

Nine Star 3511

Chapter 3511

“You’ve drunk the Wine God Palace’s wine before?” Yu Qingxuan looked at Long Chen in amazement. Then she realized that the question she asked was inappropriate, and she hastily said, “Sorry, I don’t have any other intention. It’s just that this is my first time drinking the Wine God Palace’s wine.”

Yu Qingxuan was afraid that Long Chen would think that she was looking down on him and didn’t believe his words, so she hastily apologized.

Long Chen smiled. “It’s fine. In the mortal world, I was fortunate enough to try the Wine God Palace’s wine. Thus, I could guess that this should be their wine. It seems that I managed to guess right.”

“The Wine God Palace’s wine isn’t sold. For you to be able to drink it, you couldn’t be an ordinary person,” praised Yu Qingxuan.

“You overpraise me. Back then, a few seniors of the Wine God Palace favored me and gave me the chance to judge some of the Wine God Palace’s wares. It was all thanks to those seniors thinking highly of me. In truth, I don’t have any ability,” said Long Chen modestly.

Yu Qingxuan smiled. The feeling that Long Chen gave her was always different from everyone else. Others were doing their best to show off in front of her, but he was always trying to make himself seem ordinary.

However, could an ordinary person obtain the Heavenly Rainbow Flame? Could an ordinary person be invited to taste the Wine God Palace’s wines?

It had to be known that even throughout all the nine heavens and ten lands, the Wine God Palace was a famous existence. Although they did not interact much with the rest of the world, focusing instead only on making wine, they were famous for being icily arrogant. Their wine was only bestowed to those who knew wine.

There was no wine from the Wine God Palace available on the market. If anyone dared to sell it, then the Wine God Palace would trace the seller to the source and would never bestow wine to that person ever again.

Thus, the Wine God Palace's wine could be given, but it could not have the slightest relationship to money. Otherwise, it would be viewed as a kind of blasphemy toward wine.

As a result, even with Yu Qingxuan's illustrious status, she had never had a chance to try the Wine God Palace's wine. But Long Chen was able to recognize the origin of this wine. How could she not be shocked?

Furthermore, the more he said that he was ordinary, the more she felt that he was extraordinary. He was just like his clothes. No one knew what was hidden within that endless darkness. It made people feel incomparably curious.

"You judged them?"

Someone snickered and didn't say anything else. Clearly, they thought that Long Chen was bragging.

Being invited to drink the Wine God Palace's wine was a huge honor. Who dared to judge them? They felt that Long Chen was bragging to the point that he was only embarrassing himself.

Long Chen simply smiled and didn't reply to this snickering. He continued drinking and eating. It truly had been a long time since he had eaten such delicacies. Furthermore, these people's burning and stifled expressions made his mood very good, improving his appetite.

Everyone continued to eat and drink, while Feng Xiang and the others repeatedly raised toasts to Yu Qingxuan. As a result, Yu Qingxuan made an excuse of not having good tolerance to avoid them. Everyone found that despite immersing himself in eating, Long Chen still drew most of Yu Qingxuan's attention. Her gaze would occasionally look over casually, but everyone found that she seemed to have started paying special attention to him.

That made them all very irritated. In order to welcome Yu Qingxuan, they had long since made preparations and spent a huge amount of time and effort just to satisfy her. But she just kept looking at this poor little fellow.

Furthermore, this poor little fellow seemed entirely unaware. He was picking out the most delicious food for himself. It was like he hadn't eaten for eight lifetimes. Furthermore, he drank in gulps, so unrestrained like he was the owner.

When his cup was empty, he didn't stand on courtesy. He directly called out an attendant beside him who filled his cup. Just watching him act this way aggrieved and infuriated Feng Xiang.

Most loathsome of all, every time they raised a toast to Yu Qingxuan, she would refuse. But when Long Chen did the same, she wouldn't. Although she only took a light sip, it still made them feel terrible.

Every time she drank, she would ask him a few questions, and Long Chen's answers were very humorous. He would manage to elicit some laughter from her every now and then. The others didn't know what kind of feeling they had now, but they felt more like accompanying guests.

Finally, these people stealthily cast special gazes at each other. Feng Xiang smiled slightly. “Long Chen, you said that in the mortal world, you judged the Wine God Palace’s wine. Why don’t you judge this jug of wine as well? Let us gain some experience.”

Yu Qingxuan also looked at Long Chen, and her expression was one of expectation. She was very curious about Long Chen, but due to her reserved nature, she felt too embarrassed to ask him too much. Now, there was a chance for her to learn some more about him, so she immediately listened attentively.

While looking at Feng Xiang and the others, Long Chen slowly wiped a towel across his face. He then turned to Yu Qingxuan. “Since fairy Qingxuan is interested, I will embarrass myself. I looked at the wine jug just before. It says Pear Flower Wine. However, in truth, it is a kind of hundred-flower wine. Furthermore, hundred-flower wine is not precisely made from a hundred types of flowers. It comes in two numbers: one is ninety-nine, and the other is one hundred and twenty-eight. This Pear Flower Wine is the latter. Other than the Raging Flame Pear Flower, there are one hundred and twenty-seven other fire attribute flowers that went into its making. Based on the five elements of food: cold, cool, neutral, warm, and hot, the pear flower is of the cool attribute, lowering the heat and moistening the throat. This bit of coolness gives the other flowers their dry character. Thus, when the wine passes through the teeth, it is burning hot like lava, but as it flows down the throat, it is cool and refreshing. In the stomach, coolness and hotness mix. The heat pours through the four limbs and hundred bones, while the trace of coolness settles around the Dantian to protect it. It then slowly melts, becoming a formless qi that enters the mind-sea and nourishes the soul.”

“Wow, how amazing! You actually know so much! Furthermore, it really is exactly as you say when I drink the wine,” praised Yu Qingxuan, her eyes exceptionally bright.

Long Chen smiled. “Regretfully, while the wine is good, you cannot drink much of it.”

“Why is that?” asked Yu Qingxuan in surprise.

“This wine was made by a man. Man is like the heavens, Yang. They naturally need this coolness to avoid the fire growing too hot. A woman is like the earth, Yin. When the wine enters the body, the cool qi will mix with the Yin qi inside a woman’s body, resulting in cold and hot clashing, Yin and Yang attacking

each other. Thus, fairy Qingxuan, it would be good for you to not drink too much of this Pear Flower Wine. When Yin and Yang are in harmony, your qi and blood flow smoothly. But if you drink too much, it will harm you, resulting in an imbalance of Yin and Yang. That's why despite knowing how precious this wine is, you instinctively didn't drink too much of it," explained Long Chen.

"So that's the case." Yu Qingxuan came to a sudden understanding. She had previously felt that this wine was delicious, and it was a rare opportunity to get to drink it. But for some reason, she didn't want to drink too much. Now that Long Chen said this, she instantly understood. She looked at him with even greater admiration.

As for Feng Xiang and the others, at first, they thought that he was bragging, and they wanted to embarrass him. However, they hadn't expected Long Chen to explain it so perfectly to Yu Qingxuan that she was further impressed with him. They grew even more vexed now.

"I wonder if this wine has any flaws in your eyes?" Zhao Mingxuan looked at Long Chen.

Long Chen looked back and sneered. Did this fellow want to con him? He had been precisely waiting for this.

"This wine truly does have a flaw that is not minor."

When he said this, Yu Qingxuan was shocked but the others smiled sinisterly.

Chapter 3512

"How can this wine have a flaw? This is the wine from the Wine God Palace! Long Chen, don't mess around!" reminded Yu Qingxuan kindly.

No matter how pure she was, she could still sense that the atmosphere was a bit off. These people were clearly digging a hole for Long Chen.

Even a drop of the Wine God Palace's wine was something that couldn't be bought with all the gold in the world. Hence, no one dared to say that the Wine God Palace's wine was bad. If Long Chen said it and was caught, it wouldn't be good.

Long Chen smiled. "In this world, there is nothing that is perfect, let alone wine. This Pear Flower Wine's greatest flaw is that it was made using rootless water."

"What is rootless water?" asked Yu Qingxuan.

"Rootless water refers to rainwater, and it is the kind of rainwater that is condensed naturally in pure lands, untouched by any impurity. This rootless water is the most often-used water to make wine and tea and is the cleanest water that's directly extracted from the air. Naturally, it is not affected by the five elements and does not affect the taste of the wine or tea. However, it is not suitable for the Pear Flower Wine. If instead it was morning dew that was used, it should be a bit better," said Long Chen.

"You actually know so much about the Wine Dao. Truly amazing," said Yu Qingxuan.

"The Wine Dao has a million kinds of water inside it, let alone the endless techniques for making the wine. The Wine Dao is also a Grand Dao, just as marvelous as the Pill Dao. They are different methods to get to the same end," said Long Chen.

"You actually know the Pill Dao as well?" asked Yu Qingxuan with surprise.

"I know a little bit," said Long Chen modestly.

"To dare to say you know a bit in front of fairy Qingxuan, I really admire your guts. Do you know that fairy Qingxuan's Pill Dao is unrivaled? She is the only one in the Violet Flame Heaven's history to refine a peerless grade golden pill in the Divine Lord realm." Everyone else immediately laughed at Long Chen's response.

Yu Qingxuan's strongest point was actually her alchemy skill. Long Chen dared to mention alchemy in front of her?

"A peerless grade golden pill? Then doesn't that mean that you have reached the realm where your soul has returned to nothingness, and your will holds the world?" Long Chen was surprised. He stared at Yu Qingxuan in disbelief.

This so-called 'soul returns to nothing, will holds the world' was a saying amongst alchemists. It referred to when a person's spirit had reached the point of seeing through the essence of the ten thousand Daos. It was a kind of realm that most people could not imagine.

Only when one's mental realm reached that level could they refine golden pills. Long Chen himself had not reached that level yet.

Furthermore, a peerless grade pill referred to how only one such pill could exist within the nine heavens and ten lands. There would never be a second pill like it.

The immortal world's pills were graded according to low grade, middle grade, high grade, top grade, and peerless grade. These pills were further differentiated as spirit pills, treasure pills, and golden pills.

Ninety-nine percent of the pills sold on the marketplace were spirit pills, and treasure pills were very rarely seen. As for golden pills, Long Chen had never seen one yet. Even after plundering so many treasuries of the Soaring Dragon Company, he hadn't seen a single golden pill. From this, it could be seen just how rare they were.

Long Chen's mental realm still wasn't high enough to refine golden pills. As for peerless grade golden pills, almost no one had ever seen them before because they were unique existences within heaven and earth. It was said that within the restrictions of the Heavenly Daos, two peerless grade golden pills could not appear at once.

If a person refined a peerless grade golden pill, and another person in another place refined the same peerless grade golden pill, then one of those would definitely be destroyed beneath the Heavenly Daos. It was because there was only one that it was called peerless.

A peerless grade pill had to have reached the level of a golden pill. Furthermore, those who could refine a peerless grade golden pill required not just masterful alchemy arts and powerful Spiritual Strength, but also strong mental energy that could control the Heavenly Daos. Adding on about ninety-nine percent luck, it might be possible for one to refine a peerless grade golden pill.

Thus, Long Chen truly was shocked. He hadn't thought that in this world, the Pill Fairy really would still be the Pill Fairy. Her alchemy was as amazing as ever.

"You know about the soul returns to nothingness, the will holds the world. That means that you really are an alchemy master. You don't know just a little bit!" Yu Qingxuan was also surprised.

"No, I really am not being modest. I really do only know a bit about alchemy. After all, refining pills is my secondary profession," said Long Chen with a smile.

“Then what is your main profession?” asked Yu Qingxuan curiously.

“My main profession is looting,” said Long Chen a bit bashfully.

“Liar.”

Yu Qingxuan laughed, refusing to believe Long Chen.

Feng Xiang and the others had originally believed that they had grasped an opportunity to mock Long Chen, but it seemed that Long Chen truly was skilled in alchemy. Now, they were dumbfounded. Were they just there to make Long Chen look better?

Yu Qingxuan’s smile when she looked at Long Chen was particularly infuriating. They didn’t know what they felt in their hearts.

At this moment, Feng Xiang and the others exchanged a glance. After snapping their fingers, attendants came forth with a small golden plate. When the plate’s cover was opened, it revealed a swallow’s nest the size of a baby’s fist.

The swallow nest was blood-red. It was dense, with thread marks on top. Also, it emitted intense flame fluctuations as if it was actually burning.

“Fairy Qingxuan, this is a high level Golden Silk Blood Swallow’s nest. It is truly a top tier item and contains Heavenly Dao runes inside of it. You must try it,” said Feng Xiang.

This swallow nest looked very beautiful, and Yu Qingxuan did like it. With a smile, she thanked Feng Xiang. This kindness required at least a thanks.

Yu Qingxuan's smile delighted Feng Xiang. He felt like he had finally won a round, so he couldn't help looking at Long Chen.

"You can try it as well. This thing is truly precious. A normal person wouldn't even see it in their lifetime. To tell the truth, if it weren't for fairy Qingxuan, I wouldn't be willing to give such a thing to a stranger."

However, when Long Chen looked at the swallow nest, he didn't reveal any expression. As Yu Qingxuan picked it up, seeing Long Chen wasn't moving, she couldn't help asking, "What is it?"

"Don't eat it. Otherwise, you'll regret it." Long Chen shook his head.

"You...!"

Feng Xiang was enraged. He had always found Long Chen dislikeable, and now Long Chen actually advised Yu Qingxuan not to eat his gift?! This was clearly targeting him.

In their fight against Long Chen, he and the others had always been at a disadvantage. Now that he finally took out a treasure that could move fairy Qingxuan, Long Chen actually said such a thing, enraging him.

Yu Qingxuan was startled. She didn't understand. But ultimately, she slowly put the swallow nest back. She looked at Long Chen, hoping for him to continue speaking.

“Long Chen, you’re going too far, aren’t you? Brother Feng Xiang made such an effort to treat you. That’s clearly enough to show his magnificent hospitality. But you keep going against him. Why? Even a dog knows to shake its tail to express its thanks once it eats someone else’s food. As for you?” Zhao Mingxuan directly stood up and pointed at Long Chen.

“If you want to shake your tails, then go ahead. I’m not a dog. What does that have to do with me?” said Long Chen disdainfully.

“You...!”

With that, Long Chen had essentially offended all of them. Their killing intent exploded.

“Long Chen, what is going on? Why do you think I shouldn’t eat this swallow nest? Will it be harmful?” asked Yu Qingxuan hastily to distract everyone.

“Yes, it will definitely harm you.”

Long Chen nodded, causing Feng Xiang’s expression to sink. That appearance was like he wanted to tear Long Chen apart. As for those two World Kings, they looked at him with astonishment.

Chapter 3513

“Long Chen, you actually say that the swallow nest I prepared for fairy Qingxuan will harm her?! If you don’t give me a satisfactory explanation, then I, Feng Xiang, swear that you won’t leave the Dragon Blaze Prefecture alive!” declared Feng Xiang angrily. He didn’t even bother concealing his killing intent.

He was pushed to his limit. The Golden Silk Blood Swallow’s nest was something that even he normally couldn’t bear to eat. But Long Chen actually said that he had malicious intent by preparing it for others? How could he not be infuriated?

“That’s right, if you don’t give us a satisfactory explanation, then I, Zhao Mingxuan, will not spare you for accusing young master Feng Xiang!” said Zhao Mingxuan.

The others also stood, saying a few words. They looked like they were just about to kill Long Chen.

They had finally grasped the chance that they were waiting for to get rid of Long Chen.

In front of all their anger, Long Chen continued to appear indifferent. He was so calm that even those two fourth Heavenstage World Kings felt impressed.

It had to be known that facing so many terrifying heavenly geniuses wasn’t something that even the two of them dared to take casually. But Long Chen seemed to view them as inconsequential. Furthermore, Long Chen had continuously given them an unfathomable feeling of mystery. When Long Chen’s killing intent erupted, even the two of them were shaken. Hence, they were very curious about his origins.

Ignoring Feng Xiang and the others’ furious glares, Long Chen looked at Yu Qingxuan. “Do you know the origins of this swallow nest?”

“Isn’t it when the swallow uses the essence within their body to make a nest?” asked Yu Qingxuan with confusion.

“Yes. But the Golden Silk Blood Swallow is different. They are spirit beasts of heaven and earth. When they lay eggs, they will spit out the energy of their own bodies to make the nest. Hence, this nest will contain its essence blood. The essence blood is used to nourish its descendants. Thus, while there are many kinds of swallow nests, only the Blood Swallow’s nest is exceedingly precious. It is because that essence blood is its life. When it creates a nest and someone takes it away, it will spit out more essence blood to create a new nest. As someone continuously takes it away and it spits out more essence blood

to create more nests, the nests it creates grow redder. That is because its energy is running out, and it can only use increasingly more of its essence blood to make up for it. This nest is the final one that the Golden Silk Blood Swallow made right before its death. It left its entire life to this nest, because without this nest, its child would be unable to incubate. It spat out all its life and died for this goal. For this nest to appear before us represents that the Blood Swallow and all its children in its stomach died powerlessly just like that.” Long Chen’s voice was heavy with emotion.

Yu Qingxuan’s heart ached. She hadn’t expected that this precious swallow nest was obtained through such cruel means.

“Sorry, I can’t eat this swallow nest.” Yu Qingxuan pushed the swallow nest in front of her away. Considering her kind nature, she couldn’t accept such food.

Feng Xiang was instantly embarrassed and looked at Long Chen with increasing hatred. This fellow was absolutely hateful, constantly going against him.

“Long Chen, what are you saying? In the cultivation world, the weak are devoured by the strong. Are you a vegetarian? Who are you to act like some saint?!” demanded one of them.

“I’m not vegetarian. I eat meat, and I’ve killed more lifeforms than all of you have seen in your entire life. But there is one thing. I never harm kind lifeforms. I always feel like kind lives should be treated as warmly as possible. The Golden Silk Blood Swallow is a good species amongst spirit beasts. It does not compete with the rest of the world and simply relies on absorbing the spiritual qi of heaven and earth to live. They are also auspicious beasts of heaven and earth, close to the human race. Sometimes when humans are in trouble, they will even appear to help the human race. Humans need to have respect and gratitude in their hearts. If you eat their lives, they might not hate you, but the Heavenly Daos will settle this debt with you. Right now, those calamities have not befallen you yet, but you are already far from fortune,” said Long Chen, shaking his head.

Although the Golden Silk Blood Swallow was not as famous as the Butterfly Spirit race, it was still a species of auspicious beasts, and a very kind lifeform at that.

“What a huge joke. When has my Golden Crow race ever been afraid? We’ll kill and eat whoever we want. The cultivation world is a cruel world where the weak are devoured. That’s the truth of the Heavenly Daos. If you are eaten, it only proves that you aren’t strong enough. That is your fate,” scoffed Wu Yang.

“If you eat it, I won’t stop you. I’m simply warning fairy Qingxuan. I’m afraid that she will regret it for the rest of her life if she eats it. As for the rest of you? To tell the truth, your life and death means nothing to me. Don’t treat yourselves as so important,” said Long Chen indifferently.

“Long Chen, truly thank you. If you hadn’t warned me and I learned of it in the future, I would definitely feel guilty for the rest of my lifetime.” Yu Qingxuan looked at Long Chen gratefully.

Long Chen smiled and indicated that it was nothing more than a minor matter. He continued eating as if nothing had happened.

But Feng Xiang and the others were so enraged that they were about to explode. How could they still eat? Seeing Long Chen eating so nonchalantly, they had the urge to flip the entire table into his face. This fellow was truly hateful.

“Long Chen, how are you so amazing? How do you know so much?” Seeing Feng Xiang and the others’ fury that was barely contained, while Long Chen acted as if all of that had nothing to do with him, Yu Qingxuan hastily interjected.

Long Chen was in the midst of stuffing meat into his mouth. As he didn’t chew it enough and ended up swallowing too quickly, it was stuck in his throat. Yu Qingxuan hastily passed a cup of wine to him. He only managed to swallow the meat with the help of that wine.

Long Chen smiled. “Thank you. Ah, in truth, I don’t have much power, and my looks aren’t so great. My mom told me that ugly people need to read more books. When I arrived in the immortal world, I ended up spending some time in an academy. I conned the dean there, managing to sweet-talk him into making me a Heaven Master of the academy. Just think about it! As a Heaven Master, I have to have some learning at least, right? I was forced beyond my skills, afraid of being exposed. So, I studied and taught, studied and taught. As a result, I ended up learning a great deal but not too much of any category. It’s the typical model of jack of all trades, master of none.”

Even as he talked, he continued eating. He was very expressive, giving off a humorous and particularly amiable feeling.

Yu Qingxuan had never met someone like this. All the people that she had encountered were very respectful toward her and were careful with their words. But Long Chen was particularly relaxed, as if they had no statuses to bind each other. They could chat with no other thought other than the conversation. This was a feeling that she had never had before, so she felt particularly interested.

Feng Xiang and the others watched as almost all the good stuff on the table was eaten by Long Chen. This table had become his display stage. Hearing Yu Qingxuan’s occasional laughter, they were so enraged that their eyes turned green.

“I heard that someone commented on this lowly one’s humble wine? May I see them?”

Suddenly, a clear voice resounded throughout heaven and earth. When they heard that voice, Feng Xiang and the others instantly smiled delightedly.

Yu Qingxuan was startled. She instantly realized that someone from the Wine God Palace had come. Someone had definitely spread the word that Long Chen had criticized the Pear Flower Wine. Based on Feng Xiang and the others’ expressions, it was clear that they had done it secretly.

Feng Xiang and the others were smiling, and so was Long Chen. He announced, “It was I who casually judged your wine. If I’ve offended you, please forgive me! If senior doesn’t mind, why not come chat with me for a bit?”

Space suddenly shook and a figure appeared. When they sensed that person's aura, the two fourth Heavenstage World Kings instantly stood up and appeared beside Yu Qingxuan.

Chapter 3514

It was a middle-aged man in gray clothes. His facial features were delicate, with a beard and mustache, and he looked to be around forty.

Also, his clothes were shabby and definitely weren't high quality. Yet, he gave off a feeling of being washed and clean. Although he was no longer young, he simply gave off the aura of a mature man.

However, his gaze was rather apathetic, and it seemed that nothing could draw his attention. He gave off a feeling of being so lofty that he wasn't easy to get along with.

The most shocking thing about him though was his concealed aura. Even those two fourth Heavenstage World Kings felt their hearts shaking, enduring immense pressure. Both of them then got closer to Yu Qingxuan, afraid of something happening to her.

That person's gaze swept across everyone and somehow settled on Long Chen. After that, unexpectedly, he bowed slightly toward Long Chen.

"I am Xu Zhuzi. May I ask for sir's great name?"

Everyone was shocked. This expert from the Wine God Palace was actually so courteous to a little Divine Lord.

“Senior is too courteous. This junior is Long Chen. Greetings, senior.” Long Chen returned his bow with a smile. Excellent. There was no need for him to go looking. Feng Xiang had helped him.

“Then I won’t stand on courtesy. Someone sent a photographic jade, saying that someone was judging my Pear Flower Wine. I didn’t dare to tarry and immediately came to hear your pointers. Mister Long Chen said that using rootless water in my wine was a mistake, and I should use morning dew. But I do not understand. Morning dew contains the qi of vegetation and wood. Using it to make the Pear Flower Wine will definitely affect its richness and mellowness. I tried it many times, but no matter how careful I was, it would still affect the taste. Does mister have any guidance for me?” asked Xu Zhuzi.

“Senior’s name is good, and it’s not just for show. You really do have a spacious, accepting heart, willing to ask and learn from others.[1] It’s admirable. In truth, the majority of morning dew contains the qi of vegetation and wood. This taste is sweet, light, and contains a bit of bitterness. In my opinion, it is this trace of bitterness that can give your wine greater flavor. This is based on the principle of perfection appears flawed. Senior’s Pear Flower Wine seeks to be excessively perfect, resulting in it instead being coarse. The five colors blind the eyes, the five tones deafen the ears, the five flavors fill the mouth with delight. Other than the five colors, the five tones, and the five flavors, there must be other colors, other tones, and other flavors. Otherwise, heaven and earth would not be complete, and there would be nothing to use as a mirror.

“It is when the Heavenly Daos are complete that there is a clash of positive and negative, tall and short, big and small, Yin and Yang. Senior’s Pear Flower Wine is almost perfect but is lacking a slight bitterness. Without bitterness, there can be no sweetness. Without experiencing something easy, you don’t know what difficult is. Without the tiny streams, there would be no mighty rivers. Without the earth, how could you look up at the heavens? These are just my random thoughts, and if you feel like I have misspoken, please forgive this junior.” Long Chen bowed slightly.

The current him didn’t seem to possess the slightest air of youth. Instead, he seemed like a wise and erudite master as he spoke frankly and with assurance, his words overflowing with the profundities of the heavens. Everyone was startled.

Yu Qingxuan had a strange light in her beautiful eyes. With time, she felt that Long Chen was very mysterious. Just what was in his head? How did he know so much?

Let alone her, even the two World Kings felt like their mental realms had instantly grown clearer after hearing him say this. Some questions that they had never managed to answer now seemed to become clear.

Previously, Long Chen had mentioned that he was a Heaven Master. Back then, Yu Qingxuan half-believed him, thinking that he might just be joking with her. But now, she found that he really might be a Heaven Master.

It had to be known that amongst the major sects and powers, Heaven Masters were people of great prestige and wisdom. They were seniors who had spent their entire lives studying and learning.

When people thought of Heaven Masters, they would think of those old, white-haired fellows. Thus, everyone had treated Long Chen's previous words as a joke. But now, the principles that he spoke took their breaths away.

Xu Zhuzi nodded after hearing this. "Mister Long Chen is too right. Back in the day, I brought my Pear Flower Wine as an offering to a senior to judge. That senior merely gave me four words: warm start, cold end. At that time, I thought that he was praising me, saying that I had controlled the heat perfectly, that I had used its cold and cool qi just right. Thinking back, I really was foolish."

"Warm start, cold end? Bitter finish, sweet beginning?" Yu Qingxuan suddenly couldn't help blurting out such a thing.

Xu Zhuzi turned to Yu Qingxuan. "Young beautiful miss, you truly are wise. You instantly understood the deeper meaning behind these words. I myself didn't understand at all. It is only thanks to mister Long Chen's pointers today that I thought of that senior's evaluation. I truly am ashamed. That senior meant the same thing as mister Long Chen, that this Pear Flower Wine was lacking a trace of bitterness,

resulting in it being flowery but lacking any fruitiness. It is not the true Dao. To think that I actually gave this wine away to others. I'm truly ashamed."

Xu Zhuzi's praise delighted Yu Qingxuan. It had to be known that all the Wine God Palace's people had odd characters. To obtain the approval of such a figure was something worthy of being proud of.

"Senior is too humble. This Pear Flower Wine can already be counted as top grade amongst wines. I was so bold as to give some criticism because I wanted to draw you over. To tell you the truth, this junior was friends with the Wine God Palace back in the mortal world. I received the Wine God Palace's aid several times, which is the only reason I survived. Junior has always had gratitude for the Wine God Palace. Other than that, truthfully, ever since I ascended, I haven't had any good wine to drink, because... Hehe, you understand," laughed Long Chen.

"Hahaha!" Xu Zhuzi laughed. "Treasured blades go to heroes, pretty makeup goes to beauties, and fine wine naturally can only go to those who understand wine. Brother Long Chen, why don't you take a trip with me to the Wine God Palace? As long as you are willing to judge the wines and pick out their flaws, my Wine God Palace will have an endless supply of fine wine for you to take."

Hearing that Long Chen was closely connected to the Wine God Palace in the lower world, Xu Zhuzi instantly seemed to become a different person. He was no longer so aloof and actually switched to calling Long Chen brother.

As a master of the Wine Dao, his mental realm was definitely frighteningly high. No one could lie or pretend to be an expert in front of him.

The Wine God Palace's experts all disliked those hypocritical people who would lie to them. Thus, rarely anyone could get in contact with them.

However, once they did recognize someone, they would view that person as being on their side. This was something that Long Chen had long since experienced on the Martial Heaven Continent. Thus, when he saw someone from the Wine God Palace, he naturally felt close to him.

Seeing all this, Feng Xiang and the others were enraged. They had stealthily sent word to the Wine God Palace to make them cause trouble for Long Chen.

However, they hadn't expected these two to instantly become friends as soon as they met. He even invited Long Chen to be a guest of the Wine God Palace. Where was the justice in that? Every time they fought with Long Chen, they ended up losing. Now, it was a complete loss.

Before this, they could mock Long Chen's origins. But now, the Wine God Palace actually invited him to taste their fine wines. Just that alone was something that countless people would dream of but would never be able to touch.

"To go to the Wine God Palace to taste their fine wines is something that I would love. However, I want to bring a friend as well. Is that alright?"

Long Chen looked at Yu Qingxuan, causing her to instantly smile widely, while the others' expressions sank.

Chapter 3515

It was very clear that Yu Qingxuan longed to go as well. The mysterious Wine God Palace was not a place that anyone could go to.

Even Divine Venerates would be rejected at the door if they weren't invited.

It was said that the Wine God Palace's interior was filled with great masters of the Wine Dao. Every single person there made wine with their own unique characteristics.

Hence, The Wine God Palace's wine was the most famous wine within the nine heavens and ten lands. But the people of the Wine God Palace were lofty. They only gave their wine away and never sold it. Thus, their wine was something that people could only hear about but never get a taste of.

Yu Qingxuan was naturally happy that Long Chen was extending an invitation to her. No matter who it was, they would be very curious about novel and mysterious things.

Everyone said that curiosity killed the cat, but women were even more curious than cats.

"Of course, it is no problem. This young lady's wisdom is something that I trust many senior apprentice-brothers and sisters of the Wine God Palace will be delighted by," said Xu Zhuzi.

Yu Qingxuan was even happier to hear that Xu Zhuzi did not refuse.

"Mister Xu Zhuzi, for you to descend upon my Dragon Blaze Prefecture, it was truly rude of me not to greet and welcome you." Suddenly, the void shook and another figure appeared in the air above the restaurant.

Long Chen's heart shook. This person appeared silently and without warning. His cultivation base was absolutely terrifying.

“Brother Feng is courteous. If it wasn’t due to your son sending me the word, I would have missed this opportunity to meet junior brother Long Chen. I have to thank your son,” said Xu Zhuzi.

This person was the Blaze Dragon Prefecture’s city lord, Feng Xiang’s father, a seventh Heavenstage World King.

Learning this person’s status relieved Long Chen. It was no wonder that he was powerful. So he was a seventh Heavenstage World King.

However, his warning also gave Long Chen a sense of alarm. This seventh Heavenstage World King was actually capable of merging with the void and appearing at will. Then what kind of level would a peak World King like Enpuda be at?

As expected, the dean’s words were correct. Advancing through the nine Heavenstages of the World King realm was like scaling the heavens step by step. Every single Heavenstage was as different as heaven and earth. He absolutely could not be careless.

After he had fought and slain Liao Bencang’s avatars, he started to look down on him. Now, he no longer dared to do so.

Originally, Long Chen had thought that even if he couldn’t beat his opponent, with the Lightning Falcon race’s movement art, he should be able to escape. However, that confidence was no longer so solid.

“How can you say that? My child was simply jealous and couldn’t stand someone more outstanding than him, so he did some foolish things that harmed others without benefiting himself. I’ve made you laugh at me. However, youngsters always need to take a few losses in order to grow. I normally can’t be bothered to deal with him. Letting him run into a few more nails isn’t bad. Since you wish to bring people to the Wine God Palace, I will be so shameless as to ask a favor of you. Can you bring these youngsters with you to see the world?” asked Feng Xiang’s father.

"You really are making things hard on me. Well, fine, I'll bring them all. But let me just say this, if they don't abide by the rules and are expelled, don't blame me," said Xu Zhuzi. From their tones, it seemed that the two of them were friends and very familiar with each other, which was why Xu Zhuzi didn't refuse.

"If they don't abide by the rules, just kill them for me. That's fine, I'll see if I can put in some effort and birth a new one," laughed Feng Xiang's father.

Long Chen smiled slightly. This person was quite straightforward. No wonder he could be friends with someone from the Wine God Palace. He was quite the character.

"Listen well. This opportunity was something obtained through begging by lowering my own face. If you don't listen to the rules, it's like slapping me in the face. If you dare to cause trouble in the Wine God Palace, then I won't care how the Wine God Palace deals with you. But if you let me catch you afterward, I'll definitely beat you half-dead at least. Also, Feng Xiang, make sure to put on a decent display this time. Bring me back a few jugs of wine, and we will be fine. If you don't bring back anything, I'll break your legs." Feng Xiang's father actually said such vicious words to him.

Feng Xiang's expression instantly changed. "How can I do that?"

"Why can't you? Didn't you come up with so many tricks to harm others? Are you out of ideas now? This is your mission. If you can't bring back anything, then I won't just break your legs but also strip you of your position as the future city lord. Your third brother can take over," said Feng Xiang's father coldly. That appearance of his did not seem to be joking.

Hearing this, Feng Xiang was shocked and enraged. Before this, he could always brag that he would be the future city lord of the Dragon Blaze Prefecture. Now, his old man had given him a doomed mission. If he couldn't get the wine, he would have nothing.

The Wine God Palace's wine could only be obtained by those knowledgeable about wine. Only then would the Wine God Palace favor them and bestow their wine on them. However, he didn't know anything about wine. How could he obtain any?

"Are you asking me to go steal it?!" raged Feng Xiang.

"If you want, go ahead and try. Will you have the crap beaten out of you then? If you don't get beaten, I'll be the one doing it," said Feng Xiang's father coldly.

"Are you doing this to me on purpose?!" shouted Feng Xiang furiously.

"Don't you have your little tricks? If you can use them to harm others, you can use them to get some wine. Whether it's through deception or lying, in any case, you must bring me back a few jugs of wine. This is your trial. If you can't even do such a small thing, how will you oversee an entire prefecture? If you can't obtain it, then don't bother coming back. That way, I won't have to see you and feel vexed," snorted Feng Xiang's father.

After that, he cupped his fists to Xu Zhuzi. "I'll trouble you."

Xu Zhuzi smiled and waved him off. Forming hand seals, everyone within the restaurant felt space quiver, and they vanished.

Only those two World King elders were left. They exchanged a glance along with a bitter smile. They wanted to go too. Unfortunately, they didn't have that fortune.

Long Chen and the others suddenly found themselves in an enchanting world. The air was particularly clear and fresh here, and even the sky seemed especially blue. It was a world of green mountains and clear water.

“Everyone, the Wine God Palace’s territory is up ahead. However, the space here is special. You cannot fly or use transportation formations. You can only walk in. Brother Long Chen, please!” said Xu Zhuzi.

Long Chen and the others followed Xu Zhuzi deeper into the forest. Feng Xiang’s expression was gloomy the entire time. He didn’t say anything to anyone.

It was then that Xu Zhuzi’s voice rang out in his mind. “Feng Xiang, your father is testing you. If you cannot grasp this chance, your father might really give up on raising you.”

Feng Xiang was startled and heard Xu Zhuzi continue, “Your father and I go a long way back. I will give you a reminder. Your future is in the hands of one person. If you cannot grasp this opportunity, then no one can help you.”

“One person? You mean...”

Feng Xiang involuntarily looked at the one walking shoulder to shoulder with Yu Qingxuan: Long Chen.

Chapter 3516

As they continued onward, it really was just as Long Chen predicted. Everyone’s cultivation base was gradually stripped away from them. Feng Xiang and the others instantly grew uneasy, a touch of fear appearing in their eyes.

Yu Qingxuan was also a bit panicked, but she wasn't as obvious as the others. Long Chen smiled and asked, "Are you afraid?"

"Not afraid, just not used to it. I trust that the Wine God Palace won't harm us. Furthermore, I feel particularly safe with you beside me. You'll protect me," said Yu Qingxuan with a smile.

"No way. I'm hoping for you to protect me! To tell you the truth, other than bragging to scare people off, I don't have any ability," said Long Chen.

"I don't believe you."

Yu Qingxuan looked at Long Chen, and her smile did not falter. She really liked listening to Long Chen talking. It felt particularly interesting.

Furthermore, he was different from everyone else that she had met. Others were doing their best to show themselves off, but Long Chen was doing his best to cover himself up. It made her extremely curious. No one knew just how many things Long Chen was hiding.

His smile was something that she felt to be so sincere. It was warm like sunlight, making her feel close to him. It was like with him present, there was nothing to fear.

Seeing Long Chen and Yu Qingxuan talking and laughing, Zhao Mingxuan, Wu Yang, and the others were all envious. As for Feng Xiang, after being warned by Xu Zhuzi, he no longer appeared to be so angry.

Clearly, Xu Zhuzi had shown him the way. If he wanted to protect his position, he had to surrender to Long Chen.

He was very clear on his father's character. What he said, he would do. If Feng Xiang couldn't bring back that wine, his father would really give up on him. No one could change his father's mind.

Although he was the most talented of his father's sons, he was profoundly aware of just how unfathomable his father was. No one could see through him.

His father almost never looked after them. But this time, it seemed that Feng Xiang's act of leaking the news of Long Chen judging the Pear Flower Wine to the Wine God Palace had drawn his father's ire. In other words, if Feng Xiang didn't deal with this matter properly, if he couldn't give his father a satisfactory response, he would be abandoned by his family.

He was filled with hatred for Long Chen at the start, but now he had calmed down. If he put his jealousy aside and thought carefully, it seemed that Long Chen really was outstanding. Perhaps the humble him that he showed off right now was nothing more than a disguise.

Having woken up from his fury, Feng Xiang was gradually starting to feel that something was off. His father would not make him do this for no rhyme or reason. There had to be some deeper meaning.

"Brother Long, do you not feel any fear?" asked Feng Xiang. Hearing this, Zhao Mingxuan, Wu Yang, and the others were all stunned. Why did Feng Xiang's tone suddenly change?

Long Chen was also a bit surprised. But seeing that Feng Xiang didn't seem to have any malice, he indifferently said, "I am a very normal person with no halos of light like the rest of you. Even once people's halos are stripped from them, I am still myself. The rest of you are all unrivaled heavenly geniuses who like that feeling of supreme power. If you lose that, you will naturally feel flustered. Your heart cannot be at ease after losing what you depend on. But as for myself, I would like to live an ordinary life. I don't need others to revere me or look up to me, and I don't need to trample over others to live. Thus, I don't really feel any fear right now."

“Only someone who can look up and feel no guilt to the heavens, look down and feel no guilt to the earth, look out and feel no guilt to man, look in and feel no guilt to the heart can possess such a magnanimous heart. Junior brother Long Chen, even at such a young age, you possess such a high realm. It’s truly admirable,” said Xu Zhuzi.

“Senior overpraised me. This little one simply likes the ordinary,” said Long Chen with a smile.

As they spoke, they passed through the lush forest. Up ahead was a small stone path winding through the grass. It was a peaceful and serene vision.

After a bit, they arrived at a gate. There were three large words, Wine God Palace, written on top of it. But it was askew and very ugly, like it was written by a child who didn’t know how to write.

“Junior brother, what do you think of these characters?” Xu Zhuzi paused and pointed at the characters above the gate.

Long Chen smiled. To Yu Qingxuan, he said, “Qingxuan, why don’t you take a look and see what kind of profundities you can see from these characters?”

Long Chen had actually tossed the question to Yu Qingxuan. Hence, Yu Qingxuan looked at the characters for a long time without seeing anything special. She then turned to Feng Xiang and the others.

“I can’t see anything. All of you are arrogant geniuses in your own right. You should be able to see some clues, right?”

Long Chen couldn't help smiling. Yu Qingxuan was a quick learner. She had tossed the question to others as well.

Feng Xiang and the others were embarrassed. Those three characters were crooked and ugly, so they didn't see anything special about them. If they had to say something special about those characters, it would be that it was particularly ugly.

But who dared to say such a thing? Wouldn't they be expelled without even entering the gate then?

"Cough, fairy Qingxuan is peerlessly wise. If even you couldn't see anything, then with our humble aptitude, we definitely can't see anything," said Feng Xiang, coughing a bit.

It went without saying that Feng Xiang's reaction was quite quick. He turned the question back on Yu Qingxuan without embarrassing himself.

Yu Qingxuan smiled and looked at Long Chen. Long Chen also smiled. "If my guess is correct, these characters were personally written by the Wine God. Furthermore, it was done after he was drunk. The characters were written very ugly most likely because he was so drunk that he couldn't even carry the brush steadily..."

For him to say that, Yu Qingxuan's smile gradually vanished. This evaluation of Long Chen's was a bit too impudent, no?

She listened as Long Chen continued, "The writing is clumsy, and there is endless wine intent merged inside of it. Is senior testing my alcohol tolerance? This little one doesn't dare to try it."

“Amazing. You are able to see it. This truly was personally written by the Wine God after he was drunk. At that time, he said: if the heart contains two things, it will lose focus on both. The Wine God focused so much on the wine intent that the characters he wrote are ugly. After writing these three characters, he passed out. Also, after waking up, he stared at these characters for a long time before recognizing what he had written.” Xu Zhuzi wasn’t the slightest bit angry with Long Chen’s evaluation. Instead, he smiled.

The characters that the Wine God had written, he himself didn’t recognize. Yu Qingxuan laughed. To tell the truth, if those three words were not hanging over this place, there really wouldn’t be many people capable of recognizing them.

Suddenly, a startled cry rang out. Two of the people that had come with Feng Xiang and the others suddenly collapsed on the ground, their faces flushing. They began to snore as if they had drunk so much that they were dead drunk.

“It’s fine. They used Spiritual Strength to investigate these three characters and were affected by the wine intent. Don’t touch them. Let them sleep for two days and they’ll be fine,” said Xu Zhuzi.

Everyone was shocked. Fortunately, they had been too afraid of the Wine God Palace to use their Spiritual Strength. Otherwise, they would have collapsed just like these two.

Just glancing with Spiritual Strength resulted in sleeping for two days. That was too terrifying, no?

Everyone walked through the gates. After that, Long Chen instantly saw the Wine God’s statue, but he came to a sudden pause when he saw it.

Chapter 3517

“What?”

Xu Zhuzi had not introduced everyone to the Wine God, nor had he bowed or done anything to the Wine God's statue, but Long Chen was still struck dumb by the statue that he saw. Hence, Xu Zhuzi couldn't help asking what it was.

"The Wine God that I saw didn't look like this. In the mortal world, the Wine God's statue that I saw was of a young and handsome refined man," said Long Chen, gesturing with his hands.

This statue of the Wine God depicted an old man that could be described as disheveled. His clothes were ragged, and he held a wine gourd as he lay there like a beggar. Long Chen almost couldn't believe it.

"The statue that you saw depicted the Wine God in his youth. This is the Wine God after he grew old. The Wine God roams the nine heavens, and we don't know where he went. It's been tens of millions of years since we've last seen his tracks. However, after the Wine God left the Wine God Palace, he told us not to allow outsiders to worship his old statue. As for the reason, we don't know either," said Xu Zhuzi.

Long Chen nodded. Looking at the statue, although he felt that this elder was slovenly, he appeared even more free and at ease. He was completely unrestrained, having reached freedom of the most profound state.

Perhaps it was because his own realm was too low, he wasn't able to see any clues. He then walked through with Xu Zhuzi just like that.

Inside the inner Wine God Palace, a familiar sight entered Long Chen's eyes. In that instant, Long Chen felt like he had returned to the Martial Heaven Continent's Wine God Palace. The same familiar buildings here made him think of Tu Qianshang, the High Priest, and the others.

Thinking of the High Priest made him think of Tu Qianshang, which also reminded him of his parents and his little sister Long Xiaoyu. Seeing this familiar sight made Long Chen sink back into his memories. His eyes suddenly reddened.

“Long Chen, are you alright?” Yu Qingxuan suddenly saw the pain in Long Chen’s eyes. As a result, her own heart shuddered. This gaze gave her heartache.

“It’s nothing. I just thought of some things from the past. Let’s go. The dueling arenas that the seniors of the Wine God Palace have arranged are up ahead. As long as we win those duels, we’ll have more wine to drink,” said Long Chen, taking a deep breath to settle his emotions. He then smiled at Yu Qingxuan.

Since Long Chen didn’t answer, Yu Qingxuan didn’t press him further. But for some reason, when she saw his eyes redden, her own eyes felt wet and her heart ached. She didn’t know why she would feel this way.

As they continued on the small path, small huts appeared. Although there were some differences compared to the Martial Heaven Continent’s Wine God Palace, it was mostly the same arrangement.

Long Chen and the others first went to Xu Zhuzi’s house. This house didn’t look big from the outside, but the interior actually wasn’t that small. Even with over ten of them walking in, it still didn’t feel cramped.

As Xu Zhuzi took out a wine jug for everyone, they were delighted. It had to be known that normally, drinking a single cup of the Wine God Palace’s wine was as difficult as ascending the heavens.

Although they were the peak heavenly geniuses of various major powers, they were not qualified to interact with the Wine God Palace. Hence, for them to be able to drink wine inside the Wine God Palace was enough for them to brag about for a lifetime.

Most importantly, Xu Zhuzi actually offered them various kinds of fine wine. If they didn't come here, they wouldn't have a chance to drink any of this in their lifetime.

Based on the Wine God Palace's rule, anyone who could say the particularities of their wine or pick out some flaws would receive the Wine God Palace's finest wine.

As for Long Chen, he was an expert. He was no good at making wine, but when it came to tasting wine, he definitely excelled. As every wine entered his stomach, he was almost always able to say its origins, the work that went into it, and even some of the adjuncts that were added to it. Although it wasn't the entire thing, ninety-nine percent was right on the mark.

As a result, Xu Zhuzi was delighted and offered Long Chen all the fine wine that he had created. The others simply benefited from him and got some wine as well.

Regretfully, they were only able to say that it was good wine and nothing else. They were like fools watching Long Chen's display.

Now, they felt a bit regretful. Did they exist just to make Long Chen appear even more brilliant? Was it their ignorance that contrasted Long Chen's learning?

However, even if they were unhappy, there was no way they dared to show it here. They could only endure it.

On the other hand, Feng Xiang had become much steadier after Xu Zhuzi's warning. He also formed a trace of admiration for Long Chen's learning; it was no longer pure jealousy.

At this moment, Yu Qingxuan's eyes twinkled. Long Chen's comprehension of the Wine Dao was incredibly deep. Furthermore, as he judged the wine, he would also brush upon the Pill Dao. The principles that he spoke of then were just as profound. Only she could grasp just how unfathomable Long Chen's realm was.

Long Chen's ease and confidence when he evaluated the wine was particularly attractive. Also, Long Chen would occasionally say a few jokes that made people laugh.

"Brother Long, today it really is all thanks to you. Your judgments have benefited me immensely. I'm preparing to go into seclusion to make more wine. However, I've given you everything that I have right now. You should go chat with the senior apprentice-brothers and sisters over there. I suddenly feel like I've brought a wolf into the house, hahaha. I have a feeling that you are about to earn plenty of jugs," said Xu Zhuzi with a bitter smile.

Long Chen's comprehension of the Wine Dao was amazing, and he was also an expert alchemist. Moreover, he had previous experience with merging the Wine Dao and the Pill Dao, so he could be called an old master.

Long Chen found that while the Wine God Palace's experts had high cultivation bases, when it came to mental realms, they seemed to be somewhat lacking compared to their experts in the mortal world.

Perhaps it was due to the immortal world's experts having such long longevity, so the rhythm of life was too slow. It wasn't like in the mortal world where people aged, grew old, got sick, and died so quickly. That short life was precisely what allowed people to comprehend the true meaning of life and the workings of the Heavenly Daos.

Long Chen was quite shameless, directly saying that he would come try the wine that Xu Zhuzi would make in the future and that he would definitely handle the 'disposal' of all his old wine.

Long Chen shamelessly sucked in thousands of jugs of Xu Zhuzi's wine, making Zhao Mingxuan and the others' eyes redden. Those were priceless treasures.

After accompanying him for half a day, other than drinking a few cups of wine, they were entirely just there to show off how brilliant Long Chen was. In the end, Long Chen took all the wine. Yu Qingxuan's gaze had almost never left Long Chen, so all of this was driving them crazy.

Xu Zhuzi then turned them away, so Zhao Mingxuan and the others said goodbye and left.

However, Feng Xiang actually stayed behind, causing Zhao Mingxuan, Wu Yang, and the others' expressions to twitch. But they didn't say anything.

It was only once they left could Feng Xiang thicken his face enough to ask Long Chen whether he could give him a few jugs of wine to bring home for his father. He also had to apologize to Long Chen for what had happened in the restaurant.

Although Feng Xiang's strong young master air was dislikable, no matter what, Long Chen had eaten his food and drunk his wine. He couldn't be stingy in return, right?

Long Chen actually gave him three different jugs of wine. Hence, Feng Xiang was delighted, hastily thanking Long Chen before leaving.

Now, it was just Long Chen and Yu Qingxuan remaining here. Long Chen then smiled at Yu Qingxuan.

"Let's go. I'll bring you to get rich through conning. We'll split everything fifty-fifty."

Chapter 3518

Long Chen brought Yu Qingxuan to the next house to pay a visit. What Yu Qingxuan hadn't expected was for every cultivator inside the Wine God Palace to have entirely different characters.

Xu Zhuizi was like a scholar who had achieved the Dao. He was modest and open-hearted, with a graceful bearing. It made others naturally feel close to him.

However, the others were different. The next house that they knocked on contained a sloppy old beggar.

Long Chen drank dozens of cups of his wine, not paying the slightest attention to how his wine cup was covered in dust. Long Chen then said a few words about this wine, causing the old beggar to be wild with joy. He treated Long Chen as a close friend.

This person had been alone his whole life and had relied on begging to survive. One day, he encountered someone from the Wine God Palace who gave him pointers, and with a flash of enlightenment, he became immersed in the Wine Dao.

When Long Chen drank the beggar's wine, he fully explained the mental realm within this wine. As a result, this old beggar was very moved. It was like an expert painter that finally encountered someone who could understand his paintings.

Hence, Long Chen gained another large batch of fine wine from this beggar. This time, it wasn't Long Chen who asked for it but the old beggar who gave it to him. Furthermore, it was the kind where the beggar refused to let him not take it.

"Dogs are loyal, while scholars are heartless. As expected, these ancient words did not deceive me." Once they left the beggar's house, Long Chen sighed. This senior was someone with his own story. He had lived a life of loneliness and yet was so generous.

"If senior Xu Zhuzi heard you say that, he might beat you," warned Yu Qingxuan, covering a smile. Long Chen was clearly saying that Xu Zhuzi was stingy with his wine in comparison.

Long Chen acted shocked, as if he had never thought of that before. He then carefully looked at Xu Zhuzi's house. Seeing no reaction, he relaxed. This thief-like act made Yu Qingxuan laugh.

At the third house, a peerlessly beautiful woman opened the door, causing both of their eyes to brighten. She was tall and slender. Her snow-white neck in particular made people think of a beautiful crane.

She smiled at the two of them and warmly invited them in. After that, she treated them to some fruit wine.

Yu Qingxuan was also a peerless beauty, but she couldn't help staring at this woman. She was attracted to her noble temperament.

In the end, other than the wine that she treated them to, she also gave them many jugs of wine. As a result, Yu Qingxuan was overwhelmed with favor. It had to be known that all the wine had previously been given to Long Chen and not her.

"Senior, I don't understand wine. For you to give this wine to me, isn't it a waste of heavenly treasures?" said Yu Qingxuan, feeling a bit at a loss.

"How could that be? You are both kind people. This young man in particular has shown kindness to my Spirit race, having the blessing of the Spirit race on him. As long as you like it, you can take all the wine I have here," said the woman.

“So you’re from the Spirit race?” Yu Qingxuan was startled. She was unable to sense any aura from her.

“After receiving the pointers from a senior of the Wine God Palace, I used wine to achieve the Dao. I experienced a hundred flavors of human life. Naturally, my aura has become imperceptible due to that. There’s no need to feel surprised,” said the woman of the Spirit race with a smile.

She was very warm to them. It was just like a gentle mother, making them feel particularly comfortable.

Long Chen and Yu Qingxuan stayed a while with her before they reluctantly left.

Once they left, Yu Qingxuan looked at Long Chen in confusion. “Long Chen, why didn’t you help that big sister by evaluating her wine? Or does this mean that her wine has reached the realm of perfection?”

Long Chen shook his head, walking as he said, “This world does not contain perfection. I didn’t evaluate her wine because what she pursues is different. The Spirit race’s lifeforms are all kind-hearted, and they don’t have wild ambitions or worldly desires. Making wine is a kind of pleasure for her. If she makes good wine, then that’s good. If she makes bad wine, then that’s good as well. She will be happy and content either way. This is the so-called ‘those who have no desires reach the Heavenly Daos’. This senior is actually the person closest to the Heavenly Daos, and her kindness is like water. Water benefits the ten thousand races but asks for nothing. It is precisely because it does not ask for anything that it can clearly see the things that we can’t. You want me, someone whose eyes are clouded by desire, to judge a wise sage who has no desires? Although my face is thick, it’s not that strong!”

Yu Qingxuan couldn’t help laughing. “How can someone as wise and cool-headed as you be clouded with desires?”

"I naturally am clouded by desires. My goal was to loot all of her wine, but she actually took the initiative to give them to me! That actually made me too embarrassed to ask for any," said Long Chen, almost sounding vexed.

Seeing that depressed appearance of his, despite knowing that he was doing it intentionally, Yu Qingxuan still laughed.

When looking at her smile that was like a flower blooming, Long Chen's heart warmed. If he could make her so happy every day, perhaps he would feel a bit less guilt.

Seeing Long Chen just foolishly looking at her, Yu Qingxuan's face reddened slightly. She didn't quite dare to look at his eyes, but she did feel a certain warmth inside her heart.

Upon seeing her blush, Long Chen stopped staring at her. What he wanted was for Yu Qingxuan to feel his emotions, but an excessive display would make her feel pressure.

Long Chen had sworn to himself that this time, he would treat her properly. He wouldn't let her come to any harm or suffer under any pressure. He only hoped for her to always be happy.

Long Chen then brought Yu Qingxuan to the next house. This time, it was a stern old pedant. Although he took out wine, his face was so stern it was like he was a teacher teaching students. After Long Chen drank it, before he could give any judgment, that elder spoke.

He directly critiqued Long Chen and Yu Qingxuan for everything, from the way they held the winecup, to the position of their fingers, how their heads weren't tilted right, and how they put their cups down.

Hearing this, Long Chen and Yu Qingxuan exchanged a glance. Was this wine tasting? Why did it feel more like a class instead?

When Long Chen gave his criticism, the elder refused to accept it and directly retorted against his criticism, leaving Long Chen speechless. This was different from what he had expected. This old fellow was too stubborn and didn't allow others to point out his flaws. It was the kind of stubbornness that would rather perish than repent.

In the end, Long Chen told him, "If you are so wrong that you use vinegar as ink, then even if you write for half a lifetime, it will still be sour."

As expected, they were kicked out. Once Long Chen and Yu Qingxuan were out of the elder's house, they exchanged a glance and suddenly laughed. They didn't know why they were laughing, but they couldn't help it.

Suddenly, the door was kicked out, causing the two of them to jump. They hastily put away their smiles. Seeing how furious the elder was, they thought that he might turn hostile.

Unexpectedly, he tossed out a pile of wine jugs at them, and without saying a word, returned to his house and slammed the door behind him.

After a moment of silence, Long Chen pointed at those jugs of wine and asked, "Do you think that he's giving them to us?"

"Probably?" Yu Qingxuan also couldn't be sure. That old fellow's character was too strange.

"Hehe, success. Let's go to the next one!" Long Chen laughed and directly put the wine away. He brought the giggling Yu Qingxuan to the next house.

Chapter 3519

At the next house, an elder with a natural, poised bearing welcomed them. Also, he had a noble air around him, one that startled Long Chen. That was something that came from the depths of the soul. It was a kind of ruler qi.

Hence, Long Chen and Yu Qingxuan's hearts shook. This elder was definitely a major figure with an amazing backstory. Even the qi flow of the ten thousand Daos was concentrated into him, and yet he was willing to just stay here and make wine.

Moreover, although this elder possessed this ruler qi, his tone was calm and peaceful. He invited the two of them to his house and offered them his wine.

When Long Chen tasted the wine, he instantly felt a vast murderous aura strike him right in his soul. At that instant, he seemed to be able to see a brave warrior in armor wielding a spear, crazily killing powerful enemies.

Mountains of corpses, rivers of blood. He led countless warriors in battle.

Taking over cities, protecting his territory, settling the chaos of war. He made countless meritorious contributions.

This elder was filled with a grand aura. Despite being old, despite his heart being calm now, this wine was unable to conceal his heroic spirit.

Long Chen sighed. "As the storm rages, the people endure. As the emperor talks of ruling the universe, it still isn't better than a good drink!"

Long Chen had heard this little verse back in the mortal world. He simply felt it to be very heroic, so he liked it.

When he drank this senior's wine, he couldn't help repeating it. He felt as if this verse had been written just for this senior.

"Hahaha, what a nice verse. Junior brother is a literary talent. I like it. As the emperor talks of ruling the universe, it still isn't better than a good drink!" The elder's laugh was like thunder, shaking the ten thousand Daos.

"Senior overpraises me. It wasn't this junior brother that came up with this verse. This verse was definitely made by a hero like senior," said Long Chen, shaking his head.

This person had a shocking background and had endured great storms and waves. He had seen the world flourish but hadn't been lost within it. In the end, he came to comprehend the true essence of life and chose his own Dao, immersing himself within the Wine Dao, living an unfettered life. This was a kind of transcendence. Long Chen was thousands of miles away from such a realm.

"Hahaha, that's not important. For you to be capable of comprehending the meaning within this verse and the feeling within my wine, it's proof that we are kindred spirits. Come, junior brother, let's toast!" said the elder grandly.

Before this, his aura was still reserved. Now that he was excited, his ruler qi silently unfurled. Hence, Yu Qingxuan felt her soul start to shake. She couldn't help being shocked. Just what kind of cultivation base did this person have?

As for Long Chen, he didn't seem affected by his ruler's pressure at all. He cheerfully touched cups with the elder. Both of them then finished their cup in one gulp, looked at each other, and laughed.

As the two of them chatted, they grew even more excited. What shocked Yu Qingxuan the most was that as they discussed the Wine Dao, a sharp murderous aura rose. Looking outside the window, it seemed that the wind and clouds had changed color.

The two of them went from the Wine Dao to discussing the Martial Dao, and then from the Martial Dao to the Heavenly Daos. They touched on various aspects of learning. Long Chen was capable of talking with him smoothly, so the two of them grew increasingly excited. In less than an incense stick's worth of time, they had drunk thirty jugs of wine.

With so much wine in his stomach, Long Chen suddenly felt the world spinning around him. He then tilted to the side and collapsed, fast asleep.

Seeing that Long Chen couldn't bear his wine, the elder laughed. He poured himself three more large bowls of his wine before turning to Yu Qingxuan.

"You are Dongfang Zichu's apprentice, correct?"

"You know my old master?" asked Yu Qingxuan, feeling surprised and delighted.

The elder said, "I suppose that we know each other. Does he treat you well?"

"Master has always treated me like his own daughter," said Yu Qingxuan. From this person's tone, it seemed that he was from the same generation as her master. As a result, she felt even greater reverence for the elder now.

Dongfang Zichu was a Divine Venerate and had lived for countless years. In the Daluo Star-Field, there was no one that didn't know his name.

Yu Qingxuan was born in the Blazing Heaven Divine Sect. It was said to be the best place for dual flame-and-pill cultivation, so many of their disciples were both flame cultivators and alchemists. This taboo cultivation style in the mortal world was actually treated as nothing special in the Blazing Heaven Divine Sect.

With the Blazing Heaven Divine Sect's disciples being both alchemists and flame cultivators, they were incredibly powerful. In the Daluo Star-Field, the Blazing Heaven Divine Sect was a holy land that stood at the very peak. Even women and children were aware of it.

As for the sect master, it was precisely Dongfang Zichu. He was also the founder of the Blazing Heaven Divine Sect. This sect with tens of millions of years of history only had one sect master all of this time.

Dongfang Zichu was famous, and yet he rarely revealed himself. Everyone had heard of his name, but almost no one had ever seen him.

Dongfang Zichu had taken only four disciples at the start of his life. That was something from tens of millions of years ago. Unfortunately, his disciples had not managed to become Divine Venerates and had all died.

It had been tens of millions of years since Dongfang Zichu had taken in any disciples. But in this generation, Yu Qingxuan was noticed, and this expert that had been slumbering for countless years was moved. He then accepted his fifth disciple, Yu Qingxuan. It was also said that she would be his final disciple.

The final disciple of an almighty Divine Venerate. Just how glorious was such a status? Thus, with this halo of light around her, no one dared to treat Yu Qingxuan with the slightest disrespect.

If it weren't for the Chaotic Star Sea being particularly special, Yu Qingxuan wouldn't even need any guards because no one dared to touch her.

Although Yu Qingxuan was Dongfang Zichu's disciple, even after all these years, she had only seen her master three times.

Every time they met, Dongfang Zichu would ask her about her cultivation, see if she had encountered any bottlenecks, and explain some of her questions.

Although it was just three times, to Yu Qingxuan who lacked a father and mother, that felt like a huge grace. She was full of gratitude toward Dongfang Zichu. Deep inside her soul, she even viewed him as a father.

Hearing that, the elder nodded and didn't say anything else about it. He asked her about her current cultivation state and gave her a few tiny pointers that benefitted her immensely. She was very grateful toward this elder who possessed ruler qi.

After a bit, Long Chen woke up and awkwardly laughed. "Junior was rude. Senior's wine is truly powerful."

Long Chen's alcohol tolerance was shocking, so it was his first time collapsing on the table from drinking. This elder's wine was truly domineering. Even he wasn't able to endure it.

The elder smiled. "You're already very amazing. I thought that you would sleep for a full day and night, but you woke up in just two hours. It seems that your physical body is even stronger than I estimated. This girl is a good and kind lady. Make sure to protect her."

The elder suddenly said such a thing, so Yu Qingxuan blushed and Long Chen was startled. Despite not quite understanding it, Long Chen solemnly swore, "I will properly protect her. Anyone who wishes to harm her will have to step over my corpse."

"Good, that's the grandeur a man should have. I won't keep you for too long today. This little bit of wine that I have is all yours!" The elder smiled and took out hundreds of jugs of wine.

Long Chen laughed. Not standing on any courtesy, he took them all. This elder's wine was definitely top tier. It was extremely domineering, capable of cleansing the soul. It had inestimable benefits for cultivation.

Long Chen thanked the elder and left with Yu Qingxuan. As for the elder, as he watched them leave, his smile slowly vanished, being replaced with a grave expression.

Chapter 3520

Before Long Chen could knock on the next house, its wooden door slowly opened. After that, Long Chen and Yu Qingxuan's hair stood on end.

They saw a skinny and tall man with horns on his head and a pair of bat-like wings on his back. Long Chen almost struck him with his saber on instinct.

"Winged devil!"

Long Chen instantly recognized this lifeform. Although the latter had reserved his devil qi, Long Chen had killed countless devil race experts. So, he was extremely sensitive toward this aura.

Long Chen grabbed the hilt of the Minghong Saber and stared at this devil expert vigilantly. This was an absolutely terrifying winged devil expert. How could he appear in the Wine God Palace?

That winged devil smiled at Long Chen's vigilance, and this smile made Yu Qingxuan shiver. It revealed his sharp sawtooth-like teeth. It was frighteningly sinister.

"Your hands are dyed in the blood of my winged devil race. I haven't even formed any hatred with you, so why are you staring at me so hatefully?" said that devil expert lightly.

Long Chen was shocked. Was this devil also part of the Wine God Palace? The Wine God Palace actually permitted the devil race's people to come and learn how to make wine?

"That's because your winged devil race slaughtered my brothers. I personally watched countless innocent humans die to your sharp blades. Why don't you tell me why I would stare at you so hatefully?" said Long Chen coldly.

"Innocent? If that word came from someone else's mouth, then I might accept it. But when it comes from the human race's mouth, it's much harder to accept it. You've already come, so come in and try the wine brewed by my devil race. See if it's to your taste."

After saying that, the devil expert actually gestured, inviting them in.

Yu Qingxuan couldn't help looking toward Long Chen. This devil expert's aura was too terrifying. She was unable to calm down.

Long Chen was very shocked at first, but he quickly calmed down. The Wine God Palace's doors were truly wide open. They didn't differentiate between races, and anyone who wished to could learn about the Dao of making wine.

After all, the Wine Dao was a Grand Dao. Hadn't he intentionally spread the Starry River of the Sky Art as well? If good and bad were differentiated solely by race, then that really would be a generalization.

Long Chen nodded toward Yu Qingxuan, indicating her not to be afraid. They walked in just like that.

Inside the room, they found that it was a bit different from the other rooms. They kept feeling a sinister aura inside that made them uneasy.

"The two of you are the first guests to come and taste my wine other than my apprentice-brothers and sisters ever since I came to the Wine God Palace thirty-seven thousand years ago. I don't know if my poor wine will be able to satisfy the two of you. I'm nervous." The winged devil race expert smiled at them.

He was clearly a terrible and brutal winged devil, but his words were very refined. Furthermore, other than that devil qi, Long Chen was unable to sense any other hostility.

The devil expert took out a jug. It was made from the bones of another lifeform, and the wine cup was also made out of bone. Moreover, when the wine entered the cup, it was actually ink-black. Yu Qingxuan frowned. She couldn't drink such a thing.

"Please." The devil expert gestured.

Long Chen raised his cup. He then sniffed it lightly and was surprised. "Ink bamboo fruit? Black crystal blood rice? These are all ingredients from the devil world."

"Of course. I am originally from the devil world. The immortal world's things clash with my nature. I cannot fully merge my mind with them, so I can only use the devil world's items to make wine. Please try it," said the devil expert.

Long Chen nodded and took a light sip. He was moved. "Good wine."

"What part of it is good?" asked the devil expert.

"I didn't expect that someone from the devil race could have such devotion to making wine. Your entire heart and spirit were put into it. There is a strong evil qi and a weak righteous qi. But the evil qi is unable to suppress the righteous qi no matter what. Thus, it forms an endless cycle. The wine energy spreads throughout the body in a cycle, refreshing the mind. It also allows one to sense the Heavenly Daos clearer. It truly is a good wine," said Long Chen, barely capable of believing it.

How could a lifeform of the winged devil race make such fine wine? Furthermore, it was made with the devil world's ingredients. Hence, Long Chen found it unbelievable.

Based on his understanding, the winged devil race was innately evil. They were greedy, tyrannical, and liked to kill and loot.

In fact, he viewed them as lower grade lifeforms that only thought of slaughter. But this winged devil expert had toppled this perception.

"Hahaha!" The devil expert laughed delightedly. "For you to be able to sense such a thing, it means that we are the same kind of people."

“No. I am a decent human,” said Long Chen, refusing to accept such a thing.

“A decent human? Not necessarily!”

The devil expert looked at Long Chen with a smile that didn't seem to be a smile. “My winged devil race's people are innately evil. No matter what I do, the wine's evil qi will always be above its righteous qi. If someone who was purely kind were to drink this wine, it would be no different than drinking poison. For you to feel such a thing after drinking it proves that you are the same as me inside. Your evil thoughts far surpass your righteous thoughts. Thus, when you say that you are a human, I believe it. But as for being decent, perhaps only you are clear on the veracity of that.”

“Hey, don't talk nonsense. My friend is right here. I'm going to become hostile. Remember, I am a good person,” warned Long Chen.

Right now, he was doing his best to give Yu Qingxuan a good impression of him. If this fellow exposed him, her good feelings toward him would diminish. She might even be on guard against him. In any case, that would enrage Long Chen.

Yu Qingxuan was speechless when she saw Long Chen's threatening appearance. That appearance was like he refused to admit to it even if he were to be beaten to death. She couldn't help smiling. He was actually threatening such a terrifying winged devil expert? Most likely, this matter would cause endless jaws to drop if it was spread.

“Alright, you can count yourself as a good person...” said the devil expert hastily. “You are a good person, okay? Come, try this other wine that I made.”

The winged devil race took out new wine and gave it to Long Chen. When Long Chen drank it, his qi and blood flipped. After that, a certain energy within his body grew active.

It was the dark energy within him. It was excited. Hence, Long Chen jumped in shock and stared at the devil expert.

The devil expert smiled slightly. "In truth, both of us have heart-devils. Your heart-devil is evil, while my heart-devil is good. You want to suppress your evil side, while I also thought of how to erase my good side. But even since throwing myself into the Wine Dao, I gradually came to comprehend many principles that I never thought of before. This so-called devil is nothing more than an opposing voice that you don't want to hear, a will that you don't want to face. Just who is the devil? That probably depends on your standpoint. In the same way, good and evil, right and wrong, there are no absolutes when it comes to these things. What do you think about this?"

Long Chen was silent for a long time before he nodded. He had no way to retort.

Suddenly, the winged devil expert's hand reached for Yu Qingxuan's throat. He was as quick as lightning. As Yu Qingxuan had no defenses, she cried out in shock.

"You're courting death!"

Long Chen's rage instantly exploded and his hair stood on end. He smashed a fist at that devil expert.