absorb the heavenly aura, convert it into energy, and would then put it to use...

Everyone knew that Jun Mo Xie was at the Jun residence. But, it seemed as if no one had seen him there. And, there were no exceptions to this...

Jun Mo Xie had been training like a madman during this time. However, he was also examining the 'Book of Folk Remedy' more frantically than ever. [Tens of millions of medicinal recipes are recorded inside the Art of Unlocking the Heaven's Fortune. So, don't tell me that these millions of recipes don't contain a single one which I can use to improve a person's strength at this time...]

Jun Mo Xie couldn't believe that.

But, it can sometimes be very difficult to find something even if one believes that they exist. He looked everywhere, but still came up empty handed.

However, it wasn't very surprising that his research was turning out this way. It must be mentioned that the Art of Unlocking the Heaven's Fortune was supposed to be the most astonishing Xuan art. And, a mere mortal should've never dipped his finger into a pool of such marvelous strength. After all, it contained the ultimate methods for Xuan cultivation. One could explain this better by drawing an analogy — Let's say that a scholar opened the greatest encyclopedia, and tried to search for elementary knowledge in it. One could skim through the entire book, but they'd only obtain superficial knowledge. It wasn't that the level of the book wasn't enough... it was just that the said-scholar's level wasn't enough to read this great encyclopedia...

Jun Mo Xie was unfortunately stuck in a similarly embarrassing situation. The Art of Unlocking the Heaven's Fortune recorded some excellent folk remedies in it. However, it was a pity that he either couldn't refine those pills... or couldn't use those pills if refined. There were some pills which he could refine and use. But, his body was likely to explode after taking even one such pill. Consequently, he would die...

[This is a super-encyclopedia. So, it is unlikely to leave me disappointed. For example, the Ten Years' pill was an exception to all this. And, I'm sure that there are other 'exceptions' in this encyclopedia. I only need to search some more. I'm sure I'll find something!]

It needs to be mentioned that Young Master Jun had built up great reserves of pills such as the Ten Years' pills during this time. In fact, he now had hundreds of bottles of them. He had also made reserves worth dozens of bottles when it came to the Bone Tempering Pills. So, he was certain that he had enough for his requirements. He had done so because he knew that the Xuan Beasts would only be interested in these pills, and any other pills would've entirely wasted on them...

That's because strength was the most important thing in the eyes of the Xuan Beasts! Strength was also the second most important thing to them! And, the third most important thing was also... strength.

This is what they wanted. This was their sole pursuit.

Young Master Jun had collected hundreds of legendary raw materials in the Tian Fa Forest. Jun Mo Xie had originally collected those materials in order to increase his own strength. And, he certainly had a lot of these divine materials in-store when it came to his own needs. But, he still didn't have enough when it came to the most suitable set of required ingredients. And, most of these would go waste because of this reason...

In fact, he could easily increase his strength over a short period of time if he were start absorbing the efficacies of these medicines. But, there would still be long-term repercussions. Let's take that hundred-year-old ginseng as an example. He could easily increase his strength if he were to take that ginseng; his Qi's quality would also improve...

However, the result wouldn't be too effective. After all, that ginseng had accumulated the efficacy which suited its own composition over these hundred years or so. But, this didn't mean that it was a hundred-percent suitable for human use...

There was a saying that 'every medicine has its side effects'. Therefore, taking only one kind of medicinal herbs would only result in poor results. Moreover, this practice would also bring about an imbalance in his Yin-Yang attributes. After all, something like a ginseng was rich in the masculine Yang attribute, but lacked the same amount of feminine Yin aspects. However, it must be said that the consumer's strength would increase. It was similar to the case of a doctor's first choice medicine when it came to the treatment of a patient who was in dire need. The said-doctor would usually choose the medicine which can deliver the most extreme degree of the urgently required essence. Consuming the ginseng would certainly bring about the needed Yang effect to nourish the consumer's strength. However, it would also create an imbalance by inducing a lack of the Yin attribute in the user's body.

The Thousand Evils and Ten Thousand Poisons fruit he had collected in the Tian Fa Forest could serve as another example. This item was extremely precious for the society at large. But, it was insufficient in its independent merit when it came to the top-notch recipes recorded inside Art of Unlocking the Heaven's Fortune. Therefore, he would need an abundance of other high-grade materials to complement its nature. But, Jun Mo Xie still held this item in high regards. And, this wasn't because its grade was higher than that of other items. Instead, it was because Jun Mo Xie could use it as an important ingredient to concoct an exceptional pill once he had entered the sixth layer.

The attributes of the Thousand Evils and Ten Thousand Poisons fruit were very extreme when regarded from the perspective of human use. In fact, they were extremely dark and extremely demonic. One could certainly attempt to eliminate a great amount of its poisonous nature if they had enough time. However, the immense power of the medicine would still be too much to endure for a regular person. The Xuan Beasts' physiques were absolutely different. But, even they may not have been able to endure it. They would naturally be able to breakthrough their bottlenecks if they were successful in bearing the burden. And, their cultivations would advance exponentially as a result. But, their bodies would explode if they weren't able to handle that burden. And, this would only mean a certain death for them.

Tian Fa Forest's Xuan Beast Kings were well-aware of this danger. But, they were willing to fight through this life-threatening situation in order for their pursuit of strength. This was somewhat like a divine path in the Young Master Jun's eyes. After all, the heavens do extort a price for everything.

This obviously didn't mean that it wasn't a legendary herb. After all, one's strength would increase by leaps and bounds if they were able to consume it... However, this didn't mean that this medicine's properties could be exploited under exception circumstances. One such way was to use to make high-level divine pill. The successful refining of those pills would increase the effectiveness. Moreover, its effects would reach a higher number of individuals. Could such a herb be recklessly squander? Let's take the example of a millennia-old mushroom that can increase a person's strength by a hundred years upon consumption. It needs to be mentioned that mushroom would only be used by one person in its

raw form. However, it could be used to give a hundred year worth of strength to ten people in case it was to be refined into a medicinal pill.

The distinction between ease and importance is often ignored. And, the Tian Fa's Sacred Fruit was also an item that made a reluctant addition to this list. The Xuan Beast Kings from Tian Fa wouldn't be the only ones to gain the benefits of this fruit's properties if Jun Mo Xie was able to refine a pill with it... many other people could also benefit from it.

Therefore, this had to be thought about in a proper manner. Else, it would only be superfluous.

Jun Mo Xie's Xuan cultivation increased unceasingly as the days passed. So, he was already in the midst of breaking through the Sky Xuan middle ranks in accordance to the regular Xuan strength parlance. This effectively meant that he was inching towards the Sky Xuan peak.

Jun Mo Xie would be immersed in considering how he could refine the legendary medicine when he wasn't practicing his cultivation. He had been researching the Book of Folk Remedies very carefully during this time. And, Jun Mo Xie's relentless efforts were finally beginning to pay off. After all, he had finally short-listed some recipes from the massive list of pills that were listed therein.

The "encyclopedia" admittedly had sparse elementary knowledge. But, it didn't mean that the said-knowledge was absent from its text. Moreover, the scarcity of such knowledge also meant that only the extraordinary ones of the said-category were listed therein. It was similar to the case of the Thousand Evils Ten Thousand Poisons fruit. It was a legendary medicinal source for the society at large. But, it was still something they couldn't use without the fear of a negative reaction from it. However, the sixth layer of the Folk Remedies could achieve this feat.

Jun Mo Xie would only read the name and steps of refining the medicines in the past. However, he had now started reading the side information and detailed notes of the same as well.

He had fished out many other kind of pills besides the Ten Year' pills when it came to the category of supplements that could increase one's strength. In fact, he had found seven to eight more kinds of recipes in his hunt for the needle in the haystack. Moreover, the effects of each of these pills were extra-ordinary. And, this discovery had obviously given Jun Mo Xie a nice surprise.

However, he had ignored the first and the second level pills. After all, he was at the third level now. So, he obviously wanted to learn to refine the pills of that level.

He had found three such pills — the Vitality Linkage Pill, the Vitality Congregation Pill, and the Heavenly Vitality Pill.

Jun Mo Xie had spent a tremendous amount of effort in short-listing these three pills. In fact, he felt as if sorting through the myriad of the recipes listed in that book was more research than he had ever done in his previous life.

Jun Mo Xie even believed that the entire syllabus of the Beijing University would've been on his fingertips if he had shown such concentrated zeal in his previous life. The language of each country would've been nothing more than a matter of dusting his hand. Even obtaining doctorates or masters of every prestigious university wouldn't have been anything for him. This would've obviously meant that he would've never had to pretend being anyone...

The Vitality Linkage was a divine pill which promoted the speed of the flow of aura through a person's meridians. Moreover, it could be used for Xuan Qi of a normal human and the Primary Qi of Tian Fa's Xuan Beasts. This pill certainly couldn't advance someone's Xuan strength. But, it would greatly advance the speed at which the aura would work inside them.

Let's imagine the speed of water's flow inside a three meter wide river. The speed of water in that river is quite even... neither fast nor slow. And, there's another river of the same breadth. But, the water in this second river is surging with greater speeds. Wouldn't the force of the second river be much greater?

And, the effectiveness of this pill wasn't limited to this comparison alone! Let's assume that the meridians of a regular person were like a brook. Then, their meridians would resemble a high altitude waterfall after they had taken this pill.

The river would remain the same river. But, its essence would be completely different.

The aim of the Vitality Linkage Pill was to turn a plane river into a mountain waterfall.

Let's assume that a certain expert was able to strike three times in one breath. Then, this person would be able to launch nine strikes in the same time after they had taken this pill. And, there was much more to it. After all, a person's lethality would increase by ten-fold if their battle-efficiency were to increase three-fold in a decisive moment of the fight. Consequently, this minute difference would result in a massive deviation in the final outcome. And, this was especially true for Tian Fa's fast and powerful Xuan Beast Kings. In fact, this pill was almost tailor-made for them. It could even be called the most auspicious potion in the whole world.

Even Jun Mo Xie felt that such an astonishing change was frightening! However, good rewards are often accompanied by high risks. And, this pill also came with its fair-share of dangers. One needed to be above the Spirit Xuan Realm in terms of strength. Still, those without tough and flexible meridians would end up impacting their own meridians in a negative way by using this pill. Then, their entire bodies would burst apart from the negative impact of this pill's efficacy. And, there would be no hoping of saving a person if something like this happened.

The Vitality Congregation Pill...

This medicine was the similar in nature since it couldn't increase strength directly either. But, it could quicken the speed of congregation of the physical strength, spirit strength, primary strength, and Xuan strength inside the body. Moreover, the dantian would also service the rest of the body a hundred times better; the same stood true for the various vessels connected to it. It could also increase the absorption and transformation of the Qi in the surroundings. Moreover, the speed of training would also increase by leaps and bounds after ingesting this pill. In fact, the previous speed of cultivation would only seem tortoise-like in front of this newly-attained one.

Chapter 493: Concocting Pills

And, the restrictions were the same as the Vitality Linkage Pill. Basically, great rewards are always accompanied with high risk.

It has to be said that anyone could've easily realized that Jun Mo Xie was being an idiot. After all, he hadn't realized that the Vitality Congregation Pill was pretty much the same as the Spirit Amassing Pills from the previous level. However, its effectiveness was far more than that of those pills from the previous.

The Heavenly Vitality Pill...

This pill could be used to increase strength; but, it had no other benefits. It could be said to be an upgraded version of the Ten Years' Pills. Taking one of these pills would increase the strength by fifty years. However, its restrictions were greater than that of the Ten Years' Pills. It couldn't be taken by anyone. Only those at Sky Xuan Realm and above could take these.

Jun Mo Xie was going wild inside the Hong Jun Pagoda. He was laughing and cursing. He yelled out; [Hard work always pays off. This instance proves that one shall get to reap the harvest if the plough the field in a diligent manner. This Young Master has worked so diligently, but he has finally found these three kinds of pills. This is like finding some measure of hope after exhausting oneself rugged whilst being at the edge of desperation.]

However, the Young Master still had some doubts. After all, strength had always been of paramount importance in his mind. Consequently, he believed that the Heavenly Vitality Pill was better than the Vitality Linkage and the Vitality Congregation Pill. After all, it could increase strength by fifty years. [Why would something as amazing and terrifying as the Heavenly Vitality Pill have such a low-level restriction?]

[Moreover, the other two pills are restricted for use until the Spirit Xuan Realm and above. But, the Heavenly Vitality Pill's restriction is only at the Sky Xuan Level. The disparity between these two is far too much, right? This doesn't make any sense...]

People would've probably beaten him up if they had heard of the doubts he harbored. In fact, the said-individuals would've turned his face into a peach blossom. Those eyes of his' would've puffed, and he would've been left to see stars hovering around him. His head would've resembled that of a pig... or maybe an elephant's posterior. However, they would've at least told him why they had beaten him red... And, it could be assumed that he would've only vomited blood even if he would try to roar in anger afterwards...

He was idiot — a thorough and true idiot! Such a divine level of idiocy would even leave the gods speechless. However, the Young Master was still favored by such amazing fortunes! How could such a great thing fall into the hands of such a big idiot? It seemed as if an excellent cabbage had been awarded to a pig which had dug the earth with its snout...

Jun Mo Xie had seemingly taken permanent residence in the Hong Jun Pagoda. And, he would only do one of two things — He'd either refine the pills, or he'd practice his martial arts. He'd often feel thirsty or hungry. But, he would simply eat some of the "common" ingredients he had stored there. It was a bit of a waste, but it could satiate his thirst and hunger under the circumstances. Moreover, these "common" herbs would also give him energy. He obviously had a huge stock of them in his reserves. So, he didn't bother himself much with them since only a short amount of time was left at his hands.

It was clear that these things weren't of much importance to Jun Mo Xie anymore since he had started to compare these 'mere' materials to the greatest herbs available. Consequently, Young Master Jun was being extravagant and wasteful with them. In fact, he was wasting them recklessly. Any other family of this Xuan Xuan Continent would've held these items in the highest regard. They would've taken rebirth to live a life of extreme torment even if they had died... but they wouldn't have allowed these herbs to slip out of their hands.

After all, these were top-notch raw materials which came from the very depths of Tian Fa! In fact, these herbs could be considered the accumulation of the many years of horrors in the Tian Fa Forest. After all, how many people in the world were capable of safely reaching the very core of Tian Fa? Even the Eight Great Masters would fear losing their lives if they were to enter the Tian Fa Forest...

Even a hundred-year-old herb would be considered a treasure if it were to be put out in the open market. However, Jun Mo Xie was treating the thousand-year-old ones as carrots... In fact, he was even sighing... [It's tasteless. It doesn't even have salt's taste. It tastes like I'm chewing wax. It's not tasty at all... This Young Master is being mistreated...]

Many old and grey-haired men from the divine medicinal families would've been left striving to get here if this information had gotten out. In fact, they would've fought and smashed each other's heads to rush here first. [I... I... I beg you... I beg you to let me endure this mistreatment instead... I beg you... my whole family of eight generations begs you to allow us to endure this in your place... lets us be mistreated...]

Then, there was that Fatty Tang... A money-grubbing miser like him would've come yelling and crying, "Elder Brother! You're my elder brother! Why don't you bully me instead! I'll take it ten times, a hundred times, whatever you want! But, stop eating these. It's like you're eating a mountain of silver or gold! Mistreat me as much as you want, but stop this..."

Young Master Jun's face would redden once those thousands of years old herbs had reached his belly. Energy would surge through his body, and he would have no place to vent it. So, he'd first circulate his energy smoothly and steadily throughout his body. Then, he'd roar and practice his skill for a long time.

After that, he'd snigger and snort. Then, he'd practice his sword play for a bit. And, he would begin refining the pills again once he was done with this...

Jun Mo Xie was already quite experienced in refining the pills. After all, it could be said that he had gained a fairly rich alchemic experience from frantically refining the Bone Tempering and Ten Years' Pills in the past. However, Jun Mo Xie was confronting the research on these three new pills. And, he rightly believed that he should start with the pill of the lowest level. He would wait till he had garnered more experience before he'd begin to refine the more troublesome and higher-valued Heavenly Vitality Pill. After all, squandering such top-notch ingredients would be a huge waste...

Therefore, his first choice was the pill which was comparatively simpler — the Vitality Linkage Pill.

The Young Master Jun was in high spirits. He assumed a balanced stance to start. It was a most eye-catching stance. After that, he started mumbling the chants he had learnt, "Om... ma mi... ma mi... hong... hong... ma mi... hong..."

Then, he pointed his finger like a sword.

The 'Furnace of Good Fortune' started to whiz. It rose into the air, and started to rotate. It started emitting various vapors and lights of ten-thousand hues along with its rotating motion.

It slowly started to flame-up as the black 'Flame of Primal Chaos' silently leapt up. The flame then rushed up with a loud "Bang!", and covered the furnace. The black flame was moving like thousands of ghostly tongues. The blaze had begun to combust within the furnace. And, the black color of the flame had illuminated the multi-colored 'Furnace of Good Fortune' in a splendid manner...

Jun Mo Xie flashed a prideful smile; he was brimming with confidence. His empty right hand grabbed towards around twenty herbs he had prepared in advance. And, they floated forth very slowly as a result. In fact, it seemed as if an invisible string was pulling them along. These herbs then entered the furnace one by one... like moths drawn to a flame.

Jun Mo Xie made several fluctuating finger movements. He then heard a "Bang!" as the lid of the furnace flew up. But, it only flew up for a second before rejoining the main body of the furnace. Then, there was another explosion as the Flame of Primal Chaos soared. And, the entire furnace was surrounded by it in an instant as a result.

Jun Mo Xie moved his limbs in accordance to the requirement for the refining of the pills. He moved around the black flame as his fingers made many gestures. Consequently, energy surged from within his body to support the combustion of the Flame of Primal Chaos.

Time passed quickly. However, Young Master Jun suddenly felt that something was wrong.

[Damn! I've been refining these pills for a long while now. In fact, I guess that I've already spent at least ten-fold the time I've ever spent on any of the pills I've refined in the past. So, how come I haven't witnessed any activity yet? I would've taken the pills out of the furnace by now if these were the Ten Years' Pills. But, there hadn't been any development in the case of these pills! What's going on...?]

A good while passed, and Jun Mo Xie started feeling that his energy had drained. He felt his mental strength waning, and he was on the verge of passing out. His legs felt weak, and his body had become damp from the excessive sweating. The Young Master's energy was nearly bottoming out. However, there hadn't been any activity from the dark flames surrounding the furnace.

[I must stand firm! This is a very crucial moment! I can't screw up! I must stand firm!]

Jun Mo Xie clenched his teeth, took out a Ten Years' Pill, and threw it into his mouth. [It can't increase my strength anymore, but it can still restore my energy.]

.... ..

The Goddess of Fortune favored the Young Master once more when he was completely exhausted, and wasn't able to continue any further... There was a sound of a gong from the furnace, and its lid flew into the sky with a gentle sound resembling that of birds. The Flame of Primal Chaos silently withdrew, and slowly crumbled into a small heap inside the furnace.

"Heavens be damned! It's too difficult! How can it be so difficult? It isn't like the Bone Tempering Pills or the majority of other pills! How can it be so difficult? This process nearly killed this Young Master!" Jun Mo Xie panted hoarsely. He was sweating very profusely. His legs shuddered like noodles for a moment. Then, they eventually buckled. And, he was forced to sit as a result. It was like he had done a lot of work throughout many nights without rest. He was like a horse which had run thousands of miles without a

moment's rest. His tongue poked out as he continued to pant and shake for a long while. He then stood up with difficulty, and stretched his neck to look into the furnace.

"How could this be?" Jun Mo Xie exclaimed in shock. He couldn't believe what he was seeing. Consequently, the Young Master rubbed his eyes, and stared at it again.

A heap of black ash quietly lay in the furnace...

Jun Mo Xie felt like an inflated balloon that was leaking air; he felt paralyzed. His body's reserves had been depleted in their entirety. His energy had been pushed beyond the limit. And, his confidence had suffered a crushing blow. [I wasted so much energy, and I still failed! Fu*k me! How could it be so difficult?]

"Fu*k! I don't believe this evil sorcery! I will sort you out. Don't think that I can't bring you under my control just because I've failed once!" Jun Mo Xie's expression was fierce as he jumped up and raised his finger to the sky. Then, he closed his eyes and initiated the Art of Unlocking the Heaven's Fortune once more with the entirety of his strength.

His dantian warmed up, and started palpitating. Then, a stream of pure energy flew out, and rushed through his meridians. The divine aura inside the Hong Jun Pagoda violently started moving towards Jun Mo Xie like tornados on a sea.

A long and immeasurable period of time elapsed. Jun Mo Xie's eyes suddenly emitted a sharp radiance as they opened. His physical stamina and energy had been restored to its optimum. But, further investigations made Jun Mo Xie realize that his 'energy overdraft' limit had surprisingly increased from its previous limit.

This increase in overdraft limit was a great step towards the next level inside the Art of Unlocking the Heaven's Fortune. In fact, he could clearly feel that his ability to absorb aura had increased by three or four times.

"That's strange!" Jun Mo Xie scratched his head. Then, he got out into his courtyard, and realized that his effort in refining those pills had taken no less than a full day and a night if the subsequent recovery of his strength was also taken into account.

He had stayed in the Hong Jun Pagoda for over ten days if everything was to be taken into account. His originally snow-white gown had become so filthy that it couldn't even be looked at. His hair was disheveled and dirty. In fact, it appeared like he had been into a chicken coop. His face had many black marks, and his sweat was flooding the floor. He'd look like a beggar... even to beggars.

Jun Mo Xie quickly gave a few orders to make arrangements. Then, he hurriedly slipped into the large bathtub, and scrubbed himself clean. And, he also thought about what had happened as he did so...

He didn't even know how lucky he was that he hadn't chosen the pill which was even more difficult. He had only chosen the second-tier Vitality Linkage Pill. He would've been in a much worse-off condition if he had picked the Vitality Congregation Pill instead. However, things would've been different if he had chosen the easy Heavenly Vitality Pill. In fact, it was possible that he would've been done with the refining by now...

Chapter 494: Treacherous Countermeasures

However, someone was of the Young Master's level of idiocy was obviously ignorant of this fact. In fact, his failure in refining these pills had led him to believe that these super-pills were extremely difficult to refine and master. He believed that the Heavenly Vitality Pill was the most effective pill in this list of three. And, he also took it to be the most precious one as well. Therefore, he assumed that its refining process must be even harder than this Vitality Linkage Pill...

Jun Mo Xie intended to go back into the Hong Jun Pagoda for another round of struggle once he had bathed and rested.

Little Ke's small face had become red with embarrassment while she waited upon him on the side. She looked at the Young Master's fair, robust, and strong body. She felt that his body was glistening with a mysterious glitter of gems. Subsequently, her small face became redder, and her body became warmer. The little girl's heart was beating wildly. Her pretty eyes were wandering about to dodge the sight of it. But, she still couldn't control her urge to peak every now and then...

[He is so good looking! How can he be so good looking? The Young Master is a real man...] The little girl was thinking to herself.

"What? The Third Young Master has returned? Let me in... why? Why won't you let me in? I'm his brother! A good brother, do you know? He's taking a bath? Damn! We're both men! So, what difference does it make if I go in while he's taking a bath? You think I'll rape him? Get the fu*k out of my way!" a resentment-laced yelling was heard as Tang Yuan tried to enter the Young Master's bathing space.

Tang Yuan entered through the door with a "Bang!" The door of the Young Master's bathroom was very narrow. So, the Fatty had to force himself through the door. Jun Mo Xie was resting in his bathtub with eyes closed. However, he instantly opened his eyes and stared blankly. Tang Yuan had seen all of him. So, how could he not feel angry?

"Third Young Master... I'll die of anger... I'll genuinely die of anger!" Tang Yuan raged in front of Jun Mo Xie. In fact, he nearly spewed fire, "There's this matter... that Huang Family... that Huang Family doesn't understand their place! They want me to pay with my life for their lowly "treasured" son! They still want to hold their dead kid's marriage! They want the Dugu Family's Xiao Yi to marry to their son's memorial tablet. They're very repulsive! They even want you — Third Young Master Jun — to go and kneel in front of their son's memorial tablet as an apology in admission of your 'mistakes'! What in the world is happening!? This is like a fu*king rabbit trying to threaten a wolf!"

"What happened, Fatty?" Young Master Jun closed his eyes, frowned, and reclined backwards in his bathtub. He was getting impatient. [I'm butt-naked here. It would've been one thing if we were in a public bath since everyone else would've also been naked. So, the environment would've been one of trust and comfort. And, I too would've had no problems in that. Moreover, I've got an amazing body. So, I would've even left you feeling inferior. But, I open my eyes to find you covering my bathtub with saliva whilst being fully dressed... This is so embarrassing for me...]

"Elder Brother, you don't know what has been happening. I don't what has happened with that Huang Family. They've suddenly become bold and aggressive now... In fact, their aggression is even worse than a mad dog's!" Tang Yuan was jumping up and down. There was an air of maliciousness to him.

"They had put out a strong statement in the public. They were acting extremely recklessly, and I couldn't stand them. I had decided to send some troops to exterminate them. But, I don't know what's going on with my grandfather. My grandfather sent a messenger to the Aristocratic Hall, and he warned me against taking any reckless actions. Even the Dugu Family has decided to hold their troops back for now. I'm fu*king depressed right now. Don't tell me that this insignificant Huang Family can somehow flip the heavens?"

"Huang Family? They're acting arrogantly?" Jun Mo Xie had been training and refining pills over the last few days. So, he was left baffled for a second. He gradually gathered his thought, and quickly sat up with a splash of water. However, the Young Master's face had a serious expression now.

And, that's because Jun Mo Xie had suddenly remembered the time when he had ordered Huang Shu Liu's execution... Dugu Wu Di's second wife had said something. And, it must be mentioned that she also hailed from the Huang Family, "One of my relatives is a member of the Boundless Ocean of Blood."

And, Mei Xue Yan's words had also appeared inside his mind at the same time, "That pill of yours is truly miraculous. I believe that this auction for the Bone Tempering Pills could likely draw people from the Three Holy Lands as well."

Jun Mo Xie frowned and thought to himself; [Don't tell me it has genuinely drawn a move from the people from the Boundless Ocean of Blood amidst the Three Holy Lands? And, is there a chance that the Huang Family's relative is also involved in this instance? But, this is too great a coincidence, isn't it?]

"Don't worry, Fatty! Worrying won't do fart! Tell me everything in detail; what happened when you started taking those actions... And, don't omit a single thing!" Jun Mo Xie closed his eyes again, and returned to his reclining position. But, his mind was working at a great speed as he pondered over Tang Yuan's narration. In fact, he didn't allow any words of Tang Yuan to slip from his notice.

That's because he wanted to glean some sort of truth from those tiny clues.

Tang Yuan was also a man with an extraordinary temperament. He had certainly been fired up and enraged a moment ago. However, he too had realized that something was up. There was a flash in his mind, and he didn't dare continue with babbling his nonsense. Instead, he honestly talked about the various matters which had taken place. Moreover, he narrated matters in extreme detail, and to the best of his ability.

He believed that his elder brother Jun Mo Xie was someone who was afraid of nothing. [Have I ever seen such a cautious expression on his face? Don't tell me that this matter is genuinely very serious? Is a terrifying and amazing person hiding amongst the Huang Family's people?]

Jun Mo Xie listened to the words Tang Yuan spoke — The Huang Family didn't have the strength to fight back in the beginning. They were even ready to ask for forgiveness. The entire family was extremely

alarmed, and was at a loss to do anything. They were like the spirits of the dead at that time. But, they suddenly underwent an unexplainable transformation over the last few days. They went from bowing and begging... to becoming extremely arrogant and unyielding.

Moreover, the many demands they had put forth couldn't be accepted by any of the three powerful families. The Huang Family clearly wanted to embarrass all of them. In fact, it seemed as if they wanted to establish themselves above the might of these three big families...

[How can the Huang Family dare to do this? Let's look around at the powers of the world... Even the help of the Imperial Family... or other powerful families around the world wouldn't be enough to act as assurance. So, how can they dare to do this?]

Jun Mo Xie pondered over that issue. [The Huang Family's decision can't be one of stupidity. After all, they had readied themselves to compromise in the beginning. So, it is unlikely that they would wish to play with the lives of their family's people.] Therefore, this sudden and massive change in their attitude had left Jun Mo Xie to draw the final conclusion...

[I believe that the Huang Family's relative has suddenly returned from the Boundless Ocean of Blood. Otherwise, the Huang Family would've never dared to court disaster in this manner even if they were very gutsy. And, that's because they know that they wouldn't have any means of retreat once they had taken this stance...]

[But, this matter will take an entirely different turn if the Huang Family's relative from the legendary Boundless Ocean of Blood has returned to support them. After all, the Huang Family can challenge the Jun, the Tang, and the Dugu Family with the help of the Boundless Ocean of Blood. In fact, they could even challenge a colossal like the Silver Blizzard City.]

[However, the Huang Family has been thundering so ferociously for many days. But, the thunderous clouds haven't rained thus far.] This made Jun Mo Xie even more certain about what Mei Xue Yan had said — These people had come for the Bone Tempering Pills!

"Tang Yuan, keep calm." Jun Mo Xie de-emphasized the problem and spoke, "Is the insignificant Huang Family worth making such a fuss about? I'll be a bit busy over the next few days. So, let's leave this matter aside for the time being. Anyway, revenge can get even more pleasurable if its extracted little by little."

Fatty was stunned by this. He wasn't going to oppose Jun Mo Xie's statement. After all, oppressing someone little by little was indeed very pleasing. But, the issue was the manner in which Jun Mo Xie was behaving right now.

"Moreover, the Bone Tempering Pills can't be stored inside the Aristocratic Hall anymore. I'll ask Solitary Falcon to go with you in order to retrieve them. It's safer for them to be kept here with me," A cold light flashed in Jun Mo Xie's eyes. [You want to mess with me? You want my Bone Tempering Pills? You think that things can get so easy in life? I don't care whether you're the Boundless Ocean of Blood or anyone else! What can the Three Holy Lands do? You must be prepared to be destroyed by my hand if you wish to fight me! So, you think that you have enough to hoot at this Young Master...? This Young Master has decided that he won't kill you in one shot. I'm going to kill you after I've slowly tortured you!]

It was an extremely safe bet to send Solitary Falcon to retrieve the Bone Tempering Pills. After all, he'd fare fine even if the remaining Great Masters attacked him together. Solitary Falcon would certainly be no match for them. But, he could fly away in retreat with ease...

"Ah, that's also good. There has been a lot of activity around the Aristocratic Hall at night-time in the recent days. Hai Chen Feng and Song Shang have been keeping watch. But, even that has yielded very little results. I was beginning to get scared..." Tang Yuan acted like he was wiping off cold sweat. Song Shang and Hai Chen Feng would've cut his flesh off if they had heard this.

They had been dealing with this night-time activity every night. And, they were left half-dead every night. In fact, the Aristocratic Hall would've been torn down by now if it weren't for those two. Meanwhile, Tang Yuan's snores had been shaking up the entire Tian Xiang City during the night hours. In fact, it was possible that his snores had reached five kilometers beyond the city's perimeter. So, to say that he was scared and on the edge...

"Ah. And, there's no need for you to put your life at stake in case someone captures you in order to interrogate about the whereabouts of these pills. You will even tell them that those pills are in the 'Elegant Fragrance Courtyard' of the Jun Family's residence. Moreover, you will tell them that the ones stored here are the best ones," Jun Mo Xie had said this in a very serious manner.

"Why?" Tang Yuan asked puzzled. "The Elegant Fragrance Courtyard...? But, that's where Sister Qing Han lives! What would happen if anyone bursts into that place? It wouldn't be good for Sister Qing Han as a woman, right?"

"That'll be fine! That'll be completely fine!" Jun Mo Xie was all smiles as he spoke, "You don't need to worry about those trivial details. You simply tell anyone what I told you to if you get captured. Listen to me, and don't worry!"

[Fatty, you only know that Sister Qing Han lives there. But, how could you know that she has been joined by two tigresses now? Bah! They aren't even tigresses! They're much fiercer! Those two are queen-tigresses!]

[It won't matter who these people are... They'll die a miserable death as long as they believe you and go there to steal those pills! In fact, it would be like someone lighting candle light at a barrel of gunpowder; they'd get blasted into pieces. The result will be the same no matter how someone goes about it...]

And, this couldn't be called a lie either. After all, Young Master Jun had given some pills to Mei Xue Yan, and had requested her to examine them...

[He he he... This is a death trap. It's a death trap which can't be broken through...]

Tang Yuan nodded in a daze. He didn't know what Jun Mo Xie meant by it, but he chose to believe him. The matter had been more-or-less discussed. And, the water in Jun Mo Xie's bathtub was getting cold. Therefore, Jun Mo Xie opened his eyes and glared, "Haven't you seen enough already?"

Fatty Tang was left to stutter, "Huh? Haven't I seen enough?"

"You've seen enough, but you're still not hurrying out! Get lost! Quickly! I have to get dressed!" Jun Mo Xie spoke ferociously, "You're a grown man staring at another grown man while he's naked! I didn't know that you take pleasure in this!"

Chapter 495: Tian Fa Sends a Batch of Herbs

"Hang on! Do you think I want to see your naked ass? I used to avoid looking at your body even when we used to take hot baths. Brother, you're so thin that it's nauseating!" The corners of Tang Yuan's

mouth twitched in disdain. But, those twitching corners appeared to be a smile because his face had many layers of fat on it. He stood up and patted his extremely huge posterior. Then, he went out the door.

"Fatty, you broke through my door! I'll cut five-thousand coins from your share to compensate for it..." Fatty Tang had talked rudely. He had even ridiculed Jun Mo Xie's majestic body. Young Master Jun couldn't help but get mad, "...and those will be gold coins!"

A 'plop' sounds came from outside as Tang Yuan tumbled to the ground; [Five-thousand... gold coins? What kind of a door is that expensive...?]

Jun Mo Xie slowly dried the wet spots on his body. Then, the red-faced Little Ke helped him get into dry clothes... It had to be said that coming over to this world had done a lot of harm to Jun Mo Xie. After all, the assassin used to be self-sufficient in his previous life. However, he had now gotten accustomed to a lifestyle wherein he relied on others to even get his clothes for him. This is what genuine depravity is about...

Young Master Jun got into his gown. He again looked neat and charming now. Then, Jun Mo Xie lightly pinched Little Ke's cheek. And, this made her pout in a playful protest. He laughed at that, and quickly went out to look for Solitary Falcon so that he could get him to retrieve those pills from the Aristocratic Hall.

Jun Zhan Tian and Jun Wu Yi were making preparations to go over the important rituals required to recognize Guan Qing Han as an adopted daughter. However, there was another jobless old man in the Jun Family's residence these days — Dugu Zong Heng!

Dugu Zong Heng would come over to the Jun Family's residence every day ever since he had heard that Jun Mo Xie could heal his injuries. Both these powerful families were already acquaintances. Moreover, they would soon be related by marriage. So, Dugu Zong Heng didn't feel like an outsider over here. However, everyone in the Jun residence was always frantically running around since they were very busy. Also, Jun Mo Xie didn't seem to have any time on his hands over the past few days. Dugu Zong Heng waited with patience for a few days. But, he eventually started to get resentful. Thus, the Old Man Dugu's frighteningly loud voice was frequently heard around the Jun Family's residence. In fact, it was like a thunderbolt in the clear sky. It was much like Tang Yuan's nightly snoring which used to startle people even four to nine kilometers outside the city's walls....

This made the servants at the Jun residence realize that they were blessed to be serving Jun Zhan Tian instead...

It was then that Jun Mo Xie rushed-in with his divine medications, and quickly treated Old Man Dugu. There was nothing to treat when we come to speak of it. After all, the Young Master was merely required to insert a few needles into Dugu Zong Heng's fleshy posterior, and circle his aura through Old Man Dugu's meridians via the Art of Unlocking the Heaven's Fortune.

This process didn't take much effort, but Dugu Zong Heng suddenly felt as if most of his body had lightened up. Consequently, the Old Man roared that Young Master Jun was a divine doctor! However, that roughened Old Man was quite shrewd by nature within. He had carefully recorded what-and-where Jun Mo Xie had given him during the acupuncture treatment. He had even muttered to himself in doubt. [There's nothing in that area besides meat. Do acupuncture points genuinely exist over there? How can the mere usage of needles on my ass show such results?]

[This is very strange!] This also led Dugu Zong Heng to consult the many other 'divine doctors' inside the capital's premises. But, he only rained curses at each one of them afterwards. That's because these doctors' caliber was identical to each other. They had inserted the needles in the same places. Even the pain he had felt as similar when it comes to the intensity. However, the effects weren't similar to Jun Mo Xie's treatment in any manner. The Old Man couldn't help but lament at this. [It's not surprising that there's such a dearth of doctors who can cure this problem...]

Old Man Dugu had often trusted these doctors for the treatment of his now-cured injury in the past. So, how could he not rain curses at them? [Your treatment is very ordinary! Your ordinary treatment causes nothing but pain! You are good for nothing!] Several of the doctors had nearly gone insane after facing the Old Man's wrath.

He had only been through one session of the treatment. So, it hadn't rooted out the problem yet. But, Dugu Zong Heng was still very satisfied. After all, he hadn't felt such a relaxed, pleasing, and comfortable sensation for many decades. He crossed paths with Jun Zhan Tian the same evening. And, he drank a lot that evening. In fact, he drank enough to lose his bearings. He had drunk so much after so many years... So, how could he not get high on it?

Jun Mo Xie returned to the Hong Jun Pagoda in the midst of this chaos, and began his struggle again. But, he soon discovered that his skills and capabilities could see a major enhancement upon being replenished after reaching a state of full-fledged exhaustion.

....

In the far south...

Two large men were vigorously riding northwards. Their mounts could've been called 'horses', but they had horns on their heads. Moreover, their heads weren't as long. They could be called 'deer', but their hooves were circular. Moreover, one could see white hair underneath their hooves when they were raised. In fact, it seemed like they were wearing some sort of hoof mittens. But, they moved with lightning speed. It was needless to talk about regular horses... because even the legendary warhorses couldn't compare with them.

However, it was even more strange was that these men weren't riding on any saddles. They weren't using any reins, or stirrups either; nor were they shouting commands at their mounts. But, those strange steeds were still able to detect the routes by themselves. Moreover, the expressions of those two men made it seem as if this was a perfectly normal thing...

There was a huge package at the back of each of those two steeds. These packages were terrifyingly big in size. And, it was evident that they were of considerable weight.

These two men had come upon many people with shining eyes and drooling mouths all through their journey.

That was because those two packages were emitting the smell of medicinal herbs. In fact, they smelled like first-rate medicinal herbs! No! Even top-notch rarities couldn't describe the preciousness of those herbs. So, calling them 'legendary treasures from the heavens' was more appropriate...

Their scent was enough to attract anyone! An individual wouldn't even need to consume them — the said-individual would feel extremely energetic and refreshed even if they were to sniff these through their buttocks.

It was obvious that such herbs would attract the attention and intentions of many people.

Therefore, the journey of these two men couldn't be considered peaceful by any means. Countless pharmacists had approached them to buy those ingredients at great prices. Countless medicinal families

had come up with some plans. And, the small-time thieves and robbers who had tried to steal those ingredients were many more in number.

However, these two big men had fearlessly continued onwards with their journey in a brazen manner. They had hardly paid any mind the whole journey. They moved calmly and peacefully. Even the successive waves of the robbers didn't seem to affect them. In fact, they didn't pay any attention to anyone...

They were already half-way to their destination, and hadn't been delayed in any manner. Moreover, their long gowns were still bright and neat... not a speck of dust had dirtied them.

In fact, the two men had been chatting throughout the journey... as if they were on a pleasant picnic.

"Fourth Elder Brother, this journey is long, but it's still quite pleasant... ha ha!" This large man wore an embroidered gown. He had large hoops around his tiger-like eyes. Vivacious whiskers were jutting outwards from his cheeks. These whiskers seemed similar to that of a young dragon. In fact, it felt as if they were made of strips of iron. This person's stature would only leave a person to think of flattering words like... Majestic! Valiant! Mighty! Lofty! Robust! Elegant! Sturdy!

"Ah, Old Ninth... you said... you said... Ah... this Fourth Elder Brother of yours doesn't know what he must say about you... Why did you insist on coming along... I would've rode on Third Elder Brother's back if it hadn't been for your shameless persistence. And, we would've been there by now in that case. But, here we are right now..."

The other person was of the same body-type. However, he was even more tall and sturdy. He was very big. In fact, he genuinely resembled a bear. But, his tone was nevertheless one of complaint, "There was no need to bump-about on this extremely long road. I'm truly unlucky. Your Fourth Elder Brother has suffered a lot because of you. I could've spent this time doing..."

"Fourth Elder Brother, he he... you also know that I haven't come out to play for so many decades. I never get such an opportunity. He he... And this is a good journey. This road is very good. Take a look at all this enchanting scenery! We can do so many things on this road! This is the happiest day of my life! It's like a mythical day!"

The sturdy big man in the embroidered gown smiled as his eyes filled with satisfaction. He smacked his lips and spoke, "The only pity is that I can't help but break these people so easily... One small tap and they go lying on the ground. That's no fun in any way! Tell me, can some Spirit Xuan or Great Master Level robbers come to rob us...?"

"Bullshit! I spit on your face! What bullshit are you spewing? How many people in this world can withstand a hit from you — the Golden Tiger King? And then, you even want some Spirit Xuan or Great Master Level robbers to come and way-lay us like lowly thieves...? What are you thinking? Someone with your intelligence should never say that you know me! I'm so wise and far-sighted, but I can't lose this image!"

The big and burly man unhappily rolled his eyes, and gave a long sigh, "Damn, that Third... Old Crane is too much! He didn't come himself, but he didn't even allow the Falcon King to drop the two of us off! He's so heartless to make us go on this journey like this! Once I return..."

"I don't think going slow is a bad thing," The Golden Tiger King — Earth Cracker — scratched his head. He seemed somewhat embarrassed, "I have a fear of heights."

"That's the reason I call you a burden!" The big and burly Bear King — Big Bear — berated without a trace of gentleness. "I didn't want you to come, but you wanted to come! Things would've been better if you had let Third Brother come instead! Just take a look at how much trouble we've provoked the entire journey? You've been slaughtering people the entire journey!"

"He he he..." The Tiger King gave a flattered smile as he cracked his knuckles. "But, isn't this so much more fun, Fourth Elder Brother? But, these people have no good supporters behind them. It would've been nice even if they had the support of some Spirit Xuan person. It is such a disappointment..."

Big Bear gave him an unhappy look, and sighed deeply. He seemed to be very depressed.

"Ah, Fourth Elder Brother... this opportunity to go to the Tian Xiang City is very rare! We can play around for many days!" The Golden Tiger King's face was painted in shades of greed, "Merely delivering these ingredients isn't satisfying enough. It's not as good as staying there for a few days, and searching for people who can play some matches with us. I'm guessing that there are bound to be a few such people in Tian Xiang. Or maybe, we'll come across that mysterious Senior again. Maybe he'll quench our light thirst, he he..."

"You pig-headed idiot! Haven't you quenched your 'slight thirst' enough?" Big Bear started to rain curses, "Alas... How can I have a sworn brother such as you? Don't speak to me! I feel frustrated the moment I look at you! I can't wait to meet the others. I want them to know that I'm thinking of disowning you as a younger brother of mine!"

"He he... Calm down Fourth Brother, calm down... you must seriously calm your anger..." The Tiger King smirked. The Bear King had no option but to slap his head with a sigh. This was like when he was with Long Crane and moved about with him regularly. Big Bear could clearly understand how Long Crane must've felt at that time... It was the feeling of wanting to raise his leg, and kicking that shameless idiot besides him to death...

[Brother Crane must've wanted to kick me to death then!] Big Bear snorted. [Damn it! I'll settle these debts once I get back! This ought to have been his payback for the countless times he must've wanted to kick me to death in the past!]