

EMPEROR 231

Chapter 231 Xuan Empire's Capital

Time passed, at least a few days.

It was exactly three years after Davis arrived at the Tripartite Alliance Territory through the space tunnel in the secret entrance.

Outside the West End Valley, a silhouette quietly left, without making a single sound, or leaking a presence of its aura.

In the nearby forest, the silhouette came out of the forest and stood by a cliff, viewing the clear skies and basking in the rays of the sun.

"Feels good to be out of that cave..." Davis breathed the fresh scent, deeply feeling the wind that grazed past all over his clothes and face.

He stretched out his limbs and took a deep breath again. Suddenly, his battle aura erupted scaring away the Magical Beasts which tried to hunt him for breakfast.

He didn't try to conceal his physical presence at all, so the magical beasts followed him thinking that he was easy prey.

Exhaling out, he kept his aura back and concealed himself again.

'Now, where exactly should I go?' Davis pondered.

'Should I move to some capital and make a name for myself?' Davis was no fool. He decided not to enter Cloud Spring Mercenaries again.

He thought of concealing himself with that mask, and enter the capital as an Alchemist to procure the resources he needed to improve his cultivation.

As for why he decided not to return to Cloud Spring Mercenaries? He knew that his identity should've been compromised from those who have escaped that day.

They would've definitely investigated him. If he returned, and somehow got captured, it was possible that they would have some kind of means to figure out that he came from the Second Layer; The Grand Sea Continent, the place of the Immortal Inheritance.

Although this kind of thought process was baseless and unfounded, Davis was having none of it. After all, being overly cautious isn't necessarily a bad thing in this world.

'I should stay away from the Loseris Kingdom and Uriel Kingdom, and go in search of a new place to accumulate resources.' Davis thought and nodded his head in agreement, making the final decision.

He brought out the mask which he used to scam Young Master Jackson Lars and wore it on his face.

He jumped off the cliff before gliding away to a nearby town as he flew.

After gathering the necessary information from the town locals by using a few purple coins which were more than the required amount, he left the next day.

After much traveling, it took Davis exactly two months to travel to the Xuan Empire's Capital.

A Mid-Level King Grade Power!

If the Tripartite Alliance didn't exist, it would be the strongest power in the Tripartite Alliance Territory.

One would think they would be able to stand toe to toe with the Tripartite Alliance, but that kind of thinking was incorrect.

The Xuan Empire's Royal Xuan Family was an existence equal to a subordinate.

In the thousand-year-long history of the Tripartite Alliance, the Royal Xuan Family acted as a subordinate most of the time. Their relationship could be said to be of a master and servant relationship.

Obviously, the Royal Xuan Family was the servant in this case.

The Tripartite Alliance never took action against the Royal Xuan Family or tried to humiliate it, but maintained a friendly relationship in the thousand-year-long history.

With the help of the Tripartite Alliance, they became a Mid-Level King Grade Power 200 years ago, and even with achieving power, they didn't try to overthrow the Tripartite Alliance since they knew that there were three major powers behind it.

In fact, like all powers, they sent their young generation to the Tripartite Alliance for training, while the best ones would be taken to the main headquarters of the three major powers.

With this kind of relationship between them, things were relatively harmonious and neither overstepped their boundaries except for a few times which were later dealt by their respective elders.

This was also one of the reasons why Davis chose this place.

The Tripartite Alliance couldn't act as they pleased in this place without a relevant and valid reason.

They wouldn't think that Davis stayed in such a place either since they would still think he was stuck or dead in the West End Valley.

Currently, he was staying in an inn, wearing a mask that hid his facial features. In fact, he wore the mask from the time he left West End Valley and didn't remove it even once.

Now, his facial expression was odd which was hidden behind the mask. He was truly taken aback.

The price for staying in this inn alone was something he couldn't afford to spend casually.

It took him exactly 1 Low-Level Spirit Stone to stay here for a single day. Was it worth it?

Yes, as the amenities and infrastructure of the room were big enough to accommodate 15 people even with ample space remaining.

With the remainder being 8 Low-Level Spirit Stones, he knew he had to incredibly frugal in his spending.

Yes, it was 8 and not 9 Low-Level Spirit Stones he had left because he had to pay the toll for entering the capital as well and it cost him the same amount of resources he used to pay the inn.

Exactly a Low-Level Spirit Stone each.

If he knew this fact beforehand, then he would've considered traveling to this place again but still would've chosen to enter.

As for the ones that Old Man Garvin killed before, their resources were used by him to re-fortify the formations in the tomb and build a cultivation chamber for Davis to break through into the Seventh Stage of Soul Forging Cultivation in the future.

Although Garvin hid this fact, after he had died, Davis explored the underground cave for a while and found out that he left some items and spatial rings that belonged to the Tripartite Alliance, along with some notes.

Those notes contained his explanations of what to do in case if he no longer existed in this world.

Chapter 232 Thousand Pills Association

On the note was where Davis also found that Old Man Garvin made a cultivation chamber for him in the lake that produced that soul restricting fog all year long.

As for those spatial rings, sadly, it had less items that weren't anything useful to him.

But in one of those spatial rings which he speculated that it might have belonged to Severin's, there was a haul of armaments that were useful to him, in terms of selling and gaining wealth.

Although the other spatial rings also had some armaments, there were only one or two of them in each spatial ring.

Unfortunately, he found no Cultivation Manuals, Battle Techniques or anything of that sort. He assumed that it was because of the restriction imposed by the three major powers over the Tripartite Alliance in the Tripartite Alliance Territory.

This caused them to be unable to bring around any items of value that they might possess; overall.

Other than Soul Arts, Techniques and Spirit Formations, Old Man Garvin didn't leave him anything behind.

He didn't leave anything relating to Body Tempering Cultivation and Essence Gathering Cultivation either but Davis guessed that the spatial ring meant for the descendants should have these.

Likely, he also felt that the complete Inheritance of the Peak-Level King Soul Stage Cultivator should also be in that spatial ring.

As for Davis's Soul Forging Cultivation path, other than the method and comprehension, Old Man Garvin wasn't inclined to influence his Soul Forging Cultivation Path in the slightest.

Davis clenched his fists as he saw outside the clear windows which were made of some other material than glass. It was almost evening, awaiting nightfall in a few hours.

The people walking outside seemed powerful as most of them were above the Second Stage in at least a single Cultivation System.

Even though they were powerful, none dared to cause trouble as there were patrol guards at every end of the streets.

The patrol guards themselves had a cultivation of the Revolving Core Stage, causing Davis to groan in amazement.

He could even spot some of the people who were in the crowd having Fourth and Fifth Stage Cultivation Base.

In a single glance, he could tell that the Mid-Level King Grade Empire had so many resources to spare that even their low-level guards reached the stage of Revolving Core.

The way it seemed, Low-Level Spirit Stones seemed to be traded and used as a currency a lot around here, though the purple coins seemed to be the main currency because of its liquidity.

'It was no wonder why this capital flourished with more high-level cultivators.' Davis mused.

Davis smiled and relaxed his fists. He went down and conversed with the receptionist of the Inn, gaining some information.

He walked out and joined the crowd as he moved across the streets.

Yes, he moved across the streets since no one was allowed to fly.

Only Sixth Stage and above experts were allowed to fly, otherwise, one should be prepared to get arrested by the guards. People of ample status could also fly regardless of their cultivation base.

And depending on the situation, the one who got caught could even be executed in broad daylight, sometimes depending on the circumstances.

He did learn this from the city gate guards who let him enter the city at the beginning.

After that point, when entering the city, he was afraid that they would request him to remove the mask.

But when they let him pass, he was quite surprised and guessed that they respected people's privacy.

Although he could guess that this wasn't the case, the way they let him go easily without checking made him think that way.

Moving along the road, he crossed multiple streets.

During these few minutes, he saw people who wore masks and by their figures, it seemed most of them were women.

Davis still couldn't understand why they would let so many people walk around with masks with energy imbued in it that helped cover their facial features.

Maybe it was just that they won't care unless the person in question caused any trouble or they had incredible confidence in guarding the city.

Davis shook his head and continued to walk ahead.

Ten minutes later, he finally arrived in front of a building.

The mansion-sized building had a dazzling board fixed on top of it, and the words that were inscribed on it emanated a calm and gentle feeling to the one who saw it.

[Thousand Pills Association]

Apparently, there existed another territory which was known as Thousand Pill Palace Territory. Davis learned it from the map of the 52 Territories drawn by Old Man Garvin.

And this Thousand Pills Association was precisely a branch of that territories' major power.

Davis chose this place to begin his alchemist career because he learned that this was the most reliable place to buy all sorts of pills, ingredients, becoming an alchemist, even when considering the whole Tripartite Alliance Territory.

Smiling behind the mask, he went inside, talked to the one who greeted him and took the examination as the procedure seemed simple and efficient.

A few hours passed before he was graded a Peak-Level Earth Grade Alchemist.

The examination was so simple that he just had to create a pill in front of three judges who verified his integrity and skill as an alchemist.

Davis who was not so confident in showing his talent as a Low-Level Sky Grade Alchemist carefully considered his options before deciding to concoct a Peak-Level Earth Grade Pill.

He mainly chose to do this because his Sky Grade Alchemist Knowledge could be considered half-assed. What if he failed suddenly?

Wouldn't that be embarrassing?

Besides, it seemed like the examination for Sky Grade Alchemists included both written tests and practical tests. Since it was like that, he chose the examination for a Peak-Level Earth Grade Alchemist.

He chose the ingredients and paid-up some spirit stones for it, ensuring that both the ingredients and the pill made were his alone.

With that, the 8 Low-Level Spirit Stones he had left were also used up.

Chapter 233 High-Level Revolving Core Stage

An hour later, he managed to concoct some rare pills which helps one to increase their Body Tempering Cultivation.

The three judges graded him and said a few words of praise before awarding him the necessary items.

He was given a bronze token plate which read [Peak-Level Earth Grade Alchemist] and on the back, it read, [Thousand Pills Association]. He bound it with his blood and when the blood connection was removed, he learned that the words would automatically disintegrate.

He was also provided a black alchemist robe which had four stars embroidered at the location of the chest. The color was free for the pick so he chose black.

He then heaved a sigh of relief since they didn't seem to mind about his masked appearance.

Since Davis wore a mask, the judges were unable to identify him as a kid who was merely 15 years old. Otherwise, it would've been easy to imagine what kind of chaos would've ensured following the leak of his young identity.

A near 16-year-old with an Adult Soul Stage Soul Forging Cultivation? The Elders of this place would scam towards him to take him as a disciple.

Still, Davis didn't leave instantly but choose to go towards the trading section.

More than weapons, pills were in demand most of the time, so the Thousand Pills Association offered him to buy those pills at market price.

Davis agreed and sold them. He had concocted eight pills in that single batch, so he sold six of them for an amount of 480 Low-Level Spirit Stones.

The ingredients he bought using no more than 8 Low-Level Spirit Stones, gave him a lucrative profit of 472 Low-Level Spirit Stones through pill concocting as an alchemist.

With this, Davis was even more attracted to the path of pill concocting as his Soul Forging Cultivation would tend to get stronger in the future than his other two cultivation systems.

He felt that he had become rich overnight but his excitement was rather short-lived as he knew better than that.

He kept his excited emotions aside and left the Thousand Pills Association, returning to the Inn.

It was almost midnight, and there were fewer and fewer people walking around the streets.

Davis knew that this capital has imposed curfew at midnight, so no one would be able to roam the streets until dawn.

Those who didn't want to stay in an inn or couldn't should leave the capital while those who are in the possession of a property will swiftly return to their homes before midnight.

Of course, as always, this doesn't apply to powerful people who are of the Sixth Stage and above or people who possess sufficient statuses such as a Sky Grade Alchemist and some others.

Unfortunately, Davis was no Sky Grade Alchemist since his knowledge was half-assed.

Davis smiled wryly at this fact, 'The powerful and rich are always privileged no matter the world one belongs to...'

Shaking his head, he got on the bed and cultivated his Essence Gathering Cultivation.

He had already cultivated to High-Level Silver Stage and Mid-Level Revolving Core Stage after Old Man Garvin died.

With nothing to do other than learning, he cultivated and made improvements in his cultivation diligently.

Neither did he forget his initial motivation of wanting to become stronger, so he could return to his family sooner.

He forked out around 200 Low-Level Spirit Stones, and this time he set up a Peak-Level Earth Grade Energy Extraction Formation.

He silently insulted himself about how he didn't think of this idea before.

No matter what, it should have crossed his mind since it was how people absorbed energy from the spirit stones normally.

Previously, he used so many spirit stones and directly extracted energy from it. This caused most of the energies stored in the spirit stones to disappear while Davis thought that he had fully absorbed.

Now that he understood that it wasn't the case, he diligently set up the portable formation which he obtained from the spatial ring of Elder Severin.

Originally, he guessed that there should have been even a higher grade energy extraction formation belonging to Severin, but was later used by Garvin to rebuild those formations in the West End Valley.

There were even some Sky Grade Items that would net him a huge amount of wealth, but sadly, there were no King Grade items other than the sword which Severin used.

'Although there are items worth selling in that spatial ring, I would rather wait and see if those items were useful to me before selling it...' Davis thought.

If he were to sell those Sky and King Grade Items now, it would be too high profile, especially Elder Severin's King-Grade Sword.

So, he thought of selling them in an underground auction, at least if one existed in this place.

Clack

The sound of the formation being activated echoed around the room.

The good thing was he didn't have to worry about other people's spying because the inn had in-built privacy formations like every other buildings in the capital.

And for the same reason, no matter how Davis used his Soul Sense, he wouldn't be able to spy on other people as well, unless he was at the Elder Soul Stage.

Closing his eyes, he quietly rotated the Essence Gathering on Cultivation Manual, Extinction Lightning Judgement.

At the same time, the energy extraction formation extracted the energy from the 200 Low-Level Spirit Stones.

Davis sat on the bed and surrounding him were mists of gaseous energy which he started absorbing greedily.

Time slowly passed, and a few hours later, he successfully broke through, reaching High-Level Revolving Core Stage.

When he checked his mutated Revolving Core, it didn't seem like anything of significance occurred other than its volume increased by a large margin when compared to its previous size.

Shaking his head ruefully, he took another 10 Low-Level Spirit Stones to consolidate his cultivation base.

Once he consolidated and firmly stabilized his energy cultivation, he opened his eyes and muttered to himself, "What should I do next?"

Chapter 234 Peak-Level Silver Stage

Now that Davis broke through, it wasn't time for him to continue cultivating Essence Gathering Cultivation again. He didn't have a fantasy-like system where his cultivation would automatically be completely consolidated once he broke through.

But the same couldn't be said about his Body Tempering Cultivation which he had broke through a few months ago in the West End Valley.

Davis promptly decided that was time for him to increase his Body Tempering Cultivation.

Extending his right hand, two pills appeared on his palm.

These were two of the pills he made just a while ago to pass the Alchemist Examination.

Its name was known as Twilight Body Tempering Pill, capable of increasing the chances of a person in being able to step into the Peak-Level Silver Stage, and that was also why the price was one pill was a staggering amount of 80 Spirit Stones.

Although Davis was almost near to the peak of High-Level Silver Stage, he was still quite behind.

Now that he had two of these pills, he was determined to break into the Peak-Level Silver Stage.

'If I fail, then I can try again...' Davis smirked in disdain as he gripped his fists slightly. He didn't think that he would fail since he had consolidated his cultivation base in Body Tempering Cultivation well.

He opened his palms again and popped a pill in his mouth while storing the other one in his spatial ring.

As he refined the pill in his body, he could feel his body become increasingly strong while the refined energy from the pill kept repeatedly pouring into his middle dantian while circulating in his meridians.

Davis now knew that this place was called the middle dantian. This is where all the energy from his Body Tempering Cultivation, 'battle aura' was being stored.

The same could be said about his Soul Forging Cultivation, where the soul force was being stored in his upper dantian, which was at his glabella.

The aura from the middle dantian spread into every fiber of his body, tempering the flesh, bones, and organs from within.

Although he felt immense pain, it wasn't as worse as the time he first experienced his organs being tempered by the battle aura.

Gritting his teeth, he willed himself to keep cultivating.

A few minutes later, he felt he had touched upon the peak of his current level, so he quickly popped in the pill which he had placed in the spatial ring before.

Once again, the energy released from the pill was refined by him while the battle aura kept infusing with his fleshy body.

Veins popped up while his bones emitted a cracking sound.

All the energy which were chaotically rumbling within him suddenly quieted down, causing him to take a deep breath before letting it out in the form a vapor.

Even without checking his body state he knew that he had entered Peak-Level Level Silver Stage successfully.

Davis turned jubilant thinking to himself that he was only a single step away from entering the Fifth Stage of Body Tempering Cultivation! Gold Stage!

But he also knew that it was far away and would take some time for him consolidate his current Body Tempering Cultivation Base.

Breaking through levels were different when compared with breaking through stages. The former can't be compared to the latter easily without considering all the factors involved.

Nodding his head in satisfaction, he went back to silently refining the remnant energies from the second Twilight Body Tempering Pill.

After refining the remnant energies and storing the aura gained from it in the middle dantian, he realized that this pill had lost its efficiency to him.

Gently sighing, he knew he had the made the right decision to sell the other six pills concocted from that pill concocting session.

He looked outside the window and saw that it was almost dawn. Smiling to himself, he muttered, "It's time to gather some information about underground auctions..."

After some time, Davis renewed his stay and went outside. He didn't forget to ask for some information from the receptionist.

Only this time, he didn't need to bribe the receptionist because he wore the 4-star alchemist robe while also wearing his mask.

Four Stars signified High-Level or Peak-Level Earth Grade Alchemist, and almost everyone in the Xuan Capital had this general information in their minds.

Not only did the receptionist provide him with some information, he even profusely kept acting like a dog wagging its tail in front of its master.

From this, he could clearly see what kind of effect this alchemist robe had in front of ordinary and common people.

That said, he didn't bother with that any longer.

At the same time he stepped out, he saw many people come out of the buildings on the street, starting their day.

Glancing at them, he felt they were like people who were going to work at their workplaces. He laughed inwardly.

Somehow to him, they felt like they were similar to those salarymen from the third layer; Planet Earth.

Shaking his head while smiling wryly, he walked towards the plaza, the location he heard from the receptionist where people congregate for various reasons other than trying to sell their wares.

In the center of the Xuan City stood the largest structure that he could see, and around it were some floating structures that circled around it slowly

The circling structures looked like majestic palaces, and they formed a hexagram around the big structure as they aligned themselves once in a while.

The big structure was none other than the Royal Xuan Palace which stood tall over 500 meters, pointing towards the skies and on top of the palace was a shell-like structure which loomed over while forming a shadow on the palace but almost everyone in the Royal Xuan Capital knew that it was a King-Grade Defensive Formation created through using various materials.

Rumors had that its grade reached Low-Level King Grade and that it can easily defend against Low-Level Seventh Stage Experts.

Davis walked as he glanced at the building from time to time, his eyes flashing with curiosity thinking that if he could break the formation with brute force when he reached the Seventh Stage.

Chapter 235 Roxley Auction House

After an hour of walking plus sightseeing and asking for directions, he arrived in front of the plaza.

Surprisingly, from observing the people walking around him, he found out that no one dared to use their Soul Sense other than keeping it a few centimeters around them, normally.

From this point, he could see that it was an unwritten rule to not openly use one's Soul Sense in public places unless there was a valid reason.

Davis was glad that he didn't use his Soul Sense in this place and for this, he had his cautiousness to thank.

He took a step forward and entered the open area plaza which was named [Roxley Plaza].

From the information, he was told that this plaza belonged to the Roxley Family and from the name, it was obvious enough.

But as for the Roxley Family? It is a Low-Level King Grade Family! Only a little short of the Royal Xuan Family in terms of powerhouses.

This power made them take control over one of the best plazas in the capital, even with the Royal Family keeping them in check from time to time.

It was just an hour after sunrise but there were already some people who opened their shops and pedestrians walking around. Though not crowded, many people were moving about to and fro, minding their own business.

The plaza was wide and huge with many shops, stalls, and buildings aligned along the way.

Not only were there buildings, but there were also decorations like statues of the Royal Xuan Family Elders and Roxley Family Elders.

In this place, where was he supposed to find an underground auction house?

'Who knows? Although unlikely, this might be one of the places that might hold an underground auction...' Davis silently thought as he passed by the shops and stalls.

Exactly three hours later, he finished roaming around the entire plaza and didn't manage to see anything suspicious.

'Suspicious... Normally at times like these shouldn't a mysterious man invite me to the underground auction in an eerie manner?' Davis looked around to see if anyone was following him.

He was almost getting tired mentally from this meaningless search, but he couldn't back down after he spent all this time to search for one.

'Looks like I have no choice but to get into this deeper myself...' Thinking so, Davis made his way to the best auction house in this plaza.

He didn't think he wasted these three hours because he got to see a lot of merchandise as well a different variety of equipment, armaments, and miscellaneous items though none got his attention while the other items were way out of his league.

After half an hour, he made it to the Roxley Auction House.

This building was grand enough to put the auction houses in the Grand Sea Continent to shame.

Davis's eyes twitched, the front of the building were etched with the all known colorless transparent stones which sparkled by reflecting the sunlight.

Those colorless transparent stones were low-level spirit stones and there were thousands of them used to inscribe the building's name, [Roxley Auction House].

The spirit stones were sealed with some kind of special encasing which he didn't know about, so the energy in those spirit stones didn't dissipate in the slightest.

Seeing that they were grand enough to keep those low-level spirit stones as a decoration in front of their auction house, he completely understood that they were not only incredibly arrogant but also had the strength to back it up.

'Or should I say, as expected from a King Grade Power...' Davis mused as he entered the auction house.

There were two guards in front of the entrance, guarding, but when they glanced at Davis's alchemist robe, they let him pass through without bothering to stop or check him.

Though they let him pass, he was astonished to see both the guards possess cultivation equivalent to the peak of the Fourth Stage.

Then he quickly remembered that they belonged to a King Grade Power and his mind was quickly able to accept their positions as guards along with their cultivation levels.

He imagined that as long as he keeps improving, entering new environments, he would even see even more powerful guards like the stories he read but when reality starts kicking in, he found it difficult to accept such a reality.

Imagine the main character of a cultivation novel cultivating hard to the point where he totally conquers his world, only to leave for a new one and meet people with the same cultivation as him... but they were guards?

Davis didn't want to see such a reality in his life.

Although he didn't want to see such a reality, he did want to feast his eyes and admire the beauty in front of him.

"Miss receptionist, I heard that you can take things inside you and deliver it to the sheep without letting the tigers know..." Davis uttered a cringe-worthy line, capable of being handled as a family heirloom for the generations to come.

"Hmm, what an interesting thing to say..." Instead of being angry, the beautiful young lady was unfazed, instead looked at Davis intensely trying to figure out exactly what kind of face was behind the mask.

Davis's voice was hoarse so it made it difficult for her to determine his age.

Suddenly, another lady came forward and said in an angry tone, "You! I'm the receptionist! And you don't dare tal..."

"I will take over from now, stand back..." The woman uttered and gently swayed her hips while looking at Davis, "Follow me..."

"Yes..." The receptionist bowed and stood back while Davis followed the beautiful young lady into the auction house.

Of course, the receptionist was also beautiful but when compared with this woman, she lost her title of beauty by a slight margin.

On the way, many of the people present clasped their hands, even bowed when greeting her, while all she did was nod her head with a gentle smile on her face.

Chapter 236 Tina Roxley

From this, Davis could garner that she was someone powerful or at least someone of status. He couldn't size up her cultivation level because she completely hid it from plain sight.

Unless he could somehow check her cultivation using his Soul Sense which if found out by her could come across as extremely rude and possibly result in getting thrown out or even killed.

'Did I get the exact contact?' Davis thought while still following her, but his eyes were fixed somewhere else. To be precise, it was fixed on that tenderly swaying butt while its curves were revealed as the woman he followed wore some tight-fitting robes.

"Aren't you gazing for too long?" The beautiful young lady looked at him and had an expression on her face that could be said to be a smile, yet not one.

While her amethyst eyes looked sharp, there was a gentle light in her eyes though it was still complex. She had a small nose and her sweet lips and cheeks were slightly crimson, granting her an alluring appearance.

Davis was startled and looked at her, "I apologize, it has been so long since I've seen those entrancing movements of a well-endowed lady."

The woman didn't say anything and turned her head to the front.

Davis smiled behind the mask and thought to himself, 'That's right, now she'll think that I'm nothing but a pervert and that's all I needed to clear her suspicions of me...'

After all, only customers with shady backgrounds and bad reputation would enter the underground auction normally. The reason he had uttered such an ambiguous yet cringe-worthy line at the beginning was also for this reason.

If people who were really righteous and compassionate existed, then the underground auction could erupt in chaos, and that's why he made sure to act like a prick who was devoid of civility.

But in reality, his eyes really were attracted to that place since the pathway was narrow but there was another reason why his gaze was attracted.

For some reason, it vaguely resembled Evelyn's and for that reason, he was absorbed into it as if he were in a trance.

He was then finally led into a room where there was no one present, other than a big round table and several chairs.

The woman sat on one side while Davis did the same on the other side.

She smiled gently and opened her mouth, "I'm the branch manager of this auction house, Tina Roxley. What can I do for you?"

"I'm someone who looks forward to selling items that cannot be openly sold. Is Miss Roxley willing to help me take care of this problem?"

Davis cut to the point and skipped over his introduction.

"Is that so?" Tina Roxley still had a smiling expression on her face. She started to tap the table every second while looking at his mask without saying anything.

Davis somehow felt stifled in this tiny room. Her stare and those tapping sounds had made him uncomfortable at some point.

"I didn't think Miss Roxley had such a hobby of staring at people's faces. Or could it be that you actually like my mask?" Davis questioned in a jovial tone.

"Sorry, it's rare to see those clear eyes from a man who's speaking nonsense in an ambiguous tone." Tina Roxley uttered and slightly giggled.

Davis was taken aback but smirked slightly, 'Is this her way of getting back at me?'

"Eyes don't lie, mister." Saying so, she extended her hands.

There was a letter held between her fingers.

'Invitation letter?' Thought Davis.

He stretched his hand out to grab it while suddenly she pulled back her fingers.

Davis froze and looked at her questioningly.

"You haven't told me your name yet... at least a name I can address you with..." Tina Roxley uttered.

Davis was startled and was confused. Now he understood that she was asking for his fake name at the least.

Originally, he was very hesitant to tell her his name but now that she was just asking for his fake name, he could just make up something.

"You can address me as Scythe..."

"Alright, Mister Scythe..." With a slight pause, she handed over the invitation letter.

They then both stood up and left without saying anything to each other.

While Davis left the auction house, Tina Roxley came back to the front entrance and stood beside the receptionist.

"Manager, even though you are bored, it isn't appropriate to meet with any random person appearing at the auction house."

Tina Roxley who was thinking about something else, perfunctorily replied, "You can snitch me to the elders, Rina. I don't care."

Rina Roxley wryly smiled, "You know I won't do that..."

Tina Roxley pointed at herself, "Also, how many times do I have to say it? Call me elder sister..."

"No, during the business, I will call you manager no matter what!"

"Silly girl, I've been a receptionist here during my youth. Don't waste your time admonishing every character you see, leave that to the guards outside. All you need to do is answer to the questions of the potential customers..."

"That guy before didn't seem like one..." Rina Roxley narrowed her eyes.

"Yes, that was because he came for something else..."

"What is that supposed to be?"

Tina Roxley shook her head, "I suppose that it's too early for you to know..."

Rina Roxley put her hands together and asked in a pleasing tone, "Ehh... Come on, manager. Please tell me what it is..."

"No!" Tina Roxley answered without even having to think.

Rina Roxley went teary-eyed, totally faking her expression "Please, elder sister..."

Tina Roxley gently sighed as the smile on her face slowly disappeared as she shook her head, "It's a place that I wouldn't want to ever set foot on, if possible..."

"Uh? You're still not willing to tell!" Rina Roxley shouted as she realized that her sister just duped her.

"You don't need to know for now, neither do you need to see father." Tina Roxley's expression slightly became cold.

Rina Roxley shrunk her head as she felt wrong and murmured to herself, "Why can I not see him even though he's our father...?"

Tina Roxley's eyes blazed, the gentle light in her eyes seemed to no longer exist, "How dare you, Rina! Don't forget that you have promised me to not see him, he is dangerous!"

Chapter 237 Selling Items

Rina Roxley's expression turned aghast, even so, she still said, "Even if he is dangerous, there is no way he would harm us... Elder Sis, it's been 20 years since I was born but the last time I saw him was when I was 10..."

"Listen carefully, without my master's protection, he would've harmed you long ago. Remember, he is the cause of their deaths!" Tina Roxley's twin peaks heaved heavily as it shook while overflowing anger can be seen in her eyes.

She slowly calmed down and placed her hands on shoulders of the teary-eyed Rina Roxley, "If you think otherwise, then... consider our sisterhood over."

Rina Roxley's eyes formed tears as it flowed down her face, "I won't go near father, I promise!"

Tina Roxley heaved a sigh of relief and at the same time, felt bad for threatening her own sister with their relationship.

But the world was cruel, and she had no choice but to resort to threatening her own little sister rather than reveal their father's actions.

...

After successfully obtaining the invitation letter, Davis returned to the inn he stayed in, entering his room. Sitting on the bed, he took the invitation letter out and viewed it.

The invitation letter had a peculiar design on it that can be in no way described as elegant. It had the details of the venue and the timings of the underground auction.

From the letter, he garnered that the underground auction takes place two weeks later.

There was also a mention of where they procure illegal items to sell in the underground auction.

He once again left the inn and headed towards the place mentioned in the invitation letter.

After a few hours of travel, he arrived at the aforementioned destination.

It was another marketplace, but the grandness here was quite lacking when compared to the Roxley Plaza's marketplace.

Once he arrived at the place, he looked around and spotted a shop.

He approached the shop and questioned the middle-aged shopkeeper as he pointed at a key-like stone craft, "Won't you sell me that?"

The middle-aged shopkeeper turned to look at the key before looking back at him, "How much do you think it costs?"

Davis smiled, "It costs one's life..."

The middle-aged shopkeeper nodded and led him into the store from the side door.

Davis followed him and entered the underground with him while another attendant took over his place to fill the position of the shopkeeper.

After passing through a dark narrow passage, they arrived in front of a big hall. The hall was divided into many rooms with curtains separating all of them.

"Enter..." The middle-aged man who led him pointed at one of the many rooms.

Davis stepped inside the room and saw another middle-aged man, handling a list while sitting on a chair behind the table. He had a mask on his face which concealed his facial features.

Davis thought back to the middle-aged shopkeeper behind him over the curtain and compared it with the man in front of him. He guessed that the shopkeeper should either be a slave to this man in front of him or the Roxley Family.

"Oh, yes! Sit over here and tell us what items you have brought us to sell?"

Davis sat down and placed a spatial ring on top of the table. He didn't bother to reply.

The middle-aged man chuckled and picked up the spatial ring not offended by the lack of response. He had seen a lot of people with weird tastes and personalities after all.

After creating a connection with it, he checked the contents of the spatial ring. Almost instantly, his eyes bulged as he stood up in a chain of reaction.

Without saying anything, he once more checked the contents earnestly.

"Respected guest, please follow me..." After checking again, he looked at Davis and respectfully said.

Davis stood up and followed him back into another spacious room.

The masked middle-aged man informed a guard standing outside the room of the situation. He backed up and gave the spatial ring back to Davis while the guard nodded his head and went into the room.

The masked middle-aged man opted to wait outside while Davis went inside.

Davis saw a wizened old man who was smiling as he rubbed his chin. He was instantly afraid when the old man released an energy wave that was of the Sixth Stage.

He also felt a Soul Sense probing him and was given a scare.

But on second thought, he realized that this old man's Soul Forging Cultivation was only more or less equal to him.

Otherwise, it was possible that his identity would've been found out by the old man by now.

The old man finally shook his head and said as he presented a card, "Mister, I apologize for my actions. As an apology, we can offer you the VIP status in our underground auction for three times as long as you have this card."

Davis stared at it, deciding whether if he should take it or not.

"If you are not satisfied, then you can leave without making the transaction. Our underground auction will not cause you any trouble, you have my word."

"You are?" Davis asked in a cold voice.

"Me? I am Solarin Roxley..." The old man proudly uttered his name, not even bothering to hide it or even his facial features.

Too bad, Davis never heard of this name before so he had not that much of a reaction.

Seeing that, Solarin turned confused, "You are not from this capital?"

Davis nodded his head. He wasn't being honest but with limited information, his lies would be seen through in no time.

"Ah, that explains..." The old man's face visibly cleared as he chuckled.

"Just now..." Davis uttered.

"Hmm?" Solarin pricked up his ears as he turned to look at him.

"Just now, when you probed me... Were you trying to rob and kill me?"

"As the saying goes, it is a sin for a common child to be in possession of a royal treasure. If you were weak, that would be the case no matter where you go..."

"But didn't I apologize?" Solarin looked at the card that was placed in the table, a smile lighting up his face.

Chapter 238 Underground Auction House

Davis smirked as he saw the other party not denying his claims.

"Alright..." Davis uttered and took the VIP card that was placed on the table. Solarin smirked and extended his hand towards Davis.

Davis passed the spatial ring to him and Solarin left through the door behind him without saying a word.

Davis waited silently and after a while, Solarin came back with a smile on his face.

"There were so many items to grade that it took me a long time pin a price point..." His face suddenly turned serious, "All of them are Sky Grade Armaments, did you rob a Warlord's tomb or something?"

But almost instantly, his face turned back into that laid back smile, "Just kidding, all we want is to sell these armaments to make a profit. We don't care about where you obtained these items as long as you are alive..."

'As long as I'm alive, huh?' Davis's eyes twitched.

"Then?" Davis questioned.

Solarin's expression turned solemn, "73 Low-Level Sky Grade Armaments, 37 Mid-Level Sky Grade Armaments, and 18 High-Level Sky Grade Armaments..."

"All these amounts to a total of 1,64,400 Low-Level Spirit Stones when calculating their grade and uniqueness, including their uses."

Davis's soul shook at the amount! He secretly took a deep breath, calming himself down.

Low-Level Sky Grade Items sold for around 100 to 1,000 Low-Level Spirit Stones. Mid-Level Sky Grade Items sold for around 1,000 to 10,000 Low-Level Spirit Stones. High-Level Sky Grade Items sold for around 10,000 to 100,000 Low-Level Spirit Stones.

Although these were the general prices, the price might vary according to the rarity and uniqueness sometimes.

"We'll accept it at the market price and round it to about 1,65,000 Low-Level Spirit Stones, deal?"

"Deal!" Davis accepted without delay.

"Good!" Solarin clenched his fists and snapped his fingers.

In underground auctions, Davis was well aware that only prestigious patrons would have the choice to auction and gain wealth while losing commission to the auction house.

In his case, where he was just a new patron, he could only accept the deal. If not, he would just have to leave this place.

A man came over from the inside and handed over a spatial ring to Davis. He quickly formed a connection to it and checked its contents.

When he did, he secretly drew a cold breath. His mind was totally boggled and temporarily stopped by seeing the amount of wealth that was in his possession right now.

"That's right, I assume you will attend the underground auction? Then, you should have this list which contains information about the items which are going to be sold!" Solarin gave him a jade slip.

Davis accepted it and kept it inside his spatial ring.

After a few parting words, Davis left the place.

For safety purposes, he decided to not stay in that Inn any longer. He searched for an even more luxurious and safe place to stay.

In the central part of the capital, he stumbled upon [Arashi's Luxurious Inn] and entered it.

From the pretty receptionist, he learned that this place belonged to the Arashi Family. A family which was no less powerful than the Roxley Family.

'Another Low-Level King Grade Power...' Davis smiled as he entered the room. He was sure that over 90% of the capital's population won't dare to cause trouble here even if they have a terrible temper.

The room itself was grand and spacious, while the furniture and design were of extraordinary quality.

It cost him about 100 Low-Level Spirit Stones to stay here for a day but he wasn't bothered by it anymore because he was filthy rich right now!

Jumping on the bed while lying behind his back, he looked at the ceiling and laughed foolishly.

Laughing his heart off, he muttered, "I have to thank Old Man Garvin for this..."

...

Time passed normally while Davis witnessed the opening of the underground auction in an inconspicuous location in the capital.

Today, he didn't wear his alchemist robe but wore a pitch-black robe and a different mask that he bought from one of the shops in the plaza. It was a raven-shaped mask.

Davis looked around him and witnessed people talking in hushed voices.

Every one of them wore different types of masks and to his surprise, he found some of the masks familiar, and there was even a mask that resembled an Arrancar's from Bleach.

Although it was such a coincidence, he didn't let him bother about it too much as masks were ultimately masks, something that was used to hide facial features.

As masquerades kept appearing one by one, the door to the auction hall opened. Everyone started to move towards the hall while Davis also did the same.

He showed his VIP card to a masked attendant and it certainly proved beneficial. He was led into a VIP room, numbered 17.

The room was not one bit lower in quality when compared to the rooms in Arashi's Luxurious Inn, except other than it being smaller.

There were some chairs and tables, a queen-sized bed near the corner, and all the other facilities required for one to stay at least a week.

Davis knew that this underground auction will go on for about three days, and in respect to that, it seemed they have prepared some accommodating rooms for the VIP members.

He went and sat on a chair, looking in a certain direction. There were glasses and through it, he could see the brightly lit auction stage.

The whole auction hall could be compared to a medium-sized stadium. At one side were the VIP rooms and on the other end was the auction stage.

On the ground were thousands of seats and adjacent to it were three balconies fitted with hundreds of seats.

He mused that almost five thousand people without a VIP status would be able to attend this underground auction.

After several minutes, Davis heard someone knocking on his door.

He knew that the door can only be opened from the inside once occupied, so he waved his hand with energy causing the door to open.

A young man stood outside as he smiled, bowing slightly, "I deeply apologize for the disturbance, sir. This is one of our services for those who possess VIP status."

He snapped his fingers and women of various physical traits and features entered the room one by one. They wore silky fabric clothes that were half-transparent and revealing underwear, which made them look incredibly desirable.

"You can choose any one of them to accompany you till the auction ends."

Chapter 239 VIP Service?

Davis inwardly groaned and waved his hands indicating that he didn't need one. The Arashi's Luxurious Inn had also possessed this service but that was only reserved for VIP's and unlike these unwilling women, the women there were all willing.

The young man was taken aback but smiled again, "Our underground auction provides our VIP customers with the best service possible and we ensure those who serve our VIP customers are pure."

Davis smiled wryly but his expression was hidden behind the mask.

'If I reject anymore they might suspect my moral integrity to be good, no?' Davis thought and glanced at those women.

Every one of them had different kinds of expressions etched on their faces. Some looked like they were expected to be chosen, some had looks of hidden resentments in their eyes while some others didn't even dare to look at him.

It was already too late for him back out since he had already played the part of a pervert when he spoke with Tina Roxley or maybe he could decline their 'good intentions' by saying that he wanted to be alone?

"I want to be alone, go away!" Davis uttered while displaying his Peak-Level Silver Stage battle aura.

"Aahh!" The women brought by the young man yelped and kneeled down from not being able to handle the pressure while one of them even wet herself from fear.

Davis's eyes widened and he felt bad, 'Did I go too far?'

He totally forgot to consider their mentality and their cultivation in his attempt to send them away!

The young man came back to his senses and noticed the stench spreading around the room, "How dare you disgrace yourself in front of our VIP customer!?"

He took out a whip and swung at her with an angry expression that indicated he was bent on beating her to death to satisfy the customer.

Plat

"Ahh!" That woman who wet herself painfully screamed and covered herself with her hands as she rolled into a ball.

"I'll take her..." Davis spoke, his voice filled with a hint of lust.

The young man looked at him in surprise and smiled slightly as if he understood the other party's preference.

"Then I bid farewell..." The young man ordered the others to clean up the mess before leaving with the bevy of beauties as if this scenario was within his expectations.

Davis inwardly sighed as he looked at that teary faced woman who kept crying. She slowly and faintly glanced at Davis with her teary eyes but realized that her gaze was noticed by him.

Growing fearful again, she moved back into a corner by slowly crawling away.

Davis's eyes twitched, 'Did I scare her that much?'

Deciding to not bother with her, he kept silent because she was scantily clad. Even with a slight glance, he was influenced to please her when seeing her alluring yet sorry figure.

Half an hour later, the woman calmed down but she didn't dare to take a glance at Davis again.

At the same time, a young man with a mask came upon the auction stage as he amplified his voice and spoke, "Dear ladies and gentlemen, today, I am excited to announce that we welcome the eighty-first opening of our underground auction!"

"Everyone who attended last time and even before that knows what our first merchandise will be but this year, we had a change of order in the list of appearance!"

"Without delay, let me start the auction by bringing out the first merchandise of our underground auction!"

The audience below were clamoring as they shouted, "Who let this man to be the auctioneer!? We need a woman!"

"Shut your trap and bring out the merchandise already!"

"Mister auctioneer! You have a sexy body, can I ask for your hand tonight!?"

The auctioneer's ear twitched as he glanced at the one who said that. When he noticed that it was a man, he trembled a moment before telling the people behind him to hurry up with the merchandise.

The surface beside where the auctioneer stood automatically opened like a gaping maw but a big object covered by a red cloth appeared above the surface.

"Are our customers eager to find out what the first merchandise is?"

This time from what one would expect, the audience clamored and shouted "Yes!", making their voices resound throughout the auction hall.

As most of them were old-timers, they knew the size of this object and could roughly guess what's inside the cloth-covered object.

The auctioneer grinned and removed the cloth, displaying the half-naked figure. It was a woman with a beautiful face, her pure yet pristine body was covered with pieces of cloth, covering her important places.

Her curvaceous beauty immediately attracted many eyes from the crowd.

Even Davis's eyes bulged slightly as her beauty was no less than Shirley's, even comparable to Tina Roxley whom he saw before.

"Kara Moonridge, once the Princess of the utterly decimated Moonridge Kingdom. She was next in line to the throne because of her incredible achievements in Essence Gathering Cultivation." "At only the age of 49, she had already cultivated to the Law Seed Stage but sadly, a year later, her Kingdom was decimated into ruins by the Agosto Kingdom."

"Now, the poor kingdom-less princess has no one to rely on to... Can anyone here be worthy of her reliance and trust?"

"Let us see who the lucky man or woman is! Let the auction begin!"

"100 Low-Level Spirit Stones!"

"200 Low-Level Spirit Stones!"

"500 Low-Level Spirit Stones!"

'Once a princess of a fallen kingdom, now a mere plaything to these perverts.' Davis sighed as he once again witnessed the cruel reality of this world.

Although he knew these kinds of things would happen, he wasn't a fan of it, nor was he interested in bidding to save the damsel in distress.

After all, if he had been a saint, he would have opted to save the women who were here just a few minutes ago.

Tch~

He clicked his tongue and groaned in silence as there was an inner-conflict going on his mind now.

Should he save her or not? He had the necessary wealth as well.

'Hmm, we'll see...' His expression became calm again as he viewed everything from a cold perspective.

Chapter 240 Earth Grade Physique?

Although there was no beginning price, the merchandise started off with a bid of 100 Low-Level Spirit Stones and increased to 500 Low-Level Spirit Stones in a mere second.

And in the span of a few more seconds, the bid increased to 4000 Low-Level Spirit Stones.

After that, people quieted down and only those who possessed enough capital opened their mouths to bid.

Kara Moonridge who was being bid on was enraged. She was crying but didn't make a sound as her eyes pointed daggers at everyone.

When had she, a princess, received this kind of humiliation? Even though tears kept sliding down her face, she didn't look away one bit, as if trying to hold on to her sanity.

But her figure and expression only incited even more people to bid on her.

A few minutes later, the bid reached 26,000 Low-Level Spirit Stones causing over 90% of the men to be hesitant to bid.

Ding!

A sound echoed around the auction hall prompting the newcomers' faces to turn while the old-timers turned ugly.

The old-timers who were seated at the surface and balconies now knew that they have no chance to bid anymore unless they have enough capital.

When the newcomers looked at the source of the sound, they saw the VIP room numbered 20 lit up with a series of number, "50,000"

The auctioneer grinned and pointed at the VIP room, "The VIP from the 20th room bids 50,000 Low-Level Spirit Stones!"

"Isn't there anyone to top that price???" The auctioneer riled up and said.

A few moments later, seeing that no one on the surface and the balconies bid, he grinned and turned his head to gaze at the VIP floor.

"Did I forget to mention that this princess over here is pure and noble? If so, I apologize..."

He smirked, "Now, everyone might be wondering why she was put up here for our first merchandise. It isn't simply because she is a princess or a beauty because this still doesn't warrant for her to be sold first in the first day..."

"Then what is the reason you wonder? Not only is she pure but she is also found to possess a Mid-Level Earth Grade Physique, the Exquisite Nine Yin Body!"

"Woahhhh!!" The audience clamored with a huge noise as their faces flushed red.

"If one were to dual cultivate with her, well... I don't even need to mention, right?" The auctioneer grinned smugly.

Instantly, lights lit up and numerous sounds echoed around the auction hall continuously.

The quiet VIP floor displayed their wealth in an instant.

The auctioneer with an excited face pointed at the VIP rooms as he spoke, "VIP room 24, 300,000 Low-Level Spirit Stones!"

"VIP room 42, 320,000 Low-Level Spirit Stones!"

"VIP room 22, 350,000 Low-Level Spirit Stones!"

"VIP room 02, 400,000 Low-Level Spirit Stones!"

The auctioneer didn't bother to announce some lower bids which lit up at the same time.

In a few seconds, the bid shot up to 400,000 Low-Level Spirit Stones!

A few minutes later, the clamor quieted down and only a few VIP rooms were bidding.

The bid gradually settled around 500,000 Low-Level Spirit Stones while only two or three people kept bidding for it.

"VIP room 36, 530,000 Low-Level Spirit Stones!"

After that, the auction house quieted down as only silence remained.

The auctioneer knew that he had reached the peak possible sale with this product, so he directly asked, "Is there no one else willing to bid?"

Seeing that there was no reply, he uttered, "Alright then, the person in VIP room 36 offered 530,000 Low-Level Spirit Stones!"

"Going once!"

The auctioneer looked left and right before opening his mouth again, "Going twice!"

The auctioneer took a deep look before finally opening his mouth.

Ding!

The auctioneer's eyes lit up instantly as he promptly announced, "VIP room 20 offers 600,000 Low-Level Spirit Stones!!!"

Davis only had a single comment running in his mind, 'Woah, the bidder must be either desperate or smitten with her, no?'

He had considered saving her but when the price skyrocketed after hearing that she had a Mid-Level Earth Grade Dual Cultivating Physique, he was dumbfounded.

Even though he had the necessary capital to bid, he decisively chose to not interfere in the bidding process since he was afraid that he would not be able to hold himself back. Also, the cost was too great.

He had obtained an Earth Grade Dual Cultivating Manual before, and now it was like the heavens were tempting him with a woman who was born with a Dual Cultivation Physique.

He was truly afraid that after saving or purchasing her to be precise, he would betray Evelyn in a moment of temptation, maybe even tenderness or seduction.

After all, he was quite pent up considering that he had read the Dual Cultivation Manual and was eager to try it out with Evelyn as soon as possible.

After a few seconds of silence and seeing that there were no more bids, the auctioneer decided to finish, "Going once!"

"Going twice!"

"Going thrice!!! Congratulations to the person in VIP room 20 for obtaining the ex-princess!"

"As always, the merchandise will only be exchanged on the last day, so I kindly ask the winner of the bid to wait till the end of the underground auction."

Some people laughed and booed, feeling good but they didn't dare to go too far.

Not only Davis but the others also thought the person inside VIP room 20 must've had a blue balls syndrome by now.

They all naturally assumed that the bidder was a man since the bid was on a woman.

After the big cage was taken away, this time they brought an even more big cage by carrying on to the stage.

Again, there were a lot of women with beautiful figures but they were utterly naked without even having a piece of cloth to cover themselves.

They tried to desperately hide their figures with their hands but that just aroused the audience even more into the bidding.

The auctioneer announced that they were virgins and noblewomen belonging to the fallen Moonridge Kingdom.

At the end of the bidding process, many were dissatisfied since the winner was that damned person from VIP room 20.

That person got all twenty of them for a price of 70,000 Low-Level Spirit Stones.