

No. 1 Supreme Warrior chapter 2676 - 2680

Chapter 2676

Despite Bradley's calm exterior, the sweat on his forehead revealed how anxious he was at that moment.

After all, this was a very important moment for him. As long as he completed the last 20 pill runes, he would be able to successfully refine the Three Suns Pill, and he would then pat his chest and guarantee that he was the fastest among the other participants.

Only those who had tried this before would know how arduous the test was. Even though Jackie had talent, Jackie could not have possibly been faster than him.

Bradley had a nervous look on his face as he condensed the pill runes. He could not help but mumble to himself, "If I hadn't had experience with ancient pill runes, I wouldn't have been able to condense and refine them in such a short time."

Since refining pill runes required using true energy, Bradley had expended most of this internal energy, and even his internal organs were starting to hurt.

He endured the pain, regardless; the only thing on his mind was condensing the pill as fast as possible. That way, he would be able to squash Jackie with his prowess.

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He remembered how Jackie humiliated him before this, and he would surely return the favor. Even though Jackie's results were higher than his in the first portion, he would use his results in the second stage to beat Jackie!

The thought of winning back his pride and returning the shame Jackie had caused him made Bradley smirk.

Meanwhile...

Jackie was already losing his patience outside. The tournament was still on, and he could not do anything by himself. He had nothing else to do but stare into space silently.

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It was not long until an idea occurred to him, and he abruptly turned to look at Master Forrest. "The materials were all meant for us anyway. Can I just continue refining a few pills?"

The moment he said that, everyone was stunned, and even a few of them looked at Jackie speechlessly, feeling like what he said was rather moronic.

The competition was still on and everyone was working hard to refine the Three Suns Pill, yet that brat wanted to go inside and refine a few more pills. Jackie was a stark contrast to everyone else!

The participants who were still in their respective plots would no doubt retch blood if they had heard Jackie's words.

Master Forrest's lips twitched. He wanted nothing more than to scream profanities at Jackie...but he knew this was no suitable time to do so. He did not want to let Jackie do as he pleased, too.

Master Forrest wanted to reject Jackie's request when the latter quickly interjected, "Surely you can't be that petty, are you, Master Forrest? After all, the materials are all already here. After I refine them, I'll give you one and keep the rest for myself."

Jackie was obsessed with wanting to earn more spirit crystals, and he did not-would not care if Master Forrest hated his guts on it.

Master Forrest nearly shot up in anger upon hearing Jackie's new remark. Jackie had shut him down with those words before he could say anything, and if he disagreed, people would think he was a cheap person!

Jackie had also said that he would give Sky Peak Pavilion one of the pills he refined, which was rather...gracious on his part.

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Master Forrest would be a little petty if he refused, but if he agreed, his frustration would only be fueled even more. After all, Jackie had floored Sky Peak Pavilion through and through, and it was good enough that they were not causing Jackie trouble.

They just had to cater to Jackie again.

Master Forrest's expression started to darken as his fury slowly rose from his chest. All of a sudden, Elder Maurice piped in, "Master Forrest, you're still the host. Are those materials really worth that much to Sky Peak Pavilion?"

"It's prepared for the tournament anyway, and you'll even be getting a free pill. Instead of just leaving them there, you might as well allow Jackie to continue refining them. With Jackie's standards, he won't waste the resources!"

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Master Forrest's expression completely darkened at that point. Elder Maurice was basically in cahoots with Jackie, putting him in a bind and forcing him to agree!

Master Forrest, though incredibly frustrated, relented with a nod. If he did not, Elder Maurice would no doubt spread the word about this, and he would gain a reputation for being petty. He could not allow his reputation to be ruined, and to add worry into the mix, the materials were not prepared with his own resources, too!

Master Forrest had to give his consent, though with a mere nod, after careful deliberation.

Jackie smiled. He did not want to give up any chance to make any spirit crystals, and the Three Suns Pill could be sold for a good price.

Before, Jackie had been refining sixth-grade pills. Even though the Three Suns Pill was a seventh-grade pill, the secrecy behind the recipe meant that it was much more expensive than regular seventh-grade pills.

After seeing Master Forrest nod, Jackie wasted not a second longer, not wanting to give Master Forrest the chance to revoke his permission. He immediately re-entered the room and threw himself into refinement.

Master Forrest was left outside, gritting his teeth in anger.

After a moment, shuffles were heard from the second room before the door opened, revealing an exhausted but excited Bradley.

He walked out of the room emotionally. He was different from Jackie in that he did not place the Three Suns Pill into a box to preserve the medicinal properties, but instead held it in his palm.

He had rushed out of the room impatiently and ran up to Master Forrest. When he saw that there were no other participants around other than himself, he was so exhilarated that he could not even speak.

It was just as he had expected; Jackie was not as quick as him. He was the fastest out of all the participants. He could beat Jackie with his talent!

He had won the second stage. He had defeated everyone and proved his capabilities!

Bradley's breathing grew erratic at these thoughts, and the excitement on his face was plain for all to see.

Master Forrest frowned slightly, feeling like Bradley was a bit too highly strung, but he did not get a chance to say anything about it before Bradley hastily placed the Three Suns Pill into Master Forrest's palm.

"Master Forrest, kindly inspect if the refinement was a success for him!"

With Bradley's abilities, there was no real need to test it. Nonetheless, it was still a tournament in the end. Even though he knew he refined it perfectly, he needed Master Forrest to determine the results.

Master Forrest furrowed his eyebrows and looked at the Three Suns Pill in his hand, and had no real problems with it of course. He nodded and said, "The refinement is a success. Fifty percent refinement, and there are no blemishes. It's a very standard Three Suns Pill."

Bradley let out a sigh, feeling his entire body relax. The pressure he had felt before suddenly had left him, and his inner peace returned.

He turned to look at Mr. Zayne and Elder Maurice. Sure, they were not Jackie, but he was their subordinate, nonetheless.

Bradley said proudly, "Jackie can surely refine a Three Suns Pill, given his talent. Alas, his talent in refining pills is still a step below.

"Even though he's better than me at completing pill runes, I've already said before that the results of the first stage don't mean he'll be stronger than me!"

Bradley grew haughty as he spoke, and he could not deny the thrill he felt in regaining the respect for himself once more.

He wanted to say this all over again when Jackie finally stepped out of his confinement. He wanted Jackie to know that he was more talented than he was!

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Bradley had pride. After Jackie had overpowered him before, he refused to admit defeat, even though he did not say too much about it. Even if Jackie's results were better than his, Bradley believed that he was more talented than Jackie.

The reason Jackie's results were better than his was that Jackie was just slightly more talented in condensing pill runes, but that was all. Jackie would not be able to one-up him in any other situation.

His hypothesis had been proven right, and the pride in his heart soared once more, evident by how radiant he looked.

However, Bradley was surprised that Master Forrest did not praise him after all that he said.

Sure, they should not go overboard with the praises and congratulations, but Bradley felt like Master Forrest would have at least said something along the line. After all, Master Forrest regarded him so highly...but nothing came after he waited quietly for a moment.

Bradley could not help but frown as he looked up at Master Forrest, who looked back at him speechlessly with furrowed brows. Master Forrest's lips twitched, as if he had something to say but could not.

The conflicted expression on his face looked downright uncomfortable.

The curiosity in Bradley's heart rose even more when he saw how Master Forrest was acting.

At that moment, he suddenly heard a huff.

Bradley turned his head and saw Elder Maurice's lips curled into a smile as he started to laugh. When he saw Bradley's gaze, Elder Maurice realized that it was unbecoming of him and composed himself after a slight cough.

Still, he could not completely hide the smile on his face.

Mr. Zayne's eyes were averted as well. Looking closer, there was a dense sense of amusement in his eyes, which stunned Bradley. Why was everyone reacting that way?

Should they not have acknowledged his talents and offered a few words of praise? Even though they were on opposite sides and unlikely to praise him that much, they should not have been laughing either.

Something was wrong, and Bradley could feel it.

Elder Maurice, worried that it would turn into even more of a joke, reached out to grab Bradley's shoulder. "You weren't the first to come out; Jackie's results were better than yours. He'd already refined the Three Suns Pill fourteen hours ago."

At those words, Bradley felt like he had been struck by lightning as his whole body stiffened, his eyelids blown wide open.

Master Forrest's heart wrenched when he noticed Bradley's reaction.

After all, Bradley was someone he had grown up with pride. Others might not know about Bradley's pride, but after being with him for so many years, Master Forrest knew how Bradley was. He might not talk much normally, but it did not mean he was without pride.

In truth, Bradley was far more prideful than anyone there, and it was because of that pride that he could not accept a result like that.

Master Forrest took a deep breath before he consoled him, "There's always a mountain higher, always someone who's more talented. Back then, you were too sheltered in an environment. Meeting someone like Jackie is good, in fact, to broaden your horizons.

"I don't think he's more talented than you.

As long as you have enough time, Jackie's just a small blip in your road to maturing."

Even though he was not willing to, he had to acknowledge Jackie's talent. Jackie was the most talented person Master Forrest had ever met.

Jackie had outstripped anyone he would consider a master, and he had taken just four hours to complete the Three Suns Pill that all of them regarded as incredibly difficult. Compared to Jackie, everyone else was far more inferior.

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They were not even qualified to be spoken about in the same conversation as Jackie. The difference in talent between them and Jackie was like an insurmountable gulf, but he still could not admit that Jackie was far better than Bradley.

Bradley suddenly coughed violently and slumped over as his breaths became uneven. His coughs seemed so startlingly terrible that it looked like he could cough out his lungs.

Even though Bradley was just at the early stage of the innate realm, he was already at the innate realm. His constitution was fundamentally different from that of a regular person. Without being injured, he would never get sick.

Since his coughing could not have been caused by sickness, then there was only one other possibility.

His emotions had run too wild, and it affected his whole body, causing him to cough violently.

Master Forrest looked at Bradley worriedly as he held Bradley's arm while he patted Bradley's back.

Bradley's breathing got worse as he coughed. It looked like he was incredibly ill at that moment. Elder Maurice and Mr. Zayne exchanged a look of surprise at that.

They never expected Bradley to be affected so much. Even though Jackie's results were better than his, Bradley's results were not that bad either. If Jackie was not there, he would have taken first place.

However, the moment Bradley found out that Jackie had been 14 hours earlier than him, Bradley looked like he was about to die. The reaction startled them both.

Mr. Zayne whispered in exasperation, "This brat is a little too frail. Even though it's quite a blow, we're all warriors here. Unless a knife is held to our necks, nothing else matters! To be so emotional just because Jackie was better than him..."

Master Forrest nodded at that. Bradley's actions caused them to look down on him with disdain. Even if it was a big, emotional blow, he did not have to end up in such a state. Master Forrest looked at Bradley with pity.

He knew how bad Bradley was feeling at that moment, thus he helped Bradley up while assuring him, "It's fine. It's fine, even if you lose. You don't have to think too much about it.

"It's just a small bump in your road to success. You'll be fine after it passes."

Bradley was caught in a coughing fit for a good while before he slowly recovered. At that moment, his face was as white as paper, his eyes already bloodshot. Without context, anyone would definitely assume that Bradley contracted some incurable illness.

Bradley's hands trembled as he was seized in his emotional state. At that moment, his mood had hit rock bottom as an untold amount of thoughts raged in his mind.

Master Forrest's words of consolation echoed in his head...but they failed to convince Bradley. The man had been too emotional earlier, and had not recovered that much.

It took a long time before he finally said, "You're right."

That was all he said, and nothing else.

Meanwhile...

Elder Maurice frowned at their insults at Jackie. Initially, Elder Maurice did not want to disarray that brat's emotions even more, so he did not stop them.

However, the two of them kept on going, referring to Jackie as 'a blip on the road' and 'a stepping stone'. How could Elder Maurice stand it?

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Thus, Elder Maurice chuckled humorlessly as he looked at Bradley. "You can't beat him, so you say he's just a blip on the road. You seem to think that all you need to do is get over this, is that right? Can you use your head when you're saying all that?"

"Jackie isn't just a blip on the road to you; he's a mountain that you'll never scale. There's such a huge gulf in your results, so how could you agree with Master Forrest?"

Master Forrest's face twisted in rage at Elder Maurice's words. It had not been easy for him to console Bradley, but Maurice just had to come out and ruin everything!

Master Forrest immediately knew what Elder Maurice was up to.

The second match was still underway, and the results were not certain yet. No one knew if a third round would have to be carried out. As long as there was a third round, Bradley would still be Sky Peak Pavilion's trump card.

If Bradley completely collapsed, then the results of the third round would be obvious.

Master Forrest would not let Elder Maurice get what he wanted. He squinted as he pulled Bradley behind him, sporting a snide smile. "Stop with your petty schemes. Don't assume that everyone here is an idiot. The results of the second round aren't out yet. We don't know who the victors will be.

"Even though Jackie's talents are a little better than Bradley's right now, what of it? No one knows how they'll develop in the future.

"Jackie might just be peaking right now and might not improve afterward. Bradley will surely be able to keep on improving and become a real grandmaster!"

Master Forrest was already struggling to keep his composure at that point. He knew his words were not very convincing and were no doubt a bit petty.

All thoughts of that flew out of the window, however, as anxiety slowly crept into Master Forrest's mind.

Sure enough, Elder Maurice got riled up. Master Forrest's words had crossed the line.

Just as he was about to shoot back at Master Forrest, a sound was heard from the first room again. A familiar figure opened the door and walked out confidently.

Jackie furrowed his eyebrows as he looked at everyone somewhat unpleasantly.

He had been immersed in refining pills, but the noise outside had annoyed him. Even though the rooms had sound-canceling effects and he could not hear what they were talking about outside, it still affected Jackie in the end.

Elder Maurice looked as Jackie walked out and saw what Jackie had in hand. He let out a pleased smile as he said, "Did we disturb you? We apologize. Master Forrest really doesn't know how to keep his cool and likes to talk so much nonsense. How many pills did you refine?"

Jackie nodded at Elder Maurice before he raised his right hand, revealing three Three Suns Pills in his palm. Jackie passed one over to Master Forrest.

“As per our prior agreement, no matter how many pills I’ve refined, I’ll give the Sky Peak Pavilion one.”

Master Forrest’s expression soured as he looked at the Three Suns Pill in Jackie’s hand. Even though the Three Suns Pill was more expensive than a regular seventh grade pill, it meant nothing to him.

Looking at the Three Suns Pill in Jackie’s hand, all Master Forrest felt was shame, and it was as if he had just been slapped on the face a few times.

Unable to stomach the feeling, he pushed the Three Suns Pill back with a frown.

“We don’t need your charity,” remarked Master Forrest coldly. “Since we’ve already agreed to it, the pills are yours. We won’t take a single one. The Three Suns Pill might be pricey, but it’s only a number worth noting for you.”