

Merchant 611

Chapter 611: Severely Bullied

Liu Jie's words made Lin Yuan's hand that was holding the Star Web Card freeze.

A person relied on their spiritual energy to function, and the five senses were the tools that a person used to experience the world around them.

Without one's five senses, they were robbed of their ability to hear, see, smell, taste, and touch.

A person without their five senses would be thrown into a world of darkness despite having their spiritual energy and soul intact.

Zhang Xiaobai stared at Liu Jie in shock. He nodded gratefully at Liu Jie.

Zhang Xiaobai and Liu Jie were very similar. Just like how Zhang Xiaobai had protected Millstone Town, Liu Jie had singlehandedly taken on the insect tide at Cold Frost City.

Zhang Xiaobai did not like many of the Radiance Hundred Sequence members.

However, Zhang Xiaobai respected Liu Jie.

His idol had saved him and was standing next to him. If this was any other time, Zhang Xiaobai would be jumping for joy.

Normally, he would be a rambling mess.

However, at that moment, Zhang Xiaobai's heart was heavy, and he felt helpless.

Zhang Xiaobai had not planned on involving Lin Yuan. The Savage Snake Guild Club was a B-level veteran guild club that did not have any Radiance Hundred Sequence members. Their powers were nothing to scoff at.

However, when Liu Jie mentioned Meng Xu and the Sense-Stealing King Venom, Zhang Xiaobai started to tell his tale.

The words flowed out of his mouth.

"Four days ago, White Devil Lordress terminated her contract with the Extreme Guild Club. Thus, the main team was only left with three members, and they couldn't participate in the top 16 match. The four of us were supposed to be subbed in. However, that damn Wei Chong made Lu Pingru shield him when he was accumulating abilities. Lu Pingru is a support-type spirit qi professional. Wei Chong is a jerk."

Zhang Xiaobai was a talkative person and was rarely quiet.

After keeping everything to himself for four days, the words were now exploding out of him.

Lin Yuan's frown grew even deeper.

He had always known that there was something wrong with the Savage Snake Guild club. However, he never expected the problem to be so huge.

During fights, the team's captain was always the general, and the captain's demeanor greatly influenced the team's fighting style.

The captain's word was as good as law.

Zhang Xiaobai, Tan Ran, Lu Pinru, and Xin Ying fighting in the match in the stead of the main team members would have resulted in an inevitable loss.

Since the team captain, Wei Chong, used Lu Pinru as a shield during such a match, it meant that he had zero concern for her safety.

A real fight was different from a Celestial Stairway one. In a Celestial Stairway fight, a few feys could afford to use suicidal attacks to secure victory.

But in a real fight, every move could have dire consequences.

Every time the fight resulted in serious injuries, they would need to seek out a Creation Master for healing.

The situation could even escalate to the point where spirit qi professionals and feys died during an important competition.

Lin Yuan now had a general understanding of why Zhang Xiaobai had chosen to leave the Extreme Guild Club.

"When Lu Pinru shielded Wei Chong from the attack, she wasn't wearing silk clothes. Lu Pinru made one silk suit for me and gave the rest to Wei Chong. What's the point of Wei Chong wearing so many silk clothes when he's a spirit qi professional that uses long-distance explosive attacks?"

Lin Yuan cut in and said, "How could Wei Chong make Lu Pingru shield him when he's wearing all the silk clothes?"

Lin Yuan had worn the Firm Armor Silk Clothing that Lu Pinru's Glowing Silkworm Weaver had made.

He had experienced the defensive abilities of the silk clothing for himself.

Just one layer of the Firm Armor Silk Clothing would be able to sustain as much damage as a support-type spirit qi professional like Lu Pinru could handle.

When Zhang Xiaobai heard Lin Yuan's question, a deeply worried expression appeared on his face.

"The fey that attacked Wei Chong was the Soul-Shattering Hedgehog that belongs to the Savage Snake Guild Club captain. Its attack Grinding Soul Needles is slow, and even I can evade it. Wei Chong could have easily avoided them, but he chose not to. In a match where we were sure to lose, Wei Chong insisted on using his ability so that he could eliminate one of the Savage Guild Club members and increase his points. After the competition ended, Meng Xu's Sense-Stealing King Venom stole Lu Pingru, Xin Ying, and Tan Ran's five senses. However, Meng Xu will eventually release Xin Ying and Tan Ran's five senses during a fight because he wants to clear slots in the Sense-Stealing King Venom. Lu Pingru is seriously injured. How can she lose her five senses on top of that?"

Lin Yuan clenched his fists tightly.

There were very few feys that could damage souls.

Feys that could damage souls were always highly feared.

A damaged soul was a lethal blow to a spirit qi professional.

Besides experiencing intense soul pain, a spirit qi professional with a damaged soul would not be able to promote their class before their soul recovered.

If a Creation Master's soul was injured, they would not be able to advance past Class 3 until they recovered, regardless of how talented they were.

It was because Class 4 Creation Masters gained the ability to utilize the strength of their souls.

The excruciating soul pain was overwhelming for even the strongest person.

The five senses which complimented spiritual energy could help bear the burden of the excruciating soul pain.

Since Lu Pinru's five senses were stolen, she could only remain trapped in darkness as she struggled with the agonizing soul pain.

As time went on, her spirit and mind would collapse under the torturous soul pain—that moment would spell the end of Lu Pinru.

Lin Yuan felt someone tug on his sleeve. He turned and saw Chu Ci looking at him.

He could see anger and worry in Chu Ci's eyes.

Lin Yuan patted her hand and said to Zhang Xiaobai in a low voice, "Is the 300,000 Radiance dollars the price for Meng Xu to release their five senses?"

Zhang Xiaobai gnashed his teeth and replied, "Meng Xu knows that Lu Pingru is in excruciating pain while he has her five senses. The 300,000 Radiance dollars is the price for him to release her five senses."

Chapter 612: How Can You Say That?

Zhang Xiaobai raised his fist and wanted to slam it on one of the nearby walls of the Radiance Palace. He could not stand the feeling of being bullied and taken advantage of.

When Zhang Xiaobai felt the frigid eyes of the Radiance Palace staff on him, he was so scared that he hurriedly retracted his fist.

"If I didn't need to care for the three of them, I would have fought Meng Xu to the death."

Lin Yuan had climbed his way up from the time he was in the Xia Region. He had spent more than a decade drifting around with only Chu Ci by his side, and they had experienced their share of bullying.

Hence, Lin Yuan could understand how Zhang Xiaobai was feeling.

"Xiaobai, did the Extreme Guild Club help you out after the incident?"

Zhang Xiaobai shrugged nonchalantly.

However, Lin Yuan noted that Zhang Xiaobai's tone had shifted.

"They didn't ignore it. But, the matter involved Wei Chong. Since White Devil Lordess left the Extreme Guild Club, the managers knew that the Extreme Guild Club would probably be unable to reach even the top 13 in next year's competition. As such, they don't have the guts to offend the Savage Snake Guild Club, which sits comfortably within the top 16. Moreover, Lu Pingru's soul was injured. As compensation, they decided to treat me, Xin Ying, and Tan Ran better. However, they didn't provide a way to cure Lu Pingru. They also arranged for a new support-type spirit qi professional. What's the point of staying in a guild club like that?"

Zhang Xiaobai's tone became increasingly dispirited, and tears started to well up in his eyes.

After he was done speaking, Zhang Xiaobai sighed heavily.

The sigh seemed to carry all the boundless, hard work and effort that he had experienced in the Extreme Guild Club.

"Besides being created by a small number of Radiance Hundred Sequence members, guild clubs place importance on results. Powerful factions also support many guild clubs, so they revolve around benefits."

Liu Jie did not know whether his words were of any comfort to Zhang Xiaobai or a form of elaboration for Lin Yuan.

Lin Yuan nodded.

Since Lin Yuan managed Sky City, he was aware of the importance of benefits.

However, Lin Yuan felt that there were more important things than mere benefits.

"Savage Snake Guild Club's Meng Xu has been involved in many similar events over the last few years. The other Savage Snake Guild Club main team members are all aware of his actions," said Liu Jie.

Liu Jie's words were punctuated with disdain for the Savage Snake Guild Club.

Lin Yuan was slightly confused. No matter how much the various factions traded off their benefits, how could the Guild Alliance just allow the Savage Snake Guild Club to run rampant with their evil deeds?

"I remember that the Guild Alliance strictly governs the guild clubs during the S Tournament. Hasn't anyone reported the Savage Snake Guild Club's behavior to the Guild Alliance?"

Liu Jie sighed in the direction of the Savage Snake Guild Club's rest area.

"The Sense-Stealing King Venom can release the stolen five senses anytime. Even if someone reports the Savage Snake Guild Club, the Sense-Stealing King Venom will release the five senses before the Guild Alliance can launch an investigation. Now, the Savage Snake Guild Club is the only guild club that lacks supporters and is hated. Last year, the participant that the Save Snake Guild Club drew from the lucky draw chose a challenge match instead of a guided match. The participant was heavily injured, the

Savage Snake Guild Club opponent even his root. This incident almost caused the Savage Snake Guild Club to be excluded from this year's Allstar Match," explained Liu Jie.

Wen Yu, who had been standing quietly by the side, heard what Lin Yuan and Zhang Xiaobai said. She could feel what Lin Yuan wanted to do.

Once she sensed that Lin Yuan was going to intervene in this matter, Wen Yu walked up and whispered to him, "Young Master, should I call for this Allstar Match to halt so the Guild Alliance can immediately investigate the Savage Guild Club?"

Zhang Xiaobai was initially ensconced in negativity.

When he heard what the woman next to Lin Yuan said, Zhang Xiaobai almost choked.

How can you say that? You think too highly of yourself! What gives you the right to casually call for the Allstar Match to stop? She even wants the Guild Alliance to launch an investigation.

Zhang Xiaobai knew full well what kind of organization the Guild Alliance was.

The Guild Alliance would never listen to the orders of one person. They would never allow someone to interfere with the Allstar Match that they had painstakingly put together.

It was the equivalent of cutting a piece of cloth they had just carefully sewn.

If Zhang Xiaobai did not know that Lin Yuan was Black and had fought to the death alongside him, he would have turned to leave so he could get away from the 'crazy' Wen Yu.

However, Zhang Xiaobai sensed a sort of haughtiness from her words.

She uttered those words naturally and simply.

The shocked Zhang Xiaobai gathered his senses. He could not help but start to guess and wonder about Lin Yuan's identity.

At that moment, Zhang Xiaobai's phone rang.

He picked up and immediately seemed anxious.

After ending the call, Zhang Xiaobai hurriedly said, "Something happened at the treatment center. I need to go there immediately."

Lin Yuan turned and said to the group, "You guys go ahead to watch the competition first. I'll go to the treatment center with Zhang Xiaobai. I'll join you once we're done."

Warmth flooded Zhang Xiaobai's heart, and he forcefully patted Lin Yuan's shoulder as he yelled, "Good brother."

His exclamation attracted the attention of the Radiance Palace staff again.

After issuing a few more instructions, Lin Yuan and Zhang Xiaobai walked out of the Radiance Palace.

The Mother of Bloodbath trailed behind Lin Yuan like a shadow.

Zhang Xiaobai seemed crestfallen during the entire journey. He suddenly heard a strangely pleasant voice say, "What do you think's the best way to cook kidneys?"

Zhang Xiaobai had noticed someone following Lin Yuan and assumed that it was a friend of his.

Because it was wearing a mask, Zhang Xiaobai could only guess that it was a girl from the hair.

Zhang Xiaobai was slightly curious to know how the woman knew about his love for eating kidneys.

She even knows that I researched the best eating methods. Have I been eating too much? Can she tell from how round my face is?

Chapter 613: People, Unlike Trees, Thrive on Change

As Lin Yuan rode on the Soft-Feathered Scale Bird, his mind was filled with thoughts about Lu Pinru's damaged soul.

Soul injuries were difficult to treat. The things that could be used for treatment were extremely precious.

They were not considered spiritual ingredients.

Luckily, Lin Yuan possessed something that could treat soul injuries—the Cold Snow Pine's tree sap.

The Cold Snow Pine's tree sap was only half of what was needed to treat an injured soul.

They would also need pure fire-element energy to roast the tree sap and turn it into Cold Snow Pine Resin. Thus, Lin Yuan was not worried that Lu Pinru would collapse under the agonizing pain from her soul injury.

Lin Yuan was going with Zhang Xiaobai to the treatment center because he wanted to treat Lu Pinru's soul injury as soon as possible to alleviate her pain.

As for Xin Ying, Lu Pinru, and Tan Ran's stolen five senses, Lin Yuan could come up with about 100 ways to retrieve them.

When Lin Yuan heard what the Mother of Bloodbath asked Zhang Xiaobai, he knew that her foodie side was showing itself again.

During their time at Millstone Town, the Mother of Bloodbath had stuck close to him. It could observe the situation from three different angles, allowing it to have a clearer view than Lin Yuan.

Although Zhang Xiaobai was not acquainted with the Mother of Bloodbath, it was acting very friendly with him.

The gluttonous Mother of Bloodbath was now consumed with thoughts about the fragrant kidneys that Zhang Xiaobai had been talking about.

Zhang Xiaobai was not in a good mood and did not want to converse.

At the mention of good food, the usually quiet Mother of Bloodbath was suddenly overflowing with words.

This complementary interaction allowed Zhang Xiaobai and the Mother of Bloodbath to use the topic of kidneys as a vessel to talk about their experiences and feelings.

Lin Yuan shook his head. If the Mother of Bloodbath really listened to Zhang Xiaobai and went to try the barely cooked and tender kidneys, he might end up getting beaten up by it.

Zhang Xiaobai led them to the motionless Xin Ying, Lu Pinru, and Tan Ran when they arrived at the treatment center. Lin Yuan had spotted them from a distance away. They looked like they were in a deep sleep.

Inside the treatment center was a woman holding a scepter. At the tip of the scepter hung a cage, and inside the cage was a green butterfly. She was currently exchanging words with an unkempt elderly man.

When he saw Zhang Xiaobai walk in, the unkempt elderly man shouted, "Little Bai, you asked me here to treat feys that have injured their roots. Yet, you asked this healing-type spirit qi professional here too. What's this supposed to mean? Do you think I'm not up to the task?"

Zhang Xiaobai quickly apologized to the unkempt elderly man.

"I'm sorry, Master Hong Shen. This is our captain."

When Zhang Xiaobai had picked up the call, Master Hong Shen told him that someone had come to cause trouble in the treatment center and that he was not going to help with the treatment anymore.

However, he did not expect it to be White Devil Lordress who had insisted on terminating her contract with the Extreme Guild Club even if it cost her a large sum of money.

"How did you find this place, Sister Daisy?"

White Devil Lordress did not immediately respond to Zhang Xiaobai. She shot a glare at the unkempt Master Hong Shen.

"Old man, don't you recognize me?"

Master Hong Shen rolled his eyes.

"Please, you've asked me this so many times. Who are you? Why should I know who you are?"

Once Master Hong Shen spoke, the strange woman carrying a cage around giggled and uttered, "Wow."

Master Hong Shen's cheeks immediately flushed red. This narcissistic woman had pulled so many words out of him.

White Devil Lordress looked at Zhang Xiaobai apologetically and said, "I heard about what happened to the four of you. If not for my leaving the Extreme Guild Club, you wouldn't have been subbed in."

Zhang Xiaobai hastily waved dismissively and said, "It's not your fault, Senior Sister."

White Devil Lordress reached out her hand and patted Zhang Xiaobai's shoulder.

“Given your age, you should still be able to participate in the S Tournament for another five years. When I heard that you left the Extreme Guild Club, I felt that it was a smart decision. Why don’t you take a year off to find yourself a suitable guild club where you can continue your career? People, unlike trees, thrive on change.”

Before waiting for Zhang Xiaobai’s reaction, White Devil Lordress took a Bronze fey storage box out of the butterfly-shaped Diamond fey storage box around her neck and gave it to Zhang Xiaobai.

“You probably spent all your money hiring me to find the Glowing Silkworm Weaver. All the money you paid me and the Glowing Silkworm Weaver is in this fey storage box. Take it back. I’m sure you need money now. You don’t have to worry about Meng Xu anymore. The Allstar Match is today, and I’ll settle the matter tomorrow.”

White Devil Lordress glanced at the sleeping Lu Pinru before leaving the treatment center.

It was not just Zhang Xiaobai who was surprised to see White Devil.

Lin Yuan did not expect that the main character in the match that had kickstarted his dream half a year ago would appear before him again.

When he had watched White Devil’s fight against Unknown Flame, Lin Yuan felt that White Devil in combat was an extremely cold person.

He did not expect her regular personality to be completely different.

She was friendly and gentle. Her gentleness could be seen from her actions, and it was clear that she truly was a kind person.

From Zhang Xiaobai’s demeanor, Lin Yuan could tell that he was not close with White Devil.

Although she was in the main team and he was in the reserve team of the same guild club, White Devil was Sequence #19 of the Radiance Hundred Sequence. She held an extremely high position but took care of the reserve team members.

She was even willing to help out Zhang Xiaobai and the rest when they were in trouble.

She was doing Zhang Xiaobai a huge favor by helping with the Savage Snake Guild Club problem.

Suddenly, Master Hong Shen’s serene expression changed. His entire body froze, and his hands tightly clutched the corner of a nearby table.

Large beads of sweat rolled down his face.

Zhang Xiaobai seemed to understand what Master Hong Shen was going through and was not perturbed.

He took a small medicine bottle out of Master Hong Shen’s pocket and popped one of the pills into Master Hong Shen’s mouth.

Lin Yuan, who was standing three meters away from Master Hong Shen and Zhang Xiaobai, could smell a strong bitter scent.

“This old man sure is interesting. He manages to hold out despite having such a heavily injured soul,” whispered the Mother of Bloodbath.

Chapter 614: I’m Willing to be Your Follower

Lin Yuan looked at the unkempt Master Hong Shen in shock.

When they had first come in, Lin Yuan noticed that Master Hong Shen was wearing the crest of a Class 3 Creation Master.

The Class 3 Creation Master crest had four stars on it, indicating that Master Hong Shen’s power had reached that of a pinnacle Class 3 Creation Master.

This meant that he had attained the maximum powers a Creation Master could achieve with an injured soul.

A moment later, Master Hong Shen recovered from his agony. He picked up the cup of water on the table and gulped down all its contents.

“Little Bai, I’ve healed those feys with injured roots that you sent over. You can’t deny me payment. As per usual, if you don’t have enough money, you can find me some Bitter Bracken Roots when you’re out on missions.”

At the mention of Bitter Bracken Roots, Lin Yuan knew where the bitter smell had come from.

Master Hong Shen must have been relying on the Bitter Bracken Roots’ bitterness to counteract the intense pain from his soul injury.

This was also a good way to use one of the five senses to combat the pain of an injured soul.

Normally, once a person’s tongue touched a Bitter Bracken Root, they would feel like they were chewing *Coptis Chinensis* for an entire day.

It was a form of unbearable torture.

However, this incredible bitterness could alleviate the pain of an injured soul.

Lin Yuan watched as Hong Shen and Zhang Xiaobai discussed the treatment fee.

Lu Pinru’s four Glowing Silkworm Weavers had recovered and were spitting silk.

Lin Yuan wanted to ask Master Hong Shen if he could rent a room so he could use the heavenly-maiden-grade elemental pearls to roast the Cold Snow Pine’s tree sap into Cold Snow Pine resin to heal Lu Pinru’s soul injury.

Lin Yuan heard Master Hong Shen say to Zhang Xiaobai, “Get lost. I’m tired. Next time, don’t forget to bring me Bitter Bracken Roots. If you do, you don’t have to come to see me.”

Master Hong Shen’s expression became extremely sour. He quickly took out the medicine bottle and popped two pills made of Bitter Bracken Roots into his mouth to counter the waves of pain from his soul injury.

Lin Yuan said to Zhang Xiaobai, who was walking toward him, "Xiaobai, go and rent a place from Master Hong Shen. I'll go and create the medicine to heal Lu Pingru's soul injury."

Zhang Xiaobai's face immediately lit up with joyous surprise.

Zhang Xiaobai knew how hard it was to heal soul injuries as he had watched Master Hong Shen use Bitter Bracken Roots to suppress his pain but always failed to cure for years.

Zhang Xiaobai had planned on waiting till Xin Ying and Tan Ran awoke before going out on missions to earn money together. They would use the money to try and find solutions for Lu Pinru.

If one year's worth of earnings was insufficient, they would work for as long as it took.

He did not expect Lin Yuan to swoop in and solve the problem just like that.

Suddenly, Zhang Xiaobai remembered that Lin Yuan was not just a healing-type spirit qi professional but also a Creation Master.

Master Hong Shen was about to mock Lin Yuan when he saw the crystal bottle that Lin Yuan had just taken out.

Master Hong Shen's entire body straightened.

He was not certain of the contents of the crystal bottle, but the chilling frigidness permeating from the fluid already managed to suppress the excruciating pain in the depths of his soul.

After the pain disappeared, Master Hong Shen quickly spat out the two Bitter Bracken Root pills that had not dissolved and cursed, "Damn, that's bitter."

Zhang Xiaobai was about to rent a room from Master Hong Shen where they could begin the treatment. However, he saw Master Hong Shen briskly walking toward Lin Yuan with bright eyes.

"Handsome fellow, can you sell me a bit of the fluid in your bottle? I'll do anything in return!"

Lin Yuan looked at Master Hong Shen strangely. He rarely walked around for leisure, and despite his good looks, almost no one had called him handsome.

However, Lin Yuan felt his hair stand on end when the old man called him so with such a leering expression.

Lin Yuan's wariness was amplified when he said he would do anything in return.

Will he really do anything? He's already so old. Could he still have some tricks up his sleeve?

When Master Hong Shen saw that his plea did not move Lin Yuan and was just staring at him with shock, he immediately became anxious.

He stared at the bottle in Lin Yuan's hand and reached out to grab it.

At that moment, Master Hong Shen felt a cold pressure forcefully pressing down on him. He struggled to breathe.

The cold pressure only appeared for a moment before it was retracted.

Master Hong Shen shot a fearful look at the smirking girl. He thought about the daily excruciating pain he had to endure from the injured soul, gnashed his teeth, and said, "If you're willing to sell me a bit of the fluid so I can counter my wounded soul, I'll let you have your pick amongst my valuables. If you're able to heal my injured soul, I'm willing to work for you."

Master Hong Shen pushed aside his messy beard and plucked out a black ring-shaped fey storage box that had been hidden in his beard.

He solemnly held the black ring-shaped fey storage box and handed it to Lin Yuan.

Lin Yuan looked at Master Hong Shen's expression and thought about the pain that Master Hong Shen endured as a result of his injured soul.

He understood why this Creation Master would stake his freedom on this.

Lin Yuan swirled the bottle with the baby-blue-colored fluid and said, "This is the tree sap from a Suzerain/Myth II Cold Snow Pine. What do you have that you can use to trade for it?"

When the Mother of Bloodbath heard what Lin Yuan said, a bright flash streaked across her gaze.

Lin Yuan was already eyeing this unkempt old man.

When Master Hong Shen heard what Lin Yuan said, his face fell, and he glanced at the black ring-shaped fey storage box.

Master Hong Shen retracted his hand and took a step back before saying solemnly to Lin Yuan, "I might be a pinnacle Class 3 Creation Master, but I've been stuck at this stage for 15 years. I'm sure that once my soul recovers, I'll be able to learn how to use the power of my soul to concoct spirit concoctions. I'll be promoted to a Class 4 Creation Master within half a year."

Master Hong Shen straightened his messy clothes and continued. "I'm willing to give you all my freedom. I'll swear on a Willpower Rune to become your follower."

Chapter 615: Master Hong Shen's Self-Planning

Master Hong Shen threw out all his chips without hesitation.

As someone who had to endure torturous pain daily, he would sacrifice all that he had for a chance to escape the pain.

If a glimmer of light cut through the darkness, anyone entrenched in the darkness would reach out to it.

After Lin Yuan heard what Master Hong Shen said, his eyes lit up.

He had been planning on manipulating Master Hong Shen.

Lin Yuan had thought to himself that it would be impossible to get a Creation Master to swear on a Willpower Rune to become his follower.

However, he never expected that the moment he started to manipulate Master Hong Shen, the latter would immediately self-destruct.

He had immediately laid out all his chips on the table, free for Lin Yuan to grab.

According to Master Hong Shen, he was a hair's breadth away from being promoted to Class 4 Creation Master.

If Master Hong Shen could become a Class 4 Creation Master after recovering from his soul injury, Sky City would finally have a true Class 4 Creation Master.

However, Lin Yuan was not sure whether Master Hong Shen could really be promoted to Class 4 in such a short time like he said.

But regardless of whether it was true or not, it made no difference to Lin Yuan.

Given Master Hong Shen's powers as a pinnacle Class 3 Creation Master, Lin Yuan was already willing to invest the Cold Snow Pine resin in him.

Since the Cold Snow Pine could be used to treat soul injuries, it was extremely precious.

The Cold Snow Pine's tree sap was a collectible to Lin Yuan and one of his secrets.

Given Lin Yuan's personality, he would never trade away this secret of his. However, it did not serve any purpose being in storage. If it could be used to trade for the loyalty of a Class 3 Creation Master, it was worth it.

It did not matter even if Master Hong Shen could not be promoted to a Class 4 Creation Master soon after recovering from his soul injury.

The Class 3 Creation Masters' ability to evolve feys was already enough to meet Lin Yuan's needs.

Creation Masters' abilities were accumulated through the constant creation of spirit fluids.

Lin Yuan had a lot of work on his plate as a Creation Master and needed Master Hong Shen's help to evolve the Angelfish of Bliss' young to Gold grade.

Master Hong Shen would probably be worked to the bone trying to accomplish this immense task.

Lin Yuan believed that even if Master Hong Shen was a moron, he would be able to be inspired by the immense task and comprehend how to use the power of his soul to concoct spirit fluids and become a Class 4 Creation Master.

Since Master Hong Shen wanted to become his follower, Lin Yuan needed to tell him some things upfront.

"As a Class 3 Creation Master, you should be aware of how valuable the Suzerain/Myth II Class 3 Cold Snow Pine's tree sap is. If I accept you as my follower, you'll have to work hard every day to prove your worth."

While Lin Yuan spoke, the Mother of Bloodbath shot him a look of admiration.

As a spider-species fey, the Mother of Bloodbath's path to evolution was lined with mercilessness. It had killed an uncountable number of feys.

Thus, the Mother of Bloodbath could understand the camaraderie between Lu Pinru and Lin Yuan, which prompted him to use the Cold Snow Pine's tree sap to heal her.

However, it felt that Lin Yuan was sacrificing too much.

But when it heard Lin Yuan lay out his conditions to this unkempt old man, the Mother of Bloodbath knew that Lin Yuan had been planning for a way to even his losses.

Lin Yuan prioritized emotional ties much more than ordinary people. This was the trait that made the Mother of Bloodbath unknowingly acknowledge Lin Yuan.

Master Hong Shen had been speaking with a nervous tone. Pinnacle Class 3 Creation Masters were able to utilize Suzerain spirit ingredients, but they were unable to utilize the spiritual ingredients from a fey that had evolved past Suzerain.

Naturally, he was unable to use a Suzerain/Myth II fey's spiritual ingredient to heal his injured soul.

When he had laid all his chips on the table, the arrogant Master Hong Shen felt for the first time that he had nothing to offer in exchange for the Cold Snow Pine's tree sap.

If this youth was willing to use five drops of the Cold Snow Pine's tree sap to hire a Class 4 Creation Master, it would buy two months of the Class 4 Creation Master's time.

Thus, Master Hong Shen knew that his only worthy stake was his loyalty.

Master Hong Shen's loyalty was just what Lin Yuan needed the most.

Lin Yuan's Golden Lotus Brocade Pearls were very precious, and he needed a Creation Master to nurture them.

The successful nurturing of such a valuable mutated fey would bring boundless benefits. Lin Yuan could not entrust the task to anyone unless they had sworn on a Willpower Rune.

After hearing what Lin Yuan said, Master Hong Shen's face lit up with surprised elation. He knew that this youth had agreed to his plea and was just trying to guarantee that he was going to work hard.

Compared to having to suffer excruciating pain from his soul injury every day, hard work would be bliss.

Master Hong Shen had lived for many years and was already one foot into his grave. He knew that the more one was willing to sacrifice, the more they would receive.

Being busy was helpful in improving a Creation Master's power. The stronger he was as a Creation Master, the more he would gain this youth's respect. This was a positive cycle he would earn for his hard work.

"Fine. As long as you can promise me eight hours of rest every day, I'll be able to do 16 hours of work daily." Master Hong Shen gritted his teeth and said, "I can form a contract with a Vitality Sloth. It'll help me work longer."

Lin Yuan quickly waved his hand dismissively and said, "You don't need to do that. I won't keep you that busy. However, you will have to work for about 12 hours daily."

After healing his soul injury and swearing on a Willpower Rune to become Lin Yuan's follower, Master Hong Shen would be as good as family to Lin Yuan.

In order to allow Master Hong Shen to utilize his potential, Lin Yuan planned on investing resources into him. Thus, he did not need Master Hong Shen to form a contract with the Vitality Sloth that was barely useful and could be contracted by anyone.

Hu Quan's contract with the Vitality Sloth was a source of headache for Lin Yuan.

Initially, Lin Yuan had wanted to ask Hu Quan if there was a more suitable fey that he would like to contract.

In the end, Hu Quan had secretly contracted the Vitality Sloth so he could work even harder.

Chapter 616: Roasting Resin

However, that was Hu Quan's own decision, and it was inappropriate for Lin Yuan to interfere.

Zhang Xiaobai, who was standing next to Lin Yuan and had watched the entire scene unfold, felt that this world was too magical.

The bad-tempered Master Hong Shen had suddenly become an obedient puppy that yearned to follow Lin Yuan around the moment that Lin Yuan had produced the bottle of baby-blue-colored tree sap.

Master Hong Shen was a pinnacle Class 3 Creation Master!

Yet, Zhang Xiaobai could see inexplicable gratefulness in Lin Yuan's gaze.

Lin Yuan was so casual about using something that convinced a pinnacle Class 3 Creation Master to put aside his pride and dedicate his loyalty in return for it on Lu Pingru.

From Zhang Xiaobai's understanding of Lin Yuan, he knew that Lin Yuan would never have brought up the tree sap's value after healing Lu Pingru's soul injury if not for Master Hong Shen's willingness to swear his loyalty,

Master Hong Shen was eager to empty all his projects out of the studio that was inside the treatment center for Lin Yuan.

When Lin Yuan walked to Master Hong Shen's studio's entrance, he noticed piles of various spiritual ingredients and used medicine crystal bottles strewn about haphazardly.

The air was filled with the strange odors left over from a myriad of spiritual ingredients.

A bitter note was salient amongst the odors. It must have come from the Bitter Bracken Roots.

Master Hong Shen looked at Lin Yuan bashfully and chuckled. "I'm used to being messy. Don't worry. I'll make sure to clean the studio till it's spick and span while you work."

Lin Yuan looked at Master Hong Shen with uneasy belief.

It's not that easy to change a habit that's been ingrained for so many years. When he goes to the mansion, Wen Yu will definitely be bothered by the unhygienic state of his studio.

When he noticed that Lin Yuan still had not taken a step inside his studio, Master Hong Shen grinned and asked, "My Lord, Do you need help? I can be your assistant or do the work in your stead!"

Master Hong Shen had not signed a contract with him yet, but Lin Yuan noticed that Master Hong Shen had started to address him as 'Lord'.

On this trip, Lin Yuan had hung his Class 2 Creation Master crest around his neck.

Lin Yuan realized that Master Hong Shen kept stealing glances at the crest with subtle worry in his eyes.

Lin Yuan sniggered to himself.

Could Master Hong Shen be so enthusiastic about being my assistant because he's worried that I'm a mere Class 2 Creation Master? He's worried that I'll fail and waste the Cold Snow Pine's tree sap.

"Come in if you want to. I'm not worried about being bothered when I'm concocting the Cold Snow Pine's tree sap."

Master Hong Shen immediately started to panic. Although he did not know how Lin Yuan was going to concoct the Cold Snow Pine's spirit fluid, it was common knowledge that the slightest slip on a Creation Master's part could cause the concoction to fail.

As a Creation Master, Master Hong Shen understood how scary it was to be distracted when concocting spirit fluids.

Despite his young age, Lin Yuan was already a Class 2 Creation Master and had basically gained Master Hong Shen as his follower.

Once Lin Yuan healed Master Hong Shen's soul injury, he would immediately sign the contract to become Lin Yuan's follower.

Thus, Master Hong Shen dared not speak against Lin Yuan.

However, Master Hong Shen badly wanted to grab Lin Yuan's Master by the collar and demand to know how they had taught their student.

Before Master Hong Shen could continue speaking, Lin Yuan had taken out a box that was glowing with a faint jade hue.

Master Hong Shen blurted out, "A jade-textured platane wood box!"

Once he spoke, Master Hong Shen immediately shut his mouth in embarrassment.

He noticed that Lin Yuan was unaffected by his outburst as he calmly poured the Cold Snow Pine's tree sap into the jade-textured platane wood box.

Platane wood was exceptionally compatible with fire-element energy when it was jade-textured.

Under normal circumstances, the pure fire element would not set the platane wood alight. Instead, it would nourish the platane wood like spirit qi.

Lin Yuan did not have a complete jade-textured platane wood box. He had made this one in his hands after entering the Spirit Lock spatial zone and cutting the platane wood planks.

He had done it in case the opportunity to roast the Cold Snow Pine's tree sap arose.

He did not expect to use it a mere two days after creating it.

The baby-blue-colored Cold Snow Pine tree sap started to pulse inside the jade-textured platane wood box.

Lin Yuan's hand trembled, and he took out ten heavenly-maiden-grade elemental pearls with 9.8 purity.

Although most of the elemental pearls produced by the Bronze/Legend Elemental Shellfish had inner radiance, he had accumulated so many elemental pearls that some did not have inner radiance.

The heavenly-maiden-grade elemental pearls with inner radiance were much more valuable than those without. Thus, Lin Yuan usually chose to use the elemental pearls without inner radiance.

Lin Yuan tossed an elemental pearl into the platane wood box.

The moment that the heavenly-maiden-grade elemental pearl entered the platane wood box, the dark-red jade-textured platane wood box lit up with a bright red light and plumes of crimson smoke billowed out.

At the same time, under the influence of the pure fire-elemental energy from the heavenly-maiden-grade elemental pearls, the blues and reds combined to form twin-colored flames.

As Lin Yuan watched what was happening, he thought, *"m glad I prepared a jade-textured platane wood box. If I had used another vessel, the flames formed by the extreme cold and extreme heat would have exploded it. The jade-textured platane wood box handles these flames easily.*

All flames were fundamentally fire-elemental energy. They would all nourish the jade-textured platane wood box.

Lin Yuan tossed in another when the first fire elemental pearl was used up to maintain the burning blue and red flames.

In the beginning, the Cold Snow Pine's tree sap's blue flames were stronger than the fire elemental pearl's red flames.

As more fire-elemental pearls were tossed in, the red flames were becoming stronger than the blue flames.

Lin Yuan decreased the rate at which he tossed in heavenly-maiden-grade elemental pearls. Instead, he started to crush the heavenly-maiden-grade elemental pearls and slowly added the powder in.

From the moment Lin Yuan had taken out the fire heavenly-maiden-grade elemental pearls, Master Hong Shen had been staring at Lin Yuan with his mouth agape.

Chapter 617: Unexpectedly Strong

As Lin Yuan worked, the thickening pine incense overcame all the odd smells in the studio, filling it with the refreshing scent of pine.

When the refreshing scent entered one's nose, they would feel like they had just been thrown into a world of snow pine.

The fragrance of pine made Master Hong Shen feel like his soul was being gently soothed. It was an incredibly comforting feeling.

Thus, Master Hong Shen's mouth fell open and stayed that way.

He took in as much pine fragrance through his nose and mouth as he could like a madman.

The mystic soothing of his soul completely entranced Master Hong Shen.

When Lin Yuan added the last of the elemental pearl powder, the Cold Snow Pine's blue tree sap, which had been turning increasingly transparent, lost the last of its blue color along with the final wisps of icy flames.

When the icy blue flames disappeared, the red flames vanished as well.

The moment that both the flames disappeared, the Cold Snow Pine's baby-blue-colored tree sap transformed into black powder.

Lin Yuan's lips curled into a smile.

"The pine smoke was like a dye infusion. The Cold Snow Pine resin is complete!"

Lin Yuan did not pour the Cold Snow Pine resin into the crystal bottle. He placed the lid over the platane wood box and used it as the vessel to keep the Cold Snow Pine resin safe.

The jade-textured platane wood box had been nourished by the fire-elemental energy and had the aura of two kinds of flames. It was a good vessel to keep the Cold Snow Pine resin safe.

Lin Yuan turned and saw Master Hong Shen, who was breathing as deeply as possible.

His smile faltered as he walked up to Master Hong Shen.

Lin Yuan took a silver spoon out of the amber-button-shaped fey storage box and spooned out a little of the black powder Cold Snow Pine resin.

Lin Yuan used a normal flame to set the black powder in the spoon alight before placing the spoon under Master Hong Shen's nostrils.

The breeze wafted the smoke into Master Hong Shen's nostrils and to the depths of his soul.

The pine fragrance soothed his soul.

The soul injury which had tormented Master Hong Shen for more than a decade was being healed.

After Master Hong Shen awoke from his entrancement, it seemed that he had no idea Lin Yuan had just set the Cold Snow Pine resin alight.

However, Master Hong Shen could tell from his unbelievably relaxed soul that his soul injury had been completely healed.

The cured Master Hong Shen looked at Lin Yuan gratefully and fell to one knee.

With a wave of his hand, a Willpower Rune that had clearly been comprehended from plants appeared and circled around Master Hong Shen's fingers.

Following Master Hong Shen's sincere oath, Master Hong Shen finally and truly became Lin Yuan's follower.

A wave of doubts appeared in Master Hong Shen's mind.

Now that his soul was healed, he was a Class 3 Creation Master that could be promoted to a Class 4 Creation Master at any time.

He would be able to succeed anywhere he went and led a smooth-sailing life.

But why didn't I hesitate at all to swear on a Willpower Rune to become this young man's follower? I even felt determined to do it.

As he looked at the beaming young man, Master Hong Shen bowed his head respectfully.

Master Hong Shen knew that if not for this young man, he would probably be doomed to suffer the pain of his injured soul for the rest of his days.

The events of the past hour were a miraculous surprise.

Master Hong Shen was sure that this surprise was a blessing sent from heaven.

Lin Yuan reached out his hand and helped Master Hong Shen up.

Master Hong Shen was now a member of Lin Yuan's family.

Lin Yuan had cocked his eyebrow in surprise when Master Hong Shen summoned the Willpower Rune. He could sense that the Willpower Rune had been comprehended from plants because the concentrated plant aura was unmistakable.

However, the Willpower Rune carried an obvious hint of murderous intent.

This reminded Lin Yuan of the Willpower Rune he had comprehended when he had been experiencing intense maliciousness. He had left the Willpower Rune in his spiritual spatial zone all this time.

The murderous intent of both Willpower Runes was extremely similar.

If they were carefully studied, differences could be pointed out.

The murderous intent of Lin Yuan's Willpower Rune was close to insanity, whereas Master Hong Shen's Willpower Rune's murderous intent had a rather elegant aura.

Lin Yuan silently analyzed to himself, *A Willpower Rune like this doesn't suit Creation Masters and their feys who raise the level of their Creation Masters. It's more suitable for strong combat-class feys.*

"Master Hong Shen, can I take a look at your contracted feys?"

If anyone else had spoken to Master Hong Shen in such a manner, he would have immediately slapped them.

It was extremely disrespectful for a spirit qi professional to interrogate another spirit qi professional about their feys.

This was the equivalent of trying to sniff out another person's trump card.

However, Master Hong Shen was now Lin Yuan's follower.

After being asked by Lin Yuan, Master Hong Shen did not feel unhappy at all. Rather, he was delighted.

He immediately waved his hand and summoned his contracted feys.

Master Hong Shen felt that Lin Yuan had asked the question out of concern.

Master Hong Shen was exceedingly confident about his feys. He also saw this as a good opportunity to show off his fey to Lin Yuan.

Master Hong Shen raised his hand, and a glowing ball of purplish-black energy started to swirl.

The ball of purplish-black energy grew larger and formed a sort of purplish-black territory.

At the center of the territory was a lush succulent plant that was about a meter tall.

When Lin Yuan saw the fey that Master Hong Shen had summoned, he instantly looked at Master Hong Shen in shock.

He felt that he had not just gained a pinnacle Class 3 Creation Master as a follower but also a pinnacle king-class combat-class spirit qi professional.

Although Master Hong Shen had only comprehended one Willpower Rune, the Fantasy Breed fey he had contracted was incredibly powerful.

Master Hong Shen must have injected an unimaginable amount of resources to nurture this fey to its current level.

Lin Yuan felt that he had hit the jackpot by recruiting Master Hong Shen as his follower.

As he looked at the Fantasy Breed fey and was thinking to himself, Lin Yuan also used True Dara to check this fey's attributes.

From what he saw, Lin Yuan realized that Master Duan Li's fey was much stronger than he had initially thought.

Chapter 618: Black Bronze Succulent

[Fey Name]: Black Bronze Succulent

[Spirit-Lifeform Species]: Crassulaceae genus/Aeonium genus

[Fey Grade]: Diamond (10/10)

[Fey Type]: Dark

[Fey Quality]: Fantasy IV

Abilities:

[Lotus Palm Black Bullets]: Every flower core can rapidly muster dark energy to form strong and corrosive dark energy bullets.

[Separation Fragment Bullets]: When the Lotus Palm Black Bullets clash together, they will shatter and release explosions of energy.

[Lotus Palm Puppet]: The Black Bronze Succulent stores the skeleton of consumed dark-type feys in its flower head. When the flower head falls, it will spit out the skeletons. If the flower head is set on fire, the energy within will control the skeleton.

[Backup New Roots]: The Black Bronze Succulent will form four seeds near its roots. Each of the seeds will release its energy after leaving the main body and form another Black Bronze Succulent with comparable power to the main body. Once the energy in the seeds is depleted, the new Black Bronze Succulents will immediately wilt.

[Bronze Stem Succulent]: The Black Bronze Succulent will absorb dark-elemental energy at night and store it in the Bronze Stem Succulent.

[Bronze Kettle Release]: The Black Bronze Succulent is left with only one flower head, and the rest of the flower heads are sacrificed. A Lotus Palm Black Bullet will be released with all the energy of the sacrificed flower heads.

Exclusive Skill:

[Dark Essence]: Extract dark energy to raise the purity of its own dark energy.

[Dark Carnage]: When the target is killed, all its deathly aura will be routed to the Black Bronze Succulent's dark energy.

The Black Bronze Succulent was a highly mutated form of a succulent plant-type fey.

Lin Yuan was very familiar with Black Succulents.

Back in Xia Region's spirit-lifeform store, he had nurtured Usneas, Jasmine Lilies, and Green Succulents.

The Black Succulent and Green Succulent were very similar.

The only difference was that the Green Succulents attacked with poison-type essence while the Black Succulent attacked with dark-elemental energy.

Lin Yuan had not bought any Black Succulent from the spirit-lifeform store because he felt that it was useless in its Normal quality as compared to the Green Succulent.

Although the Green Succulent was not of much use either, it could still kill small mosquitoes with its poison when it was Normal quality.

It could be a form of pesticide when placed in a room.

Meanwhile, the Normal Black Succulent could not even repel mosquitoes with its dark energy.

The Jasmine Lily, Green Succulent, and Black Succulent were all considered to be feys with the lowest thresholds.

Any person in the Radiance Federation who worked hard to earn 500 Federation dollars could buy a Black Succulent.

However, there were very few spirit qi professionals who were willing to contract Black Succulents.

It was just like how there were very few healing-type spirit qi professionals who were willing to contract Jasmine Lilies.

This was fair because a low threshold meant a high limit.

It was just like Lin Yuan and the Jasmine Lily.

After Lin Yuan invested enormous resources into it, the abilities Vitality Imprint and Severed Limbs Growth were comparable to the power of other feys of the same quality.

Feys with low thresholds required a large number of resources to evolve and mutate. It was akin to trying to fill a bottomless pit.

Lin Yuan did not think that there was someone who was willing to promote a Black Succulent to the strength and level of the Black Bronze Succulent.

Even if the spirit qi professional started off impoverished, they would be able to buy a decent fey after saving up some resources. They would then quickly switch out their main fey instead of continuing to nurture the Black Succulent.

When Master Hong Shen summoned the Black Bronze Succulent, Lin Yuan saw that it had hundreds of flower heads.

He was sure that the Black Succulent had undergone a chain mutation when Master Hong Shen nurtured it, similar to that of the Jasmine Lily when it evolved to Normal/Fantasy.

The Jasmine Lily had undergone fasciation after the chain mutation.

When Lin Yuan saw the number of flower heads on the Black Bronze Succulent, he knew that it had reached Diamond X.

Lin Yuan did not expect that it had also reached Fantasy IV.

Given Master Hong Shen's powers as a pinnacle king-class expert, he could be deemed an outstanding talent.

The Black Bronze Succulent's compilation of exclusive skills was simple and rough.

The ability Lotus Palm Black Bullets were strong and corrosive dark-type energy explosions. It was a continuous violent attack.

The ability Separation Fragment Bullets would launch a large-scale attack.

When combined with Backup New Roots, the Black Bronze Succulent's attacking range was widened.

The four seeds from Backup New Roots also increased the power of the Black Bronze Succulent's large-scale attack.

This allowed the Black Bronze Succulent to adjust and control its attacking range when it was launching a large-scale attack.

Bronze Kettle Release was also an impressive explosive technique.

Bronze Stem Succulent provided the Black Bronze Succulent with a vessel full of dark energy.

When the Black Bronze Succulent was in combat, it could utilize the dark energy within the vessel as it pleased.

The only special ability of the Black Bronze Succulent was Lotus Palm Puppet.

When the ability's grade had been low, its effectiveness was not impactful.

However, as the Black Bronze Succulent grew more powerful, it could control the skeletons of even more powerful dark-type feys

Lotus Palm Puppet raised the Black Bronze Succulent's mobility.

Based on the different traits of the dark-type feys, Lotus Palm Puppet could control them in different ways and use them to defend the Black Bronze Succulent.

This added fluidity to the Black Bronze Succulent's fighting style.

Lin Yuan suddenly thought about the Dark Spirit Eye Tadpole and Dark-Eyed Scorpion Tiger in his fey storage box, whose Willpower Runes the Sacred Sword Wielding Queen had extracted.

The Dark-Eyed Scorpion Tiger's blood, fur, and eyes were valuable spiritual ingredients.

The Dark Spirit Eye Tadpole's mucus and brain matter were valuable spiritual ingredients.

Once the Mother of Bloodbath removed their spiritual ingredients, their skeletons could be given to Master Hong Shen to use.

Chapter 619: Dark Laws? I Can Help You

The Black Bronze Succulent's exclusive skill Dark Essence helped improve the fey's overall state. It could strengthen all of its abilities through the dark energy it absorbed.

The exceptional explosive capabilities of the Black Bronze Succulent were draining as it launched single-target and large-scale attacks.

Although Bronze Stem Succulent allowed it to store dark energy, it could not sustain the Black Bronze Succulent's maximum attacking power for long.

Dark Carnage further increased the Black Bronze Succulent's endurance by replenishing it with dark energy in a constant cycle.

Lin Yuan could not help but feel jealous as he looked at the Black Bronze Succulent.

Although both the Black Bronze Succulent and the Jasmine Lily started off as pathetic feys, his Jasmine Lily could only use Normal abilities despite being Platinum I/Fantasy III. It was because of Morbius' Spirit Lock spatial zone.

Lin Yuan also had no idea what abilities the Jasmine Lily would come to comprehend after evolving.

He thought, *If Morbius evolves to Fantasy Breed in the future and becomes stronger, the Spirit Lock spatial zone will change. Will I be able to see the Jasmine Lily gain more abilities besides Normal ones? Could I also have the chance to command a completed Jasmine Lily in battle?*

Lin Yuan slapped his forehead and chided himself for having such a pipe dream.

The Spirit Lock spatial zone was already strong enough.

Master Hong Shen noticed Lin Yuan observing his Black Bronze Succulent, and a nostalgic yet smug expression appeared on his face.

"Young Master, I have a lot less spiritual energy than the average person. After contracting the Black Succulent early on, I could not contract any other feys for some time. Hence, I invested everything I had into nurturing it. When I realized that I had the talent to be a Creation Master, I invested all the resources I had collected over the span of 30 years to nurture the Black Bronze Succulent to its current level."

Master Hong Shen heaved a long sigh.

"It's a shame that soul injury afflicted me for over a decade. It prevented me from raising my spirit qi occupation rank past A-rank. Otherwise, I would definitely have become an S-rank spirit qi professional. The Black Bronze Succulent could also have been evolved to Suzerain quality. It was only five years ago that I sensed I had enough spiritual energy to contract a second fey. Since then, I haven't been nurturing the Black Bronze Succulent. The resources I accumulated over the last five years all went to this jerk."

While Master Hong Shen spoke, he circulated his spiritual energy, and an enchanting purplish-red succulent appeared in his hand.

One look at it made Lin Yuan feel that Master Hong Shen was rather shameless.

"You nurtured this Medusa Succulent over the last five years. Why aren't you satisfied?"

Master Hong Shen looked at the Medusa Succulent forlornly and said, "I thought I was lucky at first. I managed to use the eye fluids of the marsh dimensional lifeform Medusa to cultivate a Medusa Succulent. However, I didn't foresee that its Normal abilities would be completely incompatible with me. If only I hadn't contracted the Black Succulent first. I should have contracted the Green Succulent."

When Lin Yuan heard what Master Hong Shen said, he used True Data to check the Medusa Succulent's attributes.

[Fey Name]: Medusa Succulent

[Spirit-Lifeform Species]: Crassulaceae genus/Aeonium genus

[Fey Grade]: Normal (7/10)

[Fey Type]: Poison

[Fey Quality]: Epic

Abilities:

[Same Type Petrification]: By swaying its leaves, it will petrify lifeforms that have been injured by energy and are of a similar type.

When Lin Yuan was done checking the Medusa Succulent's Normal ability, he looked at Master Hong Shen strangely.

Lin Yuan finally knew why Master Hong Shen looked like he had been horribly trampled despite having nurtured such an elite fey.

This Medusa Succulent and Master Hong Shen were like oil and water.

When the Medusa Succulent was cultivated from the Medusa's eye fluids, it would absorb the element nearest to it.

According to the element it absorbed, its type would be decided.

This was very similar to when elemental spiritual materials triggered the Elemental Shellfish's mutation.

However, the Elemental Shellfish's mutation had been externally directed while the Medusa Succulent's absorption was self-directed.

Thus, it was extremely difficult to control the Medusa Succulent's type.

The Medusa Succulent's Normal ability was set. Same Type Petrification could be taken as the Medusa Succulent's signature move.

When Same Type Petrification was used on feys of lower quality, it would instantly turn the target's flesh and bones into stone.

The petrified flesh and bones were very fragile and would shatter with the slightest force.

This would result in the death of the petrified fey.

Even if the opponent's fey was of a higher quality and had more power than the Medusa Succulent, Same Type Petrification could also freeze them.

This was an incredibly terrifying control ability.

When Lin Yuan had been in the process of choosing support-type feys with control abilities, he had not become the Moon Empress's disciple yet.

At that time, he had not been at the level where he would be aware of succulent-species feys like the Medusa Succulent. If so, he might have included another option besides the Blue Flash Butterfly.

Lin Yuan looked around at the state of the studio, and the medicine bottle of Bitter Bracken Root polls that Master Hong Shen had tossed to the side.

He could guess why the Medusa Succulent was poison-type.

When Master Hong Shen was nurturing the Medusa Succulent, he must have placed many dark-type spiritual ingredients around the studio in order to increase the proportion of dark-type elements in the studio.

The Medusa Succulent must have absorbed the contaminated air in the studio when it was being nurtured.

Another possibility was that when the Medusa Succulent was being nurtured, Master Hong Shen's soul injury had relapsed and forced him to consume Bitter Bracken Roots. Thus, the Medusa Succulent had absorbed the poison energy from the Bitter Bracken Roots.

Master Hong Shen said regretfully, "Maybe the Medusa Succulent and I are just ill-fated. I don't have the ability to find emperor-class experts and Myth Breed feys with Dark Laws to help me transform this Medusa Succulent. It's a blessing that my soul injury is now healed. I'm not going to insist on contracting this poison-type Medusa Succulent."

While Master Hong Shen spoke, darkness appeared before his eyes. It was as though he had been plunged into endless darkness.

The youth's bright voice exclaimed, "Dark Laws? I can help you."

Chapter 620: Young Master, Are You Emperor-Class?

Master Hong Shen sensed the aura emanating from Lin Yuan's Dark Law. It was as though he had just seen a ghost.

He had come across emperor-class experts and Myth Breed feys with Law Runes before, but the law power from those laws could not compare with Lin Yuan's.

Every Law Rune's law power was unitary.

The dark energy radiating from Lin Yuan was like a fog of darkness. There was danger laced within the fog.

It was clearly not the aura of a unitary Law Rune.

Given Lin Yuan's young age, Master Hong Shen did not expect him to wield much power.

But now, as he used spiritual energy to sense Lin Yuan's power, he realized his spiritual energy was being blocked, preventing him from getting a good look.

Master Hong Shen gulped and speculated that this youth he had just pledged his loyalty to could be an emperor-class expert with many Law Runes.

At Master Hong Shen's mention of wanting to find emperor-class experts and Myth Breed feys that had Dark Laws to help the Medusa Succulent, Lin Yuan was immediately reminded of what the Moon Empress had told him about the Medusa Succulent.

Once the Medusa Succulent had absorbed its first elemental energy to decide its type, it was possible to change its type.

All it needed was the triggering from elemental laws.

Lin Yuan's Sacred Sword Wielding Queen's skirt had almost completely turned black after absorbing two complete dark-type Law Runes and two dark-type Willpower Runes.

As long as the Medusa Succulent spent time with the Sacred Sword Wielding Queen and was influenced by the two dark-type Law Runes and willpowers, it should change its type soon.

Master Hong Shen felt that today was his lucky day. Not only had he resolved a huge problem that had plagued him for so long, but the small problem that had been pricking him now had a perfect solution too.

Master Hong Shen was surprised but also pleased by the power of Lin Yuan's Dark Laws.

He tentatively asked Lin Yuan, "Young Master, are you an emperor-class expert?"

From Master Hong Shen's question, Lin Yuan knew that he had sensed the power of law around him.

Ever since the Sacred Sword Wielding Queen's skirt had absorbed the laws and willpowers, a shielding effect had taken place. This prevented others from checking his spirit qi occupation rank, resulting in a misunderstanding.

Nonetheless, Lin Yuan did not answer Master Hong Shen's question.

This was Lin Yuan's first time activating the laws and willpowers that the Sacred Sword Wielding Queen had absorbed.

He realized that he seemed rather scary now.

But if he did not use the Sacred Sword form's abilities, the overwhelming law power would just be a paper tiger.

It did not have any real impact other than coming off as scary.

After noticing how the Black Bronze Succulent was frightened when he activated the Sacred Sword Wielding Queen's dark-type laws and willpowers, it made Lin Yuan think that this scary impression was rather good.

"Leave your Medusa Succulent with me. When it changes from poison-type to dark-type, I'll return it to you."

Master Hong Shen immediately enthusiastically handed the Medusa Succulent to Lin Yuan.

If this was anyone else, Master Hong Shen would definitely not have handed over the Medusa Succulent. After all, he had not formed a contract with the precious Medusa Succulent.

If someone else took away the Medusa Succulent and formed a contract with it, Master Hong Shen would suffer a great loss.

Master Hong Shen had no such concerns when it came to Lin Yuan, however.

As Lin Yuan's follower, it could be said that Master Hong Shen had become one of Lin Yuan's personal items.

Master Hong Shen knew that if Lin Yuan had wanted the Medusa Succulent for himself, he could have said so directly, and Master Hong Shen would have no grounds to reject him.

Moreover, Lin Yuan had been willing to use the valuable Suzerain/Myth spiritual ingredient to heal Master Hong Shen. There was no way that he would scam Master Hong Shen of his Medusa Succulent.

Lin Yuan stored the Medusa Succulent in his fey storage box and left the studio with Master Hong Shen.

Lin Yuan spooned a bit of the Cold Snow Pine Resin with the silver spoon and set it alight under Lu Pinru's nose like he had done for Master Hong Shen.

Due to Lu Pinru's comatose state, she could not breathe in the pine smoke quickly. Hence, Lin Yuan circulated spirit qi and used it to channel the pine smoke into Lu Pinru's nose and body.

Although Lu Pinru continued to slumber away peacefully, the pine smoke healed her soul injury when it entered her body. She no longer needed to experience the excruciating pain that was exacerbated by the loss of her five senses.

Once Lin Yuan was done curing Lu Pinru, he turned to say to Master Hong Shen, "Master Hong Shen, please take care of my three friends in your treatment center. When they wake up, call me, and I'll tell you where to go."

Lin Yuan gave Master Hong Shen his number before leaving the treatment center with the Mother of Bloodbath and Zhang Xiaobai. They rushed to return to the Radiance Palace, where the Allstar Match was taking place.

Since turning the Cold Snow Pine's tree sap into Cold Snow Pine resin had required meticulous care in order for it to naturally change under the exposure to pure fire-element energy, it had taken almost three hours of Lin Yuan's time.

It was now past noon, and the Allstar Match's performance matches should be almost done.

A while ago, an enormous weight had been crushing Zhang Xiaobai's heart and prevented him from making conversation with the Mother of Bloodbath.

He had lost most of his normal jovialness and will to talk.

But now that Lin Yuan had healed Lu Pinru's soul injury and White Devil had promised to help retrieve the five senses stolen by the Sense-Stealing King Venom all the weight vanished.

Zhang Xiaobai's usual enthusiasm and jolliness burst forth.

Perhaps it was because he had held it in for so long, but once he started talking, he could not seem to stop.

As such, the Mother of Bloodbath, which had been chatting happily with him, now found him slightly insufferable.

Zhang Xiaobai sat on the Soft-Feathered Scale Bird's back and yelled animatedly at Lin Yuan and the Mother of Bloodbath, who were sitting on their own Soft-Feathered Scale Birds, "Let me test your intelligence. How about a riddle?"

Lin Yuan had experienced Zhang Xiaobai's riddles before and did not want to reply to Zhang Xiaobai now.

However, the Mother of Bloodbath was interested.

"You won't be as smart as me even if there's ten of you. I'll be able to answer your riddle in an instant."