

Immortality Cultivation: I Farm in the System Space

#Chapter 21: The Pure Emerge from the Furnace - Read Immortality Cultivation: I Farm in the System Space

Chapter 21: The Pure Emerge from the Furnace **Chapter 21: The Pure Emerge from the Furnace**

“

After a short rest, Lin Jing continued his alchemy practice.

This time was even better than before, as he managed to produce a Superior Elixir Medicine and three Low Grade Elixir Medicines in a single furnace.

Moreover, his proficiency in alchemy had increased by 9 points.

Lin Jing realized that the higher the quality of the Elixir Medicine, the more proficiency points he would gain.

Then came the third furnace.

The fourth furnace.

The fifth furnace.

Throughout the night, Lin Jing refined five furnaces of elixir medicines and succeeded with two of them.

The success rate had indeed improved a lot.

Most importantly, the quality of the Elixir Medicines had greatly increased.

From these two successful furnaces, he obtained a total of eight Elixir Medicines, two being Superior, four Medium Grade, and two Low Grade Fasting Pills.

Lin Jing divided the produced Elixir Medicines into batches and placed them into porcelain bottles, preparing to sell them once he had accumulated a certain amount.

This was a good start.

The next day

Everything was as usual; after sending Luo Luo off, Ning Yue went to practice alchemy again.

This reminded him of a term from his previous life: “company livestock.”

These two words were especially fitting to describe the current situation.

He then wondered, if Ning Yue was “company livestock”, what would that make himself?

A nanny?

Or a househusband?

On reflection, he felt even the term “company livestock” might be better.

It wasn’t suitable to enter the System Space with Luo Luo around during the day.

So Lin Jing practiced alchemy in his own room.

By the afternoon, he had refined three furnaces, but the results were not very satisfactory.

Two of the furnaces were failures, and the last one was barely a success, producing only one Medium Grade and two Low Grade Fasting Pills.

It seemed that the success rate of the Alchemy Room was not just talk.

It was possibly due to the Pill Manual that Lin Jing discovered the wondrous use of the 10% increase in Divine Sense strength only during this alchemy session.

With that 10% increase in Divine Sense, Lin Jing felt a much stronger control over the Elixir Medicines during the alchemy process.

In the evening, after Ning Yue returned, the three of them sat around the table and ate dinner as usual.

“Fellow Daoist Ning, I heard from Elder Yu at Yuebaolou that a person’s cultivation and the strength of their Divine Sense have a significant impact on the outcome of alchemy, is that true?”

Lin Jing asked.

“That’s correct,” Ning Yue answered.

“For example, you currently only have a Qi Refinement Second Rank cultivation, and your Divine Sense is too weak, leading to insufficient control over the Elixir Medicines. At the same time, your cultivation is limited, and your control over the flames might not be very good.”

“And that will affect the final result of the alchemy.”

“If you break through to a Qi Refinement Third Rank or even mid Qi Refinement stage, it will naturally be different.”

“Have you ever experienced feeling very tired and unable to concentrate during alchemy?”

Ning Yue asked Lin Jing.

“Sometimes I do feel that way, but I usually force myself to stay focused until the alchemy is completed.”

“Is that not the correct approach?”

Lin Jing asked doubtfully.

“That’s not incorrect, but...”

“At that time, the quality of your Elixir Medicines begins to decline. You could have produced a furnace of Superior Elixir Medicines.”

“But, the moment your attention falters, the quality drops immediately, and sometimes you don’t even realize it yourself.”

“You might even think it’s a mistake somewhere and ponder over it for a long time, but actually, it’s because your cultivation is too low and your Divine Sense isn’t strong enough.”

“As soon as you reach the mid Qi Refinement stage, this won’t happen anymore when you refine First Rank Elixir Furnace Medicines.”

“But even at the mid Qi Refinement stage, you can’t continuously refine without breaks, as that could also lead to fatigue, affecting the Elixir Medicine’s quality.”

“Between every two alchemy sessions, you need to rest for a while. Only by doing so, will it be possible.”

“I am aware of that, Elder Yu once mentioned it,” Lin Jing said.

“`

“Hmm.”

“Next, aside from alchemy, you must not neglect your cultivation either. You also need to improve it.”

“I see you’ve been eating Medium Grade Spirit Rice every day, so you must have had some savings before, but even so, you can’t be too wasteful.”

“It’s still best to learn alchemy quickly. Once you’re good at alchemy, it can be very profitable. Then you won’t have to worry about eating Medium Grade Spirit Rice every day, even eating Superior Grade Spirit Rice every day will be no problem.”

Ning Yue instructed Lin Jing, looking very much like a senior.

Lin Jing felt somewhat embarrassed.

“Medium Grade Spirit Rice?”

“In a little while, when the Superior Grade Spirit Rice in the System Space is ripe, I’ll be eating Superior Grade Spirit Rice every day.”

“What then should I say?”

“Hmm, it seems I’ll need to find an excuse when the time comes.”

After finishing their meal, the two of them went back, and Lin Jing began his grand alchemy career.

For half a month like this, Lin Jing refined several furnaces every day, and gradually, his success rate in alchemy increased manyfold.

These past few days, Lin Jing had already produced three Supreme Elixirs, but he hadn’t managed to create a Pure Elixir.

Of course, it might also be because he hadn’t produced two Supreme Elixirs in the same furnace.

After all, the most basic condition for creating a Pure Elixir is to have two Supreme Elixirs in the same furnace.

Otherwise, even if the Alchemy Room had the attribute of a 10% chance for a Pure Elixir, without meeting the most basic condition, how could he produce a Pure Elixir?

A few days later, the materials for Fasting Pills he had bought were used up, and his alchemy skills were almost there.

Next, he planned to start refining other types of elixirs.

The first time he bought a Pill Furnace, Lin Jing also purchased materials for several other elixirs. Since his alchemy skills hadn't been up to par before, he hadn't used them.

This time, Lin Jing was prepared; it was time to start refining, especially the Energy Gathering Pills used to increase one's cultivation. His own cultivation progress depended on them.

He entered the System Space and came to the Alchemy Room.

This time, as usual, he started the fire, opened the furnace...

For the first refinement, he put in the materials for an Energy Restoration Elixir.

He began the refinement process.

"Elixir refinement successful, Alchemy proficiency +15."

The appearance of the system prompt made Lin Jing's eyes light up.

"15 Alchemy proficiency points."

"A Supreme quality elixir on the first attempt to refine an Energy Restoration Elixir?"

The Energy Restoration Elixir is for quickly restoring one's Spiritual Power when it's depleted, and in terms of price, it isn't much different from Energy Gathering Pills, but much more expensive than Fasting Pills.

This Supreme Energy Restoration Elixir would typically fetch around 20 Lower Grade Spirit Stones on the market.

It was certainly not cheap.

Lin Jing opened the Pill Furnace and took out the elixirs inside.

In this furnace, he had refined one Supreme, two Superior, and two Medium Grade Energy Restoration Elixirs.

A Supreme Elixir provided +5 Alchemy proficiency points, while a Superior was +3, a Medium Grade +2, and a Low Grade only increased proficiency by one point.

As for the Pure Elixir, Lin Jing had not made one before, so he wasn't sure.

The Elixir Furnace Medicine added up to exactly 15 Alchemy proficiency points.

“Next up, it’s time to refine Energy Gathering Pills,” Lin Jing murmured to himself.

After resting for a while, Lin Jing once again began preparations.

This time, he remained steady, without any hint of panic, not sparing a moment of excitement for having just produced a Supreme Elixir.

Such a mindset was perfect for alchemy.

Half an hour later.

The Alchemy Room was filled with swirling smoke and lingering elixir fragrance, which was different from before, not dissipating for a long time and gathering continuously inside the Alchemy Room.

Lin Jing, as if oblivious, focused intently, staring at the Pill Furnace, carefully controlling the temperature of the flame.

“Ding”

“System prompt: Congratulations, Host has refined a Pure Elixir and received the reward: 5 Harvest Points.”

“System prompt: As the Host has refined a Pure Elixir for the first time, receive a reward: 10 Harvest Points.”

“Elixir refinement successful, Alchemy proficiency +27.”

Chapter 22 - t enough ratings

t enough ratings

198 Chs

ADD

Chapter 22 Ning Yue’s Shock

“

“Pure”

Lin Jing shouted out in excitement.

Unfortunately, this was within the System Space, where no one could hear him and no one could share in the joy with Lin Jing.

His expression was excited, and his heart was racing uncontrollably. Because he was so excited, his hands were trembling nonstop.

“Whew...”

He exhaled a breath of turbid air, trying to stabilize his emotions.

However, from the look of his constantly trembling hands, it seemed to have little effect.

Carefully, he approached the Pill Furnace and reached out to lift the lid.

A brightly shining Elixir Medicine came into view, and the fragrant aroma filling the Alchemy Room originated from this very elixir.

Lin Jing picked up the Elixir Medicine and held it in his hand.

This Pure Energy Gathering Pill was significantly larger than the other pills from the same batch, as it was the fusion of two Supreme Elixirs.

The surface of the Elixir Medicine gleamed, translucent, allowing a clear view of the misty energy moving incessantly within it.

This Pure Elixir Medicine could sell for hundreds of Spirit Stones. It was worth hundreds of times more than the ordinary pills, and even dozens of times more than Supreme Elixirs.

A dream for many Alchemists.

“If Elder Yu and Ning Yue were to know that I have refined a Pure Elixir Medicine in such a short time...”

“They would be so shocked they’d pop their eyes out.”

Lin Jing couldn’t help but think to himself in joy.

He decided to consume this Elixir Medicine directly.

Even though it was extremely valuable, it wasn’t suitable to reveal it now. If he did, it might bring him endless trouble, or perhaps even disaster.

With this thought, it was better for him to use it himself.

First, he collected the one Superior and two Medium Grade Energy Gathering Pills from the same batch.

Lin Jing took the Pure Energy Gathering Pill and placed it directly into his mouth.

As soon as it entered his mouth, the Elixir Medicine immediately dissolved, giving him a sensation of floating as if immortal, which nearly made him lose control of his soul spirit.

Lin Jing immediately became alert and hurried to operate his cultivation technique to assimilate the medicine's power.

.....

After an unknown period of time, the vast Spiritual Power inside Lin Jing had been fully absorbed and incorporated into his cultivation.

Feeling the increase in his cultivation, it was far more robust than before.

“System.”

Lin Jing called up the system to check his current status.

“Open the system panel.”

System Space (Level 2)

Remaining Time: 32 hours 33 minutes (Accumulable: 200 hours)

Host: Lin Jing

Spirit Field Range: 20 acres

Spiritual Energy Concentration: 2

Time Flow Rate: 2

Daily Entry Time: 4 hours

Upgrade Requirement: (34/500 Harvest Points)

Special Feature: Alert (When the host enters the System Space, the host's real-world surroundings are included in the alert range, with immediate notification of any emergencies.)

Observation: (The host can observe the real world while inside the System Space.)
(Note: The host's point of view will synchronize with the outside world in terms of time when observing.)

Time Accumulation: (The remaining daily entry time is not reset to zero, it can be accumulated.)

Seeing that he only had 32 hours left of accumulated time, Lin Jing was stunned for a moment.

He had previously accumulated almost 80 hours, and it was unexpected that he had used so much during this period.

He had been so focused on Alchemy that he hadn't noticed the passage of time.

After thinking about it, Lin Jing then felt relieved. None of that time was wasted. The Pure Elixir Medicine alone could make up for his losses during this period.

Moreover, with his Five Elements Mixed Spiritual Root, what other ways were there to increase his power?

Apart from consuming elixirs, there was no other method.

Afterward, Lin Jing opened up his own panel information.

Lin Jing (23/90)

Spiritual Root: Five Elements Mixed Spiritual Root (Low Grade)

“

“

Cultivation: Qi Refinement Second Layer (32%)

Cultivation Technique: Qingyuan Dao Method (Level 1), Qingyuan Sword Control Technique (Beginner), Controlling Fire Technique (Proficient)

Secondary Profession: First-Grade Alchemist (382/3000)

Lin Jing remembered that his previous cultivation should have been at 12%, and a single Pure Energy Gathering Pill had directly increased his cultivation by 20%.

A single Energy Gathering Pill had proved to be worth several months of his arduous practice.

Lin Jing couldn't help but laugh and cry at the irony that the effort he had put in over the months was surpassed by a single elixir.

However, when he thought about it, it made sense, for this was a Pure Energy Gathering Pill, a fusion of the essences of two Supreme Energy Gathering Pills. How could it not be effective?

Moreover,

Lin Jing also noticed that his Controlling Fire Technique had reached the proficient level.

These were the fruits of his recent alchemy efforts.

"Whew..."

"Next, let's continue. If another Pure Elixir could come out, that would be even better," Lin Jing mused as he continued with alchemy.

One furnace

Two furnaces

Three furnaces

.....

That night, Lin Jing refined a total of five furnaces of elixirs.

Unfortunately, another Pure Elixir didn't emerge. Only one Supreme Elixir appeared; the rest were Medium and Superior grades.

Lin Jing planned to sell a portion of these elixirs.

However, to make the sale of his elixirs go smoothly and not seem too abrupt,

Lin Jing decided to slowly start displaying some 'talents in the path of alchemy'.

After all, it's not common for someone to be able to produce Supreme Elixir medicines right from the start of their alchemy practice; this just defies logic.

Moreover, he had already produced a Pure Elixir.

If such out-of-the-ordinary events kept occurring, one could only say that the System Space was too incredible.

Therefore, the Supreme Elixirs needed to be concealed for a while, and couldn't be sold yet.

If he was going to 'reveal his talent',

Then he should start with Ning Yue.

The next day, upon Ning Yue's return,

After the three of them finished eating, Lin Jing brought out the elixirs.

"Lin Daoyou, these were refined by me yesterday. Take a look, how are they?"

This time, Lin Jing took out one Superior, two Medium, and two Low Grade Energy Gathering Pills.

"Superior Energy Gathering Pill!!!"

Ning Yue exclaimed in surprise.

It hadn't been very long and Lin Jing was already producing Superior Energy Gathering Pills.

"Were these refined last night?"

Ning Yue could hardly believe it; she was quite clear about Lin Jing's capabilities when he started.

But, seeing the Energy Gathering Pills in her hand, she had no choice but to believe them. As an alchemist, she could clearly detect the state of these Energy Gathering Pills.

They had indeed been refined not too long ago.

"It was just a fluke that I managed to refine one, I tried three furnaces yesterday and only produced this one Superior one," Lin Jing responded.

"Just one Superior, and yet you say just..."

Ning Yue couldn't help but roll her eyes.

Born into a family of Pill Masters and having studied alchemy from a young age, it took her several years of learning alchemy before she produced her first Superior Elixir.

"I also have to thank you, Lin Daoyou, for sharing your knowledge so generously. Otherwise, I might still be blowing up furnaces every day," Lin Jing said with utter sincerity, which was, indeed, the case.

"The previous failures were due to the alchemy manual, not your fault," she replied.

"Honestly, your talent for alchemy is indeed remarkable. It wouldn't be an exaggeration to say you're the strongest I've ever encountered,"

As Ning Yue spoke, her eyes fixed seriously on Lin Jing. She advised,

"Lin Daoyou, you must remember not to reveal too much of your talent, especially in front of people you are not familiar with."

“`

Chapter 23 - 23 Selling the Elixir

Chapter 23 Selling the Elixir

Lin Jing was stunned for a moment, then nodded seriously.

"Yes, I understand."

Afterwards, Ning Yue handed the elixir medicine to Lin Jing and then left with Luo Luo.

Lin Jing was left alone, standing there in a daze.

"Ning Yue values it so highly, could it be that I've revealed too much?"

Lin Jing carefully thought back, how long had it been since Ning Yue started to repair the pill book for him?

And right off the bat, I brought out a superior elixir; did I really scare her?

On further thought, it seemed likely; Ning Yue, who had been teaching me all along, knew exactly what level I was at.

Lin Jing vaguely remembered it had only been a little over half a month since Ning Yue completed the repairs on the pill book and handed it over to him.

And in just over half a month, I had managed to produce a superior elixir.

"Sigh!"

“I’ve been muddled with alchemy; I should have known not to bring out that superior Energy Gathering Pill.”

But, at least she’s a good person.

Evening

As usual, he came to the Alchemy Room to begin alchemy.

He planned to refine all the materials he had on hand. After that, Lin Jing was not going to buy Fasting Pill materials to practice with anymore.

Instead, he would directly purchase Energy Gathering Pill materials. He needed to improve his cultivation, and also, he should buy a few more Pure Jade Boxes. Who knows, he might be able to refine Pure Elixir Medicine.

Another night of alchemy passed without the creation of Pure Elixir Medicine, but he did produce one Supreme Elixir.

Time flew by in this way for several days.

Lin Jing had refined all the materials he had into elixir medicine.

In these few days, he produced two Pure Elixir Medicines, one of which was an Energy Gathering Pill, and he had already swallowed it.

The other one was an Energy Restoration Elixir, used for rapid recovery of spiritual power during combat, which he did not need right now.

Having created two Pure Elixir Medicines, I had gained another 10 Harvest Points, and my cultivation had increased by another 20%.

I have to say, the system really is stingy. Only when you create Pure Elixir Medicine does it add 5 Harvest Points.

Creating any other elixir medicine doesn’t earn a single point, even if it’s a Supreme Elixir.

Lin Jing decided to sell them for some Spirit Stones.

All this time, aside from the Spirit Rice he sold, he had been spending money.

Now, he did not have many Spirit Stones left.

The next day

After Ning Yue left, Lin Jing took Luo Luo to Yuebaolou.

“Elder Yu.”

“Grandpa Yu, hello.”

Luo Luo also greeted him; she had been to Yuebaolou once before with Lin Jing.

As a result, Luo Luo knew Elder Yu.

When Elder Yu saw Luo Luo, he was very fond of her and smilingly said:

“Ah...”

“It’s Luo Luo, eh? Why aren’t you staying at home today? Did you think of visiting Grandpa Yu?”

“I came with Uncle Lin today to sell elixir medicine.”

Luo Luo was very honest.

After hearing this, Elder Yu turned his head to look at Lin Jing.

“Lin lad, your progress isn’t bad, to have refined them so quickly.”

“Come.”

“Let me see the elixir medicine you’ve refined.”

Lin Jing took out several small porcelain bottles from his chest, handed them to Elder Yu, and spoke:

“Elder Yu, I’m just starting out, so my success rate is quite low. Please don’t laugh at me.”

“Inside there are 50 Low Grade Fasting Pills and 8 Medium Grade.”

“Energy Gathering Pills, Energy Restoration Pills, and Blood Coagulation Pills together total 13 pills, and fortunately, there’s one Medium Grade Energy Gathering Pill.”

“They’re all here.”

Elder Yu nodded.

“It’s indeed like this when you start out with alchemy; the success rate is low, and that’s normal. The fact that you were able to produce a few Medium Grade pills is already quite good.”

Elder Yu opened the porcelain bottle and poured out the elixir medicines to inspect them.

He quickly finished the inspection.

Elder Yu raised his head and said to Lin Jing,

“All these together, I’ll give you 10 Spirit Stones, don’t think it’s too little.”

Lin Jing knew that the elixirs he handed over were definitely not worth 10 Spirit Stones.

Obviously, Elder Yu had overestimated their value for him.

However, compared to the Spirit Stones he had spent on buying materials, it was a huge loss.

Elder Yu continued,

“It’s always like this for an alchemist at the beginning, often spending more than one earns, but you’re already doing not too bad.”

“It will get better with more practice.”

“Thank you, Elder Yu, for the 10 Spirit Stones, I am already content,” replied Lin Jing.

After that, he chatted with Elder Yu for a while longer.

Before leaving, Lin Jing bought materials for fifty batches of Energy Gathering Pills.

This trip, he did not make a single Spirit Stone.

However, just before leaving, Elder Yu specifically reminded Lin Jing.

Due to the recent rampage of Demonic Beasts, the price of Blood Coagulation Pills had risen, and Lin Jing could try making them.

Nevertheless, Lin Jing found an excuse to decline.

After all, it was more important for him to increase his strength now.

In the evening, after dinner.

Ning Yue left with Luo Luo.

Not long after their departure, Lin Jing went out.

He seldom went out at night, although there was no curfew in the Fang Market at night.

But as the saying goes, "A dark and windy night is the time for murder."

In the cover of darkness, it is the perfect time to do those things that cannot bear the light.

However, he must go out this time.

Because he still had a large quantity of Medium Grade and above elixirs that he hadn't sold.

Since he had known Elder Yu for some time, it wasn't suitable to sell them at his place.

And with Luo Luo in tow, it was also not very convenient.

Could there be shops in the Fang Market that operated at night?

Yes...

Of course, there were...

And not just a few, but most closed around Zi Time. Of course, there were a very few that operated all night.

After all, this is the Fang Market, and most of the people here are cultivators.

Lin Jing dressed up carefully, making himself look much older. Although not as effective as a disguise technique, it was almost as good.

Besides, cultivators all have Divine Sense, and disguise techniques might not necessarily work. Sometimes the truth mixed with falsehoods could deceive others more easily than pure deceit.

To thoroughly deceive others, one would need a magic artifact that could avoid detection by Divine Sense, or some cultivation techniques that, once practiced, could also elude Divine Sense.

This was also why Lin Jing was eager to find an artifact that could conceal Divine Sense.

It was already dark, and the streets were not crowded.

Especially for someone at the early stages of Qi Refinement like Lin Jing, they were even less common.

It was now November, and the night had grown very cold. Lin Jing, draped in a large cloak, tucked his hands inside to shield them from the cold.

However, in his hand, he was constantly gripping a Five Thunder Talisman.

Although the Fang Market seemed safe, he couldn't afford to be unprepared.

"Shopkeeper."

Lin Jing entered a trading establishment, one he had noticed before while walking around with Luo Luo.

The shopkeeper's cultivation was not high, like him, at the second layer of Qi Refinement, specializing in buying and selling various elixir medicines and spiritual materials.

"Ah... honored guest, out so late, are you planning to buy some elixir medicines?" the shopkeeper said with a smile, perhaps because of the cold weather, he immediately rubbed his hands together.

I'd like to sell some elixir medicines, do you accept them here?

"Of course, we do," he replied.

"May I know how many elixir medicines the guest has to sell?"

Chapter 24 - 24 Cultivating Qi Level 3

Chapter 24 Cultivating Qi Level 3

"It's all here, shopkeeper, please take a look."

As Lin Jing finished speaking, he took out several porcelain bottles from his storage bag and placed them on the counter.

The shopkeeper's eyes lit up, sensing a big transaction was at hand.

He picked up a porcelain bottle from the counter, poured out the elixir medicine inside it, and carefully examined it in his hands.

After a while, he nodded and said with a smile,

“Customer, these elixir medicines are of good quality, you must already be a Second-Grade Alchemist.”

The shopkeeper continued to speak, but his hands didn’t stop working.

He opened the next bottle and continued with the inspection.

“The shopkeeper is joking. The path of a pill master is filled with difficulties in advancing; it’s not so easy to be promoted to a Second-Grade Alchemist,” Lin Jing chimed in.

“What the customer says is true; the road of an alchemist is indeed difficult to ascend. Currently, in the entire Nanshan Market, there are only a handful of Second-Grade Alchemists.”

“However, I believe.”

As he spoke, the shopkeeper looked up at Lin Jing with a confident gaze.

“Considering the quality of the elixir medicines you brought out today, you’re not far from becoming a Second-Grade Alchemist.”

“Then I’ll take your auspicious words,” Lin Jing replied with a smile.

It didn’t take long for the batch of elixir medicines to be thoroughly inspected.

“Customer.”

The shopkeeper busily manipulated his abacus with clicking sounds and began to speak,

“This batch of elixir medicines has a total of 145 Medium Grade pills, 61 Superior pills, and 4 Supreme Elixirs.”

“Among them, there are Fasting Pills, Energy Gathering Pills, Energy Restoration Elixirs, and even Blood Coagulation Pills, and these elixirs have different prices.”

At this point, the sound of the abacus abruptly stopped.

He clearly had calculated the result.

“I’ve just tallied it all up for you; these elixir medicines are worth a total of 320 Spirit Stones.”

“I wonder if the customer is satisfied with this price?”

“Hmm, it’s acceptable.”

This price was nearly identical to Lin Jing's own calculations.

"Shopkeeper." Lin Jing suddenly spoke up.

The shopkeeper raised his head, looking at Lin Jing.

"Does the customer have any other matters?"

"I wonder if you accept Pure Elixirs here?"

"Pure Elixirs!"

The shopkeeper was shocked and then quickly replied.

"Of course, we accept it."

"Do you have any Pure Elixirs you wish to sell?"

"Indeed." Lin Jing nodded.

"May I have a look at them?"

The shopkeeper rubbed his hands together, eagerness apparent in his demeanor as he fixed his gaze on Lin Jing.

Pure Elixirs had not been sold for a long time; even those alchemists who managed to refine them rarely sold them.

It was the best proof of one's alchemical prowess. Carrying one's own Pure Elixirs to serve as an offering priest for smaller clans would ensure even family heads treat you with utmost respect.

If one was in dire straits and needed to sell them, they would typically be sold to major trading companies like Yuebaolou.

For smaller businesses like theirs, it was incredibly difficult to get a hold of Pure Elixirs.

It might be years before they even saw one.

"Of course."

Having said that, Lin Jing took out a Pure Jade Box from his storage bag and handed it to the shopkeeper.

The Pure Jade Box was transparent, allowing a clear view of the elixir inside.

The shopkeeper held the Pure Jade Box but did not open it.

He knew that as soon as it was opened, the Pure Elixir inside would start to be tarnished by external airs.

If tarnished for too long, the Pure Elixir would degrade into a Supreme Elixir.

Watching the brilliance flowing above the elixir, the shopkeeper was ecstatic.

“Is this a freshly made Pure Elixir? Are you really planning to sell it?”

“I’ve encountered some difficulties lately and have been somewhat financially stretched. Please make me an offer, shopkeeper,” Lin Jing said, making up a reason to avoid suspicion.

The shopkeeper pondered for a moment, then said,

“This Energy Restoration Elixir, being in the middle tier among First-Grade elixirs, is not too shabby. If you are to sell it at Yuebaolou, it should be worth around 500 Spirit Stones.”

“So let’s value it at 500 Spirit Stones. What do you think?”

“That’ll do.”

Lin Jing nodded slightly, the price was already not low.

“Then, fellow daoist, if you are certain you want to make the deal, we must open the Pure Jade Box for the final step of verification.”

“Alright, open it.”

Lin Jing nodded again.

To verify the Pure Elixir, it was natural to open the Pure Jade Box; there was no fault in that.

The shopkeeper carefully and gently opened a crack in the Pure Jade Box.

In an instant, the fragrance of the elixir wafted out.

“Snap”

It was just a moment, and the Pure Jade Box was closed again.

This unique scent of the medicine could definitely not be faked.

“The check is correct, it is indeed the Pure Energy Restoration Elixir.”

The smile on the shopkeeper’s face was clearly visible, and then he put away the Pure Jade Box.

“Honored guest, please wait a moment, I will get your Spirit Stones.”

After a while, the shopkeeper counted the Spirit Stones and handed them to Lin Jing.

“A total of 820 Lower Grade Spirit Stones, please count them.”

“Hmm.”

Lin Jing received the Spirit Stones, which had already been sorted—eight small bags with 100 Spirit Stones each, plus an extra twenty, making exactly 820.

“Honored guest, if you have more elixir medicines to sell in the future, you can still come to our shop; the prices are absolutely fair.”

“Rest assured, shopkeeper.”

With the transaction complete, Lin Jing bid farewell to the shopkeeper and left the place.

With over 800 Spirit Stones in hand, he didn’t have to worry about Spirit Stones for the time being.

In the following period, he was going to start alchemy and strive to improve his cultivation.

.....

Time flew by, and in the blink of an eye, two months had passed.

In these two months, Lin Jing rarely left the house.

He spent the days with Luo Luo and the nights practicing alchemy in the System Space.

During this time, Lin Jing’s alchemy skills also improved by leaps and bounds.

Lin Jing could now say that crafting elixirs had become a matter of ease for him.

Perhaps it was because he often practiced alchemy in the System Space, with the strengthening of his Divine Sense and accumulating successful experience.

Even when alchemizing in the outside world, his success rate was higher than that of an average Alchemist.

Of course, Ning Yue's contribution was far from small.

The knowledge he had learned from Ning Yue was almost all mastered by now.

In these two months, as of last night, he had produced a total of 10 Pure Energy Gathering Pills.

And without a doubt, he had swallowed all these Pure Energy Gathering Pills; he was now at the Third Layer of Qi Refinement.

Opening his panel, his cultivation status was displayed prominently.

Lin Jing (23/90)

Spiritual Root: Five Elements Mixed Spirit Root (Low Grade)

Cultivation: Third Layer of Qi Refinement (82%)

Cultivation Techniques: Qingyuan Dao Method (First Level), Qingyuan Sword Control Technique (Beginner), Controlling Fire Technique (Proficient)

Secondary Occupation: First-Grade Alchemist (1806/3000)

The Fourth Layer of Qi Refinement was not far off, and his proficiency as an Alchemist was already more than half achieved. It wouldn't be long before Lin Jing would advance to Second-Grade Alchemist.

.....

"Thump thump thump"

There was a knock at the door.

Lin Jing put on his cotton-padded jacket and stepped out of the house. It was January, and everything outside was blanketed in white, as if covered with a layer of white quilt.

Stepping outside onto the thick snow, it made a creaking sound beneath his feet.

"Creak..."

The door opened, and Ning Yue stood outside, dressed in a red jacket.

"Ning Daoyou, you're back."

"Mm, where's Luo Luo?"

Ning Yue asked.

“Luo Luo is in her room, reading the storybook you bought her,” Lin Jing replied.

Then he added, “She’s quite engrossed.”

“Lin Daoyou, I’m really grateful for your help during this time.”

“What? Ning Daoyou, have you finished your alchemy?”

Chapter 25 - 25 Mr. Jiang Arrives

Chapter 25: Mr. Jiang Arrives

The two of them entered the house, and when Luo Luo saw Ning Yue come in, she ran straight over.

“Mom.”

At this moment, the brazier inside the house was burning vigorously, making the whole room incredibly warm, and Luo Luo’s little face was a bit rosy. “Good girl, Luo Luo. Mom will be able to stay at home with Luo Luo tomorrow.”

Ning Yue reached out to brush away the bangs from Luo Luo’s forehead and spoke softly. “Mom doesn’t have to go out anymore?”

“That’s great!”

Luo Luo cheered.

“Uncle Lin said that there are more and more demonic beasts outside, and every time Mom goes out, Luo Luo is very worried.”

“Mom is fine. Starting from tomorrow, Mom will be at home with Luo Luo every day.”

As she spoke, Ning Yue rubbed Luo Luo’s head.

“Yay...”

Luo Luo cheered, a child’s innocence is always so straightforward.

Since a month ago, the beast tide had intensified, with demonic beasts continuously attacking human settlements, and many families had suffered severe damage.

Some families' Spirit Fields were even destroyed by demonic beasts.

Many families also reduced their external businesses to resist the beast tide with all their might, while the smaller ones grouped together to resist.

Moreover, even the outskirts of the Fang Market had suffered attacks from demonic beasts.

Although in the end, they were slain by the Guard Team patrolling the Fang Market.

However, several cultivators who lived on the edges of the Fang Market perished to the jaws of the beasts.

So, during this time, people within the Fang Market were panic-stricken, fearful of demonic beast attacks, especially for those like Lin Jing who lived on the periphery of the market.

Fortunately, Lin Jingzhi had heeded the advice of the Outer Area Manager before, renting this courtyard which is quite close to the inner part of the market.

Therefore, they had been relatively safe during this period, without any demonic beast attacks.

After the three of them had dinner, the other two left.

Tonight, he had more work to do, because the Spirit Rice and Seven-Star Grass in the Spirit Field space had matured and were ready to be harvested.

Upon entering the System Space, Lin Jing immediately opened the Alchemy Room panel.

Alchemy Room: Level 1

Divine Sense Strengthening: 10%

Alchemy Success Rate Increase: (First Grade 10%) Elixir Medicine Quality Enhancement: (First Grade 10%)

Pure Elixir Appearance Chance: (First Grade 10%)

Upgrade Requirement: (94/100 Harvest Points)

Looking at the system panel, Lin Jing murmured to himself,

"After this harvest of Spirit Plants is complete, the Alchemy Room can be upgraded."

Then, Lin Jing picked up the sickle and started to get busy.

With improved cultivation, Lin Jing's speed of harvesting Spirit Plants had also increased significantly.

In a short while, an acre of Spirit Rice was harvested by Lin Jing.

"System Notification: Congratulations to the host for harvesting an acre of Superior Spirit Rice, reward obtained: 2 Harvest Points."

"It really is true; the higher the level of the Spirit Plant, the more Harvest Points awarded."

Without pausing, Lin Jing continued to harvest.

This time, he chose an acre of Seven-Star Grass.

Soon, the Seven-Star Grass was also harvested, earning a reward of 3 Harvest Points.

It seems that the quality of the Seven-Star Grass is a bit higher than that of the Superior Spirit Rice.

Lin Jing took almost twenty hours to finish harvesting the twenty acres of Spirit Field,

After the harvesting was complete, 10 acres of Superior Spirit Rice and 10 acres of Seven-Star Grass amounted to a total of 50 Harvest Points credited to the account.

Lin Jing sat at the edge of the field and opened the panel again. Upgrade Requirement: (144/100 Harvest Points) (Upgrade Available)

The Harvest Points were sufficient, and the option to upgrade was now available.

Lin Jing didn't hesitate and chose to upgrade immediately.

Shortly after, the system interface changed.

Alchemy Room: Level 2

Divine Sense Strengthening: 20%

Alchemy Success Rate Increase: (First Grade 20%), (Second Grade 10%) Elixir Medicine Quality Enhancement: (First Grade 20%), (Second Grade 10%)

Pure Elixir Medicine appearance probability: (First Grade 20%), (Second Grade 10%)

Required for upgrade: (44/500 Harvest Points)

Looking at the panel, Lin Jing smiled with satisfaction.

“The success rate of alchemy has increased again.”

By the time he came out of the System Space, it was already dawn of the next day.

After a busy day, he didn't care about anything else and fell asleep as soon as his head hit the pillow.

“Thump thump thump”

An urgent knocking sound came from the door outside.

Lin Jing, who was sound asleep, was awoken by this sudden knocking.

Lin Jing got up and walked out of the house.

“Who could it be at this time?”

“The sound doesn't seem like Ning Yue. Her knocks are always very light, but this knocking is urgent.”

Lin Jing pondered and then opened the door, when a familiar face came into view.

It was the manager who had shown Lin Jing to this place when he rented the room.

“Manager Jiang.”

Lin Jing had learned from Zhang Sen that this man's surname was Jiang.

“Lin Daoyou.”

Manager Jiang's eyes lit up when he saw Lin Jing.

“I've been knocking for a long time just now, I thought you weren't home, Daoyou.”

“I was a bit exhausted from affairs yesterday, so I slept more deeply.”

“My apologies.”

“It's no trouble,” said Manager Jiang with a wave of his hand.

“What brings Manager Jiang here at this time?”

Lin Jing looked at Manager Jiang. This was only the second time he had seen him since he moved here. Presumably, if it was not for something important, Manager Jiang would not have come.

“Lin Daoyou, you must have heard about some of the things that have happened recently.”

Manager Jiang began.

“Yes, I’ve heard that there have been several Demonic Beast attacks recently, all around the outskirts of Fang Market, causing a lot of panic.”

“It’s about that,” said Manager Jiang with a sigh.

“Sigh...”

“This Demonic Beast upheaval has had a huge impact, causing panic within the Fang Market.”

“I came here about that very issue.”

Lin Jing then asked, “Does Fang Market have a strategy to deal with it, Manager Jiang?”

“Fang Market has issued an announcement to recruit personnel to join the Guard Team to maintain peace in the market.”

“However, given the current difficult situation and the need for a large number of Spirit Stones to recruit personnel...”

“So... Fang Market has decided that each household must contribute ten Spirit Stones as a fund to recruit the Guard Team.”

“I see,” said Lin Jing.

“Hold on a moment, Manager Jiang. I’ll go get them for you.”

Since he came out in a hurry, Lin Jing did not carry Spirit Stones with him. After responding to Manager Jiang, he headed back inside the house.

Shortly after, he came out of the house and handed ten Spirit Stones to Manager Jiang.

Manager Jiang took the Spirit Stones and then spoke again:

“Lin Daoyou, as you can see the situation, next year’s rent... will not be the same price, and I think you can understand that.” “I’m informing you in advance so you can prepare.”

“Naturally,” replied Lin Jing.

“Well, then I’ll go to the next house.”

“Lin Daoyou, a word of advice. If possible, you should stock up on some necessities. We don’t know how long this Demonic Beast turmoil will last.”

“Lin Daoyou, farewell.”

After reminding Lin Jing, Manager Jiang took his leave.

Following Manager Jiang’s departure, Lin Jing closed the door and returned inside. He did not continue to rest but instead contemplated Manager Jiang’s words.

“Stock up on necessities?”

It seemed he might know something..

Chapter 26 - 26 The Man in Black

Chapter 26: The Man in Black

Lin Jing, upon awakening, initially felt a hint of sleepiness, but that sensation had now vanished after this matter.

After washing up, Lin Jing left the house.

In this period, he had concocted quite a few elixir medicines, and now it was time to sell them.

Arriving at Yuebaolou, Elder Yu was not present, instead, a slightly portly middle-aged man stood behind the counter.

Lin Jing couldn’t help but inwardly sigh with disappointment.

He had intended to ask Elder Yu some questions, but now he had no choice but to let it go.

Approaching the counter, Lin Jing handed over all the lower-grade elixir medicines he had previously selected to the middle-aged man.

The middle-aged man tapped away rapidly on an abacus, eventually quoting a purchase price of 60 Spirit Stones.

After selling the elixir medicines, Lin Jing bought materials for 100 Energy Gathering Pills. Due to severe demonic beast chaos, both elixir medicine prices and material costs had risen.

In addition to the Spirit Stones earned from selling the elixirs, Lin Jing had to pay an extra 60 Spirit Stones to purchase the materials needed to concoct these 100 Energy Gathering Pills.

Afterward, Lin Jing left Yuebaolou directly.

Once he had finished concocting these 100 Energy Gathering Pills, he should be able to reach the mid-stage of Qi Refinement.

Next, Lin Jing didn't return home but instead started wandering around Fang Market.

He did so until the sky had completely darkened.

It was only after disguising himself that Lin Jing headed towards the business that had sold Pure Elixir Medicine before.

His skills in disguise were not proficient, and during the day, it was easy for someone to see through him.

Therefore, Lin Jing had chosen to sell elixir medicine at night.

Upon arriving at the business, the shopkeeper and a man in black, the two of them were engaged in conversation.

The man in black frowned at the shopkeeper, complaining,

"Shopkeeper, isn't the price of this single elixir medicine a bit too expensive?"

It's more than half as much again as usual."

The shopkeeper, with a placating smile, began,

"Esteemed guest, you are surely aware of the current situation."

"With the fierce unrest of demonic beasts, there is a scarcity of elixir medicine, and the current price is very fair."

"Fair?" exclaimed the man in black.

“Even on the black market, the price is nearly the same as it is now, right?” The shopkeeper gave the man in black a meaningful glance and then said,

“Guest, it seems you haven’t been to the black market for quite some time! Nowadays, not just elixir medicine but nearly everything has nearly doubled in price there.”

The man in black looked astonished and then nodded in agreement. “Yes, I’ve been rather busy and haven’t been there for a long time.”

After saying this, he wisely stopped talking to avoid giving himself away.

In truth, he had never been to the black market, because to enter, one not only needs a Token but also someone to lead the way. Without a guide, it’s impossible to find the entrance to the black market.

He had simply come across a Black Market Token by chance and often showed it off for bragging rights.

After all, gaining entry to the black market was not something ordinary people could manage.

But the shopkeeper was different; it was clear he was a person who frequented the black market.

At that moment, Lin Jing walked in.

The shopkeeper immediately recognized Lin Jing as the person who had sold him Pure Elixir Medicine the other day.

“Esteemed guest, welcome,” greeted the shopkeeper with a beaming smile, coming forward and leaving the man in black standing where he was.

“Do you have any elixir medicine to sell today, guest?”

“Hmm,” Lin Jing nodded.

He then took out a bunch of small porcelain bottles filled with elixir medicine from his Storage Bag.

“Shopkeeper, could you give me an estimate of how much these are worth?”

“Certainly, please wait a moment,” replied the shopkeeper, as he opened the bottles, examining each one in turn.

This time, Lin Jing did not take out all of the elixir medicines he had concocted.

Instead, he only brought out a part of them.

Having sold elixir medicines here not long ago, Lin Jing thought that bringing out too many again might arouse suspicion.

Watching Lin Jing take out so many elixirs at once, the man in black was also shocked and leaned forward to look at the porcelain bottles in the shopkeeper's hands.

It wasn't long before the shopkeeper had finished checking the elixirs.

"Dear customer, the quality of your elixirs is impeccable, and this time the quantity is even more than the last," the shopkeeper said.

"Not to hide it from you, due to the recent rampages by the Demonic Beasts, the prices of elixirs have risen sharply. Therefore, our purchasing price has also risen, about a twenty percent increase compared to before." "Your elixirs, after my calculations, are worth a total of 530 Spirit Stones."

"Are you satisfied with this price?"

"Hmm, satisfied," Lin Jing nodded.

"Good, customer, please wait a moment. I'll fetch the Spirit Stones for you." As he spoke, the shopkeeper collected the elixirs.

The man in black, having overheard the shopkeeper's words, was already dumbfounded.

530 Spirit Stones, that was the fruit of his labor for several years.

Before long, the shopkeeper had prepared the Spirit Stones and handed them to Lin Jing.

Having completed the transaction, Lin Jing took his leave from the shopkeeper.

"Fellow Daoist, please hold on a moment."

However, not long after he stepped out, someone called out to him.

Lin Jing turned around, only to see that it was the man in black from the shop.

"Fellow Daoist, may I inquire what you need?" Lin Jing asked.

The man in black sized up Lin Jing and then spoke:

“Seeing how you handled so many elixirs at once, I presume you are an alchemist, correct?”

“Yes,” Lin Jing answered simply, without any concealment.

“I would like to propose a transaction with you, Fellow Daoist. What do you think?”

“A transaction?” Lin Jing frowned.

“That’s right,” the man in black said, taking out a black token from his person.

“I have here a Black Market Token, which allows anyone holding it to enter the black market.”

“As an alchemist, Fellow Daoist, by holding this token and entering the black market, you can sell the elixirs you produce for more than fifty percent extra.” “And I am not asking much for this token – just 500 Spirit Stones, and it’s yours. It can be said to be quite a bargain.”

“You might want to think about it. Based on the amount of elixirs you sold today, you could make back your investment and even earn quite a bit more after just a few transactions.”

“You should consider it, that’s over fifty percent profit...”

At this point, the man in black became somewhat excited.

After his excitement, the man in black looked straight at Lin Jing, awaiting his response.

In his mind, such a profitable deal was one that Lin Jing had no reason to reject.

However, Lin Jing’s next words shattered his illusion.

“Sorry, I’m not interested.”

With that, he prepared to leave.

The man in black had evidently seen Lin Jing earn the Spirit Stones, which was why he had proposed this transaction.

Who knew if the token was real or fake. Moreover, even if it was real, the black market was probably not as simple as the man in black had described, allowing one to enter and exit at will.

“Fellow Daoist, please wait.”

The man in black again blocked Lin Jing's path.

"You must think my token is fake, right?"

"If you don't trust me, we can go back and ask the shopkeeper we spoke with just now. He can verify that this token is genuinely authentic."

"Please step aside, I'm going back," Lin Jing replied, without any hint of uncertainty, and continued forward.

Leaving the man in black standing alone on the spot.

"Ptui...!" the man in black spat.

"Ungrateful. I'll remember you, just you wait," he said venomously, watching Lin Jing's retreating figure..

Chapter 27: Zhang Sen Borrows Spirit Stone Again

Now that night had just fallen, there were still many people on the streets, and Lin Jing felt no fear from the man in black doing him any harm.

Because in Fang Market, there were rules that no one could attack at will, otherwise, the penalty would be light in some cases, such as the abolition of one's cultivation, followed by expulsion from Fang Market.

In severe cases, the offender would be killed on the spot.

However, even so, there were still people who caused trouble at midnight, especially on the outskirts of Fang Market, where monitoring was not so strict, and people often disappeared.

As for the Fang Market itself, they turned a blind eye, as long as there was no trouble within the market itself.

The outskirts were just home to some Loose Cultivators who depended on Fang Market, and were not considered that important.

After leaving, Lin Jing strolled around for a bit before selling some elixir medicines in small quantities at other shops, and then he returned home.

Once home, Lin Jing poured out all his Spirit Stones and counted them.

With those sold today, Lin Jing now had nearly 1,800 Lower Grade Spirit Stones.

These Spirit Stones should be enough to buy a decent Magic Artifact, but he was unsure if he could afford a Magical Treasure that was a bit cheaper.

“Hmm, I’ll go to Yuebaolou tomorrow to see if there are any Magical Treasures that are a bit cheaper,”

Lin Jing contemplated.

At night, Lin Jing entered the System Space, neatly putting away the harvested Spirit Rice and Seven-Star Grass.

After a few more days, he could sell the Spirit Rice and Seven-Star Grass.

Once everything was in order, Lin Jing commenced his alchemy work.

Perhaps due to bad luck, he didn’t produce a single Pure Elixir that evening.

The next day, at Yuebaolou.

“Lin Daoyou, this Concealment Artifact can block the Divine Sense probes of late-stage Foundation Establishment Cultivators. Its effects could be said to be quite remarkable, and it’s priced at only 1,200 Spirit Stones.”

Lin Jing looked at the black cloak-like artifact. Wearing it on the head would be so conspicuous, what good would it do if it could defend against Divine Sense probes?

He couldn’t help shaking his head.

The artifact was too conspicuous, and it could only guard against the Divine Sense probes of Foundation Establishment Cultivators, which did not meet his requirements.

However, with his finances, this was probably the best level of Concealment Artifact he could buy.

Magic Artifacts crafted by cultivators below the Golden Core Stage were called

‘Magic Artifacts.’

Only Magical Treasures created by Golden Core Stage and above Cultivators were termed as Magical Treasures.

The Concealment Magical Treasure of the Golden Core Stage that Lin Jing wanted was too expensive, with the cheapest starting at tens of thousands of Spirit Stones.

As for why Lin Jing didn’t directly buy a Foundation Establishment Concealment Artifact,

it was because in the future he needed to frequently sell elixir medicines, and he needed to change his identity often to avoid attracting attention.

Moreover, most of the backers behind the various shops were Golden Core Stage Cultivators. In the future, Lin Jing would unavoidably sell a large quantity of Pure Elixir Medicines and have to interact with them; the Concealment function of a Foundation Establishment Artifact was practically nonexistent against Golden Core Stage Cultivators.

Buying one might as well be the same as not buying at all.

Feeling helpless, he could only put the idea aside for now. At present, it was still fine, as he had always been very careful and had not attracted anyone's attention. For the time being, there was no harm.

Then, Lin Jing returned home. Just as he arrived at the gate, stepping into the courtyard, someone called out to him.

"Brother Lin."

Lin Jing turned around to see that it was the brothers Zhang Sen and Zhang Lin.

"Brother Zhang, what is it?" Lin Jing asked.

Ever since he found out that the two were addicted to gambling, Lin Jing's impression of them had not been very good.

However, remembering that Zhang Sen had been of help when he had first arrived, Lin Jing did not show it too obviously.

"Brother Lin," Zhang Sen appeared somewhat uneasy, then continued to speak. "This time we're troubling Brother Lin to save us brothers. Please lend us 10 Spirit Stones so we can pay the management fee for this period at the Fang Market. We beg you, Brother Lin."

"Management fee?" Lin Jing pondered for a moment, then remembered.

Wasn't that what he paid yesterday? What was the matter with these two?

Logically speaking, it shouldn't be difficult for the two mid-stage Qi Practitioners to earn ten Spirit Stones, yet now they could not even produce that amount.

"Could it be that they gambled again?" Lin Jing thought subsequently.

"Sorry, I just paid the management fee, and I'm not very well-off lately," Lin Jing said, declining directly.

“Lin Brother, we’ve really run into some trouble this time. In consideration of us being neighbors, please help us out just this once,”

“Otherwise, I’ll be chased out of here. There are demonic beasts everywhere outside now, and if I get chased out, we’ll have no chance of survival,”

“I promise, after this time, I will quickly pay back the spirit stones I owe you.”

Lin Jing had heard these words countless times already, and he found it hard to believe Zhang Sen anymore.

Lin Jing spoke coldly:

“Sorry, I truly don’t have any spirit stones to lend you.”

Zhang Sen became somewhat anxious and blurted out:

“That’s impossible, how can you not have spirit stones? I just saw you leaving

Yuebaolou yesterday.”

Upon hearing this, Lin Jing’s expression collapsed:

“What I do doesn’t require an explanation to you.”

“Lin Brother, sorry, my brother spoke out of turn. Please, help us one more time, just this time,”

Zhang Sen’s face now bore a pleading expression, while Zhang Lin beside him was keeping his head down, shivering.

Lin Jing looked at the two brothers, Zhang Sen and Zhang Lin, with a cold expression:

“Gentlemen, out of neighborly consideration, I already did my duty by lending you spirit stones last time.”

“Now, you haven’t yet returned what you borrowed last time, and you’re here to borrow again. Do you think I’m easy to bully?”

“Furthermore...”

“Shouldn’t you be returning the spirit stones you borrowed last time...”

Just then, Ning Yue walked over with Luo Luo. Luo Luo ran up, grabbed Lin Jing’s arm, looked up at him, and said:

“Uncle Lin, are those two trying to borrow your spirit stones again?”

“You must not lend it to them, they’re bad people, and they just know how to cheat Uncle Lin of his spirit stones.”

“Yesterday, my mother and I saw them coming out of... that place, what’s it called, Qianjinfang.”

“Mother said they lost all their money again, and they’re definitely going to cheat people next. Uncle Lin, you must not fall for their tricks.”

At this time, Ning Yue also spoke up:

“Lin Daoyou, you can’t trust what they say.”

Lin Jing nodded.

He looked at Zhang Sen again, whose complexion had darkened, knowing he definitely wouldn’t be able to borrow this time.

“About the spirit stones borrowed last time, please give me a few more days,

Lin Brother. We’ll return it as soon as possible,” “Lin Brother, I’ll take my leave.”

With that, Zhang Sen bade farewell to Lin Jing and left.

However, the view of his back as he turned around seemed somewhat forlorn.

“Hmph...!”

Luo Luo snorted, then wore a triumphant face, as if she had won a great battle.

After Zhang Sen and Zhang Lin had walked far away, Luo Luo turned back around and put on a bitter face.

“Uncle Lin, save me,” Luo Luo said with a cry.

“This little girl,” Lin Jing said with a laugh yet not quite able to laugh.

“What’s wrong with Luo Luo now? Who has bullied you? Tell your uncle.”

“Mother is bullying me! She wouldn’t let me come over to Uncle Lin’s to mooch a meal yesterday.”

“And Mom tried to cook like Uncle Lin. She’s too clumsy, after following Uncle Lin for so long she still hasn’t learned. The food isn’t tasty at all, and she still insists I eat it.”

“I really have it tough-”

Saying this, Luo Luo wiped away non-existent tears, feigning sadness. “Luo Luo, are you asking for it again?”

Luo Luo’s voice wasn’t quiet, Ning Yue heard every word clearly.

At this moment, her cheeks flushed with embarrassment, and with a lioness’ roar, she startled Luo Luo into quickly running behind Lin Jing for cover.

Fearing a spanking..

Chapter 28 - 28 Ning Yue’s Cooking Skills

Chapter 28: Ning Yue’s Cooking Skills

Looking at the two, Lin Jing couldn’t help chuckling and crying at the same time.

“Alright, alright...”

Lin Jing quickly intervened, worried that Luo Luo’s bottom might soon get smacked if this continued.

“Yesterday, I sold some elixir medicine and bought some Superior Spirit Rice, so today we can try it together.”

“Yay!”

“Thank you, Uncle Lin.”

After speaking, Luo Luo immediately ran into the courtyard.

“Lin Daoyou, the price of Superior Spirit Rice is so high nowadays, isn’t that a bit wasteful?”

Ning Yue was somewhat worried, fearing that Lin Jing was being extravagant, especially since alchemists tend to spend a lot of Spirit Stones in the early days.

Lin Jing was well-prepared for such concerns.

“Ning Daoyou, take a look inside.”

With that, Lin Jing took out a porcelain bottle and handed it over.

Ning Yue took the bottle, and as soon as she opened the stopper, a distinct fragrance unique to elixir medicines assaulted her senses, a scent she was very familiar with.

“Supreme Elixir Medicine!! !”

Ning Yue’s pupils dilated as she cried out in surprise.

She hadn’t expected that Lin Jing would be able to produce Supreme Elixir Medicine so quickly.

Afterward, Ning Yue poured the elixirs into her hand and started to examine them closely.

The elixir medicine was smooth and free of any impurities, all the while emitting bursts of fragrance.

It was undoubtedly a Supreme Elixir.

Lin Jing scratched his head:

“Yesterday, I had the good fortune to concoct a Supreme Elixir, and I thought I’d reward myself, so I bought this Superior Spirit Rice.”

“I also have to thank Ning Daoyou. If it weren’t for your help, I would have probably given up on alchemy a long time ago.”

“You’re too modest, my friend.”

Ning Yue put the elixirs back in the bottle and handed it to Lin Jing.

Thinking about how she had spent several years in alchemy yet hadn’t achieved the results that Lin Jing had in just a few months, Ning Yue couldn’t help but smile bitterly.

“Your talent in alchemy is truly remarkable. I didn’t really help you much; it’s all down to your own efforts.”

“Besides, you’ve been taking care of Luo Luo for so long. It’s only right that I do these little things.”

Lin Jing shook his head and said, “You’re being too humble.”

“Without the help of Ning Daoyou, I would probably still be failing every day and have run out of Spirit Stones by now, let alone treat myself.”

“All of this is thanks to your contributions.”

“Mommy, Uncle Lin...”

Ning Yue was about to say more when a sudden shout interrupted her.

Seeing the two just standing at the doorway and not entering, Luo Luo quickly asked:

“What are you two doing? I’m getting hungry.”

“Mommy, didn’t you say you wanted to learn cooking from Uncle Lin?”

Luo Luo’s words made Ning Yue’s face turn slightly red, causing her to give Luo Luo a glare.

This little girl was becoming more and more cheeky.

“Lin Daoyou, look...”

“It’s no big deal, sure.”

Lin Jing agreed before Ning Yue could finish her sentence. “It’s just about lunchtime now. Ning Daoyou, let’s go together.” Saying this, Lin Jing led Ning Yue towards the kitchen.

When it comes to cooking versus alchemy,

Lin Jing felt that the difference wasn’t significant; both required control over the heat and mastery of ingredient proportions.

Compared to alchemy, in fact, cooking seemed somewhat simpler.

The reason Ning Yue couldn’t cook was because she had never focused on cooking.

Lin Jing had some understanding of Ning Yue’s background.

Ning Yue herself was the treasured pearl of an Alchemy Dao family, where she never had to worry about her basic needs.

That is until she met Luo Luo’s father and they fell in love at first sight. However, her family did not approve of their relationship.

But by that time, Ning Yue was already pregnant, so the two of them eloped to Nanshan Market together.

Things were alright before, with Luo Luo’s father around to take care of most matters, and naturally, the cooking fell on his shoulders as well.

But after an accident befell Luo Luo's father, all the household responsibilities fell squarely on Ning Yue's shoulders.

Not only did she have to take care of Luo Luo, but she also had to find ways to earn Spirit Stones, leaving her no time to specifically learn how to cook.

After all, in Fang Market, one could hardly move an inch without Spirit Stones.

But now things were okay, as she had earned quite a few Spirit Stones from alchemy a while ago, and she didn't have to worry about Spirit Stones for the time being.

Moreover, ever since she had tasted the food made by Lin Jing, eating her own cooking...

Was like eating chalk and cheese, simply too hard to swallow.

No wonder even Luo Luo would come over to air her grievances.

Both of them busied themselves with the cooking, and indeed, it was much faster than when Lin Jing worked alone; in less than half an hour, the meal had already been served.

And Luo Luo had already been sitting at the table, unable to contain her impatience.

Once the three of them were seated, Luo Luo quickly picked up a piece of meat and put it in her mouth.

"So delicious..." Luo Luo mumbled unclearly.

"Luo Luo, try this one."

Lin Jing pointed to a plate of green vegetables as he spoke.

Ning Yue felt somewhat nervous beside him because she was the one who had cooked this dish.

"Okay, Uncle Lin's cooking is always delicious."

As she spoke, Luo Luo picked up a piece of the vegetable and put it in her mouth.

After chewing twice, she seemed to sense something wrong; her small face scrunched up, and then with a "wah," she spat the vegetable out. "Uncle, this isn't made by you, is it?"

Luo Luo asked with a pained expression, looking at Lin Jing and simultaneously giving Ning Yue a sidelong glance that could not have been more obvious.

Initially, he hadn't planned on letting Ning Yue try her hand at cooking, but after watching for a while, she wanted to give it a try.

So, Lin Jing agreed to it.

Turning to Ning Yue, her face was already beet red to the tips of her ears at this moment.

Lin Jing also felt curious; was it really that bad?

With that thought, he reached out with his chopsticks, picked up a piece of green vegetable, and put it into his mouth.

This taste...

Salty mixed with sour, and after chewing twice more, a bitter taste spread throughout his mouth, which was no wonder Luo Luo had spat it out directly.

Lin Jing looked at Ning Yue with a strange look in his eyes.

Ning Yue, feeling embarrassed, lowered her head.

Lin Jing swallowed the green vegetable in his mouth with difficulty and chuckled.

"Hehe..."

"Not bad, keep trying next time."

"Let's hurry up and eat before the dishes get cold."

It seemed teaching Ning Yue how to cook was going to be quite the long and arduous journey...

After the meal, with nothing much to do, Lin Jing started discussing alchemy with Ning Yue.

Time flowed like water and slipped away in an instant.

When the two of them snapped back to reality, it was already time to have dinner.

This time, under Lin Jing's guidance, Ning Yue stir-fried another dish, which, after being tasted by their little taste tester Luo Luo...

Received a verdict of 'edible'.

Ning Yue rolled her eyes, but her joy was evident in her expression.

In the following days, the two of them came over often.

Each time they arrived, they would bring some chicken, fish, meat, and vegetables, clearly showing Ning Yue's determination to learn cooking well.

During these evenings, besides practicing alchemy, Lin Jing also went out once or twice, selling some elixir medicines.

Until this day.

Lin Jing had just finished selling some Elixir Medicine and bid farewell to the Shopkeeper.

As he walked down the street, Lin Jing consistently felt something was off—he had the sense that someone was following him.

He stealthily looked back but saw nothing.

Lin Jing's brow furrowed tightly; during this time, he had been very careful, selling Elixir Medicines in different shops every time.

Plus, the quantity sold was not large, so certainly, he should not have drawn any tailing from anyone.

As he pondered with his brows knitted, a plan suddenly sprang up in his mind.

Lin Jing's lips curved into a smile:

"Let's see whether it's just my imagination or if someone is indeed following

Chapter 29: The Destruction of the Man in Black

Afterward, Lin Jing walked forward as if he had noticed nothing.

The feeling of being followed persisted throughout the journey, at times fading in and out of perception.

Not until he had left the Fang Market and entered the outskirts did this sensation suddenly intensify.

Lin Jing could even feel his heartbeat quickening beyond its normal pace.

"Ding"

The sudden sound of the system alert left Lin Jing momentarily stunned.

“System alert: Host detected in danger, alert function automatically upgrading.”

“Alert function upgrade requires the deduction of 10 Harvest Points. Detecting that the host currently has 49 Harvest Points, deduction will proceed automatically.” “Current remaining Harvest Points: 39.”

“System upgrading...”

“Ding”

“Alert function upgrade complete, this function can now be used externally.”

“Warning!”

“Within alert range, someone harbors lethal intent towards the host, please respond promptly.”

Seeing the system notification, Lin Jing finally realized.

“Indeed, my feelings were correct. There really is someone tracking me, and they bear ill intent.”

Someone wanted to kill him.

It was obvious that after leaving the Fang Market, this person could no longer hold back.

As if oblivious, Lin Jing continued on until he reached an alleyway. With a turn, he entered the alley. “System.”

“Enter System Space.”

Upon stepping into the alley, Lin Jing silently called out to the system and entered the System Space.

“System, activate Observation Mode.”

Just after entering the System Space, Lin Jing activated the Observation Mode.

His perspective shifted and Lin Jing began to surveil, with an unobstructed view of the outside world.

He saw a person clad in black clothing hurriedly approaching after Lin Jing’s disappearance.

“Eh? Where’s the person?”

The individual looked around but did not see Lin Jing, then expressed doubt.

While under Observation Mode, Lin Jing could see this person’s appearance clearly.

It was the same man dressed in black who had tried to sell him the Black Market Token that day.

Lin Jing frowned in contemplation:

“Could this person have been eyeing me for some time?”

However, the man in black soon provided Lin Jing with the answer.

After searching around and seeing no one, the man in black started to doubt. “Where could he have gone, how could he just vanish all of a sudden?”

“Impossible, a mere Qi Refinement initial stage cultivator couldn’t possibly have noticed me. Was I exposed already?”

“Does that mean I’ve been waiting here for days in vain?”

The man in black was quite frustrated as he muttered to himself.

Ever since that incident, he had been lying in wait at the Fang Market for several days, just to catch Lin Jing making another appearance.

He had waited until today, finally seeing Lin Jing, only to lose him. The man in black felt unspeakably upset.

In his opinion, Lin Jing was merely a Qi Refinement third layer cultivator, while he was at the seventh layer, there was no reason for him to lose track of Lin Jing.

After all, he had been monitoring that fellow with his Divine Sense, yet he had disappeared suddenly.

After listening to the man in black’s words, Lin Jing now understood that since the Black Market Token incident, this person had been waiting for him.

It was probably not just for revenge, it was very likely he also had plots of robbery and murder.

Thinking back to that day, after he had sold his Elixir Medicine and the behavior of the man in black, Lin Jing felt even more certain of his conclusion.

“It seems this person must be eliminated.”

This man had memorized the way he looked in disguise, and Lin Jing had no skill in altering his appearance. No matter how he might disguise himself, it would be in vain and eventually, a flaw would be exposed.

And he didn't possess a magical treasure to change his appearance now; being targeted by this person meant he would likely never know peace in the future.

Therefore, this person had to be eliminated.

Having decided to dispose of this person, Lin Jing immediately took out his Storage Bag and fetched two talismans from within.

The two Five Thunder Talismans previously given by Senior Han.

This was Lin Jing's assurance.

At this moment, the man in black who had been searching outside for a while still hadn't found Lin Jing and was hanging his head, preparing to leave.

Just then, a voice suddenly came from behind him.

“You've been following me for so long, do you want to make a deal with me?”

The man in black was startled by this sudden voice, swiftly turned around, and looked in the direction of the sound, only to see Lin Jing standing there.

“It's you! How did you appear?”

The man in black stared at Lin Jing, confusion in his voice.

“You need not worry about that.”

“You've followed me all this way, could it be you want to trade your so-called Black Market Token with me again?” The man in black suddenly laughed.

“A trade?”

He finished speaking, took out a Black Market Token, and toyed with it in his hand.

“Are you talking about this?”

“This is a great item, but what a pity, you don't know its worth.”

After saying this, the corners of the man in black's mouth curved into a cruel arc.

“Die you shall.”

The man in black erupted into action, conjuring a Flying Sword magic artifact, and charged towards Lin Jing.

The person before him was too strange, and to avoid prolonging the night and more dreams, he decided not to delay and to kill him outright.

Lin Jing, however, was far from panicked, his eyes blazing as he intently watched the man in black approaching.

When the man in black was still about a dozen meters away from Lin Jing—

Lin Jing let out a light shout and quickly threw the Five Thunder Talisman he was clutching behind his back.

By the time the man in black noticed and saw it clearly, the Five Thunder Talisman was already in front of him.

“Five Thunder Talisman!!

The man in black was immediately scared witless, his arrogance gone, and he hurriedly halted his charge, trying to retreat backward.

However, it was too late to retreat now.

“Explode!”

With Lin Jing’s command, the violent energy contained within the Five Thunder Talisman instantly tore the talisman to pieces, with dozens of bolts of lightning appearing out of thin air, brightening the sky and continual thunder rumbling, instantly engulfing the man in black.

“Ahhh...”

The man in black tumbled uncontrollably, emitting pitiful screams...

However, the screams did not last long before they vanished.

As for the man in black, he no longer made a sound.

It was no joke, this was a Five Thunder Talisman that only a Foundation Establishment Cultivator could create, and the spell it released was equivalent to a full-strength attack from a Foundation Establishment Cultivator.

And what was the man in black's cultivation? Naturally, he couldn't withstand the attack from the Five Thunder Talisman.

A moment later, the lightning dissipated, the energy in the Five Thunder Talisman had been fully unleashed.

Only then did Lin Jing move forward to see the man in black's tragic state; half of his body had already disappeared, and most of the remaining torso was charred.

Clearly, he was dead beyond any doubt.

Lin Jing sighed in relief, then put away the second Five Thunder Talisman.

Picking up the broken Flying Sword from the ground, Lin Jing started rummaging through the man in black's corpse. It didn't take long for a Storage Bag to come into view.

"Good thing the Storage Bag is intact."

Having said that, Lin Jing picked the Storage Bag off the corpse, then reached out to catch it and put it away.

"With such a commotion having taken place here, it won't be long before someone comes to investigate. If discovered, he would be in a lot of trouble."

Considering this, Lin Jing applied a Godspeed Talisman and an Invisibility Talisman to himself, then looked around, finding no other people nearby. Empowered by the Godspeed Talisman, Lin Jing swiftly left the area.

Chapter 30 - 30 Black Market Token

Chapter 30: Black Market Token

After returning, Lin Jing took out the storage bag belonging to the man in black and probed into it with his divine sense.

Inside, there weren't many items: only a few dozen spirit stones, two common cultivation techniques, several low-level talismans, and the black market token.

The two cultivation techniques were of the sort found everywhere, one being the Qingmu Skill and the other the Sword Control Technique, which could be bought at the first floor of Yuebaolou for just a few dozen spirit stones, so they were not considered valuable.

Lin Jing naturally had no interest in flipping through them.

However, the black market token did pique his interest.

Lin Jing took the token out of the storage bag and started to examine it carefully.

The token was black all over, made from an unknown material that resembled metal—you could feel its cold touch, yet it was very light.

Considering the behavior of the man in black earlier, this token was most likely genuine.

Lin Jing examined the token in his hands, filled with questions.

“With this token, one can enter the black market? But where is the entrance to the black market?”

Just a token in hand, he couldn’t figure it out no matter how much he investigated, and before long, Lin Jing put the token away.

He then recalled the battle that had taken place that day.

It must be said that the Foundation Establishment Stage Five Thunder Talisman is formidable. Beneath the enveloping lightning, the man in black had no chance to escape before he was dead.

“It seems I should buy a few more to have on hand for the future,” Lin Jing thought to himself.

“Enter the System Space.”

After putting away the storage bag of the man in black, Lin Jing entered the System Space once more.

Having harvested the Spirit Rice and the Seven-Star Grass a few days ago, he

had yet to start the new planting.

Just today, he had bought some seeds.

These seeds were precisely the Spirit Plants required for concocting the Energy Gathering Pills.

With the constant upheaval caused by Demonic Beasts, the prices of elixir materials in the Fang Market were getting more and more expensive. In this large environment, Lin Jing decided to become self-sufficient.

Having his own fields, he naturally felt more secure.

As for the spiritual energy needed to cultivate these Spirit Plants, that was even less of a concern; the ample spiritual energy in the System Space was enough to nourish them.

After a busy night, Lin Jing was thoroughly exhausted.

However, even so, half of the Spirit Field within the System Space was still not planted.

Another day should be enough to finish it.

During the day, Ning Yue came over again with Luo Luo.

As the two entered, Lin Jing quickly took the ingredients and headed to the kitchen.

Ning Yue followed Lin Jing into the kitchen.

“Lin Daoyou, there was a fight last night in Green Smoke Alley; have you heard about it?” Ning Yue asked.

“Where is Green Smoke Alley?”

Lin Jing thought for a moment; he had never heard of this alley.

“I don’t mean to conceal anything from Ning Daoyou, but I have just woken up and have not heard any news.”

Ning Yue quickly explained:

“Green Smoke Alley is some distance away from here and is also close to the inner part of the Fang Market.”

“Last night, there was a fight in the alley, where a Late Stage Qi Refining cultivator was struck dead with a thunder technique, seemingly at the hands of a Foundation Establishment Cultivator.”

Hearing Ning Yue say this, Lin Jing instantly realized that this must be about the man in black he had killed last night being discovered.

It turned out that the scene of last night’s killing was in Green Smoke Alley.

At the time, Lin Jing had chosen the location at random without much thought.

“Did the Fang Market get involved? What did they say?” Lin Jing hurriedly asked Ning Yue, wanting to know the attitude of the Fang Market.

Ning Yue replied:

“The Fang Market is already overwhelmed with dealing with Demonic Beasts, they can’t manage these matters. As long as the fights don’t occur within the Fang Market itself, they always turn a blind eye to the outside conflicts.”

“The Fang Market has simply said it was a case of murder and robbery, and then there was no further investigation. They just told us to be more careful in the future.”

Lin Jing thought to himself, “As expected, the Fang Market didn’t probe any deeper. ”

Before getting involved in this matter, Lin Jing had already anticipated the current situation, as the multitude of cultivators living on the periphery was not important to the Fang Market.

That was also why the man in black revealed his killing intent only after he left the inner parts of the Fang Market.

Because...

Inside the Fang Market, he would not dare to make a move.

After finishing, Ning Yue continued to caution Lin Jing:

“I know you sometimes go out at night, but it’s better to go out less these days.

The Fang Market is becoming more and more unsafe.

“You never know when you could be ambushed like that Late Stage Qi Refining cultivator. ”

After speaking, Ning Yue sighed.

“It’s not only unsafe here, but the outskirts near the border areas are even worse. It’s said that every few days, people are attacked by Demonic Beasts.”

“Who knows how long this surge of Demonic Beasts will last.”

“I just hope it doesn’t spread here.”

Upon hearing this, Lin Jing also fell silent for a while.

It seemed he would have to make some preparations in advance.

In the following days, Ning Yue continued to learn cooking with Lin Jing.

Over these few days, her culinary skills had improved greatly, to the extent that even Luo Luo was impressed.

After eating, with nothing else to do, Lin Jing looked at Luo Luo playing around in the room and suddenly spoke:

“Ning Daoyou.”

“Luo Luo isn’t young anymore, why haven’t you let her start cultivation yet?”

This question had been on Lin Jing’s mind for a long time. Other children Luo Luo’s age had already started cultivating.

Ning Yue looked at Luo Luo and then spoke with a somber tone:

“When Luo Luo was born, her father and I tested her.”

“Luo Luo... she has no Spiritual Root, and she can only be a mortal all her life.” “But aren’t both of you cultivators?” Lin Jing was full of confusion.

Offspring born to cultivators often had a high chance of possessing Spiritual Roots, and although the quality of the Spiritual Roots might not always be high, it was very rare for them to have none at all.

Moreover, Ning Yue had reached the Late Stage Qi Refining at her age, clearly indicating she had a very good Spiritual Root.

Lin Jing estimated that she must have at least a tri-attribute Spiritual Root.

It was said that Luo Luo’s father’s cultivation was not much different from Ning Yue’s, so his Spiritual Root could not be poor either.

For Luo Luo, being the product of their love yet not having a Spiritual Root, was an extraordinary occurrence.

“We also checked many times...” Ning Yue said softly.

“I see...”

Lin Jing then looked down at Luo Luo, who was playing, and did not say more.

It was such a pity that Luo Luo couldn’t cultivate. “Lin Daoyou.”

Ning Yue suddenly spoke up, breaking the silence.

Lin Jing looked up at Ning Yue.

“Ning Daoyou, what’s the matter?”

“In two days, it’s New Year’s Eve. In the past, we would gather with Wei Daoyou on this day. Would you like to join us?”

Before Lin Jing could respond, Luo Luo ran over, tugging at Lin Jing’s hand and coquettishly said:

“Uncle Lin, come join us-I’

Lin Jing looked down at Luo Luo, her eyes full of anticipation.

Having been close to Lin Jing over this period of time, Luo Luo naturally did not want to be apart from him on such an important day.

“Alright.”

He answered, gently ruffling Luo Luo’s hair.

After speaking, Lin Jing’s thoughts drifted away...

“So it’s almost New Year’s already...”

“I wonder how my family in that other world is doing?”