

Gourmet 561

Chapter 561: What was Owner Bu doing?

White Demon Jiang Ling...

This was a name most of the audience were strangely familiar with; that was because this last name made its last appearance three years earlier.

Back then, White Demon Jiang Ling's level of refinement was already mindblowing, making her one of the top contestants of the Magical Hand Conference at the time. Unfortunately for her, though, that Magical Hand Conference had too many contestants with demonic talents, so the mighty Jiang Ling could only place fourth.

At that time, Mu Bai had yet to reveal his outstanding talent and was not coined the "Pill King". In the present, Mu Bai had a very deep impression of White Demon Jiang Ling. This was because he and White Demon Jiang Ling had crossed paths once before, in a match, which he... lost completely.

That was a match he would never forget. This humiliation was etched deep within his memories, and he could completely recall it at any time, despite how much he wanted to forget it. Unfortunately, after White Demon Jiang Ling lost to Mu Bai's senior, she vanished into thin air and didn't appear for three years.

And today, she had finally appeared to compete in the semi-final of the Magical Hand Conference.

There was an emotional expression on Mu Bai's handsome face.

Jiang Ling was still as wild as before. As Mu Bai watched White Demon Jiang Ling run her hands through her hair, the glint of fighting intent in his eyes glowed brighter.

Bu Fang was unconcerned, however, for he did not know who this arrogant lady was. The number of people who acted arrogantly in front of him was just too many, and this lady was just another one of them.

As soon as the woman spoke, the arena became noisy as the crowd conversed amongst themselves, in excitement. They could not wait for the match to begin.

The battleship hovering in the sky emitted a loud sound, and the five alchemy grandmasters emerged from within it.

The head judge gracefully ascended the stage and walked over to the middle of it. He wore a splendid attire today because it was the day of the final match—the most important match of the tournament. Everyone had already turned serious, focusing all their attention on the stage.

The three contestants took their places beside their respective platforms, and the head judge began to read out the rules of the match, with a serious demeanor.

The rules were not many, and the head judge did not take long to read them. Then, Grandmaster Xuan Ming gave a speech in which he encouraged the contestants, and after that, the final match officially kicked off.

As soon as the head judge signaled the start of the match, the atmosphere in the arena changed. The atmosphere was fierce, but the contestants were solemn.

Mu Bai's palm came to rest atop the heavy nine stars alchemy furnace, causing an audible hum to spread across the square. That heavy alchemy furnace gradually began to float, and dense true energy began to revolve around it.

Hu...

Mu Bai exhaled, and then he took control of the true energy orbiting the furnace and used it to smash the furnace repeatedly.

After each strike, the alchemy furnace would emit undulations, and in a short while, the pitch-black alchemy furnace had nine lines of light on it. The nine stars furnace was finally ready to display its full power.

Hong!

Mu Bai briefly glanced at White Demon Jiang Ling before raising his palm, and green flames began to surge out from within his body. Immediately after the flames appeared, the temperature atop the stage soared greatly.

The eyes of the members of the audience lit up at this.

“It’s a Heaven and Earth Obsidian Flame! Lord Mu Bai’s Heaven and Earth Obsidian Flame!”

“Green Nightmare Devil Flames! It’s the Heaven and Earth Obsidian Flame, Green Nightmare Devil Flames!”

“Too cool! This Heaven and Earth Obsidian Flame is cool for sure!”

...

As a talented alchemist from Heavenly Pill City, how could Mu Bai not possess a Heaven and Earth Obsidian Flame? It was very important for alchemists, after all.

The Heavenly Pill City had already invested so much resources into Mu Bai, so how could they ever neglect to prepare a Heaven and Earth Obsidian Flame for him?

When the Obsidian Flame appeared, a thousand flames creeped. The heat emanating from the green flames was unnaturally intense.

Bu Fang, on the other hand, waved his hand, and the Black Turtle Constellation Wok landed on his golden platform with a resounding smash.

The Golden Dragon Bone Kitchen Knife spun in his arm, making the onlookers anticipate his superb knife skills.

Seeing this, the audience was not surprised. They had long since gotten used to it, so it was nothing out of the ordinary for them.

However, when Bu Fang spat out a ball of golden flames, the audience raised an uproar.

Another Heaven and Earth Obsidian Flame!

Weng...

When the Ten Thousand Bestial Flames made its appearance, its unique Obsidian Flame energy began to surge. However, Mu Bai's Green Nightmare Devil Flame did not allow itself to be outdone, so it glowed strongly.

It was as though the stage had been separated into heaven and earth; one for the Ten Thousand Bestial Flames, whereas the other belonged to the Green Nightmare Devil Flame.

This made Mu Bai glance at Bu Fang. The two Heaven and Earth Obsidian Flames confronted each other, and the audience felt overwhelmed.

Suddenly, Bu Fang and Mu Bai froze in their tracks and turned their heads.

From behind them, a unique energy wave surged outward; it was like the awakening of a beast that had been lying dormant for a long time. The White Demon Jiang Ling laughed loudly and raised her palms. A wave of dark-green flames burned fiercely. It was quiet, but the air around it was distorted.

Pi li pa la.

The two Heaven and Earth Obsidian Flames already burning on the stage were forcefully ripped out, and a dark-green brilliance joined both flames, all three jostling for dominance.

"Heaven and Earth Obsidian Flame... I have it, too!" White Demon Jiang Ling's eyes glowed fiercely.

When her gaze shifted to Bu Fang, the corners of her lips curled upward. Suddenly, her dark-green flames began to burn even more fiercely, and its energy surged, suppressing the Ten Thousand Bestial Flame and the Green Nightmare Devil Flame.

Seeing this, the audience sucked in breaths of cold air. Now, this was interesting. Another contestant also possessed a Heaven and Earth Obsidian Flame. This match had now become very exciting.

Neither of the contestants had begun refinement, yet the atmosphere atop the stage had already become really tense. The energies of the three Heaven and Earth Obsidians Flames, which were battling on the stage, surged, and the hearts of everyone watching shuddered.

Mu Bai breathed deeply before taking the lead and placing his Green Nightmare Devil Flame into the alchemy furnace.

Immediately, the alchemy furnace lost its weight and color and began to glow blindingly bright.

Weng weng weng...

Undulations spread outward.

Mu Bai waved his hand, and countless medicinal ingredients filled with Heaven and Earth spirit energy flew out from his spatial tool and onto his golden platform.

These golden platforms were specially made by Heavenly Mist City. Whenever medicinal ingredients were placed atop it, they would get encased by a golden light, and the density of spirit energy they contained would become visible to the naked eye.

The dense spirit energy emanating from his medicinal ingredients surged upwards fiercely, as though painting the most beautiful picture. This made the audience collectively exclaim in surprise.

So many high-grade medicinal ingredients! What the Pill King Mu Bai planned to refine was definitely not ordinary. Was he actually going to refine a six-mark spirit pill?!

White Demon Jiang Ling's lips curled up, and light began to emanate from the tip of her finger. The light began to grow bigger, and almost instantly, it became a perfectly round three-legged alchemy furnace.

This alchemy furnace landed atop her golden platform with a loud 'dong'.

With a wave of her hand, another mountain of medicinal ingredients appeared, and their combined spirit energy also surged upward, also seemingly piercing the heavens. The platform's golden light instantly encased the medicinal ingredients; it was enchantingly beautiful.

It was obvious that the spirit pill she planned to refine was no weaker than what Mu Bai had in mind.

This was a fierce battle between giants!

However, what the audience was more interested in was the dish Bu Fang planned to cook in order to counter them both.

Hence, they all shifted their gazes to him.

After tossing the Ten Thousand Bestial Flames into the Black Turtle Constellation Wok, Bu Fang also began to retrieve the ingredients he had prepared earlier from the system's storage space.

This time, he had prepared a lot of ingredients. There were so many that the eyes of the onlookers became filled with confusion. Furthermore, all the ingredients were of a high grade. When these ingredients landed atop his golden platform, their combined energy tore into the sky and through the heavens, and the audience could not help exclaiming in surprise.

Among the ingredients was a huge bear...

When Xiong Shi, who was seated amidst the audience, saw the bear, his heart lurched. "My big bear..."

Bu Fang proceeded to take out a huge blue and white porcelain bowl and placed it on his golden platform. The bowl was filled with white flour.

Flour?

What was he trying to make?

The audience momentarily froze. The flour did not seem to fit in with the other ingredients they saw Bu Fang prepare.

What the chef was trying to do, they really could not guess; even Nangong Wuque, who was watching with the audience, was completely in the dark.

However, what they all agreed on was that Bu Fang's dish would not be a simple one.

Suddenly, everyone froze.

This was because Bu Fang had grabbed the shrimp on his shoulder and placed it atop his golden platform, with the rest of his ingredients, and the golden light emanating from his golden platform began to shine brighter than the light from the other two contestants.

Every one of the audience members sucked in breaths of cold air. What exactly was that shrimp? Why did it contain such an ample amount of spirit energy?!

Seeing this, Nangong Wuque and the others narrowed their eyes.

"Does Owner Bu intend to cook Shrimpy?" Nangong Wuque muttered, and his eyes lit up.

So, Owner Bu had finally decided to cook Shrimpy! Nangong Wuque had eyed the cute shrimp for so long... Who knew how tasty it would be?!

Mu Bai and Jiang Ling turned to glance at Bu Fang deeply. However, seconds later, White Demon Jiang Ling smiled at him meaningfully.

Weng...

In the next moment, both Mu Bai and Jiang Ling waved their arms, and the medicinal ingredients atop their gold platforms began to fly into their respective alchemy furnace in groups.

Mental force began to surge out their bodies.

Everyone felt their hearts tighten from the pressure because the cultivation levels of the two were very high.

Bu Fang glanced at them briefly before he began to wash his ingredients; not too slow and not too fast. The Golden Dragon Bone Kitchen Knife twirled in his hands and instantly grew in size. With a single swing of the massive golden knife, the ingredients atop his golden platform were dealt with, and after that, he cut off a slab of meat from the huge bear.

He pulled out the fur and deboned the meat, and after washing it, he placed it into a huge pot he had prepared earlier.

Everyone cared little for the refining processes of the other two contestants but focused completely on Bu Fang's cooking. They showed great interest in his swift knife skills, which flowed as nimbly as water.

After washing the ingredients, Bu Fang tipped them all into the wok.

"I got it! This time, Owner Bu's dish is... the Buddha Jumps over the Wall Soup?!" Nangong Wuque exclaimed excitedly, with a single loud clap and shiny eyes. The Buddha Jumps Over the Wall Soup... He ate it every day, so how could he not know that the placement of the bowl was exactly the same as the Buddha Jumps Over the Wall Soup?

The only difference was that the ingredients Bu Fang usually used to make the Buddha Jumps Over the Wall Soup were a little different from the ingredients he brought out earlier.

Was Shrimpy going to be an ingredient, too? A Buddha Jumps Over the Wall Soup with Shrimpy!

Oh my god!

He really wished to taste the final dish a little.

Nursing these thoughts, Nangong Wuque drooled, and his eyes glowed brightly, like stars.

Dong!

With a loud "dong", Bu Fang brought out a huge lid and covered the pot. On the lid, a face smiling gently was depicted; it belonged to a Buddha whose plump stomach was shining.

It indeed seemed to be the Buddha Jumps Over the Wall Soup. Once everyone saw the Buddha on the lid, realization dawned on them. If he was making the Buddha Jumps Over the Wall Soup, then the outcome they previously considered a certainty was no longer set in stone. Maybe there was a chance for victory.

However, they were secretly disappointed. If all Bu Fang planned to cook was the Buddha Jumps Over the Wall Soup, then it would be difficult for him to win; after all, the dish was widely known already.

Was Bu Fang just going to cook the Buddha Jumps Over the Wall Soup?

At this point, however, some members of the audience froze in mid-thought. This was because Bu Fang grabbed the Buddha Jumps Over the Wall Soup and placed it into the huge wok, then grabbed the confused Shrimpy, and began to process the white flour, which was radiating a dense amount of spirit energy.

Chapter 562: Be Free, Shrimpy

What was Boss Bu trying to do?

Everyone was baffled... If he was making the Buddha Jumps Over the Wall Soup, then there was no need for the flour, was there?

The appearance of the flour was really odd...

Everyone could not understand and couldn't sense Bu Fang's movements.

Within the Black Turtle Constellation Wok, the hot water was boiling. Dense steam rose from within, causing Boss Bu to be covered in a layer of mist.

Bu Fang poured out the flour from the wok, placing Shrimpy inside, letting it flop around.

This little fellow seemed to dislike the flour. The originally dazzling golden body turned white in just a few moments.

All that was left were two continuously spinning eyes that were not covered.

After flopping for a while, Bu Fang began to knead; while kneading, he added the powder of the smashed elixirs. Once these powders were added into the mix, the flour became colorful.

What was he kneading the flour for? Was he making noodles?

Buddha Jumps Over the Wall Soup with noodles? Many of the audience's faces were strange as this combination had never been heard of before, but it didn't seem bad.

No one could tell what Bu Fang was planning to do.

The audience in the Heavenly Mist City was confused, not to mention the residents of the Pill Palace who saw the scene from the projection array. They were even more at a loss at what Bu Fang was trying to do.

Although their hearts were filled with questions, Bu Fang did not intend to answer their questions so they could only continue watching the match curiously.

From a distance, the brilliance of the nine star alchemy furnace was rushing toward the heavens as the dense energy which came from the elixir drifted out of it. Coupled with the light emitted from the alchemy furnace, the brilliance was dazzling and blinding.

That cool scene captured the attention of countless eyes, causing the audience to scream out continuously. After all, Mu Bai had many supporters.

Mu Bai's hair fluttered; he was putting in all his heart to refine this elixir. This was not only a match to win the championship, but it was also a match to redeem himself! He had to display all of his potential and refine this elixir perfectly!

He would completely defeat White Demon Jiang Ling on this road of refining alchemy.

The desire to battle surged in Mu Bai's eyes as he raised his head, looking in the direction of the White Demon.

Suddenly, his gaze froze and his entire body stiffened.

Jiang Ling's actions seemed to be out of his expectations. It was because that White Demon Jiang Ling had already completed the purification of all the medicinal ingredients in the alchemy furnace, and within the alchemy furnace a dazzling medicinal liquid was floating...

"How could she be so fast?!" Mu Bai sucked in a deep breath as he felt immense pressure.

Besides Mu Bai, in the entire central square, quite a few people had also noticed Jiang Ling's actions and discovered her fast method of purification. Her methods were too exquisite. Purification was extremely taxing on the mind and it could be considered the most irritating process in refining, but with Jiang Ling, there was no such limitation nor trouble; her purification was as smooth as water, and there was absolutely no problem. That aesthetic feeling... It felt the same as when Boss Bu was cooking.

This woman was not ordinary!

Everyone sucked in a deep breath of air as their hearts were clenching.

Of course, White Demon Jiang Ling was not simple. Her talent was no weaker than the rest and her techniques and strength were also very high leveled.

With a turn of the imprint on her hand, the deep green flame flourished and the radiance was extremely dazzling. Suddenly, she retrieved a huge wooden container, one decorated with countless dazzling spirit stones.

Opening the container, Jiang Ling's lips curved upwards, looking at Bu Fang and Mu Bai with meaningful eyes.

"It's all thanks to that chef. Now I know of this method... To compete with me, Jiang Ling, let's see if you guys have the abilities."

The wooden lid was ripped open and suddenly, a dense spirit essence and aroma spread out, dispersing everywhere.

At this moment, everyone's breathing was enraptured by that aroma!

"It smells so good!"

"This aroma seems to be an aroma of a spirit herb... But why does it smell so good?!"

"The grade of this spirit herb is definitely terrifying; this type of aroma, it's impossible to resist!"

.....

The audience all shut their eyes involuntarily, intoxicated in the aroma, unable to extricate themselves.

The medicinal scent rolled everywhere, surging violently.

Mu Bai and Bu Fang, who were the closest, were the first to receive its attack...

That aroma came in like a flood, covering Mu Bai in an instant. He felt that his entire being had been engulfed by a sea of fragrance.

Boom boom boom!

That aroma was like waves crashing onto his mental state constantly.

Buzz...

His state of mind could not help swaying, as if he was going to be lost within the fragrance.

"The rights to be her opponent.... Is this the method she chose to use?"

On the high stage, the few masters of alchemy looked at this scene with conflicted expressions. To use aroma to influence the opponents was not a method they were unfamiliar with since Bu Fang had always used this method to cause his opponents to explode their furnaces.

However, when this method was used against Bu Fang, how would he react? This was called getting a taste of one's own medicine. Would Boss Bu fall for it too?

When the aroma rolled over, Bu Fang froze slightly...

He narrowed his eyes and took a deep breath.

Huh?

So fragrant...

It was indeed very fragrant.

Bu Fang's heart was astonished, this medicinal scent seemed to carry a dense aroma so it should be a type of unusual elixir. This type of elixir's fragrance was naturally different.

To think that this woman would bring out such a high-grade elixir...

Bu Fang's heart was shocked. With a sniff, that medicinal scent was sucked into his stomach, causing him to be unable to resist being intoxicated; in reality, he was indeed intoxicated already.

Everyone speechlessly looked at Bu Fang, who was rooted on the spot, continuously breathing in with his eyes narrowed.

He seemed to be unable to put up a fight against that medicinal fragrance and was instantly captivated.

Where... Where were his morals?!

Jiang Ling was also stunned but in the next moment, she suddenly realized something which caused her to become slightly speechless. This chef simply did not care about outside influence, even if he stopped to smell that aroma... There was no problem at all.

This...

Jiang Ling felt her teeth ache; this chef was indeed harder to deal with than an alchemist. If an alchemist let down their guard and got entranced by the fragrance, the spiritual energy within the alchemy furnace would go wild, causing an explosion.

A chef, unless he made a mistake... it was impossible to cause his wok to explode because the dishes that they made would already contain an enticing fragrance.

Bu Fang's intoxicated look made the audience want to beat him.

Mu Bai's appearance was the complete opposite of Bu Fang's.

His entire state of mind was highly concentrated, and his forehead was covered in sweat, while his face flushed a bright red. He fought against the fragrance with all his strength.

His face of suffering and Bu Fang's face of satisfaction... The contrast caused everyone to feel sorry for Mu Bai.

Huff huff huff...

His eyes became bloodshot as Mu Bai gritted his teeth, finally managing to resist that fragrance, and focused his attention on the alchemy furnace.

Jiang Ling gave a surprised smile. Now this was interesting...

Her slender and white fingers began to move. An alchemist's fingers were always long because they needed to make positions with it and control the alchemic flames.

The flames flourished as an extremely thick ginseng appeared within Jiang Ling's hands, coming from the wooden box. Her fingers moved to dig a huge hole in the ginseng. Then, her true energy flowed out, leading the medicinal ingredient into the alchemy furnace.

The green flame suddenly became denser in the alchemy furnace.

Crackling sounds spread out.

Swoosh!

After a long whistle, Jiang Ling's head of white hair rose. The next process was something which she absolutely could not mess up. Even for her, it was a difficult process. With her hands forming a seal, the true energy behind her rolled around. Four swaying chains appeared behind her and charged toward the heavens.

The medicinal liquid within the alchemy furnace was beginning to fuse into an elixir...

Mu Bai had also finally finished his purification. His palm tapped on the nine star furnace, which then started to shake continuously. Concurrently, he roared with all his strength.

True energy rolled around as three swaying true energy shackles shook behind his back.

The atmosphere of the stage suddenly changed; in that instant, it became solemn.

Bu Fang also opened his eyes from his intoxication, looking at the other two. His heart shivered, and he gently let out a sigh.

Bu Fang's hair fluttered even when there was no wind. In the next moment, true energy revolved around his body. The Vermillion Robe seemed to come alive, becoming bright red, so red it stole everyone's attention.

As if a vermillion bird cried out from his body, behind Bu Fang's back, one true energy chain rushed toward the heavens.

Everyone was shocked.

They looked at this scene with wide eyes.

Boss Bu... When did he break through the first Supreme-being Shackle? Hadn't this fellow always been a Supreme-Being? They didn't even see him cultivate.

Nangong Wuque also wore a face of confusion. How was it possible for him to have a breakthrough by cooking?

Boss Bu really was mysterious.

Rumble rumble...

Steam continuously rose.

Bu Fang pressed on that Buddha Jump Over the Wall Soup with one hand, then, exerting some strength, he pulled out that upgraded Buddha Jumps Over the Wall Soup from the Black Turtle Constellation Wok.

Although the Buddha Jumps Over the Wall Soup was steaming hot, there was not a trace of fragrance.

Swoosh...

Bu Fang waved his hands, and in an instant the densely covered porcelain plate flew out from his hands, landing on that huge golden platform.

Walking in front of the Buddha Jumps Over the Wall Soup, Bu Fang harshly tapped on the lid. Instantly afterward, the figure of a Buddha leaped toward the heavens.

A dazzling golden light spread out from within that pot. It was colorful and eye-catching, causing people's eyes to be dazzled and stunned. Everyone's eyes were attracted by that light.

A dense aroma instantly drifted out from within the pot...

Sizzle sizzle sizzle.

However, Bu Fang was not done with the Buddha Jumps Over the Wall Soup yet. He turned his body to deal with the dough that he just prepared. There were many elixirs which were contained in the dough and, after dealing with them, the dough eventually became firm. After adding oil, a wave of unique fragrance started to assault everyone's nose.

With a wave of the kitchen knife, the dough was cut into orderly strips and Bu Fang neatly arranged them to the side.

Bu Fang poured out a substantial amount of chilli from the system's storage space.

Following that, he displayed an awe-inspiring knife art, and the countless number of chili were sliced into thin strips in just a moment.

Pouring them into the Black Turtle Constellation Wok to simmer, a dense spicy aroma began to rise...

He retrieved the Abyssal Chili Sauce and took a spoonful before pouring it into the wok.

Bu Fang turned his head to look at the bubbling Shrimpy, who was lying in the wok. His lips instantly curved upwards.

Shrimpy felt a chill travel down its entire body. In the next moment, it was held up by Bu Fang.

"Let yourself go and swim freely, Shrimpy," Bu Fang said seriously. Then, in the next instant, Shrimpy spun three hundred and sixty degrees before landing in the simmering chilli sauce with a splash.

Sizzle!

Bu Fang placed the strips of sliced dough into the oil.

With a plop, Shrimpy's eyes became round like circles. Trying to escape from the wok, its tiny legs frantically wriggled about.

What let yourself go? Don't dig a hole for this shrimp to jump into!

Chapter 563: Shrimp Flavored Chili Strips

When Shrimpy was thrown into the Black Turtle Constellation Wok, its heart was in turmoil.

The boiling water was extremely spicy and after the Abyssal Chili Sauce was added, it became even spicier.

Even Shrimpy had no desire to go crazy inside the wok. With a splashing sound, the boiling hot water splashed everywhere. Shrimpy jumped out of the water and its golden shell was stained red with the spicy broth.

Bubble bubble bubble...

The Heaven and Earth Obsidian Flame burned below the wok and the spicy broth was brought up to a rolling boil. Steam rose into the sky continuously.

In the distance...

Mu Bai and White Demon Jiang Ling were stunned.

When the cover of the Buddha Jumps Over The Wall Soup was opened, the aroma filled the air. It assaulted their noses and their face became twisted.

Supported by his valiant mental strength, Mu Bai didn't allow himself to be distracted by the smell. However, he cried out in his heart. These two shameless fellows! They kept on using strong fragrances in order to mess with him! Were they trying to cause his furnace to explode? Mu Bai narrowed his eyes and his heart started to tremble.

“This is the true public enemy of the alchemists!”

Jiang Ling’s heart lurched and she sucked in a cold breath. The fragrance in the air caused her to become distracted.

The dense medicinal fragrance emitted from her high-grade elixir was actually overwhelmed by the aroma coming from the chef’s dish. It was something really incredible!

The audience broke out into deep discussions. The aroma of the Buddha Jumps Over The Wall Soup was originally extremely tempting. As the most expensive dish in Bu Fang’s restaurant, it didn’t matter if it was the taste or the smell. There was no doubt that the Buddha Jumps Over The Wall Soup took the top spot.

Not to mention the fact that Bu Fang didn’t use ordinary ingredients to prepare the Buddha Jumps Over The Wall Soup. The ingredients were a grade higher than the ones he usually used to prepare the Buddha Jumps Over The Wall Soup. As spirit energy started to fill the area, everyone became intoxicated.

“The dish prepared by the black horse chef smells the best...”

“I am completely infatuated with the aroma. The pill fragrance cannot be compared to the aroma of the dish!”

“Didn’t you say that you were captivated by the fragrance from the pill?”

...

The audience members narrowed their eyes and they immersed themselves in the aroma of the Buddha Jumps Over The Wall Soup. There were many people who actually started to swallow mouthfuls of saliva. They were extremely impatient as they couldn’t wait to taste Bu Fang’s dish.

White Demon Jiang Ling sucked in a cold breath and her true energy started to fluctuate. Her attention once again returned to her alchemy furnace and the dark green flame had already reached its peak. As the medicinal liquid rolled around in the furnace, Jiang Ling started to coagulate her spirit pill.

Both Pill King Mu Bai and White Demon Jiang Ling, when compared to ordinary alchemists, were extremely strong. Their resistance to temptation was much higher.

After they stabilized their hearts, they started the final stage of their refinement process.

However...

Woosh!

“Don’t jump! You should cherish the chance I gave you! Enjoy yourself Shrimpy!” Bu Fang looked at Shrimpy who was jumping out of the wok non-stop and said as the corners of his lips curled upwards.

He didn’t expect that Shrimpy’s reaction would be so explosive. It was completely out of his expectations.

Shrimpy’s eyes rolled around and its many legs started to wriggle around. It seemed like a spring as it continuously jumped out from inside the pot before falling back inside.

Its golden body had already been covered by a layer of red lines.

However, as it jumped around, Bu Fang could see that the golden glow on its body was slowly diffusing into the broth.

It caused the boiling spicy broth to emit a kind of unique flavor.

Red colored waves of spicy broth rolled around in the wok and the fragrance filled the plaza.

A shiver ran down the spine of the audience members and their eyes instantly widened when they smelled the spicy fragrance invading their noses.

Again?!

As audience members who had been assaulted by a spicy aroma before , all of them were reluctant to suffer twice. They all quickly covered their mouths and noses as they stopped breathing in the spicy aroma.

There were some people who didn't manage to cover their mouths and noses in time. When the spicy aroma assaulted their noses, their eyes instantly became red and bloodshot. Their faces flushed and tears streamed down their cheeks.

This scene seemed somewhat familiar...

The head judge's nostrils flared and he stood in front of Bu Fang's golden platform. A notion appeared on his heart.

In the next instant, a red hot spicy aroma charged at him and crashed against his face.

At that moment, there were ten thousand shrimps jumping around in his heart.

“Ah!”

He was pulling this stunt again! It was the spicy flavor again!

The head judge hurriedly retreated a few steps and his eyes were completely red. Tears started to fall out of his eyes.

He was so depressed that he started to cry. He kneeled on the floor as he appeared to be a grieving little child.

Mu Bai felt as though he joined a fake competition. That was because he felt tears streaming down his face. As the red-colored aroma slowly drifted toward him, he became unable to hold back his tears.

In the distance, White Demon Jiang Ling also had red eyes as she focused all her attention on the coagulation of her pill.

Mu Bai and Jiang Ling were indeed worthy of their reputation. They were able to remain unaffected by the shameless use of the spicy aroma by the public enemy of the alchemists. They continued to refine their pills with steady hearts.

They were the real geniuses among the alchemists!

At that moment, the White Demon's spirit reached the peak and her white hair fluttered around behind her. The neat chains which were made from true energy behind her started swaying around behind her. The glow on the chains became brighter and brighter.

Boom boom boom!

A wave of formless pressure started to continuously spread out.

Her alchemy furnace started to tremble and it seemed as though a resplendent light was born from inside the furnace.

Dense pill energy gradually filled the area.

White Demon Jiang Ling's pill was about to be completed!

Mu Bai was also at the last stage of his refinement process. Although he experienced constant distractions, he managed to hold out till the end. The elegant facial expression he wore before the competition started had already turned distorted.

He felt somewhat depressed. It was the first time he felt such grievance when refining a pill. However, he was going to complete his pill no matter what happened.

Buzz...

A brilliant light flashed in the Nine Star Furnace and a ball of dense gas gathered on top of the furnace. It was a sign that his pill was about to be formed. Mu Bai was about to coagulate his pill as well.

The spicy aroma in the air finally started to disperse and it became much weaker than before.

The audience members were extremely agitated as they looked at the stage. It seemed as though the competition had reached the part which caused everyone to become nervous.

The elixirs which were refined by the alchemists were about to be completed. Everyone's attention was on Bu Fang, who was still cooking.

However, looking at Bu Fang, it didn't seem as though his dish was about to be completed.

As the wind blew across the stage, Bu Fang's Vermillion Robe slightly fluttered behind him. The fiery-red vermillion robe looked like a phoenix spreading its wings as it flapped behind Bu Fang. It was an eye-catching sight.

Bu Fang was extremely calm and his mental energy constantly fluctuated. It controlled the flow of true energy in the Black Turtle Constellation Wok.

Shrimpy was no longer jumping around in the wok. Instead, it flipped itself over and slowly drifted around in the Black Turtle Constellation Wok. The noodles which were in the wok emitted red colored bubbles.

A burst of intoxicating aroma drifted out from inside the wok.

As Bu Fang controlled the spiritual energy inside the wok, He continued to pour elixirs which were in powdered form into the wok.

Along with the circulation of the spiritual energy, a gust of sweet and spicy aroma came out from the wok.

Bu Fang sucked in a deep breath. There was an indescribable aroma as the sweet and spicy smell fused with each other. It was extremely tempting. Bu Fang's heart suddenly started to itch. It was no wonder that this dish was so famous in his previous world! He felt as though his saliva was about to pour out of his mouth. Licking his lips, he placed the finishing touch on his dish.

However, all of the audience members were suspicious. They didn't understand what Bu Fang was doing at all. They didn't know what he was cooking this time.

Could it be a new dish?

That didn't seem right. He prepared the Buddha Jumps Over The Wall Soup... Many of the audience members could recognize that dish.

Even though they didn't understand what he was doing, there was a trace of anticipation in their hearts.

Roar!

Waves of energy started to roll around and a terrifying wave of spiritual energy fluctuation started to spread out from the stage.

Mu Bai's hair was floating in the air and true energy waves were emitted from his body. The three chains behind his body were swaying continuously.

Woosh!

The nine stars on the Nine Star Furnace glowed with an extremely bright radiance.

The light emitted from the nine stars seemed to be charging toward the sky. It was as though a starfield had appeared beside his body as light revolved around him.

A sharp cry resounded through the sky.

White Demon Jiang Ling's refinement process was complete as well. A green radiance filled the entire area and rippled through the surroundings.

Her white hair was floating behind her and there was an expression of deep excitement in her eyes.

Thump thump thump.

The sound of something banging against the sides of the furnace could be heard and everyone's hair stood on end.

It was as though the elixir within the furnace was about to come to life!

Above the stage, the several grandmasters sucked in deep breaths.

“Incredible... Pill King Mu Bai and White Demon Jiang Ling are indeed the genius alchemists of our Pill Palace!”

“One of them has the Palace Master’s Nine Stars Furnace. The other wants the lazy old man’s Spirit Gathering Furnace...”

“Both of their products produced an extraordinary image! Although the image isn’t complete, it’s already amazing! It seems like both of them will be taken away by the Palace Master after they come back from the Heaven Secret Area! The Palace Master hasn’t accepted anyone for such a long time...”

The grandmasters couldn’t help themselves but discuss among each other. They looked at Mu Bai and Jiang Ling with satisfied expressions on their faces. After all, both of them were able to surprise the grandmasters again and again.

Mu Bai and Jiang Ling’s strong momentum attracted the attention of many alchemists. The cheers for them were non-stop.

The aura emitted from Mu Bai and Jiang Ling’s body started to calm down.

After the radiance and fluctuation disappeared, everything became calm again.

Mu Bai gasped for breath and it was as though he had just been dragged out of a tank full of water. Beads of perspiration rolled off his forehead.

White Demon Jiang Ling’s gaze was deep as she looked at Mu Bai in surprise. He was the little fellow who suffered a horrible defeat to her in the past. He actually grew to such a degree?

The alchemy furnace started to calm down and the Heaven and Earth Obsidian Flame started to disperse.

Mu Bai and Jiang Ling looked at each other and nodded their heads. They were ready to open their furnace in order to retrieve the pill.

However, just as the two of them were about to open the lid, they were stunned for a moment. They turned their heads to look into the distance.

There, Bu Fang had already started to do something new. He waved his Vermillion Robe and several porcelain plates immediately lined up on the golden platform. The plates were lined up neatly.

Bu Fang pressed one of his hand on the lid of the Buddha Jumps Over The Wall Soup.

With a slap, the heavy pot started to float in the air.

Woosh...

Bu Fang poured the soup which was emitting a resplendent light into several porcelain bowls and the dense aroma filled the arena. Waves of hot air emerged from the bowls.

After he poured the soup, Bu Fang raised his head to look at the two alchemists in the distance. He nodded his head with an expressionless face.

Mu Bai and Juang Ling were stunned for a moment. In the next instant, they saw that Bu Fang placed his hand on the Black Turtle Constellation Wok.

Boom!

A blast echoed throughout the plaza.

The strips of noodle which were in the Black Turtle Constellation Wok flew out and waves of steam rolled off them. They landed neatly on the porcelain plates.

The red noodle strips were emitting a dazzling light and attracted the attention of many people. All of them sucked in a breath of air in surprise. They had a confused expression on their face. After causing so much ruckus, he produced these random strips of noodles? Could they even be eaten?

Bu Fang took a piece of dry cloth and wiped his hands.

Shrimpy, whose body was already completely red in color, was emitting hot air as it landed on Bu Fang's shoulder. It seemed to be a little dizzy as it spat out red-colored bubbles from its mouth. Shrimpy had a confused expression on its face.

Bu Fang tilted his head and looked at Shrimpy. A giggle escaped his lips. In the next moment, he looked at Mu Bai and Jiang Ling once again.

"I heard that the Buddha Jumps Over The Wall Soup goes well with the Crazy Hot Chili Strips..."

Chapter 564: Dark Horse is No Longer Dark, Bu Fang Loses?

Buddha Jumps Over the Wall Soup and Chilli Strips... What the hell was that?

The White Demon Jiang Ling and Mu Bai both slightly froze, and their faces were strange. Their gazes on the blue and white porcelain plate placed by Bu Fang on the golden platform with steam rolling off from within the plate. The dense aroma seemed to spread, causing the rest to drool.

A rosy strange thing that was releasing a sweet and spicy fragrance was placed on the blue and white porcelain plate, capturing everyone's attention.

This was the new dish Owner Bu made this time? Why was it so strange?

The head judge was the closest to it.

He felt a wave of a strange smell pervading his nose. That smell was filled with so much stimulation that his pores couldn't help but slightly shrink, and his mouth couldn't help but open, unable to resist it.

Rumble.

This thing that was similar to gluten... he constantly felt that something was not ordinary.

White Demon Jiang Ling smiled lightly; her elixir had already been completed and she had confidence that she could crush the chef.

Whether it was the medicinal ingredient or the techniques of alchemy, every one of it was perfect so she could most definitely crush anyone, becoming the champion of this edition of Magical Hand Conference!

She was going to enter the circle of geniuses of the Pill Palace! That was her real goal!

At that time... What Pill King Mu Bai? What enemy of alchemists? Everything would be just rubbish!

Deeply sucking in a breath, then exhaling, a dense stream of spiritual energy rushed out of her nose and it was as though a white wave was set off.

In the next instant, White Demon Jiang Ling's eyes lit up, dazzling like the brightest star in the night sky!

"My destiny will be changed by a furnace of elixirs! Star Pill Tower, I'm coming!!"

Boom!

With a long whistle, White Demon Jiang Ling's palm harshly slammed onto that alchemy furnace. Her alchemy furnace let out a bang at that moment and the sound of collision within the furnace also dissipated.

In the next instant, the lid on top of the alchemy furnace suddenly let out a buzz. Flying toward the heavens, the lid charged into the sky.

Woosh woosh woosh!

Little dark green elixirs that were giving off light flew out from the alchemy furnace, like a beast that had hibernated for too long and just woke up. They were unrestrained and gave off spiritual energy joyously.

White Demon Jiang Ling laughed loudly. She raised her hands and a wave of mysterious fluctuations spread out from her palms.

Those elixirs floated beside her body; it was extremely cool. Everyone could not help exclaiming in surprise. This scene was too beautiful, with those elixirs revolving around White Demon Jiang Ling. It was unreal, like a dream, an extremely beautiful scene.

The originally ordinary-looking White Demon Jiang Ling, under the brilliance of the elixirs' spiritual energy, actually seemed to give off the presence of a fairy.

Everyone could not help being intoxicated.

Bu Fang looked at this scene with his eyebrows slightly furrowing. That rich pill fragrance in the air was very dense, almost like an extremely sharp war blade, harshly ripping apart the fragrance of his own dish.

Within the dense spiritual energy, White Demon Jiang Ling's eyes shone with wild confidence, as if she was looking down on Bu Fang from a high peak. Those eyes were filled with disdain and arrogance. It was as if she had already grasped victory in her hands.

Everyone who returned back to normal sucked in a cold breath of air, not knowing what to say. As of this moment, almost everyone had lost confidence in Bu Fang.

This White Demon Jiang Ling was really too strong, as terrifying as a demon. Every single one of the elixirs floating by her side had a dazzling mark that shone, each of them a valuable six-mark Ling Dan!

How could Owner Bu's dish compete with that?

That elixir was cool beyond compare. When comparing it to that dish, the latter was as plain as water, with even its aroma being ripped apart. The elixir was obviously a league above.

White Demon Jiang Ling raised her white palms and her slender fingers held onto an elixir, while her eyes were cold and proud.

"The strongest dark horse? Competing against alchemists? So this is all you amount to..."

So wild!

Below the stage, Nangong Wuque was so angry he was going to explode. This woman was actually so wild! Wasn't it just a six-mark elixir? He believed in Owner Bu... maybe he would be able to finish off this woman!

"Owner Bu, do your best! Use your dishes to ruthlessly smack that woman's arrogant face!"

Unable to resist it any longer, Nangong Wuque directly yelled from below the stage.

Everyone was stunned, This guy actually dared to shout...

Everyone was able to see from this situation that Owner Bu had already lost. He had completely lost. It was going to be hard for the dark horse to continue being black until the end.

Nangong Wan was rubbing her forehead speechlessly... They were being watched by many others. When Nangong Wuque shouted out like that, didn't he consider the consequences?

Indeed, under the eyes of the public, Nangong Wuque felt his face becoming awkward, smiling awkwardly while waving his hands at the public.

White Demon Jiang Ling only gave a slight smile.

This chef was no longer in consideration. Now, all she was concerned about was Mu Bai, who had yet to finish his work in the distance. This little fellow had really grown those three years; he was a lot stronger at that moment and was able to slightly pressure her.

To actually get the favor of the Pill Master's Nine Star Alchemy Furnace, this little fellow could not be underestimated.

So, she still felt a bit of pressure.

Mu Bai didn't think that Bu Fang would actually just lose like that, completely losing in terms of momentum. Was the dark horse unable to continue being dark?

Indeed... This woman, he had to beat her himself!

Mu Bai's heart suddenly became prideful.

Boom!

On his arms, true energy coiled around his palm like dragons. With a dominating presence, he harshly slammed the top of that alchemy furnace.

The slamming sound resounded through the skies. The lid of the alchemy furnace suddenly flew off. White steam constantly rolled out from within that alchemy furnace, and the sizzling sound resounded out non-stop.

Mu Bai's eyes were on fire as he carefully stared at the alchemy furnace that was glowing, this alchemy furnace represented all of his confidence and what he believed in.

This was what the Pill Master entrusted to him; it was the expectations the Pill Master had of him.

How could he let down the Pill Master!

Buzz...

The white steam scattered, and in the next instant, rays of lights exploded forth, rushing toward the heavens. The sounds of explosions filled the skies.

The audience of the entire stage settled down, looking at the surroundings with a face full of disbelief; they felt like they were in space. That densely packed light rays were like the many tiny sparkling stars in the sky. Those stars slowly fluttered, creating an extremely beautiful scene.

Mu Bai, with his hair fluttering behind him, gently sighed.

Around his body, elixirs floated like stars, with their brilliance radiating out, slowly becoming simple and ordinary. However, on every elixir, there were six marks that were giving off light. The elixirs revolved around Mu Bai, causing his confident demeanor to seem even more charismatic.

On top of the stage, the energy of his elixirs surged, directly ripping into White Demon Jiang Ling's energy to form another patch of sky, splitting the stage into a different space.

Of course... The fragrance of Bu Fang's dish also occupied a small space, but, in the eyes of the audience, this dark horse had utterly lost.

Woosh!

A clamor broke out! The audience was in an uproar, letting out shouts and yells! Many people looked at the outstanding and handsome Mu Bai, all shouting excitedly, the support that the audience had towards Mu Bai, soared at this moment!

The audience would not have a good impression toward Jiang Ling so naturally, so they did not hope for her to win. And since the dark horse chef had lost the chance to counterattack... he had also lost the support. The audience had thus placed all their support on Mu Bai, hoping he could become the champion.

Many of the female spectators could not help standing up, jumping on the spot, covering their mouths, so excited that their faces had turned red.

Nangong Wuque and the rest were looking at their surroundings desolately. Those cheers did not belong to Bu Fang.

“Did he lose already?” Nangong Wan was feeling unresigned, biting her red lips as she said it.

Sorceress An Sheng hugged her chest with both hands, squeezing out an astonishing arc from her twin peaks. She gave the slightly dejected Nangong Wan a glance and said with a smile, “He should be the one to lose. Look at it, the audience isn’t going to cheer for Bu Fang anymore, this is just a fact. Nothing to be sad about. As long as Owner Bu’s dish tastes good, it will be fine.”

Yang Meiji clenched her big fists, looking at Bu Fang who was quietly standing on the stage. She felt slightly uncomfortable in her heart. Bu Fang’s frail figure seemed to be so lonely; it was as though the world had given up on him.

“No! Owner Bu definitely has a hidden trick up his sleeve. You guys just watch. Owner Bu will still counterattack!” Nangong Wuque raised his head and said.

Contrary to everyone’s disappointment, Nethery’s eyes watched the platform. Her gaze fell on top of that huge pot; such a big portion of the Buddha Jumps Over The Wall Soup... It would definitely taste good!

Thinking about that, her drool leaked out involuntarily. It was especially so when she looked at the red Chili Strip. The unique fragrance made her mouth water. It was extremely hard for her to resist.

Okay... This woman only had food in her eyes.

No matter how they looked at it, the fact right now was that Bu Fang had been utterly sidelined. It was as if, in people’s eyes, Bu Fang no longer had any chance of becoming the champion.

At that moment, the stage belonged to the alchemists. No matter if it was Mu Bai or Jiang Ling, they were both extremely powerful alchemists.

On top of the high stage, the five grandmasters stood up. They gave each other a glance before nodding their heads. In the next instant, they walked toward the platform. The five people landed on top of the stage and their hearts shook. They nodded their heads at each other. It was indeed different.

The judgment of this match wasn’t made by the five grandmasters. Instead, five hundred members of the audience were also involved in the judging process.

The stage was so huge this time that the five hundred members had to walk down from the spectator stand to look for their respective spots. They walked around in an orderly fashion and before long, they took up their positions.

The judges carefully retrieved Mu Bai's and White Demon Jiang Ling's elixir. Using a special magic array to split it into pieces, they got ready for the judging process to begin. They had to split it up into five hundred pieces of elixir powder. It was necessary to use this special method to ensure that, even though the elixir was split apart, its effectiveness was not damaged nor scattered.

When they arrived at Bu Fang's dish, the judges felt a headache coming on. That was because Bu Fang had only cooked a hundred servings of his dish.

"Then let five people share one serving..." Bu Fang said blandly. Wiping off the water droplets on his hand, he put them inside the pockets of his Vermillion Robe.

The judges all looked at each other before passing the dish to a hundred people. They ordered for them to share a portion with other four people.

When the products were arranged nicely, Grandmaster Xuan Ming swept his gaze across the entire place. He said with a cold expression, "The judging of the finals will now begin!"

"The first product is contestant Mu Bai's work. A six-mark spirit pill, begin your evaluation!"

Chapter 565: Looking Down on Chefs? Who Gave You the Confidence?

Following Grandmaster Xuan Ming's order, the audience on the stage all gave a cry of joy. Those who were not chosen looked at those who were with faces full of admiration. There was an envious look in their eyes.

To be able to evaluate this type of elixir was such a great opportunity... The value of this type of elixir was very significant. How would they be able to taste something so good on other days?

At this time, the audience felt excited.

A smile blossomed on the faces of the audience members who were chosen. This was a six-mark spirit pill. Eating one of it, the benefits it brought to the body could not be described in words. Furthermore, it was Pill King Mu Bai's elixir. The value of the pill surged even more.

Grandmaster Xuan Ming's gaze swept over the audience members who were chosen. Nodding his head, his gaze fell on the completed spirit pill which was in front of him. That spirit pill was round and there was an azure brilliance emitted from it. The medicinal fragrance filled the area and assaulted his nose.

On top of the elixir, six streams of a golden shining mark could be seen. The elixir looked extremely cool.

From the distance, Mu Bai stood quietly and he had a confident expression in his eyes. His lips slightly curved upwards. His green attire made him look extremely refined.

Grandmaster Xuan Ming reached out his hand as he held up the elixir. The warm feeling traveled from his fingertips to his body and he felt a feeling which was similar to an electric shock. His heart skipped a beat.

It seemed like it was not too bad...

When he put the elixir into his mouth, a wave of spiritual energy instantly rushed toward the heavens. Grandmaster Xuan Ming and the grandmasters surrounding him all widened their eyes. A wave of spiritual energy seemed to spread out with Grandmaster Xuan Ming as the center.

In the next instant, the few grandmasters then closed their eyes, enjoying the nourishment of the spiritual energy of the elixir.

The audience also had the same attitude. After eating the medicinal powder, the power in their bodies soared in an instant, causing their state of mind to surge violently.

At this time, the entire scene was silent. The audience all looked at the postures of the many evaluators and didn't even dare to let out a heavy breath.

The atmosphere became tense in an instant.

After a long moment of silence, some people began to slowly open their eyes. They breathed out long breaths. In the next instant, chatter broke out among the evaluators. The audience members who were evaluating the product praised it without end. They looked at Mu Bai with surprised expressions on their faces.

As expected of Pill King Mu Bai. This six-mark spirit pill was indeed not ordinary... The evaluators were excited and they really wanted to crown Mu Bai the champion immediately. They really could not imagine that there would be any other kind of six-mark spirit pill which would surpass Mu Bai's elixir. In the eyes of these people, Bu Fang and Jiang Ling had already lost. There was no need for their dish or elixir to be evaluated; they had lost.

The five grandmasters also slowly opened their eyes.

"Quiet, hold your opinions. Next, begin the evaluation of contestant Jiang Ling's elixir, a six-mark spirit pill, the manifestation of nature pill."

The grandmasters' knowledge and experience were naturally incomparable to the audiences'. After eating Mu Bai's elixir, they furrowed their eyebrows. They didn't look very optimistic.

Even Mu Bai himself froze. He didn't think that the grandmasters would have this kind of reaction. Could it be that he did not refine it well enough?

The clamoring audience once again settled down, but the excitement on their faces had not dissipated yet. Towards Jiang Ling's elixir, they also held expectations. After all, when that elixir exited the alchemy furnace, that scene was no weaker than Lord Mu Bai's one. It was obvious that this manifestation of nature pill was definitely not ordinary.

The audiences took the lead in taking the medicinal powder. Once the medicinal powder entered their mouths, the evaluators were all stunned. Their bodies froze and the disbelief in their eyes grew denser.

"This..."

“Such dense spiritual energy, what terrifying medicinal property... The taste of Lord Mu Bai’s spirit pill has been washed away in an instant...”

“What a terrifying spirit pill. It seems as though it reached the apex of six-mark spirit pills. Do you feel the surging spiritual energy in your body? Compared to Lord Mu Bai’s elixir, this medicinal property... is even more terrifying!”

...

The evaluators all looked at each other and saw the incredulous expression in each other’s eyes.

Grandmaster Xuan Ming and the rest also ate the elixir. Their brows instantly jumped, and the pores on their body seemed to emit true energy. They were stunned in their hearts and opened their eyes to look at Jiang Ling in the distance.

Jiang Ling elegantly and loftily nodded her head at these few grandmasters. Her confident look moved the grandmasters.

The clamor of the audience slowly descended into silence. They seemed to have realized that something was wrong as the evaluators had strange expressions on their faces. The hearts of the audience members started to shake.

The ending seemed to be different from that in their hearts.

“What’s going on? Don’t tell me Lord Mu Bai is going to lose?”

“No way... An elixir refined with the Pill Master’s Nine Star Alchemy Furnace cannot possibly lose, right?”

“Hiss hiss hiss... Is Lord Mu Bai going to lose again? Here I still thought that he was going to redeem himself from his past humiliation!”

...

The audience talked among themselves quietly. At that instant, Mu Bai’s face became ash-white.

Bu Fang looked at him curiously. As if feeling Bu Fang's gaze, Mu Bai looked over with an ugly expression on his face and it was completely devoid of blood.

"I think I might lose..." Mu Bai said to Bu Fang dryly.

Bu Fang froze. He was going to lose?

He turned to look at the judge's seats. When he saw the hesitation on the faces of the evaluators, he felt that something was wrong as well. Raising his head, he saw that the five grandmasters were talking among themselves. They were chattering non-stop.

In the end, as if reaching a conclusion, they sat upright and still.

"The evaluation of Mu Bai and Jiang Ling's elixirs is over. Now, let's have these ladies and gentlemen start voting. On your seats, there are two magic arrays. The one on the left represents Mu Bai and the one on the right represents Jiang Ling. Choose whoever you think won."

Grandmaster Xuan Ming said.

As his voice descended, the entire central plaza's atmosphere suddenly became very tense. Not only were the audience members of Heavenly Mist City's central plaza watching the competition closely, but even the audience from the Pill Palace was also extremely excited. They clenched their fist and perspiration formed on their foreheads.

Exactly who would win?

Was it Mu Bai or Jiang Ling... Between these two, no matter who won, it was possible for them to be the champion. How could they not be nervous?

The five hundred evaluators all looked at each other and raised their palms eventually. They transmitted their true energy into the magic array of their choice.

Buzz...

A mysterious fluctuation spread out, covering the entire area.

In the next moment, Mu Bai and Jiang Ling's bodies suddenly released a beam of light. A golden light column appeared, and it continuously climbed into the sky.

The height of the light column represented the votes that they had acquired.

Mu Bai's entire body felt warm. As he was covered in the pillar of light but was unable to see how high the beam of light went. He felt a little jumpy.

Jiang Ling was confident and there was a smile which hung on her face. Combing her white hair, her gaze was calm.

Bu Fang took two steps back and he looked at the light column above the two people. His eyebrows arched upwards.

Buzz...

The fluctuation vanished and the growth of the light columns stopped.

The results were out.

Everyone was silent and it seemed as though the world turned quiet.

Mu Bai had lost.

Jiang Ling's light column was higher than Mu Bai's light column by at least the height of a person.

Mu Bai's eyes shrunk and his entire body began to shake. He could not believe that he had actually lost. He lost again... It was his second defeat under the hands of Jiang Ling. How could he lose so terribly?

Why was it like that?!

He was finally unable to control his own emotions. His figure started to sway and he sat down on the floor. It was as though the strength of his entire body had been sapped away.

“Hahahaha... Although you have grown by quite a bit, no one is able to stop my footsteps. The position of the champion belongs to me, Jiang Ling.”

Jiang Ling, with her head full of white hair, laughed loudly. As she stood in the column of light, her face was filled with excitement.

Laying low for three years and practicing hard every day, Jiang Ling had been constantly training her alchemy skills. This time, she had finally successfully obtained the championship!

The Pill Palace’s Star Pill Tower, she, Jiang Ling, was coming!

The gazes of the audience members wore complicated expressions. Who would have thought that the most popular pick for the champion, Mu Bai, would actually lose?

It was as though great sadness took over them. If Lord Mu Bai was unable to defeat Jiang Ling, could it be that the woman was going to be the champion?

Everyone sucked in a breath.

They could not stop their hearts from feeling regret.

“I told you before... I want to let you guys taste the feeling of being utterly crushed... How is it? Are you not happy?” Jiang Ling’s face had an arrogant smile. Her gaze landed on Mu Bai and, as for Bu Fang, she didn’t even look at him.

A chef, one that had already been determined as a failure, was beneath her notice.

“Don’t lose your heart. There can only be improvement with failure. You lost to me the last time as well, didn’t you? You improved so much since the last time we competed... Go back and train for a few more years. You can challenge me in the future, however, you will never win! Hahaha!”

Wild and arrogant!

The entire audience stand looked at Jiang Ling, who was laughing non-stop on the stage. They felt a burst of anger.

Looking at Mu Bai who was sitting on the floor with his head hanging down, they were utterly speechless. No matter how they looked at it, Mu Bai had indeed lost. This was a moment that belonged to the winner.

Bu Fang furrowed his eyebrows. He looked at Jiang Ling, who acted as though she was already the champion, and the corners of his mouth twitched. He felt a little disgruntled.

“Hey, you haven’t defeated me yet. What are you so excited about?”

Bu Fang’s voice was very flat. However, the central plaza was so quiet that one would be able to hear a pin drop. Bu Fang’s words were like explosions which sounded in everyone’s ear.

Everyone suddenly raised their heads and looked at Bu Fang. Even the drooping and dispirited Mu Bai also slowly raised his head to give Bu Fang a glance.

This chef... He still had hopes of winning the finals?

That dish of his had already lost to their spirit pills in terms of momentum. Was he still going to compete? Wasn’t this asking to be humiliated? There was no meaning for him to continue.

Jiang Ling froze and the smile on her face slowly disappeared. She looked at Bu Fang with a cold expression.

“That dish of yours has been completely crushed... Is there even a need to compete?” Jiang Ling looked at the expressionless Bu Fang and said mockingly.

She was really disdainful. As an alchemist, a form of arrogance had been carved into her bone. Although Bu Fang had been performing miracles time and time again and made his way into the finals of the Magical Hand Conference, she still looked down on him. It was because he was a chef.

An alchemist was such a noble profession. A chef... What an uncouth profession. How could they be compared to alchemists?

Bu Fang's dish.... Be it aroma or spiritual energy, it had been completely suppressed. What rights did he have to challenge her?

"Where did you see that I have been crushed? Who gave you that confidence?" Bu Fang looked at the arrogant Jiang Ling with a strange face.

Could it be because the aroma and spiritual energy of this dish couldn't suppress the one from the elixirs? Then, if he used the Stinky Tofu to compete, wouldn't this Jiang Ling be proud to the heavens? After all, the Stinky Tofu was so smelly, yet it would be completely crushed by the elixir.

"You are just a little chef and you want to struggle? Just obediently admit your defeat. Don't be knocked down by the harsh reality. A chef entering the finals is already a feat in itself. You should know when to stop. Don't be too greedy," Jiang Ling lightly smiled and said.

"Wow... I see that you are very confident. I hope that you can still be so full of yourself in a bit." Bu Fang refuted. He felt as though he had to knock her down a peg.

From afar, Grandmaster Xuan Ming gave Bu Fang a deep glance and sucked in a deep breath. He announced with a strange expression:

"The last product, contestant Bu Fang's dish. Eh? Buddha Jumps Over the Wall Soup with Chilli Strips?"

Chapter 566: Chili Strips Were Unrivaled!

Buddha Jumps Over The Wall Soup with Chili Strips?

What in the world was that supposed to be?

Everyone heard Grandmaster Xuan Ming's words, and they were stunned. All of them stood rooted to their spot. A look of confusion appeared on their faces.

Many people knew about the Buddha Jumps Over The Wall Soup. It was Owner Bu's signature dish in his restaurant. It was even more expensive than elixirs! However, what in the world was a Chili Strip?

It was even paired with the Buddha Jumps Over The Wall Soup! Why did it feel like the Chili Strips were something amazing?

Nangong Wuque and the rest who were below the stage were stunned as well. Their gaze was fixed on the Chili Strips and they had dumbfounded expressions on their faces. Chili Strips... What could it be? Was it Owner Bu's new dish?

Owner Bu actually prepared a new dish in the competition?

When Grandmaster Xuan Ming's voice died out, the entire audience stand fell into silence for a moment. The atmosphere became somewhat weird. Everyone looked at the stage with strange expressions on their faces.

The five hundred evaluators frowned as they looked at the dish in front of them. A bowl of Buddha Jumps Over The Wall Soup and a Chili Strip...

The most important point was the fact that they had to split the dish five ways! How on earth were they going to do that?

Everyone present snickered. Waving their hands, they signaled that they would not bother to try the dish.

"It's just a single portion and you want us to split it up? Are you cracking a joke right now?" There were audience members who looked at Bu Fang and they asked. There were people around them who were nodding their heads in agreement.

However, Bu Fang didn't care about them at all. He simply swept his gaze over them and was too lazy to say anything.

Bu Fang didn't open his mouth, but Grandmaster Xuan Ming did. "As evaluators, you have to try the dish! Otherwise, how will you judge it? All of you are here to ensure that the results are fair. Could it be that you guys want to make this an unfair competition?"

Since Grandmaster Xuan Ming had already opened his mouth, the evaluators were no longer able to say anything else. They fell into silence.

Jiang Ling couldn't control her laughter anymore. The more she looked at this scene, the more she found it hilarious.

What dark horse chef was this? He was simply a joke.

"A bowl of soup and a spicy strip. Is this the dish you prepared for the finals? You plan on defeating me with this dish?" Jiang Ling rolled her eyes and her gaze landed on Bu Fang for a moment before she said.

"You think that my elixir was refined like the pieces of trash you faced before me? Do you think that these bland-looking dishes will be able to hold a candle to my elixir? I was initially apprehensive when I realized that you were my opponent. However, looking at it now, you're just a chef who doesn't deserve his reputation," Jiang Ling said in a cold voice. The more she spoke, the quieter the audience members became.

Owner Bu was really too excessive this time.

After all, this was the finals. Even if he wasn't able to take out stunning dishes which he made in the semi-finals, he should at least be able to take out a new dish capable of shocking everyone.

Using a bowl of soup and a spicy strip... How was he going to win like that?

Even though the bowl of soup was the Buddha Jumps Over The Wall Soup, the most important part of the soup was the ingredients used to prepare it! The fragrant ingredients were the essence of the Buddha Jumps Over The Wall Soup!

The people who ate the Buddha Jumps Over The Wall Soup would know. The soup was extremely important, however, the essence of the dish was the ingredients in the soup! They were the supreme beast meat and the elixirs...

Bu Fang actually took out a bowl of clear soup for the evaluators. He even took out a spicy strip which no one had any idea how it tasted.

Wasn't he intentionally trying to lose?

The audience members had looks of disbelief plastered on their faces. However, Bu Fang was as calm as always.

Crazy Hot Chili Strips. It was the dish awarded to him by the system. The effects of this spicy strips was the same as the Rampage Ramen. It could be used to set up a Gourmet Array.

Compared to the Rampage Ramen, the Chili Strips had a better texture. It was more convenient to consume a Chili Strip than a bowl of noodles.

Although Bu Fang came into the competition with an intention to try out his new dish, he prepared the Chili Strips for the finals. It was easy to see that Bu Fang had confidence in his dish. The power of the Chili Strips... was something unimaginable to the common people.

Maybe one would not think highly of the Chili Strip before consuming it. However, the moment anyone ate a single piece, the unique flavor and texture would stay in their mind forever! They would never forget the taste!

The next time they smelled the aroma of the Chili Strip, they would salivate unconsciously. There would be a yearning feeling in their heart for sure.

Moreover, that was when referring to a normal Chili Strip! Bu Fang didn't know how terrifying the effects of this Crazy Hot Chili Strips would be at all. However, he was sure that, since this was a dish awarded to him by the system, it would definitely be something amazing!

That was why...

Bu Fang sympathized with the evaluators who were looking at him in disdain. They didn't know what was going to hit them.

“Alright... Enough talk, let the judging begin.” Grandmaster Xuan Ming sighed deeply and stopped the discussion among the audience members. He also stopped Jiang Ling’s ridicule toward Bu Fang.

Jiang Ling was extremely confident. She felt as though she had the championship in the bag already. As a chef, there was no way for Bu Fang to match up to her. Not to mention the fact that he prepared some new dish which no one had even heard of before. It was impossible for him to produce anything better than her elixir.

She initially wanted the chef to withdraw from the competition willingly.

However, he was looking for humiliation by taking part in the finals against her. She didn’t stop him...

The five grandmasters looked at each other and there wasn’t a trace of disdain in their eyes. Instead, they looked at Bu Fang with a suspicious gaze.

They were extremely clear about Bu Fang’s terrifying capabilities. Since it was already the finals, even though Bu Fang had no aspirations to obtain the position of the champion, there was no way he would take out a plate of rubbish in order to create trouble.

“Grandmaster Gu He... Please.” Grandmaster Xuan Ming looked at Grandmaster Gu He, who had a face full of smiles, and said.

Grandmaster Gu He raised his eyebrows and nodded his head. Using his chopsticks, he picked up a piece of Chili Strip. Before he was able to place it into his mouth, he was interrupted by Bu Fang.

“Please use your hands to eat the Chili Strip,” Bu Fang seriously said.

Everyone was stunned. They had to use their hands to eat this dish as well?

Fine... We’ll use our hands to eat this dish.

Grandmaster Gu He looked at Bu Fang with a deep gaze. With a clatter, he tossed away his chopsticks. He then used his fingers to pick up the Chili Strip.

A wave of unique spicy aroma assaulted his nose. The Chili Strip was extremely red. There was a glistening coating of chili oil covering the Chili Strip and it seemed as though it was glowing.

Could this thing really be eaten?

Grandmaster Gu He's heart became a little apprehensive. He felt as though there was some poison contained in this Spicy Strip. It didn't seem as though it would taste good at all!

"Relax and eat it," Bu Fang said.

Grandmaster Gu He pulled on his beard and he finally placed the Chili Strip into his mouth. He bit down on the strip aggressively.

When the chewy Chili Strip entered his mouth, a blast of spicy fragrance filled Grandmaster Gu He's mouth. There was a hint of sweetness in the spice and it tasted a little salty. The taste was extremely unique and strange at the same time.

After chewing on the Spicy Strip for some time, Grand Master Gu He's eyes slowly widened. It seemed as though he couldn't stop chewing.

With a loud gulp, Grandmaster Gu He swallowed the Chili Strip. In that instant, he felt as though there was a ball of fire burning in his stomach. He felt a warm feeling in his stomach and it was as though it was inextinguishable.

"This..."

Grandmaster Gu He was shocked in his heart. He felt as though his meridians were burning and his true energy started to circulate extremely quickly.

Huff huff huff...

His nostrils flared and his face flushed red.

"Hiss... It's a little spicy!"

Grandmaster Gu He nodded at the people around him and finally bit into another Chili Strip. He started to chew on them noisily.

The gazes of the other grandmasters lit up!

The expression on Grandmaster Gu He's face was one of enjoyment!

All of them revealed a profound smile on their faces as they stuffed the Chili Strips into their mouths.

Boom!

In an instant, the five grandmasters widened their eyes. Their faces flushed red in an instant and there was a white gas coming out of their noses.

Munch munch...

On the stage, the lips of the five grandmasters were stained red. The chili oil dripped from the corner of their mouths and their fingers were glistening with it. A trace of excitement appeared on their serious faces and white gas was constantly emitted from their noses. They were completely unable to stop themselves.

As they ate, the energy their body emitted increased. It increased at a speed visible to the naked eye.

There were chains made out of true energy floating behind them.

Woosh!

All of a sudden, everyone became shocked at the scene in front of them. All of the true energy chains behind the five grandmasters showed strange signs.

For example, Grandmaster Xuan Ming. There were six chains behind him? How was it even possible for six chains to appear? Wasn't there only five Supreme-Being shackles? Where did the sixth one come from?

Were they trying to defy the heavens?!

“Amazing!”

Grandmaster Gu He devoured all the Spicy Strips in his hand and licked his fingers with an expression of yearning. He didn't stop until he licked his fingers clean. He even seemed reluctant to stop licking his fingers.

His gaze landed on the bowl which contained the Buddha Jumps Over The Wall Soup.

Grandmaster Gu He had drunk the Buddha Jumps Over The Wall Soup before. He felt as though there was nothing to look forward to as he already knew the flavor. However, he still brought the bowl up to his lips and took a sip.

After sipping a mouthful of soup, Grandmaster Gu He's body stiffened. He took one sip after another until he emptied the bowl.

...

Raising the bowl in the air, Grandmaster Gu He shook it. He was not willing to leave even a drop of soup in the bowl.

Looking at the way the five grandmasters ate, the audience members were stunned. It seemed as though it was different from what they were expecting.

Wasn't this dish supposed to be trash?

The five hundred evaluators were stunned for a moment as well. In the next moment, they moved their hands as they tried the dish in front of them.

As they had to share the portion among five people, the second one was only able to eat after the first person finished tasting. Five people crowded around a single bowl.

Before long, the evaluators started to eat.

“Huh... This is the Chili Strip? The texture is really unique! There is a sweet taste penetrating my heart.”

“Munch munch... Not too bad, he deserves his fame as the dark horse in the competition. This Chili Strip tastes really good! Even my nose is starting to sweat!”

“That... Give me another bite! Wait a moment!”

...

The evaluators discussed with each other with their eyes wide as they ate. Their faces were flushed red and their noses were flared. Behind them, there were chains made of true energy floating around in the air. They felt as though they became much stronger than before.

This Chili Strip was actually able to cause their cultivation to improve?

This was simply unimaginable!

There was an evaluator who broke through on the spot. The true energy in his body started to circulate and in the next instant, there were two chains formed with true energy floating behind him.

He exhaled hot air from his nose and his eyes were rolling around unceasingly.

“What in the world! Give me another bite! Don’t fight with me!”

“Fight your sister! It’s my turn, please be reasonable!”

“Let me eat it first! I promise to only eat a single bite!”

...

The evaluators turned crazy. Five of them started to fight over a single Chili Strip. The scene instantly turned chaotic. None of them expected to fight over the dish Bu Fang presented.

Wasn't it just a single Chili Strip?

All of a sudden, true energy started to fluctuate on the stage. One of the evaluators became enraged when the Chili Strip was stolen. In the next instant, his cultivation burst forth and he waged a battle against the person who stole the Chili Strip.

The audience in the bleachers was completely shocked. The faces had expressions full of disbelief.

Why were the evaluators fighting now?

In the distance, Jiang Ling's self-confidence started to waver. Her expression gradually became serious.

Mu Bai, who was on the ground, looked at the messy scene in front of him and his pupils started to shrink.

Boom boom boom boom!

All of a sudden, the evaluators who drank the bowl of Buddha Jumps Over The Wall Soup slammed the empty bowl against the table. All of them felt extremely comfortable!

In the next instant, they turned their fervent gazes to Bu Fang.

What Ten Thousand Nature-Changing Pill? What Nebula Pill? In front of the Chili Strips, everything was rubbish!

The Chili Strips were unrivaled!

Chapter 567: The Great Disparity

Everything was in chaos. All the judges were stunned as everything which happened was out of their expectations. Didn't someone say they didn't want to eat it? Why were they looking forward to it now?

Moreover, this stage was under the gaze of the crowd. Couldn't the lady over there restrain herself a little?

The judges felt incomparably vexed. After restoring order, they systematically distributed those Chili Strips and Buddha Jumps Over the Wall Soup.

The arena was instantly filled with crashing and overwhelming true energy, causing everyone's strength to increase at a staggering rate.

Bu Fang's lips slightly twitched and he revealed a contented smile. It was the power of the Chili Strips! It was such an intoxicating dish...

Both the distant Jiang Ling and Mu Bai unveiled looks of astonishment. The scene in front of them seemed to be completely out of their expectations.

Wasn't the aroma and spiritual aura coming from Bu Fang's dish suppressed by their elixirs? What in the world could be causing this madness?

Precisely... The scene where so many people were hustling over the Chili Strips could be considered phenomenal.

A group of people congregated together under the broad daylight in order to fight for Chili Strips. Not to forget that they were in an arena and the projection array was still working. Every single detail was transmitted to the entire Pill Palace.

Such madness...

"Boss Bu! Please give me one more Spicy Strip! I beg you! "

"Boss Bu! Just one more! Please make one more Spicy Strip! I can't take it anymore, I want my delicious Chili Strip!"

...

After finishing the Chili Strips and Buddha Jumps Over The Wall Soup, everyone who was present looked at Bu Fang with a gaze which was emitting intense desire.

When they looked at Bu Fang, they could no longer hold themselves back.

Hiss hiss hiss...

What the hell was going on? Wasn't it just a Spicy Strip? Could it really be that delicious?

How could that foul looking strip be such a delicacy?

Those who had never eaten Spicy Strips would never understand why it is so alluring. The taste of it was so wonderful that even the audience was starting to tear up.

They looked like savages who were ready to go for an all-out war if Bu Fang didn't agree with their request.

The judges were once again astonished by what they saw.

couldn't this dark horse of a chef just sit back obediently and get the competition over and done with? Why was he causing trouble again?

After repeated efforts, the audiences finally calmed down.

"Do you guys want to eat Chili Strips? No problem! Just come to the Cloud Mist Restaurant. However, do keep in mind that it will be on a first come first serve basis..." Bu Fang glanced at them and smirked. He casually took out a Chili Strip from the system storage space and bit into it.

Crunch...

Gulp...

Everyone was staring intently at Bu Fang's action. They felt agonized while cursing Bu Fang in their hearts. Regardless, seeing such a scene would cause the crowd to lose their composure.

What were they supposed to do?

Just when Bu Fang was enjoying himself, a figure suddenly appeared behind him.

Hm?

Bu Fang was stunned. He turned around with a Chili Strip in his mouth and saw a cold yet charming face. It was the expressionless Nethery

"Bu Fang, I want it."

Nethery looked toward Bu Fang and his Chili Strips with her little scintillating eye while licking her blood red lips.

Gulp gulp...

Bu Fang instantly shoved the whole Chili Strip into his mouth while keeping his guard up against Nethery. He was afraid that she would take away his Chili Strip by force.

"Luckily I stored a few strips while I was cooking." Bu Fang mumbled to himself while casually taking a Chili Strip out for Nethery from inside the system storage space.

Nethery gave a bright smile and happily snatched the Chili Strip over. After giving a few bites, the originally gloomy eyes erupted with radiance.

Not far away, the audience members were secretly looking at this scene... He obviously had Spicy Strips. Why didn't he take it out just now? He was really someone with no integrity.

Boom!

The auras from the five grandmasters were being retracted back at a slow rate.

Silky black hair drooped down from Grandmaster Xuan Ming's head and the six chains behind him started to disappear. The limit that a human body could take was five chains. The appearance of a sixth chain naturally made Grandmaster Xuan Ming unstable. Even though Grandmaster Xuan Ming didn't make a breakthrough, he was a lot stronger than before.

Things were the same for other grandmasters. Some of their cultivation became stagnant for a period of time. However, some of them managed to improve a lot in a short period of time. There were even some who made a breakthrough to a whole new realm.

This was simply unbelievable.

All five grandmasters took a deep breath and looked at Bu Fang, who was munching down on his Chili Strips with a meaningful gaze.

It looked like there would no longer be any doubts in the results in this competition. Unexpectedly, this ordinary-looking dish that was inferior to Jiang Ling's elixir in all aspects had such a terrifying effect and texture. A dish and an elixir belonged to two completely different categories, and they were unable to use the same method to appraise them.

Who would've expected that a seemingly simple dish would have such a wondrous effect?

Take the Stinky Tofu for example. The stench was unbearable! However, it tasted delicious!

Jiang Ling was in a daze and her face was devoid of blood. The unexpected change caught her off guard.

Mu Bai, who was on the floor, started laughing loudly.

"What are you laughing at?" Jiang Ling reprimanded him and she gave him a death stare.

Even though Mu Bai's face was devoid of blood, his smile was still very soothing and warm.

“I’m laughing at your overconfidence... Bu Fang has been creating miracles along his journey, but you still belittled him.... Not just you, all of us underestimated him. We were all wrong. He is a freak of nature and shouldn’t be measured with ordinary standards.”

“Hmph! Isn’t it just a dish? Victory is still not decided yet!” Jiang Ling gritted her teeth with her silky snow-white hair fluttering behind her. A solemn look appeared on her face.

Mu Bai shook his head and looked at the distant Bu Fang. He felt that Bu Fang at that moment was just as dazzling as someone he once knew. It was just like the first time he met the Palace Master!

Mu Bai was startled. How was it possible for Bu Fang to give him the same feeling as the Palace Master? Impossible. The Palace Master was said to be living in the realm of gods. His cultivation was unfathomable! The same could be said for his pill refining skills.

How could Bu Fang possibly be comparable to him?

“Cough.... Silence everyone. Since the final product has been completed, let us judges appraise it. The rules will be as per normal. The formation on the left belongs to Jiang Ling’s Ten Thousand Changing Nature Pill. The formation on the right belongs to Bu Fang’s Buddha Jumps Over The Wall Soup with Chili Strips. Choose whoever you deem worthy of victory.”

Grandmaster Xuan Ming then gave Bu Fang a deep gaze after sweeping his gaze across the arena.

Everyone was shocked! Their gazes fell upon the arena once again, meeting the youth whose mouth was filled with Chili Strips.

The red-robed youth was like a blazing flame, further adding on to his charisma.

“Choose now!” Grandmaster Xuan Ming announced calmly.

Right at that moment, all five hundred audience members simultaneously utilized their true energy and activated the formation in front of them.

Rumble....

Streaks of light shot out from their formations and flew toward Jiang Ling and Bu Fang.

Jiang Ling was staring intently at Bu Fang, or perhaps at the radiance circling around him.

In the next moment, something incredible happened.

Spectators in the audience stand broke out into a huge commotion. Everyone was stupefied by what happened next.

The five grandmasters were all flabbergasted and their faces changed. They revealed looks of astonishment.

In the audience stand, Nangong Wuque was completely dumbfounded by what happened. It was the same for Nangong Wan and Yang Meiji.

Everyone was shocked!

Other than Bu Fang and Nethery, who were still eating merrily away, everyone else was shocked.

Such radiance and brilliance!

The radiating light was so overwhelming that everyone had to squint their eyes...

Jiang Ling began panting heavily while she stared in disbelief at the distant Bu Fang. The pillar of light surrounding him covered the heavens.

The radiance around her was only a fraction of Bu Fang's! It was like comparing a firefly to the moon!

How.... impossible!

Rumble...

Jiang Ling shook her head as she gradually dispersed the radiance surrounding her. A desperate and savage expression appeared on her face.

“You imbeciles! How is that filthy-looking strip comparable to my elixir? My elixir is a six-mark spirit pill! How could it be inferior to the dirty strip?”

Jiang Ling screamed at the five hundred evaluators.

As if a tight slap was delivered toward her face, all she felt was humiliation. Previously, she had even mocked Bu Fang and she said that he had no chance of winning. Despite that, the light pillars dictated her loss. She felt nothing but utter shame.

She was cursing anything she could and she seemed insane.

All the evaluators frowned and were speechless at her reaction.

They just followed their hearts.... Not only was that Chili Strip effective, but it also tasted extremely delicious. It was simply too alluring! How could something so amazing be unable to defeat your six-mark spirit pill?

Nonetheless, a six-mark spirit pill was indeed outstanding. However, in order for an expert who had broken through four Supreme-Being shackles to advance, he had to consume Chili Strips!

It was a crushing defeat for the six-mark spirit pills!

Jiang Ling’s disheveled hair fluttered around and an inconceivable look began to surface. She was unwilling to believe the result!

Grandmaster Xuan Ming frowned. It was just a simple competition! Why was she so hard up about the results?

“It can’t be! How can my elixir possibly lose to a Chili Strip?! Ha ha ha...”

Jiang Ling’s face turned red due to the humiliation as she thought of the emotionless chef. She could not accept such mockery!

Suddenly, a streak of light broke through Bu Fang's light pillar and flew toward Jiang Ling at a staggering speed.

Boom!

Jiang Ling extended her arm and caught onto the flying object.

"Not convinced? Why don't you try my Chili Strip?"

Rumble...

The light pillar disappeared. Feathers started drifting around in the wind. Bu Fang's figure slowly appeared when the radiance disappeared. He slowly materialized under the shining radiance.

Chapter 568: The Magical Hand Conference Ended

If not for Bu Fang's bulging mouth chewing away, when the golden light scattered, Bu Fang would definitely look very handsome.

A pity... The image of him chewing the Chili Strip in his mouth destroyed the beauty of the entire scene.

Jiang Ling snatched the Chili Strip that Bu Fang had flung over and her pupils contracted a little. A gentle aroma diffused into the air and it was sweet and spicy at the same time. She gave Bu Fang a deep look before grabbing the Chili Strip. Then, she stuffed it into her mouth.

To tell the truth, she really couldn't believe that Bu Fang was able to surpass her with just a single Chili Strip. How could her six-mark spirit pill be defeated so easily?

However, once the Chili Strip entered her mouth, Jiang Ling's state of mind shook. It seemed like a bell which was struck by a stick. Her entire mind started to shake.

"This..."

Jiang Ling's face was turning red in the blink of an eye. Droplets of sweat appeared on the tip of her nose. The spicy Chili Strip was the cause of all this.

She did not understand... What in the world was the spicy thing she just ate? How could it taste so good?

When she bit into the Chili Strip, Jiang Ling felt as though her entire body started to quiver. The pores on her body started to open and true energy gushed out from them.

Rumble.

One mouthful, two mouthfuls...

The central plaza became extremely quiet at this moment. Everyone was silently looking at Jiang Ling, who was standing on top of the platform as she ate the Chili Strip silently.

Bu Fang lightly let out a breath. He had finally swallowed the Chili Strip in his mouth. It was a long time since he last ate the Chili Strip. He felt a slight sense of nostalgia.

"How is it? Do you admit defeat?" Bu Fang wiped off the stain of chili oil from his lips. He smiled at Jiang Ling who was in the distance and then asked.

Jiang Ling's figure was trembling as she lowered her head. She constantly chewed on the Chili Strip in her mouth and her head of white hair hung down and covered her entire face.

Suddenly, Bu Fang froze.

That's because he realized that Jiang Ling's figure had started to violently shake. Drops of glittering tears dripped down from her covered face, landing on the floor. Splashing sounds resounded in everyone's ears and a bunch of water stains were left behind.

Everyone was silent as they knew that Jiang Ling had admitted her defeat.

The few grandmasters all sucked in a cold breath and they felt sorry for Jiang Ling.

Originally, Jiang Ling had really hoped to be the champion of this Magical Hand Conference. If not for the appearance of such a dark horse chef, she would be the one standing on the high stage today as her fame soared into the skies.

A pity, although she could be counted as the number one individual in refining skills, in this Magical Hand Conference, a chef who didn't adhere to common sense appeared. This chef actually managed to defeat her.

"The finals of this Magical Hand Conference is over. The placings have also been determined," Grandmaster Xuan Ming coldly said. His voice spread out, shrouding the entire space in an instant.

A hum resounded.

In an instant, a dazzling screen appeared in the sky, it was a projection array that was displaying the rankings.

First place, Bu Fang.

Second place, Jiang Ling.

Third place, Mu Bai.

Bu Fang's name blossomed with golden light as it occupied the highest spot on the projection array. His name was extremely dazzling in the sky.

Bu Fang raised his head as he looked at his name. His eyes slightly narrowed and he felt extremely calm in his heart.

Mu Bai's feelings seemed to have stabilized a lot. Standing beside Bu Fang, Jiang Ling who had lost her champion position was unable to face her defeat. She left the stage early and didn't bother to receive her rewards.

"Owner Bu, do you still have any Chili Strips? Can you give me one to try? I also want to know how amazing this Chili Strip, that can defeat Jiang Ling, is." Mu Bai gently smiled as he said.

Bu Fang froze and he turned his head to look at Mu Bai with an expressionless face.

"There is no more," Bu Fang said seriously.

"Didn't you say that you had secretly stored a lot of them?" Mu Bai said suspiciously.

"They were all eaten... If you want to try, you can come over to the restaurant tomorrow to buy some. Remember, it's first come, first served." Bu Fang's lips curved upwards.

Tomorrow? Mu Bai furrowed his eyebrows.

"Owner Bu, do you not know that we are going to enter the Heaven Secret Territory tomorrow? As the top three in the Magical Hand Conference, we have the opportunity to enter the secret territory!" Mu Bai said.

Entering the secret territory? Bu Fang was stunned. Why didn't anyone tell him that he had to enter the secret territory on the following day? Wouldn't he lose a lot of business?

"Boss Bu, you actually didn't know?" Mu Bai had a shocked expression on his face. Fighting for the top three positions in the Magical Hand Conference... wasn't just to enter the secret territory?

That Heaven Secret Territory was an important location of the Pill Palace. After all, it contained lots of valuable spirit fields and within these fields were many valuable spirit herbs. Just like that spirit herb that Jiang Ling had used. It grew in abundance in the secret territory.

Other than the spirit herbs, within the secret territory, there were many types of opportunities. Of course, there were also many different kinds of inheritances. There were even inheritances from Divine Soul Realm experts!

The secret territory was formed because the Hidden Dragon Continent had unstable spatial spaces which were able to form small worlds. These small worlds could hold many mysterious things... Inheritances of experts, valuable heavenly treasures, and maybe even fragments of other continents could appear.

Any secret territory was a land of opportunity.

The Hidden Dragon Continent held the greatest power. The Royal Gardens of the Hidden Dragon was said to be the strongest power in the continent by holding onto an extremely valuable secret territory. It was obvious they had a ton of resources.

Of course, this saying might be somewhat one-sided. However, it was undeniable that the existence of a secret territory had made countless powers strong. This was a fact.

To enter the secret territory controlled by the Royal Gardens of Hidden Dragon, one had to possess enough strength. Otherwise, it would be impossible to even catch a glance of the territory.

“The opening of the secret territory has a set time. Originally it is determined that it will open a few days later. For some reason, the Heaven Secret Territory is going to open earlier this time. Luckily, the top three are already decided,” Mu Bai said.

Bu Fang was stunned after hearing this; he did not have any thoughts about the secret territory. However, he was interested in the prize of this Magical Hand Conference.

Didn't they say that he could change the rewards for crystals? This was what Bu Fang wished for.

Grandmaster Xuan Ming was in charge of giving out the prizes. He looked at Bu Fang, whose face was glowing, and there was a strange feeling in his heart. When other people obtained the championship, it was partly for the sake of the spirit pill and refining manual. Of course, the main point was to enter the Heaven Secret Territory.

However, Bu Fang was a chef. A refining manual was useless to him. Hence, they could only change that refining manual to crystals.

Placing a huge box of crystals in front of Bu Fang, GrandMaster Xuan Ming looked at Bu Fang, who had an impatient look on his face. Grandmaster Xuan Ming felt as though this Magical Hand Conference was the most unique so far.

When he saw that Bu Fang took the box and was about to leave, Grandmaster Xuan Ming froze.

“Bu Fang, you know that tomorrow is the opening of the secret territory. Remember to gather at the Pill Tower on time tomorrow!” Master Xuan Ming shouted at Bu Fang’s figure, which had already walked off the stage.

However, his only answer was Bu Fang’s casual wave.

...

The Magical Hand Conference had finally ended.

The results surprised everyone and the names of the top three were instantly spread throughout the entire Pill Palace. Everyone was discussing about the results of the competition.

White Demon Jiang Ling pulled out a six-mark spirit pill and still lost to some Chili Strip. That Chili Strip made the five hundred evaluators crazy and all of them scrambled up the stage in order to get one. Furthermore, at the end, Jiang Ling herself had admitted her defeat to that Chili Strip.

The entire Pill Palace was in an uproar.

The champion of the Magical Hand Conference was not an alchemist, but a chef. This fact caused a lot of people to feel slightly dissatisfied. However, Bu Fang used his abilities in order to obtain the position of the champion. There wasn’t anything more for people to say.

Some veteran alchemist bluntly spoke out, saying that Bu Fang did not deserve to be the champion and his name should be taken out. That was because a chef had no rights to become the champion of the Magical Hand Conference.

When Han Li learned about this, a light flashed in his eyes.

He crossed his arms as he stood in front of the window of a tall metal building, looking down at the scenery below. His lips slightly curved upwards... That guy was finally going to enter the secret territory!

It was time to make his move!

He could not help but think about the Shura Tower.

...

Within the Cloud Mist Restaurant, Bu Fang pulled out a chair as he sat in his small store. The bronze gate was tightly shut as he wasn't open for business yet.

In front of him was a huge box. This was the prize of the Magical Hand Conference. Opening the box, it was filled to the brim with crystals. When Bu Fang saw the contents, he was extremely delighted.

This was all for his cultivation...

Carefully counting the number of crystals, there were only a hundred thousand in total. Bu Fang became slightly disappointed.

After all, this was still a prize for the number one spot in a big competition! Why were there only so few crystals?

Bu Fang felt slightly unhappy in his heart, but he did not say anything. With a wave of his hand, he stored the crystals into his system storage space. Retrieving his mind from the system panel, he leaned against the chair, letting out a long sigh. He slightly narrowed his eyes, enjoying this rare moment of peace.

Within the small shop, Nethery silently walked around barefooted.

Shrimpy lay on top of Whitey's head, not wanting to see Bu Fang. This little guy was still holding a grudge against Bu Fang.

Lord Dog was still lying below the Path-Understanding Tree as it slept soundly. This lazy dog was the reincarnation of sloth.

As for the Eight Treasures Chicken, it might be because its diet had become a lot better, but the fact was that Eighty's wings had grown out, and it was currently flapping its wings in excitement as it clucked loudly.

Buzz...

“Temporary mission: When host enters the Heaven Secret Territory, look for the True Dragon Fruit. Use it to make the Buddha Jumps Over The Wall Soup and bring it to the next level. Task rewards: a reward of twenty percent of true energy conversion.”

Just when Bu Fang prepared to close his eyes to rest, the solemn and serious voice of the system resounded in his mind.

Why was there another mission?

Bu Fang had just decided not to go to the Heaven Secret Territory when a task popped out. He had to look for the True Dragon Fruit... The system was definitely doing it on purpose.

Bu Fang straightened his figure, and his eyebrows suddenly furrowed.

Truthfully, he really didn't want to go to that whatever Heaven Secret Territory. With that effort, why not run his business in Cloud Mist Restaurant? On the previous day, Bu Fang's Chili Strips caught the attention of the public. The business would definitely boom.

That was all cultivation...

Bu Fang really didn't have the heart to give up such a good advertisement just to go to the secret territory.

However, he couldn't give up on his temporary mission...

Bu Fang stood up with a slight headache as he paced around in the restaurant. Suddenly, he seemed to have thought of something and he looked at Nethery, who was strolling around idly. His eyes lit up.

“If I make the Chili Strip first and get Nethery to sell them, won’t I be able to go to the Heaven Secret Territory without worries?” Bu Fang’s lips instantly curved upwards. He felt that this was a feasible idea.

Nethery felt Bu Fang’s burning gaze on her and she returned him a curious look. In the next instant, she saw Bu Fang smiling at her. He turned around and walked into the kitchen.

Was he going to cook Dragon Blood Rice for her? Nethery pouted her lips. There was something to eat again! She was very happy.

Chapter 569: Han Li’s Decision

Bu Fang entered the kitchen, cooking as the steam rose toward the heavens.

This time, he did not cook any other dish, only making the Crazy Hot Chili Strips; he made a lot of it. After all, he was going to enter the Heaven Secret Territory and he did not know when he would return. He decided to make more Chili Strips so that Nethery could sell them for him.

This way, even though the restaurant wouldn’t be able to do a lot of business, it would at least bring in some crystals.

As long as the restaurant was doing business, then it meant that Bu Fang would be cultivating all the time.

Within an extremely huge porcelain pot, there were scarlet red Chili Strips, the red oil was slowly flowing around them and a spicy aroma filled the air. As it rolled around in waves, the entire shop seemed to be covered in the fragrance of the Chili Strips.

A single Chili Strip's aroma could not be called dense, but when such a large amount of it was gathered together, the smell was no minor thing.

He let out a deep breath.

Bu Fang retreated a step, wiping off the water stains on his hands with a dry cloth, and he looked at his wok in satisfaction. The corner of his mouth curved upwards; with so many Chili Strips, it should be enough to hold out for many days, right?

Hence, Bu Fang brought the pot filled to the brim with Chili Strips out of the kitchen.

Nethery and Lord Dog had already been prepared and they sat at the dining table, waiting for Bu Fang to bring out the food.

When they saw Bu Fang walking out of the kitchen, the human and the dog both widened their eyes. Lord Dog's face was confused. What was this plaything? Where was the Sweet 'n' Sour Ribs that they had agreed on?

Nethery, on the other hand, froze slightly. In the next moment, she blinked her eyes and became a little excited. She had eaten the Chili Strips before and the taste of those things was surprisingly good. She was obsessed with them.

Who would have thought that Bu Fang would be so understanding and prepare so many Chili Strips for her?

With a thud, Bu Fang placed the porcelain pot onto the table.

He pulled a chair to sit down, looking at Nethery and Lord Dog expressionlessly.

"Bu Fang, kiddo, where is Lord Dog's Sweet 'n' Sour Ribs? You actually plan on feeding Lord Dog this nonsense today? I'm telling you... Lord Dog eats meat! Not vegetables!" Lord Dog's nostrils flared. With no Sweet 'n' Sour Ribs, he was very angry.

Nethery pouted her lips and narrowed her eyes. Her heart was very happy as she reached out her white and slender fingers. Grabbing some Chili Strips, she shoved them into her mouth.

Eating extremely happily, sounds of munching could be heard coming from her mouth.

“Today there’s no Sweet ‘n’ Sour Ribs... These are the only things available,” Bu Fang said.

What’s with “Lord Dog doesn’t eat vegetables”? Bu Fang did not believe this lazy dog’s nonsense. At first, when there was no Sweet ‘n’ Sour Ribs, didn’t this lazy dog like to eat Egg-Fried Rice?

Lord Dog was furious. It felt that Bu Fang had changed, that he wasn’t like this in the past. He bared his fangs at Bu Fang for a while, but since Bu Fang did not even care about it, Lord Dog helplessly gave up. The fats on its body started to shake. It decided to return back to the Path-Understanding Tree.

However, before even getting down from the dining table, Bu Fang had grabbed its head, waving a Chili Strip in front of its face.

“There’s no use swinging it in front of me, Lord Dog will definitely not eat vegetables!” Lord Dog said.

Munch!

However, just as Lord Dog said that, Bu Fang narrowed his eyes. He directly shoved the Chili Strip into Lord Dog’s mouth.

Lord Dog’s eyes widened and the fats on its body started to tremble. They were like waves which rolled around on its body.

However, after shaking for a while, Lord Dog’s eyes slightly lit up. It started munching away.

“The taste is surprisingly not too bad,” Lord Dog said seriously. “Lass, give this Lord Dog one more strip.”

Nethery, with three Chili Strips stuffed in her mouth, nodded. Two of her fingers entered the porcelain pot and pulled out a few strips.

A dog and a human ate it happily.

“Okay... That’s about enough.” After eating for a while, Bu Fang stopped Nethery and Lord Dog. Opening his mouth, he said, “Nethery, tomorrow, I, the boss, am going to the secret territory. As a waitress of the restaurant, you have the duty to watch over the shop and make sure this restaurant maintains its business.”

Nethery’s mouth was stuffed with four Chili Strips. Tilting her head, she listened to Bu Fang’s words curiously.

“These remaining Chili Strips are for tomorrow’s sale. You have to remember to start up the business tomorrow and sell only the Chili Strips. Don’t sell anything else, do you understand?” Bu Fang instructed.

Nethery ate until her entire mouth was oily. With a roll of her tongue, she made all the fragrant oil enter her mouth. Her eyes flashed as she nodded her head incomparably solemnly.

Lord Dog continued eating with a satisfied expression on its face, not caring about Bu Fang.

Bu Fang was satisfied. Looking at Nethery’s solemn expression, he felt that everything had settled down. He was able to leave for the Heaven Secret Territory with a peaceful heart.

Woosh...

With a wave of his hand, he stored that porcelain pot that was filled with Chili Strips. Bu Fang nodded his head toward Nethery and Lord Dog before turning around. He started to walk toward his room.

Nethery stuffed three Chili Strips into her mouth and Lord Dog did the same. The both of them stared at the place where Bu Fang left.

...

On the morning of the next day, the sunlight shone warmly on Bu Fang’s body, causing his entire body to feel slightly warm.

He opened his eyes. It was another beautiful day. After he finished washing up, Bu Fang walked down the stairs. Then, after practicing his carving technique and knife techniques in the kitchen, he started to prepare the dishes.

Flames surged and the aroma started to spread out. Steam rolled out everywhere. In a short while, the fragrance in the kitchen assaulted the noses, spreading everywhere.

He held a portion of Dragon Blood Rice and Sweet 'n' Sour Ribs while walking out of the kitchen. After placing the two dishes in front of Nethery and Lord Dog, Bu Fang began to instruct them on today's business.

After eating their fill, Bu Fang placed the porcelain pot in front of Nethery.

"Come, the restaurant will be under your care these few days. Take care of the business well," Bu Fang said.

Nethery nodded her head as she held the porcelain pot with a solemn face.

He had to admit that, when Nethery became serious, she was actually really pretty.

Whitey walked out of the kitchen with its plump body. It walked behind Bu Fang and its eyes were shining. Without a question, Whitey was Bu Fang's guardian on this trip to the secret territory.

After all, Nethery had to take care of the restaurant and that lazy Lord Dog was too lazy to move.

There was only Whitey and Shrimpy who would follow him. Of course, if he were to hold the Eight Treasures Chicken, it wouldn't reject him. However, Bu Fang felt that there was no point in bringing Eighty into the Heaven Secret Territory.

With a creak, the bronze gate opened.

The piercing sunlight shone in, causing Bu Fang to raise his hands to cover his eyes. He once again looked at the quiet Nethery standing in the distance before walking toward the Pill Tower in satisfaction.

Today's gathering point was the Pill Tower in Heavenly Mist City.

This was the first time Bu Fang had stepped into the Pill Tower. He lived in Heavenly Mist City for so long, but this was the first time he had the chance to enter the Pill Tower.

The Pill Tower was the iconic building of the Pill Cities. There were many alchemists residing within it. Every single one of them cultivated obediently in the Pill Tower and they constantly honed their alchemy skills. The Pill Tower was the holy ground in every alchemist's heart; it was their sacred and inviolable land.

When Bu Fang walked in front of the Pill Tower, the head judge, who had been guarding the bottom of the Pill Tower, brought him inside. With a rumble, the heavy bronze gates of the Pill Tower slowly opened before closing again.

A group of people arrived in the secret room. The hidden room was extremely huge and the air contained a dense aroma.

There were a lot of people in the room, and when Grandmaster Xuan Ming saw Bu Fang appear, he nodded his head towards the latter.

Mu Bai smiled at Bu Fang gently as he greeted the chef. As for Jiang Ling, her face was cold. She had not gotten over her defeat as she looked at Bu Fang with a strange expression on her face.

"Very good. Since everyone is here, this old man shall activate the magic array to go to the Heaven Secret Territory," Grandmaster Xuan Ming solemnly said. "The Heaven Secret Territory is very big and there are countless living beings there. Among them are many talented alchemists from the Pill Palace and they are training in seclusion. There are also talented disciples from the Hidden Dragon Continent training there. Because there are countless opportunities inside, I hope that everyone can find one that fits them. When you get there, there will be someone to guide you, just like how there will be people to guide you out of the secret territory," he instructed seriously.

Bu Fang and the rest all nodded their heads.

In the next instant, the energy in Grandmaster Xuan Ming's body surged and smoke rolled within the hidden room. As if a hurricane was spreading out from Grandmaster Xuan Ming's body, his alchemist robe started to flutter non-stop.

A hum resounded.

The entire hidden room lit up. In the middle of the hidden room, a complicated and mysterious magic array began to shine with light and that magic array was extremely complicated. There were countless small circles drawn inside a large circle and there were densely packed pictures in them.

An ordinary person's eyes would spin if they saw this magic array.

This secret territory was much bigger compared to the secret territory in the Nangong Family estate. The magic array was extremely mysterious as well.

Bu Fang and the rest walked into the middle of that magic array as streams of light emerged from the array and covered their bodies.

Mu Bai and the rest felt a wave of terrifying fluctuations before they realized that everything in front of them had changed in an instant.

Their minds were dazzled. It was almost as though they traveled through some kind of mysterious place.

...

When the light within the hidden room scattered and Grandmaster Xuan Ming's robes also settled down. The magic array became peaceful once again.

The head judge respectfully passed over an elixir to Grandmaster Xuan Ming. After he received it, he downed it and his slightly pale face regained its color.

"Grandmaster Xuan Ming, is it okay to open the secret territory earlier like this? Is there no need to report this to the Palace Master?" The head judge asked.

"There will be no problems. The secret territory cannot be considered dangerous at all. After all, there are many talented alchemists of our Pill Palace inside. There are also countless alchemists from the Star Pill Tower training inside. There will be no dangers at all. The only dangers are where

the opportunities are located at. When they come out from the secret territory, the Star Pill Tower will come to receive them. However, this old man has a headache. The champion of the competition is not an alchemist. What will the Star Pill Tower do?” Grandmaster Xuan Ming said.

The head judge also froze. He began to sweat as well. Well, who cares? That was something for the Star Pill Tower to worry about.

...

In Heavenly Mist City, among the tall metal buildings, Han Li stood in front of a window, looking in the direction of the Pill Tower. As he looked at the condensed energy on top of the Pill Tower scattering, his lips curled upwards. He revealed a smile on his face.

“They finally moved out...”

“Commander Han Li, this little one has checked. That Bu Fang brought neither the Netherworld woman nor Lord Dog with him... Only the puppet from his restaurant followed him into the Heaven Secret Territory,” a guard moved to Han Li’s side and said.

Han Li nodded his head and the smile on his face became more exaggerated. It was actually that puppet. It was the puppet who ripped off his clothes and caused him to lose face. It seemed as though he would be able to settle both his new and old grudges at the same time.

“Let’s go, bring your weapons and follow this commander out. This time, without Lord Dog, what is Bu Fang going to block me with? The Shura Tower is mine! Also, remember to rip that puppet’s steel skin into pieces! Make that puppet taste how it feels to be ripped apart!”

Chapter 570: A Strip For You, A Strip For Me, We Will Sell The Remaining Three

It was a scene of harmony in the Cloud Mist Restaurant.

Nethery walked along the small shop, hugging a porcelain pot. She had eaten until her entire mouth was oily, turning her beautiful face red yet again. It made her entire being look as if she were angry.

Lord Dog lay below the Path-Understanding Tree, burping while narrowing his dog eyes.

“Lass, give this Lord Dog another strip.”

Lord Dog waved his paw at Nethery.

Nethery’s figure paused and her slender fingers reached into the pot. A Chili Strip carrying bright oil then flew out from the porcelain pot, toward where Lord Dog was.

With a crunching sound, Lord Dog began to chew on the Chili Strip. He burped as he chewed and a pungent spicy smell filled the area.

Nethery puckered her lips and she was elated. She hugged the porcelain pot as she walked around. While strolling around, she continued eating the chili strips. This woman’s red lips had become extremely bright because of the spice, giving out a rosy glow. She appeared extremely enchanting.

Suddenly, Nethery’s walking figure froze. Her long straight black hair swayed like a waterfall as she turned, looking toward Lord Dog innocently.

“Lord... Didn’t Bu Fang tell me to sell these Chili Strips before he left?” Nethery coldly asked.

Lord Dog burped and the spicy smell lingered in the air.

“Huh? Lass, you actually remembered? It’s no problem, eat as much as you like. What are you afraid of? If that kid dares to ask you to sell the Chili Strips, he should have been prepared to not be able to sell a single strip.”

Lord Dog’s raised his eyes to look at Nethery as he continued to chew on a piece of Chili Strip.

Nethery’s eyes suddenly widened, “Really?”

“What are you scared of? Give me another strip. If something happens, I will take responsibility.” Lord Dog pulled back its mouth, waving his paw with the face of a hooligan.

Eighty, who was sitting in the distance, seemed to understand Lord Dog’s words. Its head shook and it revealed a look of disdain. It cried out with clucking sounds.

“Hey, you are just a little chicken. How dare you mock Lord Dog? Don’t make me pluck out all your feathers and make you a featherless Eight Treasures Chicken!” Lord Dog glared at Eighty as it said.

Eighty was scared in an instant. It flapped its wings, and its small eyes widened as it began to run away. It clucked out as it ran.

“Lord, if Bu Fang comes back and hears about this, will he not make us food anymore? Your Sweet ‘n’ Sour Ribs, my Dragon Blood Rice, will they be all gone?” Nethery’s mouth trembled as she said.

Lord Dog froze and its eyes narrowed. It was something extremely possible. With that kid Bu Fang’s temper, he might really do such a heartless thing.

“Okay then, Lass, how many strips are there left in the pot? If we start the business now, we would at least be able to sell some of them. Since we actually did something, that rascal shouldn’t refuse to cook for us.” Lord Dog’s mouth pulled back, smiling as he said.

Nethery flicked the Chili Strips in the porcelain pot, then raised her head expressionlessly and looked at Lord Dog.

“There’s only five left.”

“There’s still so many left? Come, a strip for you, a strip for me, then we’ll sell the remaining three. We really are too generous.”

Once Lord Dog heard that there were still five strips left, he was shocked. How many Chili Strips did that kid Bu Fang make? Even when he and Nethery had eaten countless strips, for there to still be five left at the end?

“Lord, what you say makes sense.” Nethery nodded her head seriously. Her slender fingers pinched into the pot once again and tossed out another Chili Strip, covered with oil, toward Lord Dog, who caught it in his mouth.

Nethery also grabbed a strip and stuffed it into her own mouth. While chewing, she waved her hand and the bronze gate instantly opened with a bang. The light from outside shone into the store and the people who were queuing outside broke out into frenzy. When the bronze gate opened, chaos broke out.

At the front of the crowd was Nangong Wuque, whose face was full of excitement.

“Haha! Boss Bu, you’ve finally opened the store!”

Nangong Wuque rushed in with a face of elation. However, when he saw the cold Nethery, he froze.

“Big sis Nethery, good morning! Huh? Sis, why are your lips so red?” Nangong Wuque said curiously, looking at Nethery.

Nethery glanced over him coldly and placed the porcelain pot on the table with a loud bang.

“Bu Fang isn’t here today. However, he said that I am the one in charge today. We still have to do business and sell these Crazy Hot Chili Strips. Burp...”

The atmosphere became extremely awkward as Nethery released out a burp full of the smell of chili once she had finished talking. However, her appearance remain the same without any sight of embarrassment.

“Crazy Hot Chilli Strips?” Although Nangong Wuque’s face was strange, his eyes had a trace of excitement. Wasn’t that the dish Bu Fang prepared in the finals? It was something he had to try! How meaningful...

“Give me a strip! To be able to defeat White Demon Jiang Ling’s six-mark spirit pill, it definitely isn’t an ordinary dish!” Nangong Wuque said.

Behind Nangong Wuque, many people were also getting extremely excited.

Chili Strips!

Back when they saw the five hundred evaluators fighting on the stage for the dish, the scene was really a sight to behold. Who in the right mind wouldn't want to give such a delicacy a try?

Sorceress An Sheng couldn't wait at the entrance anymore. She swayed her plump hips and pushed Nangong Wuque to the side.

"Give me a strip too! It doesn't matter how much it costs!"

Nangong Wan also popped out her head, smiling at Nethery.

Nethery was expressionless, looking seriously at the three. Then, she slowly opened her mouth and said, "You guys are lucky. This time, Bu Fang made three Chili Strips, one for each of you. Perfect, Burd."

Everyone was stunned, including the customers who were eavesdropping outside.

There were hundreds of them there... and she was saying that they only had three Chili Strips?

Was Boss Bu stupid?

Even if he used his toes to think, he should have known that there would be a lot of customers today.

Nangong Wuque's face was doubtful. If not for the burping Nethery, he would have actually believed it, given that she was the Netherworld woman. However, that burp of hers had already exposed everything.

Ge~

From afar, another burp suddenly rang out, containing the smell of chili.

Nangong Wuque took in a deep breath, and his eyes widened as he looked at Lord Dog's position... Could it be? How many Chili Strips did these two big shots eat? For a second, his heart ached for Boss Bu.

"So? You don't believe what I said? Are you still buying?" Nethery coldly said. Her eyes had become pitch black in an instant, causing a chill to travel down Nangong Wuque's entire body.

Big Sis Nethery... could you not start threatening us all of a sudden? Why don't you just make your move?

"I believe you. If I, Nangong Wuque, don't believe Big Sis Nethery, then who else will I believe in? It's just three strips, I'll buy all of it!" Nangong Wuque said domineeringly.

"A strip for each person, I'm very fair," Nethery said.

Sorceress An Sheng's chest rose and fell for a moment, and she let out a deep breath of relief.

"One strip for fifteen thousand crystals, Bu Fang's price. Our house offers equal and fair treatment to young and old alike," Nethery continued.

Pu...

Nangong Wuque almost spat out a mouth of blood. Big sis Nethery, do you think that we are blind? Isn't Bu Fang's price on the menu behind you? A Chili Strip was... a thousand and five hundred crystals!

"So? You don't believe what I said? Are you still buying?" Nethery's eyes became pitch black again.

Nangong Wuque's face was stunned. Those words seemed so familiar. Big sis Nethery, didn't you just say this?

In the end, Nangong Wuque and the other two spent fifteen thousand crystals to buy a single Chili Strip. When they bit on the Chili Strip, it felt as though they were chewing on a spirit pill, and their hearts twitched.

Blacky rolled his eyes under the Path-Understanding Tree. This lass had been brought up badly by Bu Fang. At first, she was such a pure Netherworld woman, but now she had become so evil.

However... Lord Dog was very satisfied, ge~

...

The light flickered. After the wave of absent-mindedness passed, Bu Fang felt much more clear-headed. Slowly opening his eyes, he felt a sharp pain in his them from the abrupt glare of bright light.

“Have you recuperated? If you have, follow me.”

Just as Bu Fang opened his eyes and saw the scenery before him clearly, a cold voice suddenly resounded from beside his ears.

Bu Fang realized that he was in an open-air hall, with dragons and phoenixes sculptures around it. They were carved very delicately in very solid stone. The floor was engraved with a magic array that looked the same as the one in the hidden room of the Pill Pagoda.

“Where is this?” Bu Fang asked.

The person speaking sneered and glanced at Bu Fang, saying, ” Did the transportation make you dumb? This is the Heaven Secret Territory, where else do you think it would be?”

This person was a young man wearing an alchemist robe. However, what was different from the alchemy robes that Bu Fang usually saw was that other than the dazzling clouds on this person’s clothes, there was also a star-shaped badge made of gold hanging from his chest.

“Boss Bu, this person should be the Star Time Pagoda senior who is in charge of receiving us.” Mu Bai gently smiled, nodding his head toward the youth.

“What are you smiling for, stop talking so much and move quickly! If you cause me to miss the inheritance speech of Lord Huang Fuhe, this senior here will settle things with you!” The youth ignored Mu Bai’s greeting, coldly glancing over the three.

“Huang Fuhe? Could it be... could it really be that it’s the previous Pill Master Lord Huang Fuhe?” Mu Bai was frozen for a moment before he realized in shock.

“Oh? You actually know Huang Fuhe?” The youth was also stunned.

“I have heard Lord Pill Master bring it up before...” Mu Bai said, smiling.

“This person actually has connections to the Pill Master... Looks like the top three of this time’s Magical Hand Conference was not ordinary.”

The youth thought about it in his heart, his face becoming a lot gentler.

“Wo, since junior has heard of Lord Huang Fuhe before, then let’s go together. After all, this is a fated opportunity for those with affinity,” the youth said.

“Then I shall trouble you to lead the way,” Mu Bai said respectfully. The youth was indeed a warm and refined person.

Looking at Mu Bai, who had gotten along with the arrogant youth, Bu Fang was slightly speechless.

“The two of you should follow along as well,” the youth said it with a face of impatience, looking at Bu Fang and Jiang Ling.

Bu Fang tapped Whitey’s plump stomach, ignoring the youth. He turned around, walking off on his own.

Jiang Ling also coldly glanced at the youth and curved her mouth. Then, with a cold laugh, she left as well.

This was a bit awkward...

“Boss Bu, Senior Jiang Ling, are you not coming with us? Master Huang Fuhe’s speech about inheritance is something very hard to come by,” Mu Bai said in a hurry as he looked at the back of the two figures.

Bu Fang merely curled his lips, then waved his hand.

Jiang Ling glanced at Mu Bai and then at the youth, before turning and leaving with a “humph”.

And so, the three had parted ways there...

Jiang Ling seemed to have an objective, walking in a direction without stopping.

Bu Fang, however, was walking aimlessly. The reason he came to the secret territory was to find the True Dragon Fruit, and with Nethery selling the Chili Strips back at the Cloud Mist Restaurant, there was no need to worry about the business, which made Bu Fang feel quite leisurely.

“Hey, the newbies nowadays are quite wild. Soon they will realize how difficult it will be in the Heaven Secret Territory without a guide.... Oh yeah junior, are you the champion of the Magical Hand Conference this time? Senior Wu Zhang wishes to meet you.” The youth glanced at Bu Fang and Jiang Ling’s vanishing silhouettes with disdain as he turned his head towards Mu Bai to ask.

Mu Bai froze... In that instant, he felt as though his cheeks were hurting.