

## Firmament 101

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#### Chapter 101: Danger

“Who has come?” Wan Zheng-Hao and the middle-aged man opened their eyes wide. They were a bit untrusting of the old man, Guan Wan-Shan. They actually didn’t realize why it was so important.

“Feng... Feng Zhi-Ling! The supreme dan beads! Feng Zhi-Ling... He is here!”

What Guan Wan-Shan said immediately made them thrilled!

“No shit!”

They both shouted out, “This bastard finally came!”

They rushed to the door like their asses were on fire, leaving Guan Wan-Shan behind. When passed through the door, the middle-aged man suddenly slowed down, acting like he was casually walking.

Yet, Wan Zheng-Hao had actually rolled down the stairs.

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Ye Xiao had been rather tolerant.

He had put that much money in here yet never even asked about it even once. An ordinary man would never be able to do so.

In fact, if he wasn’t in need of money this time, he might not come to the Ling-Bao Hall again, at least, not any time soon. In fact, he didn’t really care about this amount of money!

However, although he hadn’t taken all the money he had earned last time, he had still kept a large amount of money with him. It had been just a few days. How come he was in need of money again?

It was because of the heavy rain the last night.

When Ye Xiao woke up and absorbed the first stream of the purple qi in the sky, he found that some moist qi had followed the purple qi into his dantian along the Jing and Mai. And then the moist qi had entered the Spaces.

Then, some fog appeared in the Water Space. The fog was extremely humid. As the moist qi entered the Water Space, the fog became thicker and was on the verge of condensation.

It really confused Ye Xiao.

[Don’t tell me the natural objects can also increase my cultivation? Is the East-rising Purple Qi really so comprehensive? That is unbelievable, isn’t it?!] Ye Xiao thought for quite a while and tried staying in the pool for a long time, yet he didn’t find the moist qi increasing.

[The water in the pool cannot be converted into the moist qi? It seems only the water from the sky... the Rootless Water, can turn into the marvelous water in the Space...] Ye Xiao thought so.

Yet how can there be so many heavy rains in the world.

It was actually a rainstorm the last night. Even though it would frequently rain, it could hardly be impossible to rain like that. Such a rainstorm was truly rare in a hundred years!

If a rainstorm like that kept happening for a long time...

The world would soon be broken down.

Since he couldn't count on the weather, he could only think about using some human sources!

It was difficult for him to think of a 'human-sources' way. He immediately came out with a practical solution.

As long as he could have enough amount of spiritual jades and use them to set up a small Raining Circle. It would allow him to control the rain as he wished.

That seemed practical, but there were still some problems which persisted.

It was surely not a difficult thing to do in the Qing-Yun Realm. Even a second-rank sect could set up the circle easily. However, it was difficult in the mortal world. The 'spiritual jades' that were essential for the circle were rather rare in the Land of Han-Yang!

Most of the normal people could never even see one piece of it in their lives. Even if they saw it, they probably would ignore it because of their ignorance.

It was extremely precious and priceless!

It was hard for Ye Xiao to find one in this world. Even though he could find some, the money he had at the moment was too little to even buy one piece of it. A small Raining Circle might not need many pieces of 'spiritual jades', yet there had to be more than just one or two pieces for sure.

If he wanted to get enough 'spiritual jades', he needed to have enough money, which he didn't.

So Ye Xiao needed money!

He needed it!

He needed a lot of money!

And then, he naturally thought of the money he had saved in the Ling-Bao Hall Salesroom. The money of over five million silver bars!

So he came to take it.

However, he didn't know that things in the Ling-Bao Hall had changed a lot now!

He didn't know that what was waiting there was a huge trap that was specially made up for him!

There were people waiting for him to fall in for so long!

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Ye Xiao smiled when he saw the distant Ling-Bao Hall.

He thought, [I don't mind if I need to give them more supreme dan beads, if I need to... I still have quite many... Well first of all, money can really bring me the spiritual jades...

My biggest problem is where should I find them.]

Ye Xiao had used many spiritual jades many times in his previous life, but they were all fully developed. They were all normative after manufactured. He only needed to buy or to rob some...

It was normal objects in the Qing-Yun Realm after all, even though they were in a high price.

However, now he was in the mortal world. Well there should be spiritual jades in every realm, yet he didn't know how would it look like in this world. He was not sure if there would be anyone who could recognize it... That mostly gave him headache.

"Fine. I will just see what happens next then!" Ye Xiao murmured, "A living man will not die for holding urine [1]."

He casually walked in the salesroom and was stunned by Master Guan!

Guan Wan-Shan was like looking at a gold mountain when he saw Feng Zhi-Ling. It seemed like he was waiting for this 'gold mountain' for ages, and as soon as he saw him, he was immediately relieved. He looked quite creepy anyway.

Then he ran away without hesitation!

The way he ran made him look like a youngster.

Ye Xiao was shocked.

"What the hell is going on? What happened!" Ye Xiao sensitively realized that something was wrong.

[Guan Wan-Shan was supposed to be excited when he saw me, but like this.... that was just so unusual...

He is an old master who had worked in the salesroom for decades. He is experienced. He shouldn't be like that...

He is supposed to be enthusiastic at the same time, isn't he? He should have come forward quickly and greeted me warmly to maintain a good relationship with me. Right?!

But he just ran away like that. That is so weird. There must be something wrong here. What's the problem?]

Ye Xiao looked around cautiously and found that several men had come to the door standing.

It seemed normal and they seemed to be the guards.

[Well... As I remember, usually, there should be four people guarding at the door. Now there are eight. And... These eight guards are actually watching me. How come I feel that they are afraid that I will get away.]

He had a feeling that if he left now, these men would very possibly stop him!

"What the hell is that? Blocking the door?" Ye Xiao frowned and then walked to the door.

He hadn't even been close to the door when a big man among the eight people walked towards him smiling. He bowed and scraped to Ye Xiao, "Lord Feng, please hold on. Master Guan has given us the order that if you come, we need to ask you to wait for a second. There is an urgent event that needs your opinion."

Ye Xiao nodded peacefully and spoke warmly, "Hmm. I know. I just want to get some fresh air at the door."

The big man bowed and said, "Please enjoy some tea, Lord Feng."

That meant... 'Forget about the fresh air. Just get back inside and have some tea'.

Ye Xiao frowned immediately and spoke blandly, "What is this? Can't I even just get some fresh air at the door? Can't I?"

The big man became more humble, but he kept standing in front of Ye Xiao. The other strong men were slightly moving over. They seemed to try to stand in a circle around Ye Xiao.

"Get away!" Ye Xiao shouted and frowned. He realized there was a vital danger in the Ling-Bao Hall getting close to him. Something terrible would happen if he stayed longer.

His hands had become golden inside his sleeves.

The golden hand which had shocked the auction once might show up again.

"I suppose this must be the well-known Feng Zhi-Ling... Lord Feng. Right?" A bright voice suddenly sounded, "Hahahaha... I am Wan Zheng-Hao. I am the owner of Ling-Bao Hall. I have heard of Lord Feng for a long time but didn't have the luck to meet you in person. Today is my lucky day. It is my pride to see you!"

Ye Xiao frowned and looked to where the voice came.

He just saw a huge meat ball quickly rolling down the stairs from the second floor.

The ground seemed to be trembling. That was quite a heavy one, Ye Xiao thought!

When the 'meat ball' got to the floor, Ye Xiao recognized that... it was actually a person!

The man hardly had a neck. At least Ye Xiao could tell where his neck was. His head was like a watermelon and it was just set on the fat shoulders. The fat face was trembling. His facial features were almost huddled together because he was too fat. His mouth was like a huge pot, yet it didn't look too big on his face. In fact, it was quite a small mouth on his giant face...

Big shoulders and fat waist. Hmm. A round tummy. His lower abdomen seemed to be connected with the legs. His shanks were like the elephant's legs supporting his huge body. Yet he moved fast. It was unbelievable. Ye Xiao couldn't even imagine it if he didn't see it in person.

However, after getting down the stairs, he was already sweating profusely.

It seemed the 'price' for him to move fast was a bit high!

“Aye ya ya... Lord Feng...” When Ye Xiao was shockingly looking at him, Wan Zheng-Hao had hurriedly come to him with his fat hands unhesitatingly held Ye Xiao’s hands. He kept fervidly shaking hands and said, “Aye ya ya... Brother Feng. Oh no. Lord Feng... Hahaha. I have been looking forward to meeting you these days. Just after a few days, I have lost a lot of weight because I have been waiting for you so eagerly. You really have made me wait with suffering...”

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#### **Chapter 102: Gu Jin-Long, The Enemy**

Ye Xiao only felt that his hands had been fully wrapped with two big fat pieces of meat. Those were definitely the same as the meat of a pig’s ass...

Wan Zheng-Hao’s facial features all huddled together with an ebullient smile. The fat on his face was trembling, and his fat belly was quivering. The fat on his shoulder was also shaking, and the meat on his leg was also shaking even after he had stood still for quite a while...

As for his ass... Oh. We better not talk about it...

Ye Xiao saw all of those and his face showed an extremely strange look. He murmured, “You actually have lost your weight these days...”

He felt like there were a million Cao Ni Horses [1] that were covered by shit roaring past his mind.

[Now you said you had lost your weight when you are actually fat like this...

What will pigs say about it?]

“Oh... Huo hu hu... Manager Wan... Boss Wan... You...” Ye Xiao suddenly stopped. After an instant thought, he raised his left hand and covered his mouth right away. It was Ye Xiao’s fastest action, yet it was still a little late. - Kacha!-

It was the sound of... his chin that was nearly dislocated!

It was true!

It was no exaggeration!

His chin was about to be dislocated!

The Xiao Monarch was experiencing a second life now, but it was his first time to see such a ‘giant thing’! And the ‘giant thing’ was a person...

So he couldn’t help but to open his mouth when he saw the man.

So... When he rapidly opened his mouth, he almost disgraced himself by breaking his own chin. It was lucky that he stopped his mouth so quickly...

Wan Zheng-Hao was truly the first person who could actually make the Xiao Monarch act ludicrously like this!

Ye Xiao hurriedly held his chin yet still spoke out some words. But he had spoken with unclear articulation and made a 'heh heh heh' sound along with a 'huo huo huo'...

However, it really wasn't his fault. Wan Zheng-Hao's size had really broken the limits of his imagination and had truly gone too far from being a human!

Ye Xiao dared to bet that even if Wan Zheng-Hao knew nothing about martial arts, he could stay unharmed being punched by a superior cultivator at the Grade of Renyuan! It would at most hit in his fat, but definitely not his bones!

Ye Xiao smiled and vigorously drew back his right hand.

When his hand got out, he felt his hand was oily, as if it was covered in grease.

That was so embarrassing! Extremely embarrassing!

"Hahahaha..." Wan Zheng-Hao didn't notice anything wrong at all and laughed, "Please, Brother Feng. To the upper floor... Hahaha. I have some good tea that had been kept for thousands of years... I like making friends very much. Especially with some brilliant people like you. It is truly much better after seeing you than hearing about you. Hahaha. I wish for a good friend like you..."

He wouldn't stop talking after he opened his mouth

[Some thousands of years old tea... That must have become dust.]

Ye Xiao found that he completely had no chance to talk back.

Wan Zheng-Hao was an experienced man. Apparently, he clearly knew how his fat image would shock people, so he laughed and said, "Everything is good about me, except my weight. Haha. Well, there is really nothing I can do about it. No matter what I eat, it will put on my weight. I have tried going on a hunger strike, but it didn't work. I got fat like always. So I just keep it as what it is. I wonder to what extent my body could grow fatter..."

He was stepping on the stairs and the stairs squeaked. Apparently, the stairs were overwhelmed.

"... Gradually, my body became what it is now..." They finally got to the second floor and Wan Zheng-Hao was gasping, "... Well it was just about 700 kilograms. Forgive my jeer."

"Awesome!"

Ye Xiao finally got a chance to talk, so he spoke out a word with sincerity. That was the truth of what he felt in his heart.

[700 kilograms...]

"No. It is not a jeer. I have to say that in every area, there is always a brilliant person. Every profession produces its own leading authority... In the profession of 'weight', I believe you must be the No. 1 in the history! You deserve it!"

Ye Xiao spoke with sincerity.

He was not flattering. He was expressing his true feeling. There were only things that you couldn't imagine, not things that couldn't be possible. Nothing was too strange in the world!

[A man can actually be so fat... That is truly an oddity in the history.]

Wan Zheng-Hao laughed, "What a shame that the royal court never consider 'weighting' as a test to recruit new members. Otherwise, I could defeat anyone in the whole world and the entire history!"

"By just a smile, you could certainly win!" Ye Xiao was admiring.

They were chatting while walking to the tea room. In the tea room, Ye Xiao didn't release his caution. Instead, he became cautious to a great extent.

Because he saw a man.

A middle-aged man who had three streams of black facial hair fluttering in front of his chest. His face was emaciated, and his body was strong. He was dressed in cyan like a man from the heavens!

He looked like a middle-aged man that meant no harm to anybody!

At the moment, the man was looking at Ye Xiao with a smile. He gently greeted Ye Xiao first, "Mr. Feng?"

Ye Xiao lowered his sight looking at the chair. And then he walked to it and sat down. He looked up again and asked, "And this is..."

His face looked calm, yet his eyes were filled with confusion.

In fact, his heart was not peaceful at all!

Ye Xiao knew this man!

They knew each other well!

It was not 'Ye Xiao' who knew this man; it was the Xiao Monarch!

It had only been three and a half months since Ye Xiao met this guy last time!

Three and a half months ago, the man was among those guys who made the Xiao Monarch fall!

In the ten special disciples of the Sunlight Sect which was one of the three factions, he was the No. 9. He was the Breeze Sword God, Gu Jin-Long.

A 'Long' among humans from 'Gu' to 'Jin' (A 'Chinese Dragon' among humans from the 'past' to the 'present'). His word was like the breeze, blowing the water of the lake; the breeze would leave no trace, yet people die because of it.

Ye Xiao couldn't imagine, not even in dreams, that he would meet with an enemy from his previous life in this world!

A man with such a strong cultivation capability was actually in the Land of Han-Yang!

Now Ye Xiao was finally sure about one thing. It was something that he had been thinking about since he had come to this world. Now he was sure. There had to be a channel that was linking the Qing-Yun Realm and the Land of Han-Yang, which allowed people to go through!

The channel was most possibly controlled by... the three factions in the Qing-Yun Realm!

Maybe the three factions had their own channels and they just kept it a secret.

As Ye Xiao knew, Gu Jin-Long was too strong to be in this world because the Land of Han-Yang wouldn't be able to hold such a powerful cultivator!

He was a superior cultivator of the Grade of Daoyuan!

There were only three grades in the Land of Han-Yang!

They were the Grade of Renyuan, Grade of Diyuan and Grade of Tianyuan!

The Grandmaster Levels of Tianyuan was the limit of this world!

Cultivators in the Qing-Yun Realm were in three higher grades than those three grades.

They were the Grade of Lingyuan, Grade of Mengyuan, and Grade of Daoyuan.

There were nine levels in each grade, and the gaps between two close levels were enormous!

So it wasn't hard to understand that Gu Jin-Long was... an extremely horrible existence in this world!

It would be overstating to call him a god.

Well, such a man was Ye Xiao's enemy!

Now he was in front of Ye Xiao!

Ye Xiao tasted the tea and swallowed it. He had swallowed his hatred and hostility that was raising in his heart along with the tea.

He buried the hatred and hostility deep in his heart without showing a single sign!

The Xiao Monarch, in his best moment, could easily kill Gu Jin-Long.

However... if Gu Jin-Long wanted to kill Ye Xiao now, he wouldn't even need to breath.

He would only need to stare at Ye Xiao and Ye Xiao would just die!

That was a gargantuan gap between their strengths! How could Ye Xiao not be cautious?

"My name is Gu. I am a bit older than you, I am afraid. If you don't mind, you can call me Brother Gu."

Gu Jin-Long spoke in a casual way. He didn't even show the strength that was hidden in his heart. He just used some simple words, and that could get him close to Ye Xiao.

He was now like an elegant gentleman in front of Ye Xiao.

He showed no threat at all.

"Brother Gu." Ye Xiao smiled and said, "You are an elegant man. I admire you."



Gu Jin-Long smiled gently, "I have heard the great name of your for a long time. Now that I have the great opportunity to see you in person, I have to say you are truly young and talented."

Ye Xiao smiled blandly, "I am just wasting my youth. That's all."

They had spoken some formalities and stopped saying anything useless. Ye Xiao didn't know the purpose of Gu Jin-Long, so he didn't want to recklessly say anything wrong. The less he spoke, the less mistakes he would make. Gu Jin-Long was trying to be mysterious, so he didn't want to talk much either.

However, Ye Xiao figured out something that was rather important at the moment.

Wan Zheng-Hao, who had been speaking with fervor and assurance just now, was sitting on the chair behaving well. He was sitting on the main chair, yet he looked extremely restrained. Under his calm expression, there was a sense of profound fear.

After some formulaic greetings, Gu Jin-Long gave Wan Zheng-Hao a hint with a glance. If Ye Xiao hadn't noticed the interaction between them, he might not be able to notice the glance.

Wan Zheng-Hao started to laugh, "Hahahahaha." His face was still quivering as he said, "Brother Feng, the supreme dan beads you brought here last time... are really awesome stuff. Master Gu is here for that... I wonder if Brother Feng... Heh heh..."

Ye Xiao smiled and spoke blandly, "The supreme dan beads are difficult to make. My master is having an ablution and making preparations for creating the second group of dan beads."

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[1] Cao Ni Horse (草泥马): In fact, it is alpaca. In China people call it Cao Ni Horse and it sounds exactly the same with 'Fuck Your Mother (操你妈)'. Just use your imagination...

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### **Chapter 103: A Super Big Lie**

Wan Zheng-Hao and Gu Jin-Long looked at each other.

['My master!']

Ye Xiao's words contained so much information.

That meant Feng Zhi-Ling didn't have the ability to make supreme dan beads. Only the guy hidden behind him could make it.

And that guy must be a superior master of making dan beads!

Gu and Wan had thought about it earlier. Feng Zhi-Ling looked much older than Ye Xiao, but he was only about 30 years old. A 30 years old man could hardly be a dan-making grandmaster. So in their opinion, it was rather reasonable that there was a master behind Feng Zhi-Ling!

Wan Zheng-Hao laughed and probingly asked, "Brother Feng, I wonder... Except Pei-Yuan dan beads, what kind of dan beads with a supreme level can you master make?"

Ye Xiao stayed quiet for a while and then raised his head immediately. It seemed like he had made a decision about something and said, "I have a pleasant relation with Ling-Bao Hall in the previous cooperation. Since Brother Feng has asked me this question, I think I should just give you the truth."

Gu and Wan were both spirited.

They thought Feng Zhi-Ling was about to tell them something very important.

"My master started making dan beads from last year." Ye Xiao's first sentence had stunned them both.

[What? Last year?

That means in only one year, his master successfully made supreme dan beads?

What is this bullshit? Truly bullshit? Or seriously bullshit?]

"You may think I am lying or raising his stature, but I can only say that it is the truth. The supreme dan beads are the perfect proof!" Ye Xiao spoke.

"Please go on." They nodded and asked.

"My master is 397 years old now. He was in the ninth level of the Grade of Diyuan. He could only go this far as his talent is limited. He is about to pass away within the next three to five years."

Ye Xiao continued, "My master was born in a family of dan-makers. He has heard and seen a lot of dan-making since he was born. However, his father only let him read books about dan beads. Even though he has kneeled and begged for practice, his father had never allowed him to."

While Ye Xiao spoke of that, Gu Jin-Long actually frowned.

Gu Jin-Long didn't want to talk, but he wanted to figure out something.

So Wan Zheng-Hao became the perfect person to ask for him.

He asked, "Why is that?"

Ye Xiao answered, "Please be patient. Listen to me carefully."

Wan Zheng-Hao shut his mouth right away.

"After that, during my master's first dozens of years, he had read all the books about dan beads that could be found in the world. After he had done so, he thought he could finally practice what he had learned. Yet his father still didn't allow him to. Instead, his father made an extremely harsh request which was totally unbelievable."

"What was it? How was it extremely harsh and unbelievable?" Wan Zheng-Hao asked in just the right time.

"It was... to recite all those books without a single mistake. All of them! No mistake on even one single word!" Ye Xiao said, "If you get in our sect, the first thing you should do is reciting books. We have collected the biggest amount of books in the Land of Han-Yang. We hardly missed any book. All our books... If you put them together, they could nearly filled up several houses... I have been in our sect for

nearly 20 years, and I am still unable to finish all the books. My master's father requested him to recite all those books without a single mistake being made! That was as difficult as reaching the sky!"

Gu and Wan both sucked in a deep breath. They really couldn't understand why this father wanted to do such a thing.

"And then?" Wan Zheng-Hao asked.

"And then my master actually went on reading and reciting... Before he could recite all those books, his father passed away. Before his father died, his father told him, 'I have been working on making dan beads for my whole life. I am already a dan-making grandmaster in people's eyes. There won't be many people who can be better than me. However, I am the only one who knows that I am not qualified. I am very, very far from it.'

In the area of dan-making, there is no limitation. I have only walked one or two steps on a path that is a hundred miles long.'

'It is such a pity that I figured out the truth when I was already too old... It is that when you start with it, you have to calm your heart! If you don't, your heart will hold you behind!'"

Gu Jin-Long was so concentrated when Ye Xiao spoke of that.

[Maybe, the biggest secret about the supreme dan beads are just hidden in this story.]

"My master's father spoke in a serious voice, 'Now I am not reading those books for learning; I am... looking for the mistakes in those books.'"

"And the way I make dan beads has become a certain pattern. It has become a part of my habit. I can no longer change anything about it. So I am unable to make the legendary supreme dan beads all my life!"

"There all millions of books about dan beads in the world. They all have their significances. However, every book contains the personality of the author... If you learn by following one's book, you are never gonna do better than the author. You can't have the experiences and understandings of a grandmaster! So you are never going to be outstanding by learning from others."

Gu Jin-Long nodded slowly.

[That is so true. That is actually the truth amongst the truths.]

It was like the a master and two disciples practicing the same sword-play. They could never show it the same way. This was the same situation.

Three men play the same art of sword. They were actually executing three different sword-plays!

Even though they made the same movements, the power and the inner spiritual influences would be completely different.

Ye Xiao continued.

"His father made a final request to my master before he died, 'I want you... to fully understand every word in those books after you successfully recite all of them. You have to know everything about every way to make dan beads. After then...'

'After that, you throw away all those books and only keep what you have experienced all these years. Figure out your own way of making dan beads. Create a brand new way for the dan-makers!'

'Maybe you can do it; maybe you can not... However... That is the only way you should proceed in the area of dan-making...'

And then after he finished his last words, he died."

"What words?" Wan Zheng-Hao asked.

"He said... 'If one day, you have figured out your own way and you are sure that it only belongs to you, you can start bringing it into practice! If one day you produce some supreme dan beads... You come to my tomb, burn incenses for me and tell me about your success.'"

Ye Xiao finished that with a few sighs.

Gu Jin-Long and Wan Zheng-Hao were both immersed in the story, so they sighed too.

[That's the story...]

"After that, my master kept all those words in his mind. All these years, he has been working on it and searching for some materials in the mountain. During those 300 years, he had never touched the dan stove ever."

"Until last year... My master had finally figured out something. He laughed three times on the top of a mountain and then he started making dan beads! He started to make the first group of dan beads in his life!"

"My master was 395 and a half years old that day!"

"I had been following my master for 18 years in total. I can still vividly remember that he said..." Ye Xiao acted like he was lost in the memory and spoke gently, "... 'After these fascinating four hundred years, the little boy has gone. My eyes are dim-sighted now when I look at my life, but I have never changed my mind about making dan beads. There will always be a way out at the end of my rope; when it shows up, it will open all the gates to the night heavens. My life of dan-making has started today, and I will stick to it until I die!'"

Wan Zheng-Hao and Gu Jin-Long sighed together again.

People in the Grade of Diyuan was never able to live longer than 400 years!

It was a rule that was set by the gods that people in the Grade of Diyuan could live no more than 400 years.

[Feng Zhi-Ling's master had finally come to his great awakening when he was 395 and a half years old. In fact, he could only lived for four and a half years!

Several hundred years' hard works were only for the last four and a half years!

Though the glory only happened in such a short time, it should be imperishable forever!]

“That is the story... of the supreme dan beads... The process of making those dan beads has lasted nearly 400 years, hasn’t it? The difficulty in making supreme dan beads is truly unbelievable!” Gu Jin-Long was moved.

“It could be longer than that.” Ye Xiao spoke, “If my master didn’t figure out the true art of dan-making, the 400 years would only mean nothing!”

“Oh? the true art of dan-making?” Gu Jin-Long asked.

Gu Jin-Long must be casting his greedy eyes on the secret dan-making method. Usually, a man like Gu Jin-Long would never show such curiosity. However, what Ye Xiao had said had truly motivated his curiosity. Even though Gu Jin-Long was usually calm and steady, he couldn’t help speaking out all of it.

Ye Xiao didn’t feel offended at all and replied gently, “The secret that my master has figured out is only one word.”

“One word? What word?” The two of them both asked.

“Silence!” Ye Xiao spoke peacefully.

“Silence?” The two of them looked at each other. Apparently, both of them were surprised by the answer.

“That’s right. One word. Silence.” Ye Xiao sipped some tea. He seemed to be thirsty after speaking for so long. He then continued, “After fully understanding everything in those books, my master finally figured out that... In fact, the ways that those dan-making masters make dan beads were all right. They were reaching the same goal by different routes. That’s all.”

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### **Chapter 104: The True Art Of Dan-Making!**

“All of them were right...”

Gu Jin-Long and Wan Zheng-Hao were both surprised by the conclusion.

[I have been listening carefully for such a long time and that’s what you are telling me?] They both nearly spat out blood at the same time.

[The man has spent his whole life and the conclusion for all his works turns out to be... that the others are all right... What the hell you are working on then?]

“Please be patient.” Ye Xiao smiled blandly.

“However, the reason why all those dan-making masters could reach the outstanding range was because they weren’t calm enough. They had thought too much.” Ye Xiao spoke, “My master has been doing one thing in his life, so his heart is pure. There is no impurity.”

“After that, my master stuck to the path he had discovered. He first burnt some incenses to calm himself down for three days. And then he undertook ablution for three days. After that, he started to make dan beads with his sincere heart filled with respect...”

“That was the first time in his life he tried making dan beads, his first time touching a dan stove.”

“What’s the outcome?” It was Gu Jin-Long asking. He couldn’t pretend to be indifferent and casual anymore.

“It didn’t go well. He failed.” Ye Xiao spoke blandly, “The first time, he failed. The second time, failed... He kept failing, until... The seventeenth time, he successfully made something. Some ordinary Pei-Yuan Dan Beads. However, he just kept trying. After a half year, he was already able to produce some superior dan beads that were capable of producing dan glow!”

“A half year! Dan glow!” Gu Jin-Long and Wan Zheng-Hao looked at each other.

That was as fast as a rocket speeding across the sky for a rookie dan-maker!

“After a year, he could skillfully produce superior dan beads with dan mist.” Ye Xiao continued shocking the two men by talking peacefully.

“After another two months, he finally got his first group of supreme dan beads!” It finally exploded all the bedding he had made.

[Fourteen months!

The supreme dan with dan cloud!

From the first day he made dan beads to the day he produced supreme dan!]

They felt like they were dreaming. When they thought about the 400 years hard work, they were speechless at the same time.

Everyone knew about one thing. If a man used his whole life to do only one thing without considering anything else, no matter what he was doing, he would succeed!

By saying ‘without considering anything else’, it truly meant... EVERYTHING! That included eating, drinking, playing, living, traveling and even things between men and women...

It meant full concentration!

They were astonished, but felt reasonable somehow. [If he didn’t succeed after giving up so much... It would be too cruel for him...]

Ye Xiao spoke slowly, “I have witnessed the moment when the supreme dan appeared. It was like the world was shaking!”

“The supreme dan just came out the stove and the cloud was forming around it. The fragrance spread out a hundred miles away and the whole world was thundering!”

“Anomaly of the world!” Gu Jin-Long murmured, “The appearance of supreme dan beads could indeed produce anomaly of the world...”

“I will never forget that day! When the supreme dan showed up, my master looked up to the sky with tears on his face.” Ye Xiao said.

“400 years hard work. All for that moment. ‘It truly is dan cloud! It is...’ How could he not be emotional...” Gu Jin-Long looked up and murmured. He looked motivated.

“After my master produced his first group of supreme dan beads, he stopped. He went to his father’s tomb and burnt some incenses. He stayed sitting there for ten days. During the ten days, he had spoken nothing.” Ye Xiao spoke.

Gu Jin-Long and Wan Zheng-Hao didn’t know what to say.

They thought if they were in that situation, they would have said nothing like that too!

Because nothing needed to be said already.

What could he say to speak out the difficulties he faced during the 400 years?

What could he say to express his lifelong insistence?

“So the secret art of dan-making is simple.” Ye Xiao smiled and said, “My master had made a conclusion with several lines... ‘Pure heart; pure soul; pure body; pure spirit. No troubles; no seduction. Without distractions, to follow the harmony between man and nature.’”

(赤子之心，赤子之魂；洁净之身·洁净之魂·不染因果·不染风尘；心无旁骛·天人合一。)

It is just that simple. The thirty-two words were describing all the secrets of the supreme dan! Everything!”

Ye Xiao spoke blandly, “I am finished.”

“Ah...” Gu Jin-Long sighed and spoke, “Pure heart; pure soul; pure body; pure spirit. No troubles; no seduction. Without distractions, to follow the harmony between man and nature... Well said. Well said indeed...”

He shook his head with sorrow and smiled bitterly, “It is all about only several lines to speak, but when it comes to practice... How many in the universe are able to do so?”

At this moment, he gave up what he had been planning.

It turned out he had been planning to do something.

He had planned to capture the dan-maker back to the Qing-Yun Realm to make supreme dan beads for his sect after he took the Cosmic Hades back.

With the help of the powerful resources of his own sect, he believed the dan-maker would soon reach a grandmaster’s level.

It was essential for the dan-maker who wanted to improve himself to be skillful. Even if the dan-maker would resist, he would eventually give up and start to make supreme dan beads soon because there were endless resources in front of him!

However, after what Ye Xiao had told him, Gu Jin-Long believed everything he said!

So he gave up that plan. If the dan-maker was threatened, how could he still contain the pure heart, the pure soul...? Let alone 'without distractions, to follow the harmony between man and nature'... It would be bullshit...

If the dan-maker's mind had been distracted, even if he was willing to make dan beads for Gu Jin-Long, he could never be able to produce supreme dan beads!

So Gu Jin-Long thought that it would be just ruining the dan-maker! He decided to let him make his own supreme dan beads and he could maybe have some from him...

He totally believed in what Ye Xiao had said.

Because what Ye Xiao had told were impossible to make up.

The theory that was mentioned in the story was admirable.

It was enlightening!

Yet he could never have thought that...

The guy in front of him was actually the Xiao Monarch!

The theory Ye Xiao had told was surely true, but it was just a theory. It wasn't even a theory about the art of dan-making.

The story was true, but the main character surely was not Ye Xiao's master. It was his only sworn brother in his previous life. That man was chasing the ultimate art of knife. That theory was the cultivation method he had eventually figured out.

Ye Xiao had just modified the story in a complete extent.

Speaking of Ye Xiao's sworn brother, he was the main reason why Ye Xiao started killing in the Qing-Yun Realm and became the enemy of the three factions... crazily messing up with the three factions!

Of course... if there was truly someone who had been working on dan-making with the way Ye Xiao had told... Well... No matter how long this 'someone' could live, he would waste every second of it... It was merely wasting and failing.

To convert the theory of cultivation of the art of knife to the art of dan-making was absolutely impossible to be successful!

Ye Xiao raised his head and looked at Wan Zheng-Hao. He sneered and smiled, "I came here only by fits and snatches, yet you are not willing to let me leave now... I have thought a lot and couldn't understand why. The only possibility is that you guys want to know how these supreme dan beads are produced, right? Now I have told you the secret. Are you happy now?"

Wan Zheng-Hao was a bit embarrassed.

As the owner of the famous Ling-Bao Hall in the Land of Han-Yang, what he was doing was truly a bit embarrassing. Yet he had no choices. The one who could make the call was no longer Wan Zheng-Hao now!



Ye Xiao said, "Now that I have told you everything. I wonder if I could keep my life... Well at least I have told you the secret. Even if I will die later, my master's effort will be passed down to the future by you two. It won't be wasted anyway..."

"You are mistaking us, Brother Feng..." Wan Zheng-Hao hurriedly explained. He kept shaking his hand, "I am not such a despicable man, am I?"

Ye Xiao said, "But it is the supreme dan beads... Everyone wants it..."

Gu Jin-Long smiled and said, "Brother Feng, you are telling the truth. However, even if we wanted the supreme dan beads, we will never use such an ugly way..."

He stopped for a while and then continued, "If you don't mind, Brother Feng... Can you master make any supreme dan beads of some higher-level dan?"

Ye Xiao was surprised and then he said, "It is possible, but as I said, my master might not have the time to do it. Even if he wants to, he may not be able to..."

"I see." Gu Jin-Long changed the topic immediately, "Well one more thing... The reason why we have been a little bit impolite to you today is because of something else."

Ye Xiao was surprised, "Something else?!"

He wasn't pretending to be surprised. He was indeed surprised and cautious at the same time!

He knew about Gu Jin-Long deeply.

Gu Jin-Long might look well behaved and elegant. He had a good reputation in the world. He was like a representation of the noble men.

But Ye Xiao knew that he was extremely insidious and acrimonious inside.

He might be smiling at the moment, yet the next second, he would draw out his sword and take your life. He had done this so many times before.

There had been many people in the Qing-Yun Realm who had died in the hidden dagger behind his smile. They had never figured out what had truly happened even at the last moment of their life...

...

## [Realms In The Firmament](#)

### **Chapter 105: Framing The Decree Master!**

Gu Jin-Lu had just reached the 3rd level of the Grade of Daoyuan. He was only a first rate superior cultivation in the Qing-Yun Realm. However, he had played the main role in the battle of hunting the Xiao Monarch.

At the beginning, he had told the Xiao Monarch that he wanted to apologize and he had asked for a negotiation. In fact, he was only trying to get close to the Xiao Monarch and make him put down his caution. Step by step, he had led the world-shocking Xiao Monarch fall into the trap.

In that battle, most of the people who had been much better than Gu Jin-Long died, yet he himself somehow survived with no wounds although he was the weakest one among them. It could be seen that he was a selfish and cold-hearted person.

If he truly had fought with honor, he would have stood at the front and died under the Xiao Monarch's sword!

However, when the Xiao Monarch was weak and struggling to escape the hunt, he staged his sword into the Xiao Monarch's chest leaving a blood hole.

He had struck only once during the whole battle.

Yet that only strike had badly injured the Xiao Monarch and also kept himself safe off the battle. He truly had shockingly sharp eyes on how to seize the perfect chance!

This man who had been nothing but an ant in Ye Xiao's sight had actually caused the fall of the Xiao Monarch!

Ye Xiao couldn't drop down his cautiousness against such a man who was foxy, malicious, and good at pretending.

Ye Xiao was always a bodacious guy who had faced so many superior cultivators of the three factions without feeling fearful. Yet at the moment when he heard Gu Jin-Long said about 'something else' which was unexpected, he actually felt a bit nervous. That was something he had never experienced before!

He was still too weak at the moment!

"Oh? There is something else? May I ask what it is?" Ye Xiao was confused.

"It is about the auction..." Gu Jin-Long spoke casually, "Brother Feng, you have bought one thing from here... And in fact, it was something I had saved here. As a matter of fact, that was how I helped, invested and supported Wan Zheng-Hao."

"We had a deal long ago. Once Ling-Bao Hall became successful, I would come back to have it back... Well it has been a long time and Wan Zheng-Hao misunderstood my wish and incidentally sold it out. I know it is inappropriate to say so, but it is extremely important for me..."

Ye Xiao understood what he was talking about right away.

The Cosmic Hades.

Ye Xiao nodded to show understanding to what Gu Jin-Long was saying, but in his mind, he had cursed out a million times of 'bullshit'!

[That was even a hilarious bullshit...

If it really was yours, I bet you would have kept it with you and treated it like it was your ancestor. How could it be possible that you would give it to Wan Zheng-Hao? Help? Invest? Support? That is so... Do you really think I am a fool...]

"It was our mistake at the first place. We won't let you suffer any loss." Gu Jin-Long spoke blandly, "I will return you double the amount of money you spent for it. What do you think?"

[Double?

Ye Xiao immediately cursed all of Gu Jin-Long's families again and again.

Forget about double of the price. Even if you want to return 20 thousand times of the price to me, I won't let you take a single piece back from me!

That is the Cosmic Hades!

Is it a cabbage to you? Double the price, huh. You truly see me as an ignorant stupid country boy...]

However, he laughed brightly and said, "The first sight of you made me think that you must be a very good friend to me. It is nothing but a piece of treasure. No problem. Well actually, I wonder what exactly is it that you are talking about? To be honest, I have bought many precious treasures in that auction. I have no idea which one are you talking about. Just tell me and I will return it. That's all. Forget about doubling the price or something. Just see it as a gift from me... Brother Gu, don't see me as a man who couldn't even afford giving his friend a gift. I don't even care about my money in the Ling-Bao Hall. Why would I care about just a piece of treasure."

Gu Jin-Long laughed loudly and said, "Brother Feng is a generous man! Well then, I think I should just be straight. It is the Cosmic Hades I am talking about..." He nervously looked at Ye Xiao and spoke slowly, "It is not a precious thing really... However, it is something that has been passed down from generation to generation in my clan... It had been kept in my family for hundreds of years... Brother Feng, please..."

Gu Jin-Long thought that Feng Zhi-Ling was the only source of the supreme dan and his master was about to die soon. Otherwise, he would have teared apart Feng Zhi-Ling after torturing and questioning him until he got the secret of the supreme dan beads.

Gu Jin-Long surely wanted the Cosmic Hades, but he also wanted the supreme dan beads...

That was why he had to be patient and tried to fool Ye Xiao.

Ye Xiao was suddenly quiet and then he stood up and said, "Wh... wha... what? The Co... Cosm... Cosmic Hades?"

Gu Jin-Long was stunned and asked cautiously, "Brother Feng... Is there a problem?"

Ye Xiao suddenly sat back on the chair and spoke, "Why would it be the Cosmic Hades?"

Gu Jin-Long frowned and spoke, "What? Anything happened during these days?"

He sounded a bit annoyed already.

"To be honest, Brother Gu, there is a problem indeed... Oh." Ye Xiao sighed and said, "It is no longer with me now..."

Gu Jin-Long frowned and his face was a bit cold already, "Then... Who has it now?"

"I don't know that guy's name actually..." Ye Xiao frowned and looked anguished, "I never wanted the Cosmic Hades. I was asked to buy it... That's why I bid for it. I had never attended an auction. That's true. Yet I had heard something about the Cosmic Hades. I wouldn't want such a useless thing!"

“What was it? Please tell me specifically!” Gu Jin-Long realized that things were bad for him, but he stayed patient and went on asking.

“Hmmm. It was... A long time ago, there was this guy visiting my master. He gave my master a variety of precious treasures. Some of them were actually something from outside this world. Those were truly something that could only be found by luck. Yet he seemed to care nothing about them. What he gave my master were just enough to make ten groups of dan beads. They were perfectly organized... He stated it quite clear to my master that he would only take one dan bead from my master and it had to be a supreme dan bead.”

Ye Xiao frowned. He started to make up some story again. This time, he did it much more affluently, “My master didn’t accept it at the first place because it was too difficult. Those materials were all extremely precious, so it was very difficult to successfully produce dan beads, let alone supreme dan beads. My master thought that even if he used all those materials, he might fail to make even one supreme dan bead.”

“Precious dan beads? What kind of dan beads could make your master feel difficult?” Wan Zheng-Hao spoke out his question in a perfect moment again...

“It was... well hmmm... Nine-rolled Purple Cloud Dan.” Ye Xiao rolled his eyes to show that he was recalling it so hard.

“What?!” Gu Jin-Long suddenly stood up.

His face turned green, “Nine-rolled Purple Cloud Dan? Are you sure?”

“Absolutely!” Ye Xiao confirmed, “I had never heard of it, but I wouldn’t forget the name I heard. My master had murmured about it for several months...”

“Nine-rolled Purple Cloud Dan... What is it?” Wan Zheng-Hao was confused.

“Nine-rolled Purple Cloud Dan is something that specially cures the soul wounds... It is a divine medicine of the world!” Gu Jin-Long’s face was dark and he said, “It is a level 7 dan... Even in the Qing-Yun Realm, it is among the top-ranked dan. If it is also some supreme dan bead, only those who have reached the fifth level of the Grade of Daoyuan would need it for their soul wounds. If it is some supreme Nine-rolled Purple Cloud Dan, people below the fifth level of the Grade of Daoyuan who have eaten it will die with their souls broken into pieces and then vanish...”

“Who exactly... Who would need such a thing?” Gu Jin-Long felt something was wrong about it.

He looked at Feng Zhi-Ling and thought that he looked honest and humble. He thought that Feng Zhi-Ling wouldn’t be able to make up a lie that was so flawless. [Even if he was able to, he couldn’t just make up the name, Nine-rolled Purple Cloud Dan!

Things are not going well... I am afraid.]

“Do you know the guy’s name?” Gu Jin-Long frowned.

“I have no idea. He was talking to my master and I was hardly around them.” Ye Xiao acted like he was trying so hard to recall, “Oh right... I have heard my master talk about it once... He was calling the guy... the guy... What Decree Master [1]? Right, the master!”

He slapped on his leg to show affirmation.

“Decree Master...” Gu Jin-Long’s face suddenly turn blue.

In the Qing-Yun Realm, there were no more than six people who was named with ‘Decree Master’. Any of them was a great figure though! They were someone who had shocked the world!

They were all people that he could never afford messing up with.

Yet he had never heard that these people had been harmed...

“What Decree Master? What does he look like? How tall? His weight? His face? His hair style? His clothes?...” Gu Jin-Long asked about twenty questions in one breath.

“Hmm. I have only seen him one or two times. He looked...” Ye Xiao frowned and rolled his eyeballs. He seemed thinking so hard and described how the Purple Lotus Decree Master looked like bit by bit.

...

### [Realms In The Firmament](#)

#### **Chapter 106: The Honest Feng Zhi-Ling; Everyone Was Happy?**

The more Ye Xiao spoke, the more unsightly Gu Jin-Long’s face looked.

When Ye Xiao finished, Gu Jin-Long finally took a breath out and murmured, “It is him... It is him... He is actually still alive and he is in this mortal world right now... I should’ve thought about it... The Decree Master needed the supreme Ning-rolled Purple Cloud Dan because of his wound. There wouldn’t be anybody else who needed it so much...”

His eyes became dull and he looked ahead. He murmured word by word, “The Purple Lotus Decree Master... is actually still alive?”

His face showed that he was slightly fearful.

Ye Xiao clapped his own leg and spoke, “Purple Lotus Decree Master... Right. That must be his name. Brother Gu, do you know this guy?”

Gu Jin-Long’s face became more unsightly and he stayed quiet.

[Do I know this guy? Are you kidding me? If I know him, that means I am a dead body now!]

“Brother Gu, if you know him, things would be easier. It was him who asked me to get this bloody Cosmic Hades...” Ye Xiao spoke, “When I brought it back, he took it with him and left right away... Now I am not sure where did it go. If you know this guy, you just need to find him and take the Cosmic Hades back.”

Gu Jin-Long’s face turned dark and he had been changing plans thousands of times in his mind.

[The Xiao Monarch, Ye Xiao was hunting the Purple Lotus Decree Master. After that, no one had heard anything about how it was concluded. Nobody knew whether the Decree Master was alive or dead... It was known that the Xiao Monarch had wiped out everybody who followed the Purple Lotus Decree

Master. I thought he was dead because nobody had heard about him anymore... Well I am afraid he is alive at the moment. He just keeps hiding in the Land of Han-Yang to escape the Xiao Monarch.

I think the reason why Ye Xiao wiped out the Decree Master's people was because Ye Xiao got humiliated as he failed to kill the Decree Master...

If Feng Zhi-Ling is being honest, the Purple Lotus Decree Master must have been seriously hurt when he got away from the Xiao Monarch!

It must be true that he needs the supreme Nine-rolled Purple Cloud Dan... The wound he suffered was some serious wound on his soul. It was truly difficult to recover. It was out of his capability to cure himself.

But why does he want the Cosmic Hades?

I know his personality. If he really wants the Cosmic Hades he could just break down the whole Ling-Bao Hall and take the Cosmic Hades. It must be an easy job for him like turning over his hand. Yet he didn't do so. He sent a man to buy it. Why he did it this way...

What is he fearing in this mortal world...

Maybe... he was truly hurt too bad... At least he had lost the capability to do it himself.

That means... If I can find him, it will be a piece of cake to kill him and take the Cosmic Hades!]

He thought of all that in his mind in just an instant.

"Brother Feng, don't you have a bit of information about where this guy is? He is my friend. Well because of an incident, my friend was badly injured. Many of our friends think that he must have died. I would have never expected that he is here!"

Gu Jin-Long raised his head looking at Ye Xiao with eyes filled with coldness, while his mouth was talking a monstrous lie. And he was actually talking in a sensitive way.

"Well I truly don't know." Ye Xiao threw up his hands, "He might be hurt. That's why he acted cautiously and stayed mysteriously. After giving my master those materials, he took away the Cosmic Hades and never showed up again."

Ye Xiao thought for a while and said, "Oh right. Before he left, he had walked around the small valley around my master's residence and pointed on my body two times. It looked like he was setting up some kind of array... Anyway, after that, nobody ever has come near the valley. It is a weird thing."

Gu Jin-Long pretended to smile and then he said, "It isn't weird. It is reasonable in fact. The Purple Lotus Decree Master surely has the capability to do so. If he didn't do it, that would be a weird thing."

In his mind he was thinking, [It seems that he is afraid that things would go wrong for him, so he set up the great array of spiritual sensation... If I entered it recklessly or try to break it, I will alert him... If he knows somebody is looking for him, he will hide and I will never be able to find him.

For now, he still needs the dan-maker... So the dan-maker is the key of the whole situation. I can't act rashly.

If I make any mistakes... I will lost the supreme dan beads... And I will lose the Cosmic Hades forever. That's the last thing I want to happen.

Do I need to ask my sect for help?]

Things had changed, so he was a bit hesitant.

He knew well about the Cosmic Hades. If he could acquire it on his own... He would become one of the best cultivators in the Qing-Yun Realm within a thousand years.

But if people in the high level of his sect discovered it, even if he could get the Cosmic Hades back, he would never have the chance to touch it!

Who would let go of such a unique and precious treasure in the world?

There were a lot of people in his sect that were stronger than him...

So he decided not to let the sect know about it!

Since he wouldn't want the sect to know about this, he had to deal with the Purple Lotus Decree Master himself!

Gu Jin-Long took a deep breath when he thought about it.

[I have successfully let the Xiao Monarch get killed. I must be able to take care of the weak Purple Lotus Decree Master, right?]

He made up his mind.

He looked at Feng Zhi-Ling and came up with a plan. He thought that his plan had to depend on this Feng Zhi-Ling... So he smiled and said, "Well... That is a shame... However, it won't matter if my treasure is in my friend's hand... But..."

Ye Xiao comforted him saying, "Perhaps that glacial thing hasn't been used up yet. You don't have to be worried. When I see the guy next time, I will ask him about it for you. He has to come back and ask about the supreme dan beads. Since you are friends, it won't be difficult to make him understand. As long as the treasure is still there, nothing will go wrong."

Gu Jin-Long shook his head and said, "No. Please don't do that. I am just guessing that he is my friend. I am not completely sure about it. If I am wrong, I don't want to cause more troubles..."

He thought for a while and said, "How about this. When he go to your master for the dan beads, please inform me. I have to meet him myself... If he is truly my friend, everything will be fine for sure. If not, I will show him my sincerity and ask him about getting my Cosmic Hades back. Please!"

Ye Xiao sneered in mind, [Your sincerity? You must be talking about your sword. To show your sincerity with your sword, you are truly unbelievable.]

Yet he nodded and agreed, "It surely is the perfect solution." He sighed, "The precious treasure that is passed down generation to generation in your family is truly something you can't lose... Oh. What Mr. Wan did was really... Well then. That's it! Don't worry, Brother Gu. I will help you with this!"

He actually criticized Wan Zheng-Hao again.

Wan Zheng-Hao was embarrassed.

Gu Jin-Long spoke gratefully, "Brother Feng, you are a kind-hearted man. I shall never forget about it! I must pay you back the favor! Many thanks... I have to make good friends with you!"

Ye Xiao nodded and spoke humbly, "Nah... Don't be silly... It is what I should do... Heh heh heh. You are being too polite to me..."

Gu Jin-Long gave a hint with his eyes and Wan Zheng-Hao came over hurriedly with a small bag. Wan Zheng-Hao said, "It is my fault. Here is a small gift. Brother Feng, please accept it."

Ye Xiao pushed the bag away hurriedly and spoke a bit angrily, "You are mistaking me with a philistine man... I am certainly not that kind of person. It is what I should do for a friend... I... I... I can't take it..."

"Friends should share fortunes sometimes..." Gu Jin-Long spoke seriously, "Brother Feng, do you look down upon the small gift we want you to have? If you keep resisting it, you are not seeing us as friends."

Speaking of that, his face showed anger. His beard went up showing that he was dissatisfied.

Ye Xiao spoke, "Well then... Since you are so full of kindness, I shall take it then..." He grabbed the bag and put it into his pocket quickly.

So... everyone was happy now.

The tensed situation suddenly got relieved.

They discussed about the details again. Gu Jin-Long was afraid that he would arouse Feng Zhi-Ling's suspicious, so he started another topic, "Brother Feng, you just said that you master wasn't unable to make the Nine-rolled Purple Cloud Dan. He just didn't have much assurance of success. Well then... Does that mean that he could easily produce some slightly high-grade dan in the supreme level?"

Ye Xiao nodded humbly and said, "But I wouldn't agree with that. My master is quite successful in making dan beads. That's true. But dan-making always requires luck. Nothing is absolute in dan-making! For my master, most kinds of dan are not so difficult for him to produce. It is just a little bit difficult to develop them in the supreme level... In fact, I am sure that my master can totally succeed in making some Nine-rolled Purple Cloud Dan Beads. He just doesn't have the assurance that it would become supreme dan.."

He was saying 'MY MASTER IS FRIGGING AWESOME'!

...

## [Realms In The Firmament](#)

### **Chapter 107: Will I Get Rich Today?**

"My master, he really doesn't like challenges... And..." Speaking of this, Ye Xiao sighed.

"What?" Gu Jin-Long noticed that Ye Xiao's expression was unusual, so he asked.



“Brother Gu, we are like old friends. You and I are truly congenial. I won’t treat you as a stranger. Let me talk honestly.” Ye Xiao played sincere.

“Yes, please, Brother Feng.” Gu Jin-Long acted like he also thought they were like old friends with a bright smile. Ye Xiao frowned and spoke bitterly, “The so called dan-making... Brother Gu, you see, all the masters of dan-making have a great force supporting them. Right? Let’s just think about those endless amount of failed dan beads. What are they? They are countless of precious treasures, aren’t they?!”

Gu Jin-Long nodded and agreed, “Exactly. That’s true.”

“And what is the price for all those wasted treasures? They are rare. And even if they are normal, it will still have a cost to collect them all, right? It needs money to buy them, right? Me and my master, how can we afford all those materials?”

Ye Xiao was upset.

“It is hard especially for my master. He has been keeping his purity so that he can produce the supreme dan beads. He doesn’t want to meet people. He doesn’t want to get into the society. He doesn’t want to love a woman... He will rather die than being a dan-maker in the big sects. How can he possibly get supply for himself?”

While Ye Xiao was speaking, Gu Jin-Long nodded.

“So... to produce some supreme dan beads, dan-makers might have to give up faster improvements with their capability! A dan-maker wants to improve, so he needs massive amount of materials that are offered by the powerful sects... Only with countless materials can the dan-makers produce more and more dan beads... But if he wants to produce supreme dan beads, he has to stay away from the martial world...”

“That is the main reason why all the so called ‘masters of dan-making’ have never truly achieved the pure top range!”

Ye Xiao sighed.

“It is a serious contradiction... A contradiction that can never be solved...” Gu Jin-Long sighed too.

Because of what Ye Xiao just said, Gu Jin-Long completely lost faith on what he had been thinking in mind.

“So...” Ye Xiao smiled bitterly, “My master had no other choice, so he only made Pei-Yun Dan. He couldn’t make other kinds of dan because we don’t have enough materials, or because...”

Ye Xiao suddenly humphed and spoke proudly, “If the materials were enough, Gu-Yuan Dan, Ju-Yuan Dan, Bone Ablutionary Dan, Fa-Mai Dan, Limit-breaking Dan, Di-Yuan Dan, Tian-Ding Dan, Wu-Xing Dan, Qi-Qing Dan, Zhan-Yuan Dan, even the Nine-rolled Golden Dan... are all easy jobs for my master. When he becomes practiced enough, he can even produce the supreme Nine-rolled Golden Dan...”

Ye Xiao had just named out over seventy names of different kinds of dan from lower grade to higher grade. Gu Jin-Long and Wan Zheng-Hao were surprised with lights in their eyes. It was like they were watching the most precious treasure in the world!

“Really?” Wan Zheng-Hao asked hurriedly.

“Humph!” Ye Xiao smiled and took out a purple jade bottle. He spoke blandly, “You should know that not only Pei-Yuan Dan can be developed to the supreme level... Brothers, look... Tell me what this is?”

Gu Jin-Long seriously took over the bottle and opened it. Suddenly, a thick white cloud rushed out and then completely covered his face.

Gu Jin-Long had his sensations filled with a certain comfort that seeped deep into his bones.

A dan bead shining golden glow actually flew out and stayed in the air. It was rolling slowly and shining brightly!

“... The Bo... Bone Ablutionary Dan!” Gu Jin-Long’s neck was trembling and he spoke like he had difficulty in speaking. His mind blanked out as he looked straight at the dan cloud permeating in the air.

“Dan cloud... It truly is dan cloud...” Wan Zheng-Hao looked around the cloud and mist in the room. He was astonished. It was like he was watching a gold mountain coming to him.

“That’s right. My master only used the minimum amount of materials he had to produce this supreme Bone Ablutionary Dan Bead!” Ye Xiao smiled proudly.

The next moment, he casually took over the bottle from Gu Jin-Long and put the supreme dan bead back into the bottle. After that, he sealed the bottle.

Looking at the way Ye Xiao did that, Gu Jin-Long and Wan Zheng-Hao’s face quivered.

[How can you be so rude to the supreme dan bead? Do you want to break it?]

Gu Jin-Long’s eyes lit up with feverous glow.

[The Supreme Bone Ablutionary Dan Bead!

I just can’t believe this is happening to me. We truly do not know what we will get to in our lives!]

Gu Jin-Long had been cultivating for so many years. He was truly an experienced and farseeing man. Even though he wasn’t able to match the Xiao Monarch’s prowess, he was still better than all the residents in the Land of Han-Yang. However, even he himself had never seen such a treasure, not even in the Qing-Yun Realm!

He had seen too much of Bone Ablutionary Dan Beads. The Bone Ablutionary Dan Beads for him were something that if it dropped to the floor from his hand, he would never want to bow and pick it up!

However, as of this moment, he had actually seen a Bone Ablutionary Dan Bead of the supreme level!

If there were twin brothers, who were exactly the same in their mental and physical conditions, and one of these twins ate a normal Bone Ablutionary Dan Bead, he would eventually reach the Grade of Mengyuan in his life. And, if the other one ate the supreme Bone Ablutionary Dan Bead, then he would reached the ninth level of the Grade of Daoyuan and would even have the chance to break through the limit of the Qing-Yun Realm!

That was the difference between supreme dan beads and normal dan beads!

A difference like heaven and hell!

Gu Jin-Long didn't need any Bone Ablutionary Dan Beads anymore as he was stronger than that now. However... if he could use the supreme Bone Ablutionary Dan Beads to raise a group of genius followers... he could certainly become the head of the Sunlight Sect in the future!

When all the strongest disciples in the sect were his followers, the whole sect would beg him to be the hierarch even if he didn't want to!

[...and if Feng Zhi-Ling's master is truly able to produce the supreme Nine-rolled Purple Cloud Dan Beads... then the other kind of supreme dan...]

Gu Jin-Long's eyes were turning brighter and brighter while he was thinking about it!

He was filled with impatience.

As for now, Feng Zhi-Ling might be more important than the Cosmic Hades in Gu Jin-Long's mind!

"Brother Feng! Brother Feng..." The fat on Wan Zheng-Hao's giant body was 'dancing'. He came to Ye Xiao with a face adorned with a fake smile and adulation, "The Supreme Bone Ablutionary Dan Bead. I will buy it from you... I will sell it in the auction. Tell me a price? Give me a number and I will never bargain!"

Ye Xiao looked at this big boss of the Ling-Bao Hall and felt truly speechless at the moment.

[I am just showing off. Who told you I am selling it?

This one is for me, all right? There are only two of this and one of them is already taken by Song Jue. Now this one is saved for myself. I don't even have one for my girl. How can I sell it to you?!

Well if I have more in the future, maybe I will consider selling some of them. But at the present, you can just give it up!]

"Shut up!" Gu Jin-Long shouted angrily, "Such priceless treasure! How dare you use the word 'buy' on it? You are desecrating such a sacred treasure! Didn't you hear what Brother Feng said... He only has one! How can you make him feel difficult like this?"

Wan Zheng-Hao was terrified that he failed to find a word to speak.

"You have wasted all those years you have lived. How childish! How can you take good charge of Ling-Bao Hall with this!" Gu Jin-Long shouted at Wan Zheng-Hao.

[You fool! Why can't you be patient... You are acting in a rush. If Feng Zhi-Ling felt alarmed about us, what then? Apparently, we can not take him down by force. We have to use strategy. You are truly ignorant!]

"That... That is something... something like a gold mountain..." Wan Zheng-Hao spoke like he was sobbing.

He was truly heartbroken at the moment.

He was like looking at a gold mountain, but unable to do anything about it.

As a businessman, Wan Zheng-Hao was nearly freaked out by that feeling...

“Brother Feng, in fact... The problem with the materials is quite easy to solve.” Gu Jin-Long spoke blandly and looked at Ye Xiao with sincerity that he had never shown before in his eyes.

Ye Xiao smiled bitterly,, “Easy?! How?! You see, Brother Feng. First of all, we need many kinds of treasures that could be used as a material to produce the dan beads. Any of them could be rare and priceless. How can it be easy to collect them? Second, to develop the level of the dan beads during the refinement, it requires not only the capability of the dan-maker, but also a way to keep the qi from getting out of the dan beads. To keep the qi from getting out of the dan beads, it requires a lot of spiritual jades. The higher the level of the dan beads we want, the higher the level of spiritual jades we need. We will need to use up a huge amount of spiritual jades to get it done!”

“After all, it needs a massive amount of manpower, materials and money to solve the problem that you think is easy to solve.”

Ye Xiao sighed, “Me and my master... We are men out of the social world... How can we possibly get that much resources?”

While speaking, he was looking at Gu Jin-Long with his eyes full of shame. In his heart, he was thinking, [Well, well... In despite of all the troubles I have today, maybe I can get rich today?

For now, Gu Jin-Long... is quite a wealthy man as I see...]

...

## [Realms In The Firmament](#)

### **Chapter 108: You Are Rich? I Am Rich!**

“...So we need to urgently find all the materials we need and keep calm and peaceful at the same time... These are just two things that won’t go together. It is just impossible.” Ye Xiao turned emotional.

Gu Jin-Long smiled and said, “No, No, No. I think you are wrong about it, Brother Feng. These two things are fine together. It is very possible to go on both sides. In fact, it is quite easy to achieve them both at the same time.”

“What? How could that be possible?” Ye Xiao widely open his eyes acting like he couldn’t understand and spoke, “Oh... Brother Gu, please. Tell me how I can do both of them at the same time.”

Gu Jin-Long’s face looked even nicer and he spoke gently, “Brother Feng, you are just too uprightly thinking. Why don’t you think about it in another aspect? Look. The person who makes the dan beads is your master... He surely doesn’t care where you get the materials from. He only needs to stay calm and peaceful to make his dan beads. Right?”

Ye Xiao acted confused, “Yes... It is the basic rule... But...”

“No. No ‘but’.” Gu Jin-Long stopped him, “Things are much easier then... Only if you work with me together, Brother Feng. You will get all those materials easily...”

“Work with you?” Ye Xiao widely opened his eyes acting like he couldn’t understand him and said.

“Yes, that’s right. Together.” Gu Jin-Long spoke sincerely, “You see. Those dan beads your master made are all priceless treasures. All cultivators want them badly... To be frank, I need a massive amount of dan beads with upper grade and fine quality. I will take all the dan beads that contain dan mist and dan cloud... I will provide all the materials and spiritual jades that are needed during the dan-making process. No matter how many it requires, I have no problem about it. All the materials will be handed to you and you give them to your master...”

Ye Xiao acted like he was stunned, “That... Well... That is...”

Gu Jin-Long continued, “I think this is a perfect solution to solve all the problems. Your side and my side, we all get benefits. I can get the some fine upper-grade dan beads and your master can have his chance to do what he really wants to do...”

“Besides, I will additionally give you some money as a reward for your hard work...” Gu Jin-Long said, “If you worry that this money will contaminate your pure heart, you can also choose to get some treasures, some dan beads or anything rare that you want instead of money... Please don’t be hesitate. I can easily get this kind of things for you.”

“As long as you promise to work with me, you can get whatever you want.” Gu Jin-Long said blandly, “Even if you want to be the monarch of this world... it will be a possible thing.”

Ye Xiao was stunned. He truly didn’t know what to say at the moment.

In fact, he was thinking that his acting skill was truly improved like rushing out a thousand miles within a day.

He actually acted as an honest and humble middle-aged man in a wonderful way.

He surely knew about the little scheme in Gu Jin-Long’s head.

[What a good scheme. You actually want to exchange the dan beads with the materials. You just want to get a best deal for yourself. To offer only the materials and get the products including the supreme dan beads. And my ‘master’ will become your free worker...

You are really good at scheming.]

If all the dan beads went to Wan Zheng-Hao, they would just bring him a lot of money. If they were given to Gu Jin-Long, even if they were only Bone Ablutionary Dan Beads, that would be far more than enough for him to develop most of his followers into superior cultivators.

If things went that way, the Sunlight Sect would become the most powerful force in the Qing-Yun Realm.

There would be no more three factions in the Qing-Yun Realm. There will only be one great faction - the Sunlight Sect.

“How about it?” Gu Jin-Long looked at Ye Xiao. His voice was steady and calm, but inside his mind, he was a bit nervous at the moment.

[This little fool doesn’t know the value of the supreme dan beads at all... I don’t think I will fail in fooling you with my marvelous experience and skills.]

“Brother Gu, I understand it. I am absolutely fine with it... But my master will certainly be suspicious...”  
Ye Xiao hesitated and said, “The sources of the materials, my master will ask about that for sure...”

Gu Jin-Long thought, [Yes! This moron has been motivated. As long as I can solve this little problem that he’s concerned with, this deal will be done.]

Gu Jin-Long was highly spirited. He was extremely happy and spoke gently, “Brother Feng, you are truly an honest man. In fact, if you don’t tell your master the truth, he won’t get to know it, right? Maybe you can tell him this... The first group of supreme dan beads had brought you a huge amount of money... One dan bead was sold with the price of dozens of millions of silver bars... And all the materials you give him are bought by using the money you got... That will absolutely let your master feel good about it.”

Ye Xiao rolled his eyeballs.

[The price is suddenly raised ten times in your story.

I am afraid that you are a better liar than me.]

Ye Xiao acted worried, “That may be a good reason. But I am afraid there is a mistake in it.”

Gu Jin-Long thought, [This guy is not completely a moron after all. He is obviously asking for more benefits for himself by saying that.] However, he became more interested so he tried harder, “Brother Feng, you see... Your master has spent nearly all his life to study the art of dan-making, yet now he has such a silly problem having no materials to produce the supreme dan beads... I think you surely can feel the pain in his heart, can’t you?”

“Your master is feeling his life passing everyday. Even though he has the best dan-making skill in the world, he can only look at the empty stove and do nothing.

Such great skill has been only used several times and only to produce some Pei-Yuan Dan Beads... That is truly a waste of preciousness. It is a huge loss for the whole Land of Han-Yang... If your master dies namelessly, Brother Feng... you will be the sinner of the whole world.”

Gu Jin-Long spoke grievously. He had apparently raised the meaning of this subject to a level of the whole world. Ye Xiao would become the sinner of the whole world if he didn’t agree with Gu Jin-Long.

Ye Xiao had abused all of Gu Jin-Long’s families in his mind, yet he showed sorrow on his face and said, “That’s true. Of course I know it well. I am actually suffering inside my heart...”

[You are just a moron.] Gu Jin-Long sneered in mind, but he acted like he was empathizing with Ye Xiao, “Yes. As his disciple, you are like his own son. Looking at your master dying slowly without achieving what he should have, the pain in your heart is something only you can understand...”

“However, it is different now.” Gu Jin-Long pointed himself and spoke proudly, “You got me now. There won’t be any difficulty for you.”

“Because with my help, all your concerns will be solved once and for all.” Gu Jin-Long got emotional and spoke seriously, “Brother Feng, even though you need to lie to your master... Don’t you want you master to have some happy days in the last years of his life? Won’t it be your lifelong regret if you fail to take this opportunity for your master? If you can help your master leave a legend for himself in this world, you are helping him build a marvelous accomplishment, aren’t you?”

“The long lasting glory. The enduring legend of dan-making. The myth of the cloud and sky.”

Gu Jin-Long spoke in a deep voice.

Ye Xiao’s face turned red because of his excitement. He nodded heavily and spoke quiveringly, “That’s right! That’s what he deserves!”

He acted like he had been highly motivated by what Gu Jin-Long said. It was like he was shameful, regretful, helpless and hopeful all at the same time. He nodded again and spoke loudly, “That’s it! To help my master achieve this glory and become the enduring legend of the world, I will do anything.

I, Feng Zhi-Ling, will do whatever it takes, and whatever I do, it must be worth it!”

Gu Jin-Long showed a smile on his face with satisfaction and confidence.

[The moron has finally been fooled by me...

Getting this thing done so easily, I, Gu Jin-Long, am really going to be rich.]

But he didn’t know that in Ye Xiao’s mind, things were totally different.

[My acting skill is really in a god’s level. Look at the stupid man. He has already been fooled badly by me, yet he is so happy about it. What a moron.

Getting this thing done so easily, I, Ye Xiao, am really going to be rich this time...]

“You and I, we are aiming for the same direction. We should work together to build the enduring legend of dan-making... Do you have any other concerns about this, Brother Feng?” Gu Jin-Long was so confident. He knew that this thing was confirmed. He didn’t expect he could be so lucky to get the Cosmic Hades and get some supreme dan beads at the same time.

It was like a wonderful dream to him.

“Hmm... I am not underestimating you, Brother Gu, but I wonder how many spiritual jades could you provide? How many precious medicines? How many priceless treasures? I just need to have a rough plan in my mind.” Ye Xiao swallowed and acted like he had made up his mind on this.

“Heh heh. Brother Feng, it is normal that you have doubts on this. Well, what I can do, I’ll leave that to your imagination. I can only give you a promise. No matter how many you want, I can give you all.”

Gu Jin-Long spoke blandly.

...

## **[Realms In The Firmament](#)**

### **Chapter 109: Sugarplum Before Serious Cooperation**

“No matter how many I want...” Ye Xiao sucked in a deep breath and said, “What if I say... I need ten millions pieces of spiritual jade, one million pieces of jade crystal, a hundred thousand pieces of spiritual medicine and ten thousand pieces of rare medical materials... Can you do it?”

Basically, he was over claiming. All those stuffs he just said were worth of a huge amount of money that was more than enough to buy a small kingdom in the Land of Han-Yang.

Gu Jin-Long was totally calm. He looked at Ye Xiao blandly and said, "Absolutely. As long as you are truly able to take them all, I don't have any problem with it... In fact, you can even ask for more as long as your master can handle it well."

"Wow!"

Ye Xiao acted like he was seriously stunned. In his mind, he was shouting out 'wow' because he thought he was going to be super rich this time.

Wan Zheng-Hao was shocked and didn't know what to say.

[Why didn't I know he is so wealthy?]

He just got to know that his backer was so formidable.

He had thought that Gu Jin-Long was just a powerful superior cultivator from out of this world with marvelous cultivation capabilities, but he had never thought that he had such abundant resources.

Only Ye Xiao knew everything clearly. What he had just asked were indeed a huge amount of wealth in the Land of Han-Yang, yet it was never a big deal for the Sunlight Sect in the Qing-Yun Realm.

Well, when talking about 'never a big deal', we are talking about the Sunlight Sect, not Gu Jin-Long himself though.

Gu Jin-Long was acting calmly and generously, but if he was asked to give out all these stuffs right now... he would never be able to do it; it would be harder than having him tear off his own skin.

It was a nation-level amount of money after all. As a third-level superior cultivator of the Grade of Daoyuan, although he did have that much money, it would break him to give it out at once.

He smiled with his eyes half-closed, "Brother Feng, you and me, we are good friends who have the consensus now, but all that we are talking about are based on your master's wonderful dan-making capability. I want some dan beads and you want to show your piety to your master... So I think we need to be frank at the beginning. If your master falls down... Heh heh. Our deal should be shut right away. What do you think?"

Ye Xiao answered nicely, "Absolutely. A deal is a deal; the fellowship is merely fellowship. It is a reasonable concern as we are talking about the business. All I want is for my master to have some happy time before he pass away. If my master dies someday, I will stay away from the martial world and devote myself to the art of dan-making myself... About our deal, I won't be willing to go on with it myself."

He spoke with a face full of sanctity and righteousness, "How can my master's wonderful accomplishment stop in my hands. If there is another person who can make supreme dan beads other than my master, I wish it can be me. It can only be me."

Gu Jin-Long spoke with a face full of respect, "Brother Feng, I have faith on you. You will succeed."

In his mind, he was actually thinking, [I can't really underestimate anything. Give this guy sometime, he may get some great achievement someday. Besides, he is the only disciple of his master. Maybe he truly will be able to produce some supreme dan beads in the future.]



Maybe he will never make any supreme dan beads, but it is very possible that he can make dan beads with dan mist or dan pattern. Those are precious dan beads too. It costs far less in this world than in the Qing-Yun Realm after all... Maybe I should keep a good relationship with this guy.

He is an honest guy. I only need to give him some sugarplums [1] and he will absolutely be on my side. After four or five hundred years, he will be totally be loyal to me. It isn't a very long time for a cultivator like me.

When I was dealing with Wan Zheng-Hao a long time ago, I spent thousands of years. This time maybe I need to offer a lot, yet the return will be much more favorable...

To invest on this Feng Zhi-Ling is a rather better business than investing in Wan Zheng-Hao...]

Gu Jin-Long was collecting his thoughts while he was glancing at Feng Zhi-Ling.

He was doing it very secretly that it won't be noticed normally. However, Ye Xiao wouldn't miss any movements.

So Ye Xiao was more concentrated to act like a humble and honest man.

Gu Jin-Long was more and more confident that this Feng Zhi-Ling was worth investing for.

So he was smiling with sincerity and hope.

He was actually showing true sincerity from the bottom of his heart, which rarely happened. Feng Zhi-Ling's master was about to die, so even though he could make profits from his master, it wouldn't last long. However, if Feng Zhi-Ling could be used, Gu Jin-Long would get a much bigger bonus in the future.

Well, his sincerity, hope, kind and smiles were doomed to be wasted after all.

Ye Xiao would never be moved by any of those.

The only thought Ye Xiao had was to tear off Gu Jin-Long's head...

Ye Xiao had done so much speaking and acting, so he was tired both mentally and physically. He grabbed the cup and drank a lot of tea. He then said, "Mr. Wan, could you give me my money back first? I have been here for a long time now. I need to go back."

Wan Zheng-Hao casually said 'yes', yet he was looking at Gu Jin-Long. Apparently, he couldn't make the decision.

Gu Jin-Long nodded lightly and Wan Zheng-Hao went out hurriedly to do some arrangement.

Right after Wan Zheng-Hao left, Gu Jin-Long took out a ring and gave it to Ye Xiao, "Brother Feng, we are good friends. Let's be as close as we can in the coming days. I am a bit older than you. Let me call you my brother. As the older brother, since I don't have any precious gift for you, here are some medicines and spiritual jades. There are not many, but it should be enough to be given to you as a friendly gift from me."

Ye Xiao widely opened his eyes, looking at the ring and spoke, "You, you... You you you... Please don't lie to me. Don't think that I know nothing even though I am from the countryside. It is obviously a ring. What medicine and spiritual jades are you talking about?"

Gu Jin-Long was stunned and then laughed out loud. He felt funny and Wan Zheng-Hao, who had just returned in a hurry, was laughing loudly too. Wan Zheng-Hao seemed like licking his own chops while he was looking at the ring.

That ring was not some ordinary thing. It was something legendary in the Land of Han-Yang.

The Ring Of Space.

It was a myth not only in the Land of Han-Yang, even in the Qing-Yun Realm, it was a rare treasure that ordinary people would never get.

Gu Jin-Long explained patiently, "Brother Feng, please don't underestimate this ring. Within this ring, it is truly all-embracing and wonderful..." And then he started to explain about how to use this ring.

In fact, Ye Xiao surely knew about the Ring Of Space. He just kept playing fool in front of them.

Actually, he had always been eager for one Ring Of Space since he was reborn.

Yet he never had expected that he was going to receive it from one of his biggest enemies, Gu Jin-Long.

The fate was truly interesting, making him a bit disoriented...

When he first arrived at this place, it was full of danger, yet now the danger was long gone and he had received lots of benefits.

After Gu Jin-Long finished his explanation, Ye Xiao acted like he was a stupid man who had never seen such a wonderful thing. He took over the ring and looked over it again and again. While holding the ring, he kept transferring some spiritual power into it. He was so happy.

He wasn't acting happy this time.

There was truly an abundance of treasures inside the ring. There were thousands of pieces of treasures...

Most of them were rare and precious. Any of them could have caused a bloody battle in the Land of Han-Yang.

Ye Xiao glanced at Wan Zheng-Hao. The fat on Wan Zheng-Hao's face was quivering.

Apparently, none of those treasures belonged to Gu Jin-Long. They were all collected and contributed to Gu Jin-Long by Wan Zheng-Hao. Now Gu Jin-Long just handed them all to Ye Xiao in one go...

The surprises for Ye Xiao were more than that. He found that inside the ring, there were some treasures that only existed in the Qing-Yun Realm. They were all precious stuffs. Obviously, those were collected by Gu Jin-Long himself. Apart from all the precious treasures, there were a lot of spiritual jades lying most inside the ring. They had to be the private collections of Gu Jin-Long.

Ye Xiao counted and found that there were about 3000 pieces of spiritual jades.

That was truly a windfall for Ye Xiao. It was like a gold pie in the sky. Ye Xiao was so happy and he couldn't stop smiling. He suddenly felt his enemy, Gu Jin-Long was somehow good looking...

Well, he was going to kill him after all when he got the chance... But at least things looked much better now.

“Brother Gu, you...” Ye Xiao acted like he was moved, “You just gave me all this much at a time. Don’t you worry that I will take all of this and just run away from you? Wealth does bewitch people.”

Gu Jin-Long was smiling kindly, “Brother Feng, you and I, we are like brothers. We need to trust each other. If I can’t trust you, how can we be best friends forever? I trust you, brother.”

He smiled blandly and spoke emotionally, “Brother Feng, if you are going to run away with all I gave you, I will just accept the misfortune given by the gods.”

Gu Jin-Long looked nice on his face, yet deep inside his mind he was sneering.

[In this mortal world, even if you want to run, where can you hide from me?

There has never been anybody who could escape my schemes. Not even the Xiao Monarch. Feng Zhi-Ling, you are just a small figure. You are just a nobody.]

...

## [Realms In The Firmament](#)

### **Chapter 110: The Fool Finally Got Hooked!**

“Friends until death? Brotherhood?” Ye Xiao acted like he was touched. He looked at Gu Jin-Long’s neck and said, “I will never fail you, Brother Gu. You treat me so sincerely. I shall be absolutely loyal to you as a return. To run away from you is the last thing I would do as a human being...”

In fact he was thinking, [Friends until death? Eh-heh. Wait for some days and I will be friends until death with you with loyalty.

I will send you to death myself and be loyal to my sword that is going to take your life. How about that?]

Gu Jin-Long laughed loudly.

“However, Brother Gu, I have to be honest about one thing. No matter how many supreme dan beads my master will produce... I need to keep two beads for myself.” Ye Xiao put away the ring and spoke his request.

“Brother Feng, you truly are an honest and honorable man. I wonder how many supreme dan beads can your master produce at a time?” Gu Jin-Long casually asked.

Ye Xiao laughed and talked like he was lost in the pleasure from the great benefits, “My master has already reached a grandmaster’s level in dan-making. Almost ninety-nine percent of the dan beads are supreme dan beads.”

What he just said immediately lit up Wan Zheng-Hao and Gu Jin-Long’s eyes. They felt astonished like they never had felt before.

[Ninety-nine percent.

In this world there were less than one percent of the dan-makers are unable to reach such success rate.

This Feng Zhi-Ling's master is truly an eremitic supreme grandmaster dan-maker.

He is absolutely a genius figure.]

"If you don't mind, I wonder how many dan beads are produced at a time?" Gu Jin-Long asked.

"Well... It depends on the materials. If there are enough materials, there can be at least a dozen dan beads at a time." Ye Xiao said. It finally made Gu Jin-Long totally relieved.

"Well then I have no further questions. Everything is fine." Gu Jin-Long laughed loudly and clapped on Ye Xiao's shoulder, "Brother Feng, the dan beads you want will be yours then. Aside from the dan beads, I will give you something else as your reward."

"Thank you so much." Ye Xiao spoke embarrassingly, "It was quite an immoderate request I was making after all..."

In fact, he was rather happy. [This fool finally got hooked.]

Gu Jin-Long was happy too. [This guy is truly stupid and honest. He doesn't even know how to ask for advantages. What an ignorant man. He finally got hooked.]

He was very satisfied with the deal. He actually walked Ye Xiao out of the Ling-Bao Hall at the end.

He was showing quite a respect to Ye Xiao.

"Brother Feng, there is another thing I need to ask you for. The Cosmic Hades of mine... Please keep an eye on it for me." Gu Jin-Long smiled hospitably.

"Brother, please don't worry. Once I have information about that man, I will surely inform you. We are brothers and they are all strangers to me now." Ye Xiao clapped his chest and said, "It is not only your problem now."

Gu Jin-Long smiled, "I appreciate it."

Watching Feng Zhi-Ling leave, Wan Zheng-Hao was confused.

He didn't understand what Gu Jin-Long was planning. So he asked cautiously, "Lord Gu, are you really letting him leave so easily? Are you..."

He meant to say 'are you so sure about it'.

Gu Jin-Long smiled and spoke casually, "I trust him. He is my brother."

And then he turned around and entered the room.

Wan Zheng-Hao's face quivered.

[Brother? Trust him? Do you think I am a fool like Feng Zhi-Ling? Do you think I would believe that you truly treat him like your brother? I will go to hell if you truly do.]

Well I think I should believe that he is a brother to you though. People always try to get the most out of their brothers and then betray them.]

Gu Jin-Long walked with his hands on his back and spoke blandly, "You don't need to be anxious. We all know what we are. This Feng Zhi-Ling, he cannot escape my control."

He casually said, "Do you think I just gave him the ring for nothing? I will never do such a stupid thing, will I?"

Wan Zheng-Hao's super fat body suddenly trembled and he said, "Lord Gu, how do you know I am unhappy about it? You have an eye on your back?"

Looking at Gu Jin-Long's ass, he thought, [Is he able to see things through that hole?]

Gu Jin-Long walked and smiled, "Nonsense. The muscle on your face shook just now..." He turned over his head looking at Wan Zheng-Hao, "The muscle is too fat and when it shakes, it makes sound... Ordinary people cannot hear it... Heh heh..."

He kept walking, "I have killed countless men in my life... How can I not know the sound of a fat meat on one's face moving?"

Wan Zheng-Hao trembled.

[Is it even possible to enter such an unbelievable stage by killing?

To take one life is a sin. To take ten thousand is a demon. To take nine million is a legend out of all demons.

This man has taken more than ten million lives. He is much more fearsome than a legendary demon.

Well...]

"That ring is something priceless. To open the space within the ring, it needs one's spiritual power. Well... The ring will always be my ring... Because no one in this world knows how to become the master of that ring. That guy is just a fool..."

He smiled and casually continued, "So, even the ring stays with Feng Zhi-Ling for the next ten thousand years, he will still be a ring keeper for me. As long as I am still alive, the ring belongs to me."

"Now that the ring is with him, no matter where he goes, I can sense it."

"Most importantly, once he saw the Cosmic Hades, I will sense it without being told by him. The breath of the Cosmic Hades is extraordinary... When I sense it, I will go get it immediately." His eyes were full of coldness at the time.

"This guy is useful for us at the moment..." Gu Jin-Long said, "So remember not to offend him."

"I never have expected that my grand plan actually took a huge progress this time in the mortal world." Gu Jin-Long laughed loudly, "It truly is a worthy trip this time."

"Lord Gu, it will be my honor to stay on your side and share your glory for all the coming days..." Wan Zheng-Hao was flattering.

Ye Xiao left the salesroom and headed outside the city with a casual pace.

He went somewhere near the west border and instantly hid in a secret path in the forest.

Now he looked like he was collapsed instead of leisurely. He was drenched in sweat. His clothes were all soaked.

His hair became sticky because of the sweat.

The day was tough for him. He had been through extreme danger, and he had not yet recovered from the fright.

It was like he had been to the gate of the hell and returned alarmingly.

It was like death itself was looming over him all the time.

One tiny mistake would have taken his life away. He might have died ten thousand times in the Ling-Bao Hall.

He was quite weak at the moment, yet he had encountered his big enemy who was in his peak condition.

He gasped heavily leaning on a tree.

He had never felt closer to death than he just did in both his two lives.

Even though he used to be the Xiao Monarch who was calm and strong, he was still a human being. When facing fatal threats, it was normal to feel anxious and frightened.

At least he had been fighting against the fear inside him and talked casually with the powerful enemy before he finally escaped the danger with enormous benefits. That was difficult. But he was still scared when he was free.

After a long time, he finally came back to himself.

Ye Xiao took out the ring and murmured with his eyes filled with coldness, "Gu Jin-Long, do you think a little trick in a ring can really give you the trace of the Xiao Monarch? You are truly naive and stupid..."

He didn't hesitate. He immediately operated the East-rising Purple Qi and injected spiritual power into the ring to cover Gu Jin-Long's power inside the ring...

When he was sure he had fully covered the power of Gu Jin-Long, he closed his eyes. A stream of spiritual power quietly drew out a bit of Gu Jin-Long's covered power from the ring. It went through his body and then went into the floor. After that, it was diffused all over the city...

Ye Xiao was not trying to change the ownership of the ring, because if he did so, Gu Jin-Long would know it immediately. If Gu Jin-Long knew and rushed over, he could kill Ye Xiao in an instant. For Gu Jin-Long, Ye Xiao was really not that far away.

Now, Ye Xiao had perfectly covered Gu Jin-Long's power. That bit of power which was diffused all over the city wouldn't draw Gu Jin-Long's attention, because it was just a slight amount of power.

However, that slight amount of Gu Jin-Long's power would play a rather important role in Ye Xiao's plan.

Gu Jin-Long could only sense where the ring was or what happened to the ring when Ye Xiao did something practical to the ring.

But as long as Ye Xiao kept the ring untouched...

Gu Jin-Long would believe that the ring and Ye Xiao were in the Chen-Xing City at all times, simply because he was misled by that slight amount of power.

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