

# Eternal Life Begins with Taking a Wife

## Chapter 21: Moving House

For half a month, Shen Ping was staring at the fluctuations in the price of the talismans in the market. Every time they fell, he would feel depressed. Even the quality of his dual cultivation had decreased a little.

His wife and concubine also understood their husband very well. After all, talismans were the only source of income in the family. This concerned their future. However, the two women could not do anything. They could only comfort their husband to let it go.

“The Spirit Protection Talisman fell to 37 mid-grade spirit stones, and the Golden Light Talisman fell even more fiercely. It has already fallen past 20 spirit stones. How can I accept it?” Shen Ping felt helpless. It didn’t matter much if the price of the mid-grade talismans fell. However, the high-grade talismans were also affected by the fluctuations. It was a little fatal.

Fortunately, the price had finally stabilized in early June, which made him heave a sigh of relief. He checked his storage bag. There were also 63 mid-grade spirit stones, a high-grade spirit stone, a set of low-grade dharma weapons, 35 low-grade spirit stones, and several bottles of various medicinal pills.

This was their entire family fortune. It seemed like a lot, but Shen Ping knew that it could not withstand the expenditure.

“When I move to the market, I have to buy a robe for my wife and concubine. They don’t need dharma weapons for the time being, but I have to prepare at least two dharma weapons and a robe. Although the market is safe, I’m afraid of accidents.” He calculated in his heart. In the past, when he did not have the ability, he could only make do. However, now that he had some savings, he had to arrange for protective measures.

No matter how big the world was, it was not as big as his life. Any mid-grade magic robe and dharma weapon would cost more than ten mid-grade spirit stones. If one wanted to buy a high-grade dharma weapon, the price would be even more shocking.

A talisman of the same grade could not compare at all.

Simply put, talismans were equivalent to daily necessities, while dharma weapons were commodities.

“Spirit stones aren’t omnipotent, but you can’t do it without spirit stones. However, there’s no need to be in a hurry. I have to do my best.” He sighed. He continued to work on his talismans. The market was safe. Even if he revealed a little wealth, it would not be a big problem.

As the middle of June approached, his wife and concubine were clearly excited. If not for the complicated movements of the Dual Cultivation Secret Technique that required a lot of time, Shen Ping would definitely not be able to take it.

“We’re moving tomorrow. Pack up everything you need to pack. Don’t leave it in the house.”

“Husband, we’ve already packed up.”

The pink and purple dudous of his wife and concubines swayed under the chandelier, making Shen Ping’s legs go weak. He coughed a few times and said calmly, “The two of you should sleep early and rest.”

Wang Yun subconsciously said, “Husband, tonight...”

“Sleep and rest well!” Shen Ping quickly interrupted.

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The next day, a ray of morning sunlight shone down. There was an unconcealable smile on his wife and concubine’s tender face as they excitedly strode out.

Shen Ping was not in a hurry to walk out. Instead, he turned around and looked at the empty house. Memories flashed through his mind until his wife and concubine shouted a few words outside. He then smiled and said, “Let’s go!”

After he closed the door, he took a breath of fresh air. Then, he brought his wife and concubine to the house next door.

Creak.

The door opened just then. Yu Yan, who had dressed up meticulously, walked out.

“Senior Yu!” His wife and concubine hurriedly bowed.

Yu Yan smiled and said, “You don’t have to be so polite. In the future, we’ll live under the same roof. Fellow Daoist Shen, don’t you think so?” A sly look appeared in the corners of her eyes.

If he had not confirmed Yu Yan’s age, Shen Ping would have thought that the person standing in front of him was a beautiful and nimble girl. “That’s right. Since we’re co-

renting, we have to live under the same roof. Please take care of me in the future.” He cupped his hands in a serious manner.

Yu Yan pursed her lips and said in boredom, “Since you’re done packing, let’s go.” She immediately led the way.

Shen Ping followed. When he looked up, he noticed a pair of jade-colored earrings on the other party’s small and exquisite earlobe. He smiled imperceptibly and thought to himself that women were indeed vain, and this widow was no exception.

They stepped on the bumpy street. The four of them walked briskly. Before they walked out of Red Willow Alley, cultivators walked over from other alleys and gathered together.

“Fellow Daoist Yu, are you going to pay the rent today?”

“Fellow Daoist Shen...”

These cultivators greeted each other. However, someone soon noticed the two women following closely behind Shen Ping.

The female cultivator who often washed up in the Red Stone River couldn’t help but ask curiously, “Eh, Fellow Daoist Shen, why did you bring your wife and concubine out today?”

Shen Ping smiled and replied, “We’re moving. We might not live in Red Willow Alley in the future.”

The female cultivator sighed. “Sigh, Red Willow Alley’s rental fees are indeed a bit expensive now. I didn’t think that even Fellow Daoist Shen would have to move away.”

The other cultivators couldn’t help but ask, “Fellow Daoist Shen, where are you moving to? If it’s safe, we’ll go over later.”

Shen Ping had yet to speak when Bai Yuying, who was behind him, could not help but say, “We’re living on the east side of the market!”

As soon as she finished speaking, the footsteps of the surrounding cultivators disappeared. Shock and astonishment gathered on Shen Ping’s body. No one cared if a concubine was qualified to answer on such an occasion. They all wanted to know whether this was the truth.

Shen Ping tried his best to add in a calm tone, “I got to know a senior some time ago and was lucky enough to get a spot.”

Swoosh.

Their originally surprised gazes immediately turned into envy and jealousy. Especially when they saw Shen Ping's wife and concubine. This gaze seemed to have materialized and completely drowned them.

The quota for the small courtyard in the market!

Not to mention the safety, just the fact that it was connected to the spiritual vein of the Golden Sun Sect was enough to drive cultivators crazy. Not to mention the large group of late-stage Qi Refinement cultivators living there. This was a proper networking resource.

"Congratulations, Fellow Daoist Shen!"

"Fellow Cultivator Shen is indeed the strongest Talisman Master in Red Willow Alley!"

"Fellow Daoist Shen, you have a wide network!"

These cultivators were not stingy with their compliments.

A quick-witted cultivator immediately blurted out, "Fellow Daoist Shen, can we rent together? I'm willing to bear the rent of ten mid-grade spirit stones every year!" He regretted his words immediately.

The surrounding female cultivators' eyes lit up like kittens in the night. That's right. Every house in the small courtyard had two floors and could be rented together. Besides, even if it was just one room, they could still squeeze in.

"Fellow Daoist Shen, as long as we can share the rent, I'm willing to do anything."

"Fellow Daoist Shen, I feel that my looks are alright. If you don't mind, I'm willing to serve you forever."

"If Fellow Daoist Shen is willing to give me a chance to share the rent, I can bear all the rent!"

Spiritual energy voice transmissions sounded one after another. Shen Ping's lips twitched. Yu Yan, who was in front of him, swept her gaze over and said indifferently, "I've already co-rented with Fellow Daoist Shen. Fellow Daoists, excuse me."

The female cultivators sighed dejectedly and could only laugh dryly. "Congratulations, Fellow Daoist Yu."

The other male cultivators also cupped their hands and said, "Fellow Daoist Yu is so lucky. Congratulations."

Although they no longer had the chance to share a house, they were still very enthusiastic. To be able to fight for such a spot, this meant that the senior that Fellow Daoist Shen got to know probably had a high status, and Shen Ping could only use his Talisman Daoism skills.

Hence, if nothing went wrong, the senior that the other party got to know was most likely a high-grade Talisman Master.

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## Chapter 22: Times Are Different

They walked all the way to the main road. Only then did Shen Ping completely relax. He came to the Deacon Hall of the market and cupped his hands to bid farewell to the cultivators of Red Willow Alley.

“Fellow Daoist Yu, it’s still early. Why don’t we find a restaurant to rest and have a meal?” He suggested, then added, “The restriction on the small courtyard has just been lifted today. There are probably more cultivators and it’s chaotic. It’s better to go over later.”

Yu Yan thought about it and nodded. “Alright, I’ll treat you to this meal.”

Shen Ping did not argue with Yu Yan. As long as he did not go to a big restaurant, a meal would not cost much spirit stones. Of course, if it was in the past, he would definitely be reluctant to eat it.

A moment later, the four of them sat down by the window of the restaurant.

Seeing Bai Yuying’s unnatural expression, Shen Ping could not help but ask, “Ying’er, what’s wrong?”

“H-husband, I-I shouldn’t have spoken before.” She lowered her head and pinched the hem of her dress like a child who had done something wrong.

“It’s fine. Just be careful in the future.” Shen Ping comforted her gently. With Bai Yuying’s cultivation and status, she did not have the right to speak at such an occasion. However, everyone had their own vanity. He understood very well.

But if it happened again or twice, he would have to reprimand her severely. This was because such a small matter did not seem to matter, but if it was placed in a specific situation, it might lead to a fatal disaster.

Yu Yan drank her tea and glanced at Shen Ping. She said softly, "Fellow Daoist Shen treats his wife and concubine so well."

Shen Ping did not dare to reply. This meal lasted for more than four hours. Only then did they leave the restaurant. Then, they walked along the main street and arrived at the east side of the market at noon.

"Yunhe Alley!" Shen Ping raised his head and saw these words. They contained a special aura that seemed to be of the same lineage as Cloud Mountain Parlour, but the aura pressure was much weaker.

Cultivators entered and left the alley one after another. He took out the wooden token. On it was written: Room No. 2 in Small Courtyard No. 056C.

The 300 small courtyards in Yunhe Alley were clearly separated.

The 100 rooms in Building C were adjacent to the entrance of the alley. Shen Ping's rented courtyard was located at the foot of Mount Yun in the north. From here, one could easily see clouds and mist lingering not far away. It was like the hall of an immortal palace. That was where the Golden Sun Sect was located.

Boom.

They had just stepped into the small courtyard when Shen Ping and Yu Yan immediately felt an abundant spiritual energy rushing towards them. The density made cultivators want to sit cross-legged and cultivate.

Compared to Red Willow Alley, the difference was like heaven and earth. No wonder so many cultivators had to fight their way in. The spiritual energy connected to the spiritual vein was really immersing.

He glanced at it. The doors of the other houses were tightly shut. It was unknown if there were any cultivators inside. The doors of the houses were protected by an isolation formation, making it very difficult for divine sense to penetrate and investigate.

"Let's go into the house." Shen Ping stepped forward. The array formation at the door of the second house quickly recognized the aura of the wooden sign and slowly opened with a crack.

Yu Yan, who was following behind, smiled. As the four of them walked into the house, the array formation locked onto their auras. In the future, they could enter and exit at will without using the wooden token.

“Wow, what a huge space!” Wang Yun and Bai Yuying could no longer suppress the joy in their hearts. They looked around the house curiously.

Two cubicles. A quiet room and a main room. Although there was no Spirit Gathering Array, the other facilities were very complete. There were also small functions like dust avoidance and water storage.

“Fellow Daoist Yu, we’ll go upstairs first.”

The structure upstairs was basically the same as downstairs, but there was an additional skylight, making the entire house appear much brighter. Shen Ping took out various things from his storage bag. His wife and concubine excitedly placed the wooden bed brocade and other daily necessities one by one.

After arranging everything, the sky outside had already darkened. Shen Ping stood under the skylight and raised his head to clearly see the dazzling stars in the night sky. “It feels good!”

He stood there for a moment. He closed the skylight and walked to the cubicle. Then, he took out the talisman paper, blood ink, talisman brush, and other talisman-making tools and placed them on the table. This cubicle was much more spacious than Red Willow Alley. It would not be a problem for him to rest inside.

He took a deep breath. Shen Ping closed his eyes to calm his heart. He moved to the marketplace, Yunhe Alley. His safety was greatly guaranteed, but this did not mean that he could rest easy. When he first came to the Cloud Mountain Swamp, he also lived in the market. However, after an accident, he could only move away.

“I can’t be careless. I can’t get carried away. I can’t relax. It’s still far from true safety.” After three consecutive hints in his mind, he felt that his mind was much clearer. The excitement of moving had completely calmed down. He calmed his mind, and started making the talismans.

Shen Ping returned to his work of crafting talismans.

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A few days later, Red Willow Alley.

Matchmaker Ceng twisted her waist and looked at the closed door in front of her. She turned around and instructed a beautiful cultivator at the second level of Qi Refinement, “Don’t forget what I told you before. Remember, Fellow Daoist Shen likes to be obedient and sensible. Hmph, if you don’t listen and mess up, don’t blame me for introducing you to work in the mineral vein. The cultivators who mine there are very thirsty!”

The beautiful cultivator's face turned pale, and she bit her lips tightly. "I will be obedient!"

The path to the Flame Gold Mine in the Cloudy Mountain Swamp had been cleared, but mining required a lot of cultivators. The Golden Sun Sect had already begun recruiting cultivators to mine, using all sorts of methods. Matchmaker Ceng was the first to learn of this news.

If she really went over, that would be a life worse than death.

Knock, knock.

Soon, the door opened. Matchmaker Ceng was stunned when she saw an unfamiliar cultivator walk out. "So where's Fellow Daoist Shen, who lives here?"

The unfamiliar cultivator said warily, "Fellow Daoist, are you referring to Talisman Master Shen? He doesn't live here anymore!"

Matchmaker Ceng frowned. "He moved away? Do you know where Talisman Master Shen moved to?"

The unfamiliar cultivator did not reply. Instead, he asked, "Are you a friend of Talisman Master Shen?"

Matchmaker Ceng chuckled and said, "I guess so. I'm here to introduce a marriage to Talisman Master Shen!"

The unfamiliar cultivator glanced at the beautiful cultivator behind him. "Then you're late. Talisman Master Shen moved to a small courtyard on the east side of the market."

"What? East courtyard?" Matchmaker Ceng's eyes widened.

The beautiful cultivator behind her was also stunned. The small courtyard in the east! That was a place that many cultivators could not enter even if they wanted to. Initially, she was a little unwilling. A middle-aged cultivator at the fourth level of Qi Refinement, even if he was a mid-grade Talisman Master, so what?

But now... she was filled with regret. If she had agreed earlier, she might be able to live in the small courtyard on the east side of the market now.

The unfamiliar cultivator ignored Matchmaker Ceng.

"Wait, Fellow Daoist, that Talisman Master Shen used to live here in poverty, but ever since I arranged two marriages for him, he's now living in the small courtyard in the east. Fellow Daoist, do you want to consider marrying a wife? The person behind me—"

Bang!

The door of the house was tightly shut. Matchmaker Ceng shouted a few more times, but there was no response. She snorted. They left the wooden house.

The beautiful cultivator couldn't help but say, "Senior Zeng, you're a friend of that Talisman Master Shen. Why don't you go to the market?"

Matchmaker Ceng sneered. "With your figure and looks, do you think Fellow Daoist Shen will like you? Things are different now. Don't bite off more than you can chew. Let's go to the next family!"

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## Chapter 23: New Neighbor

On the tenth day of moving to Yunhe Alley. The excitement of his wife and concubine gradually subsided. Shen Ping heaved a sigh of relief. If this continued, he really couldn't take it.

At the end of the morning, he tidied himself up and prepared to go out. Before he left, he instructed, "Stay at home. You can go to the courtyard to relax. However, if you encounter fellow Daoists from other houses, remember to be respectful. Don't break the rules just because this is a market."

His wife and concubine nodded repeatedly. He had just walked down the stairs when Yu Yan walked out of the first-floor building. Her hair was tied up in a bun, and a pink ribbon was tied into a simple knot. She wore a ring-shaped dharma artifact on her wrist, and even her ring finger had a ring dharma artifact. She looked fully armed.

Shen Ping greeted, "Fellow Daoist Yu, are you going to Cloud Mountain Swamp?"

It would only take an hour to travel from Cloud Mountain Parlour to the edge of the swamp by flying dharma artifacts. However, it was very easy for accidents to happen when one went out to fight. Sometimes, one had to go deep into the swamp to hunt demon beasts. Not only did it take a lot of time, but it was also extremely dangerous.

Therefore, Yu Yuan would leave the market for a few days. The longest time was two to three months.

"I've stayed a little too long this time. If I don't go out soon, I'll have nothing to eat."

As Yu Yan spoke, she looked over. “Fellow Daoist Shen, do you have any more talismans on you?”

Shen Ping hurriedly said, “Yes, I’m about to go to the market to sell it. What type of talisman does Fellow Daoist Yu want? How many do you need?”

“Give me five amulets, twenty Fire Talismans, three Freezing Talismans and three Earth Trap Talismans.” Yu Yan thought for a moment and said. At the same time, she took out two medium-grade spirit stones from her storage bag and threw them to Shen Ping. “Keep the change. The rest will be counted next time.”

Shen Ping handed the talismans over and said hesitantly, “Fellow Daoist Yu, I still have a Spirit Protection Talisman here. Do you want it?”

Yu Yan was stunned. “You have a Spirit Protection Talisman?”

“That’s right. I asked for it from that senior last time. I want to try learning it. I might have accumulated a lot recently and have made rapid progress in the Dao of Talismans. Perhaps I’ll be a high-grade Talisman Master when I successfully make it in the future!” Shen Ping smiled. His words were also in preparation for taking out high-grade talismans in the future.

After all, the Hundred Arts of Immortal Cultivation focused on accumulation over time. When one accumulated enough, it relied on the inspiration generated by accumulation and the most basic talent.

There were many such examples.

Yu Yan couldn’t help but say, “It seems that this Senior Talisman Master values you very much. Fellow Daoist Shen, you have to seize the opportunity. If you can break through to become a high-grade Talisman Master, it’s not impossible for you to reach Foundation Establishment.”

High-grade Talisman Masters meant that they could earn more resources and get to know more people.

Shen Ping nodded and took out the Spirit Protection Talisman. Seeing Yu Yan’s hesitant expression, he smiled and said, “This Spirit Protection Talisman is temporarily on credit. You can give me spirit stones every month in the future.”

Most of the spirit stones on Yu Yan were used to buy dharma artifacts and medicinal pills. Now, she really could not afford the Spirit Protection Talisman. Moreover, she did not want to take advantage of Shen Ping. However, the Spirit Protection Talisman was too important. It could save her life at a critical moment.

“Okay! Thank you, Fellow Daoist Shen.” In the end, she accepted Shen Ping’s favor.

They walked out of the house side by side. The entire courtyard was empty. The other cultivators' houses were still closed.

"You've been staying in the house for the past few days, so you don't know the situation. There are currently four rented rooms in our small courtyard, and two are empty. However, it's said that they've all been reserved.

"Room number one is a Mid-grade Alchemist. He is cultivating in the Pill Treasure Hall in the marketplace.

"Room number three is a pair of brothers. Their cultivation levels are both at the late-stage of the Qi Refinement Realm. Their strength and aura are very strong. They should go out often.

"Room number five is a female cultivator. Her cultivation level is at the eighth level of Qi Refinement. She works in the Heavenly Sound Pavilion. If you encounter her, you have to be careful."

Towards the end, Yu Yan glanced at Shen Ping. "The female cultivators of the Heavenly Sound Pavilion are all troublemakers. Don't blame me for not reminding you. My ex fell into a trap and almost destroyed the family. If you fall into it, forget about Yunhe Alley, you won't even be able to return to Red Willow Alley. Do you remember Alchemist He Qin? You haven't forgotten what happened to him, right?"

Shen Ping listened to the worry and concern in Yu Yan's words and said solemnly, "Fellow Daoist Yu, don't worry. I'll remember it."

The two of them arrived at the market as they spoke. After parting ways, Shen Ping went straight to the True Treasure Pavilion.

Before he reached the counter, the sweet female cultivator who received him last time quickly walked over and said enthusiastically, "Fellow Daoist Shen, I'll serve you exclusively from now on. My name is Mu Jin. You can tell me if you need anything."

Shen Ping was stunned. He could not help but think that the service of the True Treasure Pavilion was too good. "Fellow Daoist Mu, here are two Spirit Protection Talismans and three Golden Light Talismans. Also, may I ask, what's the current price of a mid-grade robe?"

Mu Jin immediately explained in detail, "The most ordinary mid-grade robe costs 12 mid-grade spirit stones. It has the ability to avoid dust and lighten one's body. The better ones require 20 pieces and have the spirit gathering function. The best ones cost more than 50 pieces and are partially immune to spells..."

Shen Ping asked again, "What about the dharma artifacts?"

“The price of a mid-grade dharma artifact...”

A moment later, he left the True Treasure Pavilion.

In his storage pouch, he had three mid-grade magic robes and a defensive dharma artifact worth 85 mid-grade spirit stones, the Jade-patterned Spirit Pendant. It could withstand three full-strength attacks from high-level cultivators. In addition, he had a pair of spirit boots that increased his speed of escape.

The total cost was 190 medium-grade spirit stones. It made Shen Ping’s heart ache. He had originally wanted to buy an attack-type item, but he immediately gave up on the idea.

After that, he came to the Spring Embroidery Pavilion again. Shopkeeper Chen already knew that Shen Ping had moved to Yunhe Alley. He still had the same excuse, so he became even more enthusiastic. After selling the mid-grade talismans, he earned another ten mid-grade spirit stones.

Then, Shen Ping bought some spirit rice and ingredients before entering a shop. The shopkeeper had an amazing memory. When he saw Shen Ping, he smiled and said, “Fellow Daoist, is the Dual Cultivation Secret Technique still useful?”

Shen Ping was not surprised at all. Cultivators, especially those who had developed divine senses, had a photographic memory. He said without a trace, “It’s alright.”

That set of secret techniques, Blood Locking and Essence Sealing, was indeed not bad. However, it was a little tiring to do it too many times. The shopkeeper smiled and said, “Fellow Daoist, do you want a real Dual Cultivation Secret Technique?”

He looked around and lowered his voice. “The secret techniques I have here are all inherited from the demonic path. Whether it’s in-depth communication between dao companions or doing other things, the effect is very good. If Fellow Daoist buys one,”

The shopkeeper reached out his palm and flipped it back and forth. He said with a smile, “Even if the number of Dao companions reaches this number, you will still be full of vigor. In addition, I can also give you a hardcover illustration. This is the work of an artist from the Heavenly Sound Pavilion.”

Shen Ping’s lips twitched. Why did he feel that this shopkeeper was a little wretched? No. He was wretched! He chose a book called “Dragon Playing with Pearls”. “Ahem... How much is it?”

“50 mid-grade spirit stones!”

Shen Ping frowned. “It’s too expensive.”

The innkeeper shook his head.

“Can’t it be cheaper?”

The shopkeeper shook his head again.

“I’ll buy it!”

He thought about his future life. Shen Ping gritted his teeth and took out 50 mid-grade spirit stones.

The shopkeeper beamed with joy and personally sent Shen Ping out the door. He said enthusiastically, “Fellow Daoist, you’re welcome to come again next time. My illustration will be changed every six months!”

Shen Ping walked far away and sighed, “Devil’s Den, it’s a proper Devil’s Den. You want me to come here again? No way!”

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## Chapter 24: Breakthrough of the Spiritual Root Again

On the way back to Yunhe Alley, Shen Ping felt extremely relaxed. Although he had spent a lot of money today, the feeling of not having to worry about robber cultivators tailing and attacking him at any time was indeed very good.

Looking at the cultivators whose temperament and appearance were stronger than Red Willow Alley, he could not help but smile. Now, he was a little poor and his cultivation was a little low. But the future holds promise.

He passed by the Talisman Treasure Hall. He hesitated for a moment before turning a corner and walking towards the Talisman Treasure Hall. The streets here were very quiet as there was a soundproof array.

He arrived at the main hall. Behind the counter, a dignified-looking female cultivator lowered her head and looked at the talisman.

“Fellow Daoist.” Shen Ping’s voice was very soft. “How much do I have to pay to come to the Talisman Treasure Hall to cultivate the Dao of Talismans?”

The dignified female cultivator raised her eyes and sized up Shen Ping. Then, she said, "Ten mid-grade spirit stones every year. If a high-grade Talisman Master preaches the Dao, there will be additional charges. The specifics will be informed later."

The Talisman Treasure Hall, Pill Treasure Hall, and other specialized venues for cultivating Hundred Arts were all built by the Golden Sun Sect in the marketplace. Their main purpose was to attract rogue cultivators and win over the talents of rogue cultivators.

Shen Ping used to cultivate here for a period of time. The fee was very low, and the high-grade Talisman Masters who often preached Dao were free.

But now, there were not many mid-grade Talisman Masters who could take out a large sum of spirit stones every year. However, in order to improve themselves, most Talisman Masters would grit their teeth and pay. As for low-level Talisman Masters, they could forget about such a situation.

He took out ten mid-grade spirit stones and paid. He re-administered the cultivation procedures of the Talisman Treasure Hall and obtained a wooden token to enter and exit. With this wooden token, his previous excuse could barely withstand investigation.

In any case, there were more than a hundred high-grade Talisman Masters in the Golden Sun Sect and the unaffiliated cultivators in the marketplace. No one could figure out who he was related to.

He left the Talisman Treasure Hall. The stone in Shen Ping's heart fell. He quickened his pace and returned to Yunhe Alley not long after.

He had just walked into the small courtyard when he noticed that the door of house number two was open, and a middle-aged man in his fifties was sorting out the herbs inside. He seemed to have sensed Shen Ping's gaze.

The middle-aged man raised his head and said gently, "Are you the Talisman Master that Fellow Daoist Yu mentioned?"

Fellow Daoist Shen hurriedly said respectfully, "Yes, I'm Shen Ping. I've been making talismans in my room for many days, so I haven't visited you."

The middle-aged man smiled and said, "It's fine. The house has an isolation array, so it's inconvenient to visit. Everyone lives in the same courtyard, and we'll meet sooner or later. My surname is Feng, and my name is Yu. You can call me Fellow Daoist Feng or Elder Feng."

"Fellow Daoist Feng!"

The other party had a deep aura and was clearly at the late-stage of the Qi Refinement Realm. However, he seemed to have a good temper and did not have the airs of a high-level cultivator.

They chatted for a while before Shen Ping returned to his room. It was still early, and his wife and concubine were all cultivating in the quiet room.

It was rare for them to live in a spacious house, so they did not dare to relax at all. When they had time, they would use it to improve themselves. For example, even if Wang Yun knew that she could not live forever, she wanted to cultivate the martial arts technique that her husband had given her to perfection so that she could nourish her face and extend her lifespan.

It was almost noon when his wife and concubine ended their cultivation.

“Husband, you’re back?”

“Wait a moment. I’ll go and cook now.”

The two girls quickly got busy.

As there were only two compartments in the room, one was used to make talismans, and the other was originally used to process materials, but Shen Ping separated it again with wooden boards and made a small kitchen and a narrow bathroom so that his wife and concubine could wash up.

As for the usual processing of grain waste, they could only use chamber pots and wooden barrels.

The Golden Sun Sect’s construction of Clouddriver Alley did not take into account the need for middle- and low-level cultivators to eat, drink, and shit. However, there were other alleys not far from the alley that were specially used to deal with waste. Previously, it was always Yu Yan who brought his wife and concubine there to pour the waste.

There was a skylight. The room wouldn’t be filled with the smell of smoke.

After dinner, Shen Ping smiled and said, “Yun’er, Ying’er, go take a shower. I have a surprise for you.”

Wang Yun subconsciously asked, “Husband, do you have a new move?”

Shen Ping’s face darkened. “What are you thinking about all day long! Go quickly!”

After taking a shower, his wife and concubine obediently crawled into the blanket. Shen Ping took out two brand new female cultivator robes from his storage bag, causing the two women to be stunned.

“H-husband, is this a magic robe?”

“Yes, I bought it for you. Change into it quickly and let me take a look.”

Wang Yun and Bai Yuying were instantly excited. They couldn’t care less about their naked bodies and came out of the blanket to change into the robes. Their temperament instantly changed.

As their beautiful hair was tied up, his wife and concubine looked like immortals.

“Thank you, husband!”

“Husband is too good to us!”

Joy appeared on the two women’s faces as they kissed Shen Ping’s cheeks shyly. Shen Ping said seriously, “Let me check the quality of the material of this robe for you.” As he spoke, he pounced forward like a wolf in a flock of sheep.

...

Two days later. Late at night, he looked at his wife and concubine who were sleeping with rosy cheeks. Shen Ping looked satisfied. Although the shopkeeper was a little wretched, he did not sell fake goods. He opened the virtual panel.

[Obtained Dao of Talisman Experience +2]

[Current wife’s favorability: 100]

[Duo Cultivation Bonus: 4]

[Talisman Master: Level One High-grade (14,096/50,000)]

...

[You have obtained metal-element spiritual root aptitude+2, wood-element spiritual root aptitude+2.]

[Current Dao Companion Favorability: 92]

[Duo Cultivation Bonus: 3]

[Metal Spiritual Root: Mid-grade (10,125/10,000). Can be broken through.]

[Wood Spiritual Root: Mid-grade (10,017/10,000). Can be broken through.]

He glanced at it. Joy appeared in his eyes. His spiritual roots had once again met the requirements for a breakthrough. He had been waiting for this day. He carefully got up from the brocade blanket and quickly walked to the quiet room. He suppressed his distracting thoughts.

After his spirit platform was emptied, he stared at the virtual interface and muttered, "Breakthrough!"

The virtual frame shook slightly.

As if infused with invisible energy, the depths of his body suddenly became scorching hot. Even his blood was faintly boiling. The abundant spiritual energy in the quiet room was like a shark that had smelled blood and crazily surged towards Shen Ping.

Boom.

The spiritual energy in his meridians instantly circulated violently.

Shen Ping hurriedly sent his divine sense into it and tried his best to guide this violent spiritual energy to accelerate along the circulation of the cultivation technique. This process only lasted for a few breaths in his perception.

Click.

The faint sound of glass shattering came from the depths.

Immediately after, Shen Ping's eyes suddenly widened. His entire body stiffened as he fell to the ground and twitched. Intense pain spread throughout his entire body, as if his bones had been forcefully cracked open. However, this pain quickly passed.

Hoo.

Ha.

He panted heavily and endured the pain in his body as he sat cross-legged again to circulate his cultivation technique.

Time passed slowly.

He slowly opened his eyes and ended his cultivation at dawn. He carefully sensed the spiritual energy in his body.

Shen Ping could not hide his excitement. In just two large circulations of cultivation techniques, the spiritual energy in his body had actually increased by a trace.

According to this cultivation progress, he only needed to cultivate for another two years to break through to the fifth level of Qi Refinement.

“Is this the effect of a high-grade spiritual root?!”

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## Chapter 25: Smaller Movements

For several consecutive days, Shen Ping was immersed in his cultivation after the transformation of his high-grade spiritual root. Even his daily routine of creating talismans and dual cultivation had greatly decreased.

This state where he could feel his spiritual energy increase every day was simply too amazing. In the past, he rarely cultivated in seclusion, but now, he really wanted to swallow a fasting pill and directly cultivate in seclusion for a few years to improve himself.

But in the end, he suppressed this urge. It was important to increase his cultivation level.

However, Shen Ping knew very well that the reason why he could have such a change was all because of his dual cultivation with his wife and concubine. If he lost one, then forget about longevity, even the possibility of reaching Foundation Establishment was very slim.

He walked out of the quiet room. He went to the small kitchen in the cubicle and began to make thin meat spirit porridge for his wife and concubine. As he cooked, he frowned and pondered. Now that his spiritual roots had been upgraded to high-grade, he had to properly arrange the time for his daily cultivation, talisman crafting, and dual cultivation.

“It’s more comfortable to spend four hours on dual cultivation four times a day. There’s no need to shorten it for the time being. It takes at least ten hours to make talismans. The remaining ten hours can’t be used for cultivation. I have to take some time to summarize my cultivation of the Dao of Talismans. In addition, I have to eat, accompany my wife and concubine, and familiarize myself with the mysteries of cultivation methods.”

He thought about it.

Shen Ping could not help but shake his head. Time was still too tight.

Excluding the three and a half hours of meditation and cultivation, he only had one and a half hours of free time left. This little time was not enough for him to familiarize himself with the cultivation methods. If he wanted to read and memorize the various knowledge of cultivation, he would have to move at least another four hours.

Moreover, if he went out, these arrangements would have to be suspended.

“Let’s eat. I can squeeze out more time to accompany my wife and concubine, but dual cultivation involves my foundation. I can’t reduce it.”

Eventually, he gritted his teeth and decided to shorten the time needed to craft the talisman. Ten hours of talisman crafting included high-grade and mid-grade talismans, as well as mental recovery. If it was shortened, he could only reduce the number of mid-grade talismans.

When his wife and concubine returned, the kitchen was filled with the fragrance of rice. Shen Ping scooped three bowls each and brought them to the wooden table outside. “You’ve worked hard all night. Eat quickly.” He said with a smile.

Wang Yun and Bai Yuying held onto the corner of their clothes and did not move.

“What happened?”

“H-husband, we accidentally dirtied your new robe.”

Shen Ping thought it was something important. When he heard that it was such a small matter, he said nonchalantly, “It’s fine. I’ll just wash it later.”

His wife and concubine nodded repeatedly, their expressions relaxed.

Another three days passed. Not long after his wife and concubine left, Shen Ping quietly followed behind. They left Yunhe Alley. The two women quickly walked for ten minutes and arrived at the place specially used to deal with the waste of grains.

However, after dumping the waste, one staggered and fell to the ground when the two women returned. Her face was covered in dust and was stained with a pungent stench. Bai Yuying stared angrily at the cultivators not far away, but Wang Yun quickly dragged Bai Yuying away.

Shen Ping saw all of this. His expression darkened slightly. No wonder he had smelled the stench back then. It turned out that his wife and concubine had been bullied by other cultivators. One was a mortal, and the other was a low-level Qi Refinement cultivator.

In Red Willow Alley, with his reputation as a mid-grade Talisman Master, there would still be quarrels, insults, and even fights. Now that he had come to the marketplace, it was normal for them to be played by some cultivators who did not care about his

senior's reputation. However, when this matter happened to him, it inevitably angered him.

However, he knew that anger was useless. No killing was allowed in the market. But one could cripple someone. As long as he did not destroy the other party, the ones who would suffer would definitely be his wife and concubine. He took a deep breath.

Shen Ping forced himself to calm down, then turned around and returned to the small courtyard.

During the meal, he looked at the forced smile on his wife and concubine's face and said slowly, "Yun'er, Ying'er, I'll accompany you when we go out next time."

Wang Yun's expression changed. "Husband, y-you know?"

Shen Ping grabbed his wife's wrist. "I've been immersed in my cultivation recently and neglected this. If I had accompanied you earlier, this might not have happened."

Previously, Yu Yan had been accompanying his wife and concubine. Yu Yan had not returned for the past few days. He thought that there wouldn't be any problems in the market, but he was still careless.

After all, wives and concubines were not qualified to live in the marketplace, especially Wang Yun. If a mortal could live in the marketplace, it was inevitable that some cultivators would be agitated.

"Husband, we'll be fine. We'll try our best not to go out in the future. When Fellow Daoist Yu comes back, this won't happen. Don't take it to heart." Wang Yun hurriedly said. Bai Yuying also chimed in. The two women were afraid that if there was a conflict, their husband would not be able to control his anger and cause trouble. It wasn't easy for them to move to the market. They cherished this life and didn't want to cause any trouble.

Shen Ping shook his head. "Don't worry, I'm just protecting you."

Seeing this, the two women did not try to persuade him anymore. However, they ate very little every time they ate. It was obvious that they were trying to minimize the waste of grains.

Four days later, Yu Yan's travel-worn return from the swamp made his wife and concubine secretly heave a sigh of relief. The unique fragrance of the bathwater in the house filled the air again.

After washing away her fatigue, Yu Yan came upstairs and said with a smile, "Fellow Cultivator Shen, my harvest this time is not bad. It's all thanks to the Spirit Protection

Talisman you gave me. Here are five mid-grade spirit stones. I'll return a little first and slowly return the rest in the future."

Shen Ping took the spirit stone and extended his hand. "Please sit."

They both sat down. They chatted about the Cloud Mountain Swamp. He mentioned what happened to his wife and concubine a few days ago and said respectfully, "Thank you for your protection previously."

Yu Yan was silent for a moment. Then, she sighed faintly and said, "Fellow Daoist Shen, it's very difficult to avoid such a thing unless you let your wife and concubine take a fasting pill. However, this is only treating the symptoms, not the root cause."

Shen Ping understood what Yu Yan meant.

If he wanted to resolve this matter from the root, he could only increase his strength and status, or buy high-grade magic robes for his wife and concubine. Just relying on the Spirit Protection Talisman alone would not be able to shake the cultivators in the market. High-grade magic robes were expensive, and without a certain level of strength and status, it was impossible to buy them. If he let his wife and concubine change into them, as long as they were not stupid, they would generally not offend them.

They chatted for a while more.

Yu Yan went back downstairs, but before she left, she whispered, "Fellow Daoist Shen, this main room has the same structure. When you have sex with your wife and concubine, be careful. You can take it, but I might not!"

Shen Ping looked embarrassed. "Of course, of course!"

Previously, the Dual Cultivation Secret Technique required a large range of movements, but now, the commotion caused by the "Dragon Playing with the Pearl" was much smaller, and it wouldn't disturb Yu Yan.

However, he was puzzled. Although it was connected from top to bottom, he only needed a silent note to isolate the sound. At most, the wooden board would tremble a little.

"Fellow Daoist Yu shouldn't be listening to me everyday, right?" He shook his head. He suppressed his distracting thoughts. He returned to the talisman making room and buried his head in making talismans again.

Although Yu Yan's return could temporarily solve the problem of his wife and concubine going out, Fellow Daoist Yu could not stay at home like him forever. Moreover, he was unable to increase his strength explosively in a short period of time to intimidate and deal with those cultivators.

Therefore, changing into a high-level robe had to be put on the schedule.

“I hope nothing happens to you guys.” Shen Ping had already memorized the cultivators who bullied his wife and concubine.

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## Chapter 26: Change in His Wife

October arrived.

The temperature in Cloud Mountain Parlour plummeted. When he woke up in the morning and opened the skylight, a gust of cold air rushed in. He raised his head and saw snowflakes falling down with him.

“First snow of the year.” Shen Ping took a few breaths and closed the door again. After breakfast, he went straight to the main street of the market.

The cultivators were bustling with activity. There was an endless stream of people entering and exiting the True Treasure Building. Even cultivators who couldn't afford anything would go in and shop. They would put some of the items they liked in the shopping cart in their hearts.

He stepped into the threshold. After a while, Mu Jin appeared. “Fellow Daoist Shen, I'm sorry to have kept you waiting. Recently, the price of dharma artifacts has dropped quite a bit. Many cultivators have bought a few.”

Shen Ping was stunned. “The price of the dharma artifacts has decreased?”

Mu Jin smiled and said, “After the first batch of the Golden Sun Sect's Flame Gold Mine is mined, the price of dharma artifacts will naturally drop. Fellow Daoist Shen, do you want to buy a few more? If you don't need them, you can give them to your dao companion or close friends.”

Shen Ping secretly felt his heart ache. He had suffered another loss. He did not have many spirit stones in his storage bag to buy more. He took out the high-grade talismans he had made in the past few months and handed them to Mu Jin.

“Five Spirit Protection Talismans and seven Golden Light Talismans. Fellow Daoist, do you need talisman materials?”

“Yes, 30 sets of Spirit Protection Talisman materials, 50 sets of Golden Light Talisman materials, and 10 sets of Explosive Talisman materials.” He still had more than two months of talisman materials to use. If he prepared some more, it would save him the trouble of running back and forth.

After settling the spirit stones, he then asked about the mid-grade Yellow Spirit Pills and the price of the high-grade magic robe. The Yellow Spirit Pills were not too expensive and could be used for a period of time after purchasing two bottles. The lowest price for a high-grade magic treasure was 120 mid-grade spirit stones.

If there were no other expenses, he could afford it with gritted teeth.

“Next time.” He sighed.

At this moment, Mu Jin handed over a jade token with the word ‘bid’ engraved on it. “Fellow Daoist Shen, this is a small-scale auction held within our True Treasure Pavilion. It will be held every three months. It will be held in a few days. You can bring a friend over to participate in the auction. Although the items in the auction are relatively high, most of them are relatively rare.”

Shen Ping looked at the jade pendant and thought to himself that this was the resource of a high-grade Talisman Master. At least, he had never heard of an auction in the True Treasure Pavilion. Now that he had sold a few high-grade talismans in the True Treasure Pavilion, he was qualified to attend.

“Fellow Cultivator Mu, do you have to buy items for the auction?” He asked.

“There’s no need. If you see something you like, you can bid for it. If you don’t, just participate. In three days, if you want to participate, there will be specialized personnel to receive you at the True Treasure Pavilion.”

He left the True Treasure Pavilion. Shen Ping went to the Talisman Treasure Hall and showed his face inside. Then, he turned around and went to the Spring Embroidery Pavilion.

Shopkeeper Chen complained, “Fellow Daoist Shen, there are too few talismans this time. Although the market is safe, the expenses are also huge. We can’t slack off.”

Shen Ping let out a few dry laughs. He was afraid that they would become fewer and fewer in the future. After settling the spirit stones, he casually asked for the price of some Dharma artifacts, magic robes, medicinal pills, and so on. After having an idea, he returned to Yunhe Alley.

...

Late at night. He habitually opened the virtual interface.

[You have dual cultivated with your wife once. You have received +2 Experience in Dao of Talisman.]

[Current wife's favorability: 100]

[Duo Cultivation Bonus: 4]

[Talisman Master: Level One High-grade (17,040/50,000)]

...

[You have dual cultivated with your Dao Companion once. You have obtained a metal-element spiritual root aptitude +2, wood-element spiritual root aptitude +2.]

[Current Dao Companion Favorability: 92]

[Duo Cultivation Bonus: 3]

[Metal Spiritual Root: High-grade (2,333/50,000)]

[Wood Spiritual Root: High-grade (2,225/50,000)]

The transformation of his spiritual roots to the high-grade was just as he had expected. It would take more than five years to transform again. According to his current speed, he still needed about three years of experience in the Dao of Talismans.

"I'm not young anymore, but I'm still at the fourth level of Qi Refinement." Every time Shen Ping thought of this, a worried look would appear between his brows. His aptitude was ordinary, and he had been delayed for too long in the early stages. Now, he was pressed for time.

After all, the older one was, the harder it was to build a foundation. Although there was a precedent of over-age Foundation Establishment, that kind of Foundation Establishment was very dangerous. If one was not careful, they would die.

Most importantly, it was the Foundation Establishment Pill.

This kind of precious elixir has always been a rare resource. The Golden Sun Sect firmly controlled it. Every time it required a rogue cultivator to risk their lives, they would only take out two or three to stimulate them.

"I wonder if there are any Foundation Establishment Pills for sale at the auction of the True Treasure Pavilion?" This thought appeared in his mind and he could not get rid of it. Although he knew that he could not afford it at the moment, if there was one at the auction, it would at least be a hope.

Apart from the Foundation Establishment Pill, Shen Ping felt that he had to consider the possibility of continuing to take concubines. Previously, he had many concerns in Red Willow Alley. Now that he was in the market, his safety was temporarily guaranteed. Even if there was a problem with continuing to take concubines, as long as he was careful, it should not be too serious.

Besides, if things went out of control, he could stop dual cultivation at any time.

“Husband, what are you thinking?” Just as he was thinking, Wang Yun, who was curled up in his arms, opened her eyes.

Shen Ping came back to his senses and smiled. “Nothing. Can’t sleep anymore?”

Wang Yun nodded and said apologetically, “You have worked hard day and night and has to squeeze out time every day to accompany me and Sister Ying’er, but I can’t help you. I’ve been with Senior Yu for the past few days. I think Senior Yu is quite interested in you. Why don’t you consider marrying Senior Yu? I’m just a mortal. I’m really not worthy of being your wife.”

Shen Ping said gently, “Yun’er, don’t think too much. I’ve said before that you’re my first wife and will always be the first.”

Wang Yun was extremely touched. She did not expect that she was still so important to her husband until now. What she had said in the past was not perfunctory, but true. “Husband, I still want to...”

He looked at his loving wife. How could Shen Ping bear to reject such a request?

The clouds and rain stopped. He was just about to comfort his wife and let her rest as soon as possible when the virtual interface suddenly popped up in front of him.

[You dual cultivated with your wife once and gained 4 experience in Dao of Talisman.]

[Your wife is deeply in love with you. Current favorability: 100+20]

[Duo Cultivation Bonus: 6]

[Talisman Master: Level One High-grade (17,064/50,000)]

Shen Ping was slightly shocked. This dual cultivation not only doubled his experience in the Dao of Talismans, but also broke through the limit of favorability. “Deeply in love...” He did not expect his wife’s feelings for him to have reached such a level. “Could it be because of those words just now? Or did love develop over time?”

He was a little uncertain. However, this change in the cheat made Shen Ping realize that his understanding of the cheat was still superficial and had not been deeply explored.

“Yun’er, go to sleep.” Suppressing the churning thoughts in his heart, he lowered his head and kissed his wife’s forehead.

Three days passed quickly. Shen Ping packed up and left Yunhe Alley, heading towards the True Treasure Pavilion.

If you find any errors ( broken links, non-standard content, etc.. ), Please let us know via our discord so we can fix it as soon as possible.

## Chapter 27: Bad Luck

Every time he came to the market, Shen Ping’s footsteps slowed down. Regardless of whether it was day or night, Red Willow Alley, where he used to live, was very deserted most of the time. There were not many people on the streets, but the market was lively and prosperous, as if they were two different worlds.

Now, he had gradually become a corner of this prosperity.

“Man struggles upwards while water flows downwards. I have to be vigilant at all times. I can’t make a mistake.” He had experienced it once. He did not want to repeat the same mistake.

Before he reached the entrance of the True Treasure Pavilion, a cultivator who looked sneaky walked over. He was full of smiles and deliberately lowered his voice. “Fellow Daoist, looking at your face, you should be someone with a temperament. Do you want to experience the greatest joy?”

Shen Ping was confused. The cultivator glanced around and quickly took out a brocade pouch embroidered with silver threads from his sleeve. The brocade pouch was ordinary and did not emit any aura.

“Fellow Daoist, this brocade bag contains the incense pills of the Heavenly Sound Pavilion’s popular female cultivator. If you like any kind of incense pills, you can bring them to the Heavenly Sound Pavilion. When the time comes, I promise to let you enjoy extreme happiness. It doesn’t cost you a spirit stone.”

The cultivator was about to stuff the brocade pouch into Shen Ping's hand. Shen Ping immediately became alert and hurriedly shook his head. "I'm sorry, I'm not interested in women."

"So you have an interest, Fellow Daoist! Don't worry, our Heavenly Sound Pavilion also has male cultivators." The cultivator chuckled and took out another brocade pouch.

Shen Ping cupped his hands and interrupted, "I still have something on. Goodbye!"

"Fellow Daoist, don't go. I'll let you do it for free twice... thrice?" Until Shen Ping walked away, the cultivator curled his lips and stared at his next target.

"Bad luck!" Shen Ping entered the True Treasure Pavilion and cursed in his heart. What the heck! You want me to compromise after three tries? She was not a national beauty.

He retracted his thoughts. He took out the jade token that Mu Jin had given him. After a while, a waiter in charge of receiving them came up and said respectfully, "Fellow Daoist, this way please."

He followed him to the backyard of the True Treasure Pavilion. He walked into a house on the left. The shop assistant pressed lightly on the wall. The house trembled slightly.

A few breaths later.

"Fellow Daoist, we've arrived at the auction hall. Are you a talisman master or an alchemist?"

Shen Ping was clicking his tongue in wonder when he heard this. He hurriedly replied, "A Talisman Master, a High Grade Talisman Master."

The shop assistant quickly took out a bronze mask. "Fellow Daoist, wearing this mask can temporarily block divine senses from detecting your strength and aura. The effect will last for two days. The other talisman masters and alchemists will also wear it. After the auction ends, you can wear it and leave first. You can return the mask the next time you come."

Shen Ping's eyes lit up when he heard that. The True Treasure Pavilion was really considerate. With this mask, the cultivators participating in the auction did not have to worry about their information being exposed. If it were any other cultivator facing such a service, they would give the True Treasure Pavilion 99 likes from the bottom of their hearts.

He put on the bronze mask, walked out of the house, and his vision suddenly opened up. The huge crystal chandelier in the oval dome illuminated the entire auction hall as if it was daytime. The high platform in the center could see every seat below clearly.

This was Shen Ping's first time participating in an auction. He carefully chose a corner in the back row.

As time passed, cultivators continued to enter the auction hall. However, what puzzled Shen Ping was that some of these cultivators were wearing masks, while others were not hiding at all. Around noon, most of the cultivators participating in this auction had already arrived.

Shen Ping observed from the corner of his eye.

There were less than 100 people wearing different colored masks, but there were more than 300 high-level cultivators who did not conceal themselves. The auras of these cultivators were thick and smooth. Clearly, they were at the ninth level of Qi Refinement. He did not sense the obvious pressure of a Foundation Establishment cultivator. Perhaps they were restraining themselves, or perhaps they were wearing a mask.

"Fellow Daoists. The small-scale auction of True Treasure Pavilion has officially begun. As usual, let's start with a round of warm-up. Three Beauty Pills..."

The surrounding cultivators, especially the female cultivators, breathed heavily. Shen Ping could not help but swallow his saliva, his eyes burning.

Beauty Pill! If it was given to his wife and concubine, wouldn't they look young forever? As expected of an auction, it was indeed extraordinary.

"The starting bid is ten mid-grade spirit stones. Every increment must be at least five mid-grade spirit stones."

He was immediately tempted when he heard the price. It was not expensive! He could afford it!

"One hundred!"

"One hundred and fifty!"

"Two hundred!"

The female cultivators' gradually raised voices sounded. Shen Ping completely gave up. He could not afford to offend them. He did not even have 100 mid-grade spirit stones in his storage bag. However, the other party offered more than a hundred.

Although the Golden Sun Sect owned more than ten spirit stone mines of various sizes, causing the purchasing power of spirit stones to be low, those who could casually take out more than a hundred mid-grade spirit stones either had high cultivation or had a certain status and background.

In the end, the three Beauty Pills were bought at an average price of 270 mid-grade spirit stones.

Shen Ping quickly calculated in his heart.

Every year, he could earn more than 300 mid-grade spirit stones from the number of high-grade talismans required to make the True Treasure Pavilion. After deducting the material fees and various expenses, he could accumulate more than 100 spirit stones. If he did not buy any Dharma artifacts, robes, or other valuable items, he should be able to buy one in two years.

“Aye.” He sighed softly.

Fine. Such a luxurious thing should be considered when the success rate of making talismans increases in the future. At this stage, his main goal was to improve his cultivation as soon as possible and change the robes of his wife and concubine to high-grade.

Next, pills that were difficult to buy outside, special dharma artifacts, array discs, dharma techniques, secret treasures, and so on were auctioned off one by one.

Shen Ping could only watch. From the price of the Beauty Pill, he knew that he could only participate in such an auction.

The auction ended. Hundreds of cultivators filed out.

“There’s still no Foundation Establishment Pill this time.”

“I heard that it was at the Foundation Establishment Auction. Unfortunately, with a Foundation Establishment senior around, it’s very difficult for us to snatch it.”

“Let’s continue waiting. The True Treasure Pavilion will definitely take out the Foundation Establishment Pill. Otherwise, how can this auction still be attractive?”

He heard the small discussions in his ears. Shen Ping’s heart stirred.

Foundation Establishment Pill! Foundation Establishment auction!

He felt as if he had come into contact with a higher level of information. However, this information should not be important. Otherwise, the surrounding cultivators who were not hiding would not have not reacted at all.

He walked out of the True Treasure Pavilion.

Shen Ping was still wearing the bronze mask. He then came to the street of the Talisman Treasure Hall. There were very few cultivators here, so he immediately took off his mask when he saw that no one was around.

In the evening, he returned to the entrance of the small courtyard. Thinking of what he had seen at the auction, he could not help but sigh. Different strengths and statuses came into contact with completely different information.

If he was still the cultivator at the third level of Qi Refinement in Red Willow Alley, he would not even dare to enter the True Treasure Pavilion casually, let alone participate in the auction.

“Fellow Daoist, you must be the talisman master in the second house. Hehe, you can live in Yunhe Alley at the fourth level of Qi Refinement. It seems that you are not an ordinary cultivator.”

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## Chapter 28: Too Terrifying

Whoosh.

Laughter seemed to come from all directions.

Shen Ping’s body instantly froze. The small courtyard in front of him slowly faded. At some point, smoke was lingering around it. A graceful figure walked over barefooted. Her face under the white veil looked like Wang Yun, but also like Bai Yuying. In the end, she turned into Yu Yan.

Three meters.

Two meters.

As the beautiful figure approached, the thin and transparent gauze was faintly discernible. The ribbon at her waist fluttered, as if it was about to break free from her body in the next second.

Shen Ping stared unblinkingly at the graceful figure. Flames burned in his lower abdomen. At this moment, nothing could disturb him. There was only one thought left in his mind, and that was...

“Husband, walk to the paradise of the human world with me!”

The gauze fell. He could not help but want to pounce on her. However, at this moment, a gentle voice resounded in his ears like the morning bell. “Fellow Daoist Mu, we’re all neighbors. Let’s not mess with the younger generation.”

Shen Ping shuddered and broke free from the charm. The small courtyard came back into view. Cold sweat broke out all over his body. He did not even dare to look in front of him. Instead, he immediately lowered his head and bowed. “Thank you, Fellow Daoist Feng. Thank you, Fellow Daoist Mu, for showing mercy. This junior’s strength is weak. Please take care of me in the future.”

“Hmph, Fellow Daoist Feng, you’re really nosy. Boring!” As she spoke, she was already dozens of steps away.

Shen Ping remained where he was, not daring to move at all. Only when he heard the door open did he heave a sigh of relief. He turned to the side and thanked him respectfully again.

Fellow Daoist Feng smiled and said, “You’re welcome.”

Back in the house, he took a deep breath.

The female cultivator of the Heavenly Sound Pavilion. How terrifying. Just a charm technique had almost embarrassed him in front of everyone. Fortunately, this was Yunhe Alley. If he was in Red Willow Alley or the wilderness, it would be as easy as blowing off dust for the other party to kill him.

The eighth level of Qi Refinement. Facing such strength, he was no different from an ant. Originally, because Shen Ping had participated in the auction of the True Treasure Pavilion and had come into contact with higher-level information, he felt a sense of superiority.

But now, this superiority has collapsed.

He once again thought of He Qin. If that alchemist worked hard, putting aside whether he could reach the Foundation Establishment stage in the future, he would at least be able to advance to the late-stage Qi Refinement Realm. However, after being tainted by the female cultivators of the Heavenly Sound Pavilion, he had become a street rat that everyone hated. In the end, he died tragically in the wilderness.

At that time, he wanted to go to the Heavenly Sound Pavilion to give it a try. Now that he thought about it, it was fortunate that he was cautious and did not act rashly. Otherwise, it would be beyond redemption.

Facing such a crushing charm technique, how could he have the will to resist?

“Husband.”

“W-what happened?”

Wang Yun and Bai Yuying walked out of the quiet room. When they saw that their husband’s forehead was covered in sweat, they hurriedly went forward to ask.

Shen Ping shook his head. “I’m fine. Don’t worry, I’m really fine.”

Several days passed, the palpitations from encountering the female cultivators of the Heavenly Sound Pavilion slowly subsided.

On this day, Yu Yan returned after leaving for more than ten days. As usual, she took a bath to wash away her fatigue and killing intent. Then, she went upstairs to return the spirit stones. In the past few months, she had returned 12 mid-grade spirit stones one after another.

Shen Ping could tell that Yu Yan was very tired. Back at Red Willow Alley, Yu Yan rarely went out during winter. After moving to Yunhe Alley, she went out almost every month for at least three to five days, at most ten days to half a month.

Honestly, once cultivators went to Cloudy Mountain Swamp more often, that meant they weren’t far from losing their lives. No one could guarantee that nothing would happen to them. Not even Foundation Establishment Cultivators could.

“Fellow Daoist Yu.” Shen Ping could not help but say, “Cloudy Mountain Swamp’s winter environment is harsh, and demon beasts rarely appear. It’s better to wait until next year.”

Yu Yan crossed her arms in front of her chest and said, “Oh, it’s really rare for Fellow Daoist Shen to say this. I thought you would only feel sorry for your wife and concubine.”

Shen Ping hurriedly explained, “Ahem, I’m just worried about the cost of co-renting. Without Fellow Daoist Yu to share the burden, I’m under a lot of pressure.”

Yu Yan chuckled. She turned around and went downstairs. “Don’t worry. The team I joined is not weak. Moreover, the Spirit Protection Talisman you gave me can be used three times.”

Shen Ping sighed faintly. Although Yunhe Alley was good, it was just a safe nest. It could not protect everyone.

...

Cultivation, talisman crafting, dual cultivation, and accompanying.

The daily arrangements were very full.

Among them, making talismans was the most important. After all, he still owes more than ten high-grade talismans to the True Treasure Pavilion. If he could not complete the mission, he would not be able to enter the True Treasure Pavilion in the future.

However, ever since his wife's favorability had broken through the upper limit, his experience in the Dao of Talisman had increased by three times every day. Originally, he needed about three years to reach the High-grade Perfection Stage. Now, he only needs one year.

Although he was restricted by his cultivation level and could not make higher-grade talismans, his experience in the Dao of Talismans had greatly increased, increasing his success rate in making high-grade talismans. He could even try to make Explosive Talismans, Ice Arrow Talismans, and even more complicated Earth Meteorite Talismans.

Apart from that, the spiritual energy increased by the high-grade spiritual root continued to increase. Combined with the help of the Yellow Spirit Pill, Shen Ping estimated that he would need more than a year to break through to the fifth level of Qi Refinement.

On this kind of day where he could feel improvement every moment, he paid no attention to what was going on outside. The thought of taking another concubine was thrown to the back of his mind.

At the beginning of February the following year. He finished making the remaining dozen or so high-grade talismans and went to the True Treasure Pavilion to sell them. He felt at ease.

Spring Embroidery Pavilion.

When Shopkeeper Chen saw Shen Ping, he said rather bitterly, "Fellow Daoist Shen, it's been a few months, but you haven't come to my place once."

Shen Ping laughed dryly and apologized, "I've been immersed in practicing the Dao of Talismans recently, so I really can't find the time."

Upon hearing this, Shopkeeper Chen asked politely, "Fellow Daoist Shen, are you cultivating in the Talisman Treasure Hall?"

"Yes."

"The Talisman Treasure Hall is indeed a good place for rogue cultivators to improve. With Fellow Daoist Shen's many years of accumulation, you should be able to obtain something."

He was just saying that. Even though the advancement in the Dao of Talismans depended on hard work, that trace of fundamental natural talent determined the upper limit. There were so many Talisman Masters in the entire market, but very few of them could become high-grade.

However, Shen Ping smiled and said, "Shopkeeper Chen is right. I did gain something. Recently, I was lucky enough to successfully create a Golden Light Talisman."

Shopkeeper Chen was stunned. "Golden Light Talisman? Fellow Daoist Shen, you can make a Golden Light Talisman?"

Soon, Shen Ping took out the Golden Light Talisman. He did not plan to cut off contact with Shopkeeper Chen. He even had to tighten his relationship with him. After all, the other party's background was not low. He could obtain a lot of information about the Golden Sun Sect. Regardless of whether it was reliable or not, at least he had a channel to obtain information.

This was very important.

"I was just lucky. I spent a lot of materials and almost used up all my resources." Shen Ping said repeatedly.

A warm smile appeared on Shopkeeper Chen's face. "Congratulations to Fellow Daoist Shen for your success in Talisman Daoism. This first step is very crucial. It's not a big deal to spend some spirit stones. Talisman Masters are built on materials. If Fellow Daoist Shen can succeed, it's only a matter of time before you advance to become a High Grade Talisman Master.

"The current price of the Golden Light Talisman is 18 mid-grade spirit stones. I'll add another one for Fellow Daoist Shen. In the future, if Fellow Daoist Shen is able to craft high-grade talismans, I hope that you can take good care of the store."

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## Chapter 29: Qi Refinement Level-5

Compared to the large number of cultivators who often fought and killed in the wild or in the swamp, alchemists, talisman masters, artifact masters, and others who cultivated arts were relatively safe and comfortable. If they did not want to build a foundation and live a long life, their lives were often very carefree.

However, in order to master these four main skills, apart from talent, one also needed to accumulate a lot of time.

After many cultivators tried for the first time and realized that they did not have talent, they would choose to give up. Because they couldn't afford to waste time.

Originally, it was already very difficult for ordinary rogue cultivators to increase their cultivation. It would be fine if they had some achievements after accumulating the arts. However, if they did not, they would never have the chance to build their foundation in this life.

And it was already not bad for someone like Shen Ping who could make high-grade talismans at his age. Therefore, Shopkeeper Chen's attitude became even more fervent. He did not even hesitate to use a price higher than the market to rope Shen Ping in.

The status of a High-grade Talisman Master was comparable to that of a Foundation Building cultivator in some aspects.

Shen Ping agreed casually. He thought to himself that when the talisman-making rate increased, he would be able to sell them in the Spring Embroidery Pavilion. This way, he could deepen his relationship with Shopkeeper Chen and also reveal his potential so that he could obtain more valuable information.

Back at Yunhe Alley.

He stayed in the house again. Other cultivators might have an exciting longevity path, but he would rather cultivate peacefully than have such a variety of opportunities and dangers coexist.

Days passed. In the blink of an eye, it was June. The streets and alleys of the market were filled with announcements of the Golden Sun Sect's recruitment of miners.

The general content was that as long as one was willing to go to the depths of the Cloud Mountain Swamp to mine, they would be given an additional ten spirit stones every month. Moreover, if they reached twenty years of mining time, they would have priority in obtaining the qualifications to purchase the Foundation Establishment Pill.

For low-level cultivators, this benefit was indeed very good. An additional ten spirit stones every month could allow them to live in Red Willow Alley without having to worry about renting a house. However, the high-level cultivators did not care.

The Foundation Establishment Pill was important. However, they wanted the purchasing channel, not the qualifications.

Late at night, Shen Ping felt his wife tremble and slowly retreated. He held Wang Yun in his arms and opened the virtual interface.

[You dual cultivated with your wife once and gained 4 experience in Dao of Talisman.]

[Your wife is deeply in love with you. Current favorability: 100+20]

[Duo Cultivation Bonus: 6]

[Talisman Master: Level One High-grade (40,584/50,000)]

His experience in the Dao of Talismans increased very quickly. In another three months or so, he would be able to reach the breakthrough requirements. His Spiritual Roots were still rising steadily, but it was still far from being comparable to the Dao of Talisman.

Furthermore, as his experience in the Dao of Talismans exceeded 30,000, his success rate in crafting talismans increased significantly. For example, he could craft three Spirit Protection Talismans, which had complicated spiritual runes, with ten sets of materials. On the other hand, the easier Golden Light Talismans had a higher success rate. Sometimes, he could craft one with two sets of materials.

Although the remaining Explosive Talismans, Ice Arrow Talismans, and Earth Meteorite Talismans were not as exaggerated, they had reached the level of the previous Spirit Protection Talismans.

“I can accumulate more than a hundred mid-grade spirit stones every month after deducting the various expenses from the sales of talismans. Those in my storage bag are enough to exchange for three high-grade magic stones, but I’m still a little short of auctioning the Beauty Pill.” Shen Ping pondered.

He had been actively participating in the auction of the True Treasure Pavilion for the past few months. Although he had not bought anything, he had seen it many times and it had broadened his horizons. He had indeed seen many good things.

Among them, there were several types that could help increase one’s cultivation. However, the price was not low, so he had never been willing to buy them.

After all, the Yellow Spirit Pill, the Clear Accumulation Pill, and a few other ingredients were enough for him to use at the mid-stage of Qi Refinement. It would be a waste to buy other cultivation resources.

But after considering his age, he decided to buy it once to see the effect after hesitating for so long.

...

A few days later, Shen Ping wore a bronze mask and walked out of the True Treasure Pavilion. He went to the Talisman Treasure Hall with ease. After making sure that no cultivators were paying attention, he took off his mask and walked around the market before returning to Yunhe Alley. It was the same every time. He tried his best to ensure that there were no problems.

At night, in the quiet room. He sat down cross-legged and took out an exquisite jade bottle from his storage bag. This was a specially treated diluted spirit liquid. There was only one drop inside. However, the auction price was as high as 300 mid-grade spirit stones, so there were not many cultivators competing for it.

Hoo.

Ha.

He took a deep breath and emptied his spirit platform. All distracting thoughts were gone. He raised his head and swallowed the spiritual liquid in the jade bottle.

Boom.

Spiritual liquid entered his stomach. Boundless and pure spiritual energy quickly spread throughout his body. Before Shen Ping could circulate his cultivation technique, the spiritual energy in his dantian instantly became violent. It surged out of his dantian like a headless fly and entered his meridians.

He hurriedly circulated his cultivation technique. His divine sense tried its best to guide the spiritual energy along the circulation of the heavenly cycle.

This is a difficult process. However, compared to Shen Ping's suppression of the venom day and night, it seemed ordinary.

Time passed slowly.

Six hours later.

Shen Ping's aura began to rise. Just as he was about to reach a certain bottleneck, it quickly calmed down. However, just as he thought that he had failed to break through to the fifth level of Qi Refinement with the spiritual liquid, the high-grade spiritual root in his body actually began to absorb the pure spiritual energy that seeped into his limbs and bones.

Boom!

The originally calm spiritual energy swept over like a wave again. He seized the opportunity to break through the bottleneck of his meridians in one go. His aura rose again.

Another ten minutes passed. Shen Ping slowly opened his eyes, his pupils revealing a trace of joy.

Qi Refinement Level-5!

That night, in order to celebrate, he had taken his wife and concubine five times in a row. The joy in his heart slowly dissipated the next morning as he carefully recalled the details of yesterday's breakthrough.

"The total amount of spiritual energy in the diluted spiritual liquid isn't much. It's roughly equivalent to the results of half a year of bitter cultivation. However, the pure spiritual energy in it is very helpful in breaking through the bottleneck of cultivation. From the looks of it, this diluted spiritual liquid is the most cost-effective when breaking through." Shen Ping pondered.

During the auction, the person in charge of the True Treasure Pavilion had said that it was best to use diluted spiritual liquid when breaking through. Moreover, the better the spiritual root's aptitude, the better the absorption effect. It would be a waste for people who had four or even five types of pseudo spiritual roots to use it.

Although he had four types of impure spiritual roots, the metal and wood spiritual roots had already reached high-grade. The absorption effect was much better than expected.

"If I have enough spirit stones, I can bid for it once or twice in the future to speed up my cultivation." He had worked hard to make talismans and earn spirit stones to increase his strength. On this point, he would not be stingy. "I can only postpone my wife and concubine's high-grade magic robe."

Shen Ping felt guilty, but he quickly suppressed it. His cultivation and strength were the most important. If he did not have the strength to protect them, they would not be able to survive in Yunhe Alley.

"Husband, the meal is ready." At this moment, his wife and concubine brought the dishes to the wooden table one after another.

After the success rate of making talismans increased, he improved his daily meals again. Just this meal alone consumed four low-grade spirit stones.

"Husband, Senior Yu hasn't been back for a while. Could it be...?"

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## Chapter 30: Shopkeeper Chen as the Matchmaker

Cultivators had a very high chance of dying in the wild. Wang Yun's father had perished on a trip, so she paid special attention to this.

Yu Yan's longest trip was twenty days in the past six months. But this time, it took more than a month. Shen Ping was also worried. He had Yu Yan's Communication Talisman, but he rarely sent messages, mainly because he was afraid of disturbing Yu Yan.

After all, in a place like Cloud Mountain Swamp, one had to maintain a high level of concentration at all times, and some areas would interfere with the communication talisman.

"Fellow Daoist Yu's combat strength isn't weak. She's also with the team. SHE'll be fine. In a few days, she'll have to pay the rental fee. Fellow Daoist Yu will be back." He comforted them and then changed the topic. "Let me tell you a piece of good news. In addition to breaking through to the fifth level, my Talisman Daoism has also been upgraded to High Grade."

His wife and concubine were stunned at first, but then they became excited.

"Congratulations, husband! Congratulations, husband!"

"That's great! Husband, your Talisman Dao has broken through to the High Grade. There's hope for you to build your foundation!"

The two of them were excited from the bottom of their hearts.

Originally, they were still wondering why the food consumption was increasing every day. However, because of their husband, they did not dare to ask. Only now did they realize that their husband had actually broken through to become a High-grade Talisman Master.

This was a joyous occasion. If a High-grade Talisman Master appeared in a cultivation family, there would be a banquet to celebrate.

"No wonder you were a little fierce last night." Wang Yun smiled shyly.

Bai Yuying also said, "You're happy, so you're naturally fiercer. Do you want to do it a few more times tonight?"

Shen Ping held their wrists and said with a smile, "Wash up early tonight. I have a surprise for you."

“What surprise?” Wang Yun asked subconsciously.

“You’ll know when the time comes.”

The illustration accompanying the purchase of the Dual Cultivation Technique was rich in content and some movements were unheard of. He had to give it a try tonight.

...

The night before the middle of June.

Yu Yan returned after a long journey. After walking into the house, she patted her huge figure and secretly heaved a sigh of relief. Fortunately, she was not late. Tomorrow was the day she paid the rent. If she was absent, who knew what the timid Fellow Daoist Shen would think.

Actually, the reason why she stayed outside for so long this time was mainly because she had accepted a lucrative mission to pay the rent.

Bam! Bam!

She arrived at the main room. Yu Yan immediately sensed the vibration of the wooden board. She was speechless. She took a quick bath. She came to the second floor to disturb Shen Ping.

“One moment.”

He heard a knock on the door. Shen Ping’s face was filled with joy. Fellow Daoist Yu had finally returned. He gave his wife and concubine an apologetic look. His wife and concubine put on their clothes understandingly.

The door opened.

Yu Yan was just about to make some sarcastic remarks when her expression changed, and she said in surprise, “Fellow Daoist Shen, you, you broke through again?”

Shen Ping smiled and said, “I was lucky enough to break through.”

Yu Yan clicked her tongue in wonder. “Fellow Daoist Shen is really energetic. Not only can you have sex with your wife and concubine every day, but your cultivation level is also rising steadily. It’s admirable.”

The wife and concubine in the room immediately blushed to the tips of their ears.

“Congratulations on your breakthrough. Here, this is the rental fee for tomorrow. I’m tired. I’ll go back and rest. You guys continue. Don’t take too long.” After taking out the

spirit stones and handing them to Shen Ping, Yu Yan then walked away gracefully. She did not probe further. After all, every cultivator had their own secrets.

Early the next morning, the familiar fragrance of flower petals filled the room. Shen Ping knew that his old neighbor was taking a bath again.

“Fellow Daoist Shen, I’m not feeling well, so I won’t be going to the market together.”

“Sure.” He glanced at the closed main room. The scene of Yu Yan soaking in a wooden bucket subconsciously appeared in his mind. He didn’t know if Fellow Daoist Yu liked to wash her hair or her arms first. He shook his head and suppressed his distracting thoughts. He left quickly.

Before he walked out of the small courtyard, he heard a giggle behind him. “Fellow Daoist Shen, you’re going to the Deacon Hall, right? Let’s accompany each other.”

Shen Ping’s body stiffened. The female cultivator of the Heavenly Sound Pavilion. He could not help but curse in his heart. Why was he so unlucky? He had deliberately gone downstairs earlier because he was afraid of meeting this Fellow Daoist Mu. In the end, what he was afraid of came true.

“What? Fellow Daoist Shen, are you unwilling?”

A faint fragrance wafted into his nose.

Shen Ping hurriedly turned around and caught a glimpse of snow-white from the corner of his eye. He hurriedly lowered his head and said respectfully, “It’s my blessing that Senior Mu is willing to go with me.”

Fellow Daoist Mu chuckled. “What’s there to be nervous about? Are you afraid that I’ll eat you? Don’t worry, I won’t eat the grass beside my nest. Let’s go!”

The two of them left Yunhe Alley one after another. They arrived at the market. Shen Ping’s tense body relaxed slightly, but he still did not dare to size up this female cultivator from the Heavenly Sound Pavilion.

“The last time I saw you, I sensed the special aroma of the Heavenly Sound Pavilion from you, so I subconsciously thought that you were a sentimental person. That’s why I used a little charm technique. Fellow Daoist Shen, please forgive me.”

Hearing this, Shen Ping came to a realization. Back then, he did not sense any aura from the incense pill, nor did he take the brocade bag. He did not expect that it would still be stained with some aura.

Cultivators’ methods were really impossible to guard against.

He quickly explained.

Fellow Daoist Mu sighed. "The Heavenly Sound Pavilion's business is difficult, and the competition is very intense. It's been a long time since I've met someone I like. If Fellow Daoist Shen is interested, you can come to the Heavenly Sound Pavilion to take pity on me. Otherwise, in a few months, I'll be kicked out."

She had a pitiful look on her face. Shen Ping was so frightened that he chanted Buddha's Mercy more than ten times in his heart before suppressing the restlessness in his heart. They arrived in front of the Deacon Hall. The cultivators who paid the rent lined up, but there were not many people.

"What a blockhead. You don't know how to be gentle with women." Fellow Daoist Mu snorted and didn't say anything else.

Shen Ping looked apologetic. A moment later, they left the Deacon Hall. He cupped his hands and said, "Fellow Daoist Mu, I still have some things to do. I'll take my leave first."

Fellow Daoist Mu ignored him. After he walked far away, Shen Ping wiped the sweat off his forehead and thought to himself that it was a close call. Fortunately, this female cultivator from the Heavenly Sound Pavilion did not pester him too much. Otherwise, he really did not know how to deal with her.

After a while, he arrived at the entrance of the Spring Embroidery Pavilion.

Shopkeeper Chen welcomed him warmly. "Fellow Daoist Shen... Eh, Qi Refinement Level-5? Congratulations, Fellow Daoist Shen, you're one step closer to immortality."

Shen Ping said humbly, "My cultivation is insignificant and not worth mentioning."

They did not continue the pleasantries. He took out two Golden Light Talismans and handed them over.

Shopkeeper Chen's eyes lit up as he praised, "Fellow Daoist Shen's Talisman Daoism skills are improving very quickly. I think you'll be able to become a high-grade Talisman Master in a few days. I wonder if Fellow Daoist Shen has a Dao Companion as his companion?"

Shen Ping replied, "I already have a dao companion."

Shopkeeper Chen could not help but shake his head. "What a pity. My clan has a niece who is in her twenties. Her cultivation level is already at the third level of Qi Refinement. If Fellow Daoist Shen did not have a partner, you could marry her. And now I've missed it. However, if Fellow Daoist Shen wants to marry a concubine, I still have a few candidates!"

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