

Eternal Cultivation of Alchemy #Chapter 61: That Was Quick - Read Eternal Cultivation of Alchemy Chapter 61: That Was Quick

Chapter 61: That Was Quick

After dinner, Alex logged back into the game. He walked out of his home filled with the light of the lanterns. He slowly walked down the mountain and to the sect valley.

The sect valley was ever the same. Lit with lantern and festival-like atmosphere. The moon was hidden in the clouds today, but it didn't look like it would rain.

He walked to the right alchemy garden and saw an elder waiting in front of the path to the garden.

"Greetings elder," he said as he reached the place.

"Hmm... " he looked at the outer disciple clothing of Alex, and said, " If you are here to request for alchemy ingredients, then you better have contribution points, otherwise you will just be wasting our time."

Alex chuckled a little and said nothing. Instead, he just handed the elder his nameplate. When the elder read the nameplate, his eyes were wide with shock.

"I will be honest. I can't tell if the sect leader likes you or hates you. She gave you free access to everything, yet she is tasking you to this job that usually takes over 10 elders overnight." The elder said.

"Oh wow, really?" he said. Alex didn't worry a lot, however. He had the [Alchemy God's Knowledge] and spiritual sense, so he was sure he would be just fine.

Many disciples came to the elder and requested different ingredients. At exactly 8, they stopped accepting any more requests for the day. An elder arrived about 5 minutes later from the other alchemy garden gate.

Together, the two elders combined their list and tallied the ingredients. Once everything was set, they handed the list to Alex.

"Here is the list, disciple Yu. You can start looking for the ingredients now. Please take care not to make any unnecessary damage while you are completing your punishment," the elders gave their sincere intentions towards him.

Alex bade them farewell and walked into the garden. He took a look at the talisman on which the list was written in. He used his spiritual sense to look at the paper and easily remembered all the ingredients in there. It was amazing.

He immediately started matching the ingredients in the list to some of the ingredients he found while walking around the garden this morning.

He expanded his spiritual sense to its maximum 20 meters radius and started scanning everything for a potential match. He immediately started using his Qi to pick up the ingredients and bring them to him.

"One down." He saw a few others as well and started gathering them too. He walked around the mountain looking at the different ingredients. The mountain was quite vast, and it took him a lot of time to just travel through it.

With his spiritual sense and Qi manipulation, he was easily collecting all the ingredients in the alchemy garden that was on the list. After about, 2 hours, he was done collecting everything on the list that was available in this mountain.

He had managed to find about 60% of the total ingredients on the list in this mountain. Before getting out, however, he sat down and just waited.

He didn't cultivate, but rather just took some time to restore his spiritual sea that had dried up quite a bit. After he was ready, he walked out.

The two elders were still outside. When they saw him come, they frowned.

"Is something wrong, Disciple Yu?" one of the elders asked.

"No," Alex gave a single one-word answer and started walking away from them. The elders were confused. They looked at each other and immediately stopped Alex. magic

"Disciple Yu, Stop!! Where are you going? You can't leave your job." The elder said.

"Hmm... I'm going to the other garden. There is nothing in here that is in the list anymore." He said and started walking once more."

"What?" they were surprised. "Disciple Yu, can you please show us your collection until now?" one of the elders asked.

Alex simply tossed him a bag. When the elders saw that he had really collected all the ingredients, they were shocked.

Alex took back the bag and walked straight to the other garden. This garden was the same as the first one as well. The elders had let the plant life grow however it felt right.

Alex once more got to collecting the ingredients. With his spiritual sense and robust Qi, he was very quick at collecting the rest of the ingredients.

Something that Alex found fascinating while collecting these ingredients was the method with how they had to be collected. Most of the ingredients could be just plucked straight out of the plant like it were a normal flower or fruit.

But for some ingredients, his instinct didn't allow him to simply pluck them. He had to perform some weird operation to obtain the ingredients.

For example, one of the fruit growing required him to twist the fruit's branch 5 times before it plucked by itself. Otherwise, it was near impossible to rip it off.

Once he was done collecting the ingredients, he handed the bag back to the elder and walked off. The elders looked at the ingredients in the bag. Over 90% of the ingredients had been collected.

The remaining less than 10% ingredients were rare ingredients that even the elders knew couldn't be found in the garden. They looked at the time and were shocked.

Alex walked back to his residence by himself too. He looked at the time and realized he had collected the ingredients before 12 am. If it had been 2 days ago, it would've probably taken him all night to collect them all.

But with his new spiritual sense, and a better understanding of manipulating objects with Qi, the task of collecting the ingredients had been way too quick.

Chapter 62:Alchemy Lesson

Alex woke up sometime after 6 am. He was inside a room in his residence. After coming back from his new work of collecting ingredients in the alchemy garden, he had decided to train a bit more with his spiritual sense and see what else he could do.

He had made a few different discoveries.

First of all, his spiritual sense could expand beyond the 20 meters normal radius. However, doing so caused his spiritual sea to massively dry up, and the maximum he could expand to was 30 meters anyway. magic

The next thing he found out was that he could use his spiritual sense to move around objects similar to his Qi manipulation as well. However, his spiritual sense wasn't powerful enough to pick up even the smallest stones, and could only sway the blades of grasses in the ground for now.

The final thing he realized was that getting an item out of his storage was way faster than using the inventory. His superior memory now allowed him to remember where everything in his storage bag was, so the inventory was basically useless now.

He had nearly a million Qi now, but since his master told him breaking through too many times at once was harmful to one's cultivation, he decided to not breakthrough right now, and wait until his current cultivation was stabilized. Which he felt was done or very close to being done.

He logged out to get some breakfast. After breakfast, he logged back in once more. Today was Friday, one of the three days when he didn't have any classes.

He waited in the courtyard for a while unsure whether to go find his master for the morning lesson or wait for her in his house. Thankfully, Ma Rong came by herself just like yesterday.

"Oh, you are awake today. Come to the alchemy room." He heard a voice from far away. He felt something wash over his body, and quickly retract back.

He was surprised. Then he walked to the alchemy room and said, "Congratulations master, on unlocking spiritual sense."

"It's all thanks to you. Now sit, we skipped our lesson yesterday, so we can't waste any more time. Bring out your cauldron." Alex immediately brought out his cauldron and placed it on the fire.

"Tell me, what are the most vital things during a pill-making process?" Ma Rong asked.

Alex thought for a second, and answered, "Temperature of the fire, method of burning the ingredients, and timing of everything." He answered confidently. He had made his pills before and knew the answer.

"Wrong!" she said. Alex was taken aback. "Aren't those the most important things to remember and keep track of when making a pill, master?" he asked.

"Those are important, but not the most important thing during a pill-making process." She looked straight into his eyes, and said, "The most important things are the cauldron, the ingredients, and the elemental synergy."

Alex's full attention was on her words now. She continued, "Tell me, why did you say the temperature was important?"

Alex answered, "Because the recipes tell you that you need to burn certain ingredients at a certain temperature. Also, you have to constantly change the temperature throughout the entire pill-making process according to the recipe. So, having the fire at accurate temperature is necessary."

Ma Rong smiled and said, "That is correct. Having an accurate temperature is important. But tell me, what burns the ingredients? The fire or the cauldron?"

"Uhh... the cauldron?"

"Yes. So, it doesn't matter if the temperature of the fire is accurate or not, if the temperature of the cauldron isn't accurate at all. However, we can prevent this from happening. We can make the transition of heat from the fire to cauldron very fast if we use the right type of cauldron."

"So, it doesn't matter how well your fire manipulation is if your cauldron itself is garbage. This just leads to a bad pill."

Ma Rong then proceeded to the next topic. "Next on the list is the ingredients. This is pretty simple. If you have good ingredients, you end up with good pills."

If you have bad ingredients, you end up with bad pills. However, while the concept itself may be simple, applying it not very much."

"There are 3 things in an ingredient that determines whether it's good or not. The first one is age. The older the ingredient is, the more energy it contains, making it better in general. The second is the time from when it was obtained, to the time it was made into a pill. The third one is the elemental affinity of the ingredient."

"Age is pretty easy to determine based on how much energy it has. Once an alchemist has been used to the ingredients, they can usually tell its age just by feeling the energy in it."

"The second point about the time can be fixed using some wooden or jade boxes that don't leak the ingredients aura. This way you can conserve the energy inside the box, and have it be more useful during your alchemy process."

"As for the third part, the elements are a way vaster topic that I am not able to teach you fully, because I myself do not know a lot about it. However, I still do know quite a bit, and knowing about this topic is absolutely crucial if you ever want to be an earth grade or a heaven grade alchemist."

"The third point is about an ingredient's element also is in part the third most important thing to remember when making a pill, the elemental synergies. This basically means that every element has a certain elemental energy in it, and based on the different elements in the ingredients you can either make an incredible pill or end up with your cauldron exploding."

Chapter 63: The 7 Elements

Ma Rong started explaining the different elements and the elemental synergy between them.

"So, the first thing you need to know is the 5 normal elements and the 2 higher elements."

Alex was listening to her very intently, his eyes focused on what she said.

"The two higher elements are Yin and Yang. Yin is the element associated with dark, cold, or moon. Yang is the element associated with light, heat, or

sun. These two elements on their own are quite powerful, and maybe dangerous if not taken care of properly."

"When together, based on what the alchemist can do, the Yin and Yang can cancel each other out, and make a pill neutral, or help each other to become even stronger, and make a pill with highly volatile energy. You should always think twice if you have to deal with either of these elements in a pill, especially if they are together."

Ma Rong was teaching Alex about the elemental affinity and alignment of an alchemy ingredient and how that would make or break a pill.

"The 5 normal elements are Wood, Fire, Water, Earth, and Metal. These, similar to the 2 higher elements, can cancel overwhelm another element or make it stronger. These are the hardest thing to keep track of in a pill-making process. You have to know how each ingredient's element interact with each other."

"For example, if you put an ingredient with the fire element in it and another ingredient with the water element in it, then the resulting pill will either be a low fire elemental strength, or a low water elemental strength. This is because when water and fire elements mix together, they fight each other, and the stronger enemy remains. The water seeks to extinguish the fire, while the fire seeks to evaporate the water."

"On another example, if you put an ingredient with the fire element in it and another ingredient with the wood element in it, then the resulting pill will always be of a higher fire elemental strength. This is because when wood comes in contact with the fire, it feeds the fire, making it stronger."

"There are 5 ways these elements can interact with each other. They can either 'Empower' the other element, 'Control' the other element, 'Overwhelm' the other element, 'Weaken' the other element, or 'Ruin' the other element."

"Just like wood 'Empowers' fire by feeding it, water can 'Empower' wood to make it grow. Earth can 'Control' water by absorbing it. Metal can 'Ruin' fire by taking its heat away and de-energizing it."

"All 5 elements do something to one of the other elements, in all of the 5 different categories. Knowing what does what, and which ones you can use is very important when making pills with higher harmony." magic

Ma Rong reached into her bag and took out a piece of paper. It was a small talisman, which she then handed over to Alex. Alex caught the talisman and quickly scanned it with his spiritual sense. He soon realized what it was.

Ma Rong continued, "That paper has all the knowledge I know of about the different elements and their interaction with each other. Make sure to read that when you have free time."

"Just remember, there will sometimes be ingredients with no elements, but those are incredibly rare, and the easiest to deal with. They get along with every other ingredient.

She then moved on from the current topic and started going into the original one.

"Now, on to the main topic of our lesson. The 3 things I mentioned to you cauldron, ingredients, and elemental synergy, while they are important for making pills, they aren't controllable."

"Even two different ingredients picked out from the same plant can differ in terms of age, energy level, and sometimes even in their elemental affinity."

Alex looked at his own new cauldron wondering how good it was to use.

"Sometimes, the recipes itself may be flawed. Maybe the alchemist who made the pill wrote something wrong, which is why the pill never reaches 100% harmony."

"What I am trying to say is, even though you might do everything right just as the recipe dictated, and still end up with only an earth-grade pill. And that is the very first lesson you need to learn when you are trying to make pills. You will never make the perfect pills. The reasons are beyond your control and you need to be satisfied with what you end up with."

"Now, let's talk about recipes. How many recipes do you know?" she asked.

Alex thought for a second, and said, "more than 200". Ma Rong was surprised to hear that. "Where did you learn so much?" she asked.

"The library's top floor." He simply answered.

"And you were able to remember all of the 200 recipes in the library? You should have only had a night to remember all that." She was still surprised.

Alex smiled a bit and said, "Master, with the spiritual sea, we also get eidetic memory. So, I pretty much remembered everything I read."

"Do we?" Ma Rong tried to see if she could remember things and realized he was correct. She too had eidetic memory now.

"Okay, what pill was it that you made before?" she asked.

"Uh, the Qi Improving Pill?" he asked. That was the first and only pill he had made till now.

"Yes, take out the ingredients for it, and make a pill. I will see what you do," Ma Rong walked over to his side and sat down beside him.

Alex looked into his bags and quickly found all the ingredients required for the Qi improving pill. He had already made this pill before and was super familiar with it.

This time, since he had spiritual sense, he decided he didn't need to go into focus mode to get more time for handling the ingredients. Now, he could split his attention between 5-6 tasks. If he were to do that to the different aspects of making pills, he was sure he could most certainly end up as an earth-grade alchemist by the time he had to go to the Tiger Sect.

Chapter 64: Shocking Advancements

Alex took a deep breath and prepared himself. Once the cauldron was at the right temperature, he put in the first ingredient. Thanks to his spiritual sense, he could see what was happening inside the cauldron to a frighteningly accurate degree.

As he moved the ingredient around, slowly burning it, he felt the ingredient release some energy from within it. He felt some of the released energy move back into the now powder ingredient while some hung about in the air inside the cauldron. Some energy even flew out of the cauldron.

He tried to catch them with his Qi, but the energy seemed to just phase through it. Ma Rong watched every step of his. She could see how accurate

his Qi manipulation was and how accurate his temperature changing ability was.

Alex put in the second ingredient. The same thing happened with this one as well. Energy release out of the second ingredient as well. However, somehow the energy from the first ingredient immediately moved towards the newly released energy and 'devoured' it. He could feel the energy was still there, but somehow the 'feeling' the energy gave off was changed.

'Am I feeling the elements in the energy?' he thought.

He continued with the pill formation. Due to his increased mental capacity and being able to handle more than 5 things at once, he was able to easily handle the pill-making process.

From the first ingredient to the last ingredient, he felt like he made little to no mistake. A lot of the energy skipped out of the cauldron, but that wasn't something he could control.

By this time, the ingredients had turned to powder, and the energy behind them had harmonized to some level. Now it was time to form the pill.

He slowly started to condense the powders into a pill. There were 2 sets of energies inside the cauldron now. The ones in the powder, and the ones in the air.

As he started to condense the powder to form a pill, the energy in the air started to skip out of the cauldron. Almost half the energy from the ingredients was in the air, and somehow it had been lost now.

He stopped caring about that and started focusing on the pill formation. Soon, a pill was finally done being formed. Alex slowly took it out and looked at it,

[Qi Improving Pill: 26%

Improved Cultivation speed by 26% for 18 hours]

Alex couldn't process what he was seeing. '26%... that- that's an earth grade pill, right?' he thought. Suddenly, the pill started floating and landed on Ma Rong's hand.

"An earth grade pill!!" she somehow had a shocked face as well as a face of understanding. "I had expected you to do good, but I didn't think you would improve so much." She said.

"Having a Saint realm cultivator's sense as a self-tempering realm alchemist is practically just cheating." She said with a blank look. She was starting to wonder how much she had improved now that she too had spiritual sense.

She reached into her bag and took out another piece of talisman and handed it to Alex. She then said, "This talisman has information about some of the widely available ingredients. Burn a few of them to release some energies, and try to feel their elements. The better you become at recognizing elements and understanding their relationship, the more you grow as an alchemist."

"Also, Refine the cauldron and you can make better pills." She said

"Master, how do I refine an artifact?" he asked. This was the perfect opportunity. He had tried refining the Ebony Corundum Stiletto but had nearly gotten hurt instead. So he wondered if his idea of refining was wrong.

"Refining is easy. Just pour your Qi into the item, and continuously wash it from the inside. At some point, it will be easier to pour in the Qi, and at that moment, you drop some of your blood to it. The blood must be blood with your essence in it, meaning it must originate in your forehead. "

"We can communicate using this communication talisman." She said and left.

Alex stayed there looking at the talisman. It looked similar to another normal talisman, but instead of storing some text, this talisman helped with communications.

Alex looked inside using his spiritual sense. Ever since unlocking his spiritual sense, he hadn't had to use the system at all. He could do almost everything with his spiritual sense.

The talisman seemed to connect to another talisman only. That talisman was probably on his master. He put the talisman in his bag and looked at the two other information talismans he had acquired.

One of them explained the relationship between the five elements. It didn't talk about the other 2 higher elements Yin and Yang. The other talisman talked about the different ingredients and their elemental affinity.

He read the first talisman for about half an hour and understood the concept behind it. He then read the second talisman and tried to memorize it.

Once he was done, he was shocked at what he had just learned.

'So that's why!!' he thought.

The first ingredient in the recipe for Qi Improving Pill had water energy in it. The second ingredient he put in had fire energy in it. The water energy was vastly stronger in power and amount in this case and had destroyed the fire element behind the second ingredient. Which left the cauldron with a lot of energy but very low water energy in it.

This then played into the next ingredients and so on. Alex decided to try making the same pill once more.

Chapter 65: Amazing Results

Alex had spent quite a while reading the two talismans and had managed to remember it all. At the same time, he had also recovered much of his spiritual sea.

He had realized that currently, his spiritual sea was actually very small, despite the massive spiritual sea he could see inside his head. If he just let the spiritual sense be used normally, it recovered fast enough that he felt like he had a lot of it. But if he had to use it excessively, it actually disappeared in less than half an hour.

This also meant that it didn't take long for his spiritual sea to recover as well.

He had decided to make the pill once more, so he cleaned the cauldron of any remaining byproducts from the previous pill. He then waited for the cauldron to reach the right temperature and poured in his first ingredient.

Once again, he could feel the energy released from the first ingredient.

'So, this is what a water elemental energy feels like huh,' he thought.

After a while, he put in the second ingredient. When the ingredient started burning into powder and its energy getting released, he realized the energy behind it was actually weaker when compared to the first energy.

He watched as the water-energy quickly envelope the fire energy, and destroy it completely— or so he thought was what happened.

'Wait for a second, while the water-energy did get weaker after suppressing the fire energy, neither of the energy has decreased at all.' He was surprised.

He could feel that after coming into contact, the water and fire had tried to attack together, which he thought would destroy each other and only the remaining water energy will be left.

But now that he could tell the energies apart by feeling, he could see that both the water and fire energy that he thought had destroyed each other were actually hidden inside the neutral remaining energy.

The new energy was in an equilibrium between the two energies. Almost as if they had—

"Harmony. When the elemental energies mix together they create harmony with each other. Is that what making pills is truly about?" he couldn't help but shout out loud.

He took out another ingredient and put it in. Soon that ingredient produced different energy too. Based on the talisman his master gave him, this ingredient produced metal elemental energy.

Now the little water elemental energy that remained in the mixed with the metal energy, and suddenly the water energy started getting stronger once more. The metal energy was now harmonized with the water energy such that, the metal energy was 'Empowering' the water energy.

Similar things kept happening, some elements empowered other elements. Some elements overpowered the others. Some weakened the other elements, while some simply controlled the other elements.

He also came to recognize the elements by their energy. As more and more energy got into the mix, the harmony between the elements was getting more and more complicated.

Once the final ingredient was put in., it controlled the remaining elemental energy in the cauldron and the entire energy came to a neutral state with many elemental energies in harmony with each other inside that neutral energy.

Finally, it was time to turn the powder into the pills. Following the recipe, he slowly started collecting the powder to shape it. Suddenly, his Qi started to move on its own.

'Is it happening?' he thought.

Slowly the Qi moved through his entire meridian system and released out of his palm. It moved into the cauldron and started separating the powder into two portions. The separated portions somehow started to shape it into spheres of about the same size as the original sphere.

'Isn't the energy in the pills going to be lower this way? After all, it's one pill split into two, right?' he thought.

From his logical perspective, he should be correct. So he started wondering how the pill is going to overcome that problem. It was then he realized the answer.

Suddenly, his Qi worked on its own to create vortexes that started sucking the energy that we're in the air.

'What sort of technique is this?' he wondered. He couldn't tell how it worked, or how his Qi was even able to manipulate the energy to get into the pill.

It took about 2 minutes for the pills to completely suck in the energies in the air and finally, the 2 pills were ready. He took both the pills out of the cauldron and looked at them.

He first focused on the one on the left.

[Qi Improving Pill: 24%

Improves cultivation speed by 24%]

He was surprised. The pill had separated into two different parts and it was still above 20%. He then checked the second pill.

[Qi Improving Pill: 28%

Improves cultivation speed by 28%]

"Holy S**T," he couldn't help but cuss. He had somehow managed to create two pills, both over 20% harmony, and one of them even near 30% of harmony.

He started thinking, 'If I discount the energies that got away from the cauldron's mouth, does it mean that the total harmony I could have obtained if this became a single pill. Was over 60%?'

He was stunned at that thought.

'What if I keep the energies that got away as well? But I can't control the energies...!' He thought. Suddenly, he got an idea. magic

He looked to the side of the cauldron, where he had kept the lid for the cauldron, and thought, 'I may not be able to stop the energies from going out, but the lid surely can. And now that I have a spiritual sense, I don't even need to keep the cauldron open to look inside.'

He got excited once and decided to try out this new technique at once.

Chapter 66: Put a lid on it

Ma Rong had just succeeded in making a pill. She took a pill tester out of her bag and put her pill inside it. She looked at the pill tester with full attention, hoping for the fog that slowly rose up the side of the glass to never stop.

As the fog kept on going, her eyes got wider as well. It kept going on and on and on until it finally stopped. Her hands started trembling as she looked at the number next to the black line where the fog had stopped.

45%. She had a massive smile on her face as she took the pill out of the pill tester and kept it in a pill bottle.

45% wasn't that high when one thought about it. A sect leader of an alchemy sect only being able to make 45% harmony pills would usually lead to ridicule.

However, these weren't just any pills. These were True pills. Unlike Common pills, True pills were ridiculously hard to make. Just the amount of energy one had to keep in control and make sure they didn't violently explode every single second was incredibly high.

Even making a 25% Earth Grade True pill as an alchemist meant one was a rather talented person. Ma Rong had just managed to make a 45% Earth Grade True pill.

This meant she was beyond talented and very much deserving of the sect leader title.

'This is all thanks to the spiritual sense, which is all thanks to Yu Ming,' she thought. She was about to start another batch when she realized something was making noise in her bag.

She quickly took out a medallion which she immediately scanned with her spiritual sense. She read the message that had been sent to her.

'Oh, the elders are back from the trip, huh. I should go and learn what they got back about the upcoming competition,' she thought.

She stored her cauldron back into her bag and walked out of her residency. She started walking down the mountain towards the sect valley when she realized Alex was still in his home.

She walked in and scanned the house with her spiritual sense. For some reason, her spiritual sense could expand to about 50 meters. 30 meters more than Alex's.

'Oh, is he still making pills?' she thought. The time was well past noon, so if he really was still making pills, then he would've been going on at it for about 5 hours now. That was some dedication.

She walked into his alchemy room making as little noise as possible to not disturb him. When she got in, she was surprised.

Alex was in front of the cauldron, moving his hands in the air, presumably controlling the ingredients inside the cauldron. But the thing that she was surprised by the most was that the cauldron had its lid on top of it.

She knew of absolutely no one that performed alchemy with their cauldron's lid closed.

'How can he see if— Oh, that's right. Spiritual sense. But why put a lid on it at all?' She couldn't understand the reasoning behind it. She did nothing but stand by the door and watch.

Alex had already noticed her entering his room and had decided to ignore her for now. He was in the final stages of forming the pill. Thankfully, the pill-splitting Qi did not rise from inside him. Otherwise, he wouldn't know how to explain her.

As soon as he finished making the pill, he opened the lid. He could feel the strong energies in the cauldron leak away as soon as he opened it.

'I should quickly learn some method to do something with those energies,' he thought.

He was about to take out his pill when suddenly, it flew off on its own. He looked to the side and saw his master holding it. He hadn't looked at the pill himself and was waiting to learn what its harmony level was.

Ma Rong took out her pill tester and put the pill inside it. She watched as the fog started rising from the metal plate and go up the glass beaker.

The fog steadily rose along the outside of the glass. The fog ended up stopping quite a bit higher than what she had been expecting which surprised her a lot.

'33%? From an outer disciple? did unlocking spiritual sense help him or is he just that talented?' her jaw dropped as she saw the harmony level of the pill he had just created.

She took the pill out and looked at it carefully. It was a slight blue pill around the size of her thumbnail.

'A 33% harmony Swift Feet pill? How did he even reach to be this good at making this pill, when this is his first day of making this pill?' she was amazed.

Alex stood from the side with a wide grin. He had seen the 33% harmony level on the pill tester as well.

"Master, I discovered something amazing." He said. magic

"Did you know that using a cauldron with a lid always makes your pill come out with higher harmony levels? I saw the energy always leaked from the cauldron, and tried to keep it in with the lid, and it worked. When the pill is formed, it gets a little bit more energy overall and has higher harmony." He said

Ma Rong stood there dumbfounded. She had just realized a few hours ago that most of the energy leaked out of the cauldron. She had some idea as to how to redirect energy and keep it inside the cauldron.

But that was still not a very efficient method, as redirecting energies wasn't the same as controlling them and keeping them inside the cauldron.

Now that she heard Alex's discovery, she felt stupid for not using a lid. She could've increased the harmony of her most recent pill, and maybe even end up with a Heaven Grade True pill.

That would've been something glorious.

Chapter 67: Auction House

After Ma Rong left, Alex still stayed behind and made quite a few more pills. He made 3 different types of pills after the Qi Improving pills.

They were,

Swift Feet pill: this pill decreased a person's weight for a limited time and made them move around faster.

Qi Enhancing pill: this pill helped people in the self-tempering realm overcome their bottleneck when trying to break through from one realm to another. This was the same pill that Kong Yuhan made when he first met him. He had also learned the recipe for this pill thanks to Kong Yuhan himself. magic

The final pill that Alex made was probably one that Alex was surprised the most with himself. He didn't think such a pill even existed. Now that he did, he started wondering what other wondrous things you can do with pills.

The pill was called Face Changing pill. If you ate the pill, depending on the harmony levels of the pill, the pill would randomly change your face to a completely new one.

Alex had made 2 of these pills and had managed to make one with 26% harmony that changed a face for 26 hours, and another 35% harmony that changed a face for 35 hours. Both of the pills were above the threshold of an Earth Grade pill.

In fact, none of the pills he had made after obtaining the spiritual sense had been lower than 20%.

In total he had about 12 Qi Improving pills, 5 Swift Feet pills, 4 Qi Enhancing pills, and 2 Face Changing pills. If he kept on going like this, it wouldn't take him more than a few days to earn the title of a Common Earth Alchemist.

Finally, it was time to do the one thing he had been looking forward to since the first day since he started playing the game. It was time to go earn some money.

He logged out to get some food and returned after a while. He walked down the mountain and reached the sect valley. He went past the valley and walked up the outer sect mountain.

He reached his previous cottage and realized someone was already staying there now.

'That was fast,' he thought.

He walked out of the sect gate. Thanks to his new status and authority, he no longer required permission from the disciple hall to leave the sect.

He walked toward the center of the city, looking for an auction house. From his understanding, you could sell your pills in an auction house and get some silver, or gold, or even spirit stones.

He finally found a small auction house that looked not too fancy, yet not too simple either. He walked up the stairs and a girl in a mask came out from inside.

"The auction takes place tomorrow at noon dear customer. If you are here for it, please return." The girl simply said.

"Uh... no, I am here to sell some stuff," he said.

"Please follow me then," she said as she took Alex through a long hallway to an open room with multiple doors leading to multiple rooms. She walked up to someone and whispered something in their air.

The person turned around to look at Alex. Alex saw a beautiful middle-aged woman with long black hair in dark red cloth with white ribbons on it.

She was almost a head taller than him when she came and stood right in front of him. The women quickly scanned his outfit to guess what sort of customer he was.

'Light green robe... Hong Wu outer sect, huh. They usually don't sell outside. I wonder how this one came to be here,' she wondered.

"I heard you are here to sell something, the customer. Can you tell me what they are?" she asked respectfully despite his standing. She respected money, and if a dog could bring her money, she would respect it too.

"Oh, I am here to sell some pills. Uhh... do you also take monster corpses?" he asked.

"We only auction monster corpses that costs over 10 golds. Anything else, we don't accept. Same with pills." She said.

'How much are 10 golds again? That's like 1000 silver coins right?' he wasn't accustomed to the currency of this world as he didn't have much interaction in the marketplace aside from the occasional taverns and food stores he visited.

"Um, what realm of monsters sell for over 10 golds?" he asked.

The women thought for a bit, and said, "It's a little hard to tell exactly what cultivation. It depends more on how good or bad the corpse is. But, usually, if the monster's body isn't destroyed a lot, anything at organ tempering and above will do." She said.

Alex took out a bag full of monster corpses and handed it over to her. "Can you tell me how many of these are useful?" he asked.

The woman opened the bag, and immediately got shocked. 'So many. And one of them is even at Meridian tempering.'

She tried to reel in her shock and looked through the different monsters. There were quite a few monsters in there, and almost all of them were either cleanly cut off, or still had their bodies intact with zero injuries.

She took out an empty storage bag and transferred most of the corpses to that bag. She handed the original bag back to Alex.

Alex looked into the bag and realized there were only a few monsters, all of which were lower than Bone Tempering 6th realm.

'She accepted Bone Tempering 7th realm? Didn't she say she didn't accept anything lower than Organ Tempering realm?' he thought. Still, this was good for him, so he didn't complain.

He then took out 6 different pill bottles, each containing 5 or fewer pills in them.

Chapter 68:Rich

Alex slowly handed the bottles to the lady and said, "Here are the pills. These 3 bottles have 12 Qi improving pills in total. This one has 5 Swift Feet pills., this one has 4 Qi Enhancing pills, and this last one has 2 Face-changing pills."

The woman took the pills and opened the cork to look at the pills inside. As soon as she opened it, an amazing medicinal smell wafted out of the bottle, making the entire room smell like it. magic

She was stunned. She quickly looked inside the bottle hoping for something good based on the smells, and when she actually saw them, her jaw nearly dropped.

Every single one of the pills inside was definitely in the Earth grade. She quickly brought out a pill tester and put the pills in one at a time.

The numbers she got from them ranged from 24% to 36% harmony. She quickly kept the pills back into the pill bottles so as to not lose any of their effects.

She looked back at Alex and asked, "Are you sure you want to sell these?" she had rarely seen such high harmony levels from the pills brought into the auction in a while.

Most alchemists were the aloof kind. They thought of themselves as somebody very important, which they were, but it made working with them nearly impossible. Most of them had horrible personalities from their overinflated ego, and also take an exorbitant amount of money for their work.

Or at least that was the impression she had gotten from the few rogue alchemists that had come to sell their works.

Alchemists from the Hong Wu sect rarely sold to auctions, and this was the first time she had personally dealt with one herself. Her impression of alchemists was slowly changing.

Alex nodded to her question and told her he wanted to sell everything. She quickly tallied the items and gave him a rough estimate of 80 common spirit stones post deduction. She told him how the auction house took 10% of the money the item was sold for.

After confirming the items being sold, she took Alex through one of the rooms through the many doors. Inside, she picked up one of the many talismans laid out on the ground.

She wrote down everything he was selling on the talisman and imprinted it with her Qi.

"This will be our contract to make sure neither of the parties make any wrong attempts to harm the other party," she said as he handed it to Alex.

After everything was done, Alex left the auction house. The entire way back to the sect there was one thing that he kept thinking about but couldn't come up with an answer to.

'How does selling my items in a normal auction house reach the other players? Do they come to the auction house to buy as well? Or can they buy it from wherever they are?'

This was the first time he had sold anything, and from what he learned on the internet, it just told him to go and auction it in any auction house.

He scanned the talisman in his bag and thought, 'So her name was Cai Ping huh. Wonder why she didn't introduce herself normally.'

Well, he hadn't introduced himself either, so he didn't think about it for too long. After reaching the sect, he logged out to check about the auctions.

It didn't take him long to learn how auctions worked in Eternal Cultivation.

'Wait. So my items won't get sold to the other players but the NPCs?' that was quite an unexpected piece of knowledge he had learned.

'Hmm... so how do Deva corporation make money at all?' he was confused. If players could sell in-game items to NPC and make money off of them, then the company should have gone bankrupt by now.

He researched a bit longer, and only then did he find out that players could convert the money in their banks to in-game currency. Of which, Deva Corporation took 10% charge.

Similarly, they also took 10% commission off what you converted back to real-world money.

'So they do what they can to take your money, and also do what they can to not give you your money,' he found it quite funny.

'Oh, that's right. Let's see what the conversion rate for the in-game currency is. Hopefully, I can make a few bucks with the items I'm selling.' He quickly searched up the current conversion rate for the game.

When he finally found it, he was shocked.

'That can't be right,' he looked at it again on a different site, but it showed the same result.

'Huh?? How can it be 10 dollars per common spirit stone?? Doesn't that mean I make uhh... 720 dollars after the deduction from the 80 spirits stones I will get?' he was truly flabbergasted.

He was expecting to make some 20~ dollars at best. But to think his items were valued at such a high price.

'They did say pills and artifacts sold the highest, didn't they?' he thought to himself.

After learning he could make quite a few amounts of money, his eagerness to practice alchemy and make more pills got reinvigorated. He tried to look at what prices which pills were being sold so he could make those exact pills, but unfortunately, the public had no information on most pills.

Regretfully, Alex closed his phone and went to go get his dinner along with Logan, Matt, and Eric. He was looking forward to getting back into the game, so he finished his dinner very fast and had to wait for the other 3 to complete.

Once he returned back to his room, he immediately logged back into the game to make some more pills. But then he remembered, He had work to do now that was assigned to him by his master.

Chapter 69:Elemental Guidance

Alex went down to the sect valley a little earlier than required and went to a restaurant to eat something. Somehow just eating in the real world didn't affect his appetite in the game.

He checked his nameplate and saw that he had around 200 contribution points.

'I wonder if I need to pay to eat or not,' Although he had full authority over everything in the sect, he didn't know if the restaurant counted in that authority.

He walked in and check out what was being served today. Unlike the last time he had visited the restaurant, he wasn't broke today, so he decided to order one of the finer dishes.

Soon his order came back. It was a slow-roasted monster bird leg, with some fried vegetables on the side. He used his hand to pick the giant monster bird leg and took a massive bite.

The meat slid off the bone and dissolved in his mouth. He couldn't help but moan with pleasure as the sweet taste of meat filled his mouth. He took some vegetables with Qi on the side and ate them too.

Together with the freshness of the vegetables and the meaty flavor of the monster bird, he ate what he assumed to be the best food he had eaten in his entire life.

He took his time with the food and paid 20 contribution points at the end. He was hoping to not have to pay, but alas those were just hopes.

He walked towards the alchemy garden where the elders were tallying the requests by the disciples. Once they were done, they handed the list to Alex, who went into the garden to look for the ingredients.

Thanks to his amazing eidetic memory, he knew where every single one of the ingredients was, so he didn't need to spend a lot of time this time around.

Within half an hour, to the utter shock of the two elders, Alex came out of the garden and went to the other one. It took him a little more than half an hour on this site, but that was still a very unbelievable time.

He handed the collected ingredients back to the elders whose expression was just shock and amazement. After return back to his residence, he rested a bit and started trying out new pills.

He started with a pill called Hundred Poisons Antidote. It was a pill that could cure almost any poison so long as it was produced by a plant or monster in the self tempering realm.

He followed the recipe and made the pill with the cauldron's lid closing the escape. The energies would run out of the cauldron every time he had to put in a new ingredient, but it still helped a lot to keep most of the energies in.

He managed to successfully create the Hundred Poisons Antidote on the very first try. That too with a whopping 28% Harmony.

He tried some more and managed to make 5 more pills out of the remaining 3 sets of ingredients. All of those pills ranged from 30% to 36%. magic

He was really happy with the result. He was mentally fatigued by the 4th time, so he decided to take some rest, and recharge himself.

He felt like he had stabilized his cultivation enough and decided to break through once more. He opened his status and hit a breakthrough.

He had enough Qi right now, so he didn't want to cultivate. So, he decided to just quit for the day, and sleep. He logged out of the game for the first time in a while during the night and just fell asleep.

"Alex!! Alex!!" he heard someone calling his name. He slowly opened his eyes and saw Logan calling him.

"What's up?" he asked in a hoarse voice.

"It's 7 am. Wake up. We are going to get some breakfast." Logan said.

"You guys go ahead, I will go soon." He said and walked into the bathroom.

He washed his face with cold water and started brushing his teeth. 'How come I wake up so accurately in the game, yet someone else had to wake me up in here?' he wondered.

He went to get some breakfast too and returned back soon. He logged back in to learn some more from his master.

Just like yesterday, Ma Rong came at around 8 am and taught him for 2 hours. She asked him a few questions to see how much he had understood but soon realized how redundant that was since he had opened up his spiritual sea and now had an eidetic memory.

"How many pills did you make yesterday?" she asked him.

"I made around 23 pills during the day and 6 during the night," he replied confidently.

"Show me," she said, asking him to bring out the pills.

"Master, I already sold all the pills I made during the day. I only have the ones I made last night."

"What? Why would you sell them? Never mind. Those are your pills and you are free to do with them whatever you please. But remember, keep some pills above 20% harmony. You need to register them to become a core disciple." She reminded.

"Oh, that's right. I almost forgot master. I will keep that in mind."

They focused back on the alchemy. Ma Rong watched him make pills and realized he was extremely talented at it. Perhaps, if he had the same cultivation as her, he would have surpassed her long ago.

She took out a talisman and handed it to him. Alex wondered what this talisman did. The first two talismans he got had high-level information on alchemy, and the third one was a communication talisman.

He quickly scanned the talisman and found out he couldn't understand a single word in it. Still, he read it all the way through and when he got to the end, suddenly something popped up in front of him.

He had just learned a new technique.

Chapter 70:Elemental Guidance Usage

'Did I just learn a technique?' Alex was surprised by the sudden notification. He quickly opened up the notification to look at the description of the newly learned technique called 'Elemental Guidance'.

[Elemental Guidance: Level 1

Grade: Earth (Max)

Level 1:

Unlocked: Able to somewhat control the openly moving elements.

]

'Oh, an Earth grade technique. But why does it have Max next to the grade? Is that like growth? Also, it says Level 1 unlocked, but there seems to be no sign of level 2. What a weird technique,' he thought.

The technique made him quite curious. According to the technique, he can now control the elements while making pills. Or at least show some semblance of control.

He looked at the technique description once more and wondered if Max instead of Growth meant that this ability was already at its highest level. If that was the case then what was the point of letting someone know Level 1 was unlocked when that was literally all that was that could be used.

Ma Rong looked at his blank face and said, "That is an Earth Grade technique called 'Elemental Guidance' it is a simple technique that guides elements inside the cauldron. "

"Although you can guide the elements, that doesn't necessarily mean you can tell them what they do. It is like opening a small waterway near a river, and hoping the water flows there."

"The purpose of this technique is to keep as much elemental energy inside the cauldron as possible, and not leak a lot. Plus, you guide the energy towards the power, although that doesn't mean the powder will observe it all."

" Still, you will lose quite a bit of energy since the technique isn't full proof. However, you should be able to greatly decrease your losses and increase your pill's harmony levels."

"Learn this technique by tomorrow, and I will test you on how well you have gotten. Also, make sure to register at least 2 20% harmony pills by the end of the day."

Ma Rong left after saying this. Alex's lesson hadn't been as intense today as it was yesterday. Still, it was quite fruitful, to say the least.

The technique worked worse than his pill separating Qi that randomly started. The pill separating Qi controlled all of the energies while this technique only guided it a bit.

Still, after using it in a couple of pills, he realized that his pills were getting about a 5% bump in harmony levels. Every single pill he made now was above the 25% harmony levels.

This technique also helped him in a way he didn't know he needed. Since the technique kept the energies from running away from the cauldron, whenever his second pill would form inside the cauldron, both of the pills showed a massive increase in harmony as well.

He logged out for a bit to get some food and came back to start making some pills again. He still had over 80% of his original batch of ingredients. If he counted in terms of sets of ingredients, then he had about a bit less than 100 sets of different ingredients.

Aside from the sets of ingredients, he also had a bunch of extra ingredients that didn't go together on any pills. He made a few more pills until a bit past noon. Each of the pills an actual Earth Grade pill.

After he was done making pills, he took the cauldron and started refining it. It had only been a day, so he had a bit of a problem pouring in his Qi, so he didn't bother dropping in his blood yet. He would wait for a few more days when his Qi would more easily pour into the cauldron.

He walked outside and saw the clouds hanging in the sky. 'Is it finally gonna rain today?' he thought. He walked among the shades down the mountain.

He decided not to register the pills for now, but rather when he had all 20 of the pills at once.

He assumed the auction would be over by now, so he went to the auction house to get his money. It took him about half an hour to reach there. magic

He walked up the stairs and a lady came up to him. This lady was different from the one that took him inside yesterday.

"The auction is already in session so entering is no longer allowed now, please come back in a week if you want to take part in the auction." The lady spoke with a respectful tone.

"Oh, the auction is still going on? I thought it would be over by now. I came back to take my money. Do you know how much longer the auction would go on for?" he asked the lady.

The lady was surprised to see someone so young selling something. But once she saw the robe, she realized he must be an alchemist from the Hong Wu sect.

"Can I see the contract to verify your claims, Daoist?" she spoke.

"The contract?... oh the talisman. Here it is," he took out the talisman the woman named Cai Ping gave him yesterday and handed it to the lady in front of him.

Once she verified that he was in fact a seller, she took him to one of the rooms he had seen inside.

"Please wait here. The auction's end time usually varies depending on how many items are being sold, but it shouldn't last more than half an hour from now." The lady said and bowed a little. She then walked out of the door before Alex could even reply.

He had to wait upwards of 45 minutes in the room before the door to the room opened up, and Cai Ping walked in.