

No. 1 Supreme Warrior chapter 2526

Chapter 2526

“I thought you’d gone back. Why are you waiting for me?”
asked Jackie, genuinely puzzled.

After all, he and Rudy did not have the best of comradeship, and every conflict they had before never truly left their minds.

All that, and Rudy acted like nothing had happened between them and waited for Jackie outside.

Rudy let out a slight cough as he said with an obstinate tone, “We just moved in here, you know. We’ll be bullied if we walk on our own, don’t you think?”

Jackie let out a light grunt. He could not help but feel the urge to roll his eyes, but he stopped himself in the end.

He already grasped Rudy’s temperament a while ago, so it was nothing too surprising.

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He would just be wasting his time if he continued to be calculative with him.

Jackie thus nodded and decided to just play along. He could do whatever he wanted to.

“I’m going to the task hall, are you coming?”

Rudy's eyes widened in exasperation when he heard that. "Jackie, you've just arrived in Phoenix Valley for a few hours. Why are you in such a hurry to go everywhere ?

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"You've only been in that room for six hours! How much could you have learned ? Now, you're going to the task hall. Don't forget: Lou had mentioned that all tasks that have been claimed need to be finished."

Jackie nodded. He had not rested ever since he entered Phoenix Valley, and to Rudy and everyone else, it would look like he was in a hurry. However, Jackie knew all too well that he would be wasting his life if he did not value his time.

With not a second to lose, he turned and

looked at Rudy seriously. "I'll say it again: I'm going to the task hall. Do you want to follow me ? You can come along if you want to, but otherwise, head back on your own."

He could not be bothered wasting time exchanging words with Rudy nor did he want to reveal his plans to Rudy. With that, he turned around and left the Hall of Wishes.

Rudy frowned as he watched Jackie walk away. He did not understand why Jackie seemed to be in such a hurry. He had only rested for barely a moment before he resumed whatever he was thinking of!

After hesitating for a while, Rudy decided to follow Jackie in the end; he refused to be left alone in a place he barely knew.

The two of them walked forward, and Jackie even asked around for directions to the task hall. After a few twists and turns, they finally arrived at the task hall.

The task hall was the most majestic building in the whole outer valley of Phoenix Valley, and it took up even more space than the Hall of Wishes.

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There were 99 flights of steps, and just a glance would show how magnificent that palace built on the side of the hill was.

Jackie took a deep breath. Just from the design alone, the task hall looked like the most important place in Phoenix Valley, with all the people moving out and about in the task hall.

Compared to the places Jackie had been before, there were much fewer people there. After all, there were only about 200 alchemists in the outer valley, and all of them were split up into various places in the outer valley.

Even if the task hall had the most people in Phoenix Valley, it was still not that crowded.

Jackie did not pause for much longer before

The task hall was the most majestic building in the whole outer valley of Phoenix Valley, and it took up even more space than the Hall of Wishes.

Jackie did not pause for much longer before he started to walk right into the task hall.

Rudy followed closely behind Jackie, somewhat speechless as he looked at Jackie's back.

There were some things he had not wanted to say, but looking at how Jackie walked so confidently and calmly, he could not help but say, "You look very dead-set, Jackie."

Rudy's meaningless remark baffled Jackie.

He had never been someone who enjoyed talking a lot, but Rudy seemed like a curious child whose questions-ones he did not even wish to entertain-never ceased.

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Jackie glanced at Rudy. "Why are you talking so much? Have you only found out now that I can make my decisions? You don't have to keep rephrasing these things so often."

Rudy coughed slightly as he scratched his nose, saying awkwardly, "To be honest, I just wanted to know why someone as talented in combat as you would choose to be an alchemist. Even though alchemists are regarded very highly, strength is still the most important thing.

"If you decide to put all your focus on martial arts, you'll no doubt have many great accomplishments. All that, and you

decided to put so much time on alchemy. Aren't you afraid you'll regret it in the future?"

Jackie cleared his throat in his bewilderment.

He knew that Rudy would not have had anything good to say in the first place.

He turned around on the steps and looked

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down at Rudy.

"When did I tell you that I gave up on martial arts to pursue alchemy?"

Rudy shook his head somewhat stiffly.

Jackie coldly snorted and said, "I've never said it before, so don't jump to conclusions. Just focus on your issues and don't waste your thoughts on this."

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Jackie then turned to face forward once more, not giving Rudy another chance to speak.

The task hall was so vast that the ends could not be seen.

Compared to the vast space, there were not many people around.

There were no doubt more people there compared to everywhere else in Phoenix Valley.

The task hall's walls were filled with various boards—all of them half a meter wide, and a meter long—with jobs listed on them.

Tasks were shown on these boards, and to each were its details.

To claim those tasks, alchemists only needed to place their badges on the bottom right area, and a contract would then be formed with the task board's runes.

After the two reacted, the task would belong to the owner of the badge.

Every task in the hall, from easier tasks to the most difficult ones, was meant for alchemists.

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There were tasks like identifying spiritual medicines and assisting in looking for spirit grasses. Of course, there were also tasks for refining pills.

Most of the tasks on the boards were meant for sixth-grade pills. Seventh-grade pills were needed as well, but they were fewer in number than sixth-grade pills.

The tasks meant for eighth-grade pills were hung up on the higher parts.

The ones able to claim the eighth-grade

pills were rare, even in Phoenix Valley.

Just as Jackie studied the task boards looking for the suitable tasks, he suddenly heard some discussion from behind him which piqued his interest.

“Sure enough, there are way more tasks than before; this matter is no small affair. Only, we don’t know how long this will last. After the matter has passed, we won’t be able to benefit so much from it anymore.”

Rudy was standing beside Jackie, and he too could not help but turn around to look. The white-robed people talking about the tasks had sixth-grade alchemist badges on them, just like Jackie.

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He and the green-robed man were looking up tasks just like Jackie was. Only, they were conversing as they did.

The green-robed man let out a slight grunt before he said, “How could that thing be settled quickly? I heard it shocked the whole inner valley, and they’re already preparing for war. Otherwise, why would so many tasks suddenly pop up?”

“Before this, half of the task boards would be empty, but now the whole thing is full. This means that this matter won’t be resolved so easily. The alliance has already made preparations for a long-term war!”

After the green-robed man said that, the white-robed man nodded in agreement. “I just don’t know if we’ll be sucked into things or not.”

The green-robed man let out a deep sigh.

After thinking about it a long time, he answered, “I don’t know, either. With the way things seem now, it looks like it shouldn’t involve lesser-significant figures like us too much, but I don’t know if that’ll remain the same in the future. All we can do is pray.”

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Jackie more and more like something was wrong as he listened in. He could not help but turn to look at Rudy next to him, who also looked at the other two with a confused expression.

What the two of them were talking about should have something to do with the recent incident. Something had indeed happened to the alliance, and it was no small matter. It could even end up involving insignificant people like them.

Thinking about it, Rudy took a deep breath.

He walked nearer to Jackie as he whispered, “Could it have something to do with the ambush on us? What happened, exactly? Why don’t we know anything despite how major the incident seems? Do you think we should try and find things out?”

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Jackie shook his head decisively. “Don’t overreact for now. If you run around asking about it now, you might not get any answers. You should let things fizzle out for the time being.

“Since people are talking about this thing everywhere, then it’s not some secret that can’t be revealed. We should be able to find out about it in not too long.”

Rudy listened to Jackie’s words and frowned. “Why are you so much calmer when you’re facing such an urgent matter?”

Jackie turned to him. “There are some things you can’t find out if you’re anxious. This doesn’t seem so simple, so we shouldn’t treat it so casually.”

After saying that, Jackie turned his gaze to the task boards again, and Rudy only had a vague sense of what Jackie meant in the end.

The more Jackie acted like that, the more Rudy panicked. It was as if the whole world knew about what was happening except him.

“Jackie, if you know about it, can’t you tell me? I don’t know anything at all! What did what happened to us before have to do with this? More importantly, I don’t know what’s happening at all!” Rudy started to sweat.

Jackie turned to look at Rudy. “I only have a guess, but there’s no proof for now. My guess seems quite accurate, so let’s wait to talk about it.”

Jackie lowered his volume for a while.

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The discussions on the other end got louder as the green-robed man said, “I refuse to believe that all the good tasks have been claimed by those guys! It’s not like we’re worse than them, so why do they get all the good stuff?!”

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The white-robed man hurriedly placed his finger to his lips as he heard that, motioning for the other man to keep quiet.

“Could you please keep your volume down? Don’t you know those guys are very good at listening in?”

“If your words reach them, you won’t be able to get away easily. Why are you trying to offend them for no reason?”

The green-robed man let out a cold snort as he reluctantly reasoned, “We’re all sixth grade alchemists, anyway, and no one is better than anyone else. He’s just a bit more talented. What’s the point of talent? Are we supposed to just let them do what they want?”

The white-robed man shook his head helplessly. “He really is talented. I heard that he managed to get a high rank during the last test. He managed to get three sets of materials to refine golden pills!

“I also heard that he got a thousand and five hundred spirit crystals. Even though those spirit crystals aren’t much to us, it’s still something he managed to get with his talent and skill. He’s already much better than us in that regard.”

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The green-robed man grunted coldly but was unable to retort. The white-robed man, on the other hand, did not seem willing to dwell on the topic. He walked around before pointing at a task board.

“This task has been here for at least five days. No one has claimed it so far, which means no one thinks much of it. Why haven’t they taken it down? Even if they don’t want to, they should put it in a corner. What’s the point of them leaving it in the middle?”

Jackie looked at where the white-robed man was pointing and spotted a special task displayed on the centermost task boards of the hall.

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The task seemed very simple: one just had to refine a sixth-grade pill. The pill was called the Thousand Flower Antidote, and after refining it, one could get eight hundred spirit crystals.

Rudy had also been paying attention to the white-robed man earlier. He glanced at where the man was pointing and saw the task.

“It’s only eight hundred spirit crystals,” whispered Rudy with a frown. “I recall that the materials needed to refine a Thousand Flower Antidote will cost at least five hundred spirit crystals.

“All that hard work to refine the pill will only reward you with three hundred spirit crystals. That’s way too cheap! No wonder no one wanted the task.”

Refining a sixth-grade pill needed both time and effort, and to add to the mix, a certain amount of risk would be involved as well.

To prevent wastage, as well as to stop Phoenix Valley from spending more than they needed to, the alchemists in the valley all needed to prepare their own materials after claiming a task.

If Jackie took the task to refine the Thousand Flower Antidote, he would need to use his own spirit crystals to buy the materials needed to refine the pill. After refinement, he would then use the pill to exchange for spirit crystals.

Most alchemists were not too good in combat but were very good at planning. Expensing so much effort to earn 300 spirit crystals was not something anyone wanted to do. That was why the task had stayed there for five days without being claimed.

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Rudy took a deep sigh as he said with a conflicted expression, “Do you think I should claim this task? After all, I had just

become a sixth-grade alchemist. Refining the Thousand Flower Antidote only needs nine hundred pill runes. I can do it right now, though I'd probably struggle a little. Even though I can only earn three hundred spirit crystals, it's still some income for me."

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Chapter 2530

Jackie let out an exasperated laugh as he turned to look at Rudy. "You seem quite confident in yourself."

To Rudy, Jackie's words were like a slap to his face, and the old Rudy would have snapped back at Jackie. However, he no longer had that courage when facing Jackie.

No matter if it was alchemy or combat, Jackie was much better than him.

Rudy's lips twitched as he reluctantly reasoned, "I do have the confidence. I'm quite sure I can condense nine hundred pill runes. After refining it, three hundred spirit crystals isn't too bad for me."

Jackie let out a slight laugh as he said calmly, "How many alchemists like you, do you think they are in the whole outer valley?"

Rudy looked at Jackie warily. When he noticed how serious Jackie was, he thought about it for a moment before answering, "There should be about ten or twenty of them."

Jackie nodded; Rudy's estimate was about the same as his.

Jackie then said to Rudy, "If there are ten or twenty of them, why is the task still put up there? Aren't you curious?"

Jackie's question made Rudy assess the situation in a different light, and he then thought it was rather peculiar as well. The task hall was bustling with activity, and alchemists in the valley would walk around the place at any given time.

After all, they needed to accumulate wealth and accumulate experience in alchemy. It meant that the task hall was necessary.

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The task had been there for five days already, and those who were at around the same level of talent and skill as them should have taken up the task already if they thought it was suitable.

Oddly, no one took up the task for the whole five days.

There had to be a reason, but Rudy was too stumped, unable to find a plausible reason for it. After thinking about it for a long time, he felt like his brain had turned to mush.

He decided to just look up at Jackie sincerely. "My mind is a mess right now, Jackie. I don't understand. Stop beating around the bush and just tell me what it is."

Jackie let out a sigh. "The reason is simple: those who are stronger than you won't care about three hundred spirit crystals. Those who are at around the same level as you won't easily accept the task."

“Don’t forget, the materials needed for the Thousand Flower Antidote cost five hundred spirit crystals. Five hundred spirit crystals can only get you one portion, which means you can’t fail.

“The moment you fail and have to buy another batch of materials, you’d be making a loss. Those around your level can’t guarantee success, which is why they won’t easily accept this task. That’s why the task has been here for so long.”

Jackie’s explanation was so detailed that even a wild boar by the side of the road would be able to understand him.

Rudy slapped his forehead at that.

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“That explains why the task has been here for so long. I thought that I’d finally snagged an easy profit, but I stood corrected in the end... I’m actually not that confident that I’ll be able to successfully refine it in one go.”

Jackie nodded. He felt like Rudy was only barely a sixth-grade alchemist. After all, all he could do was refine an Energy Breaking Pill and condense 800 pill runes.

He might be able to try and potentially succeed with 900 pill runes, but there was no guarantee that the pill would have a 50 percent refinement after he condensed the runes.

A pill without a 50-percent refinement was a failure.

With that in mind, Rudy let out a bitter laugh.

