

## Time 241

### Chapter 241 - 241 Entering the Survival Gate

Nodding his head, the second guard agreed with the main guard's words, before they all returned back to the entrance.

Indeed, very few people in the entire Heaven's Dome city could find trouble with their young master.

At the same time, Shun Long and Liu Mei were riding on the black panther's back, who continued flying towards the House of Rankings.

A few minutes later, Shun Long had once again arrived outside of the huge building that seemed to have been made from wood.

Although Shun Long had only taken a brief look at the ranking board outside of the House the last time that he and Liu Mei had come here, he still remembered the names at the top 50.

And yet, he noticed that there had already been many changes in those rankings.

Many of the names that he had seen the last time, had fallen below the top 50, while other people had already replaced them.

The most noticeable ones were those in the top 20.

More than 10 people had already lost their rankings, while even Long Hong, the person who was previously ranked 5th, was now in 6th place, replaced by Bai Longtian.

Shun Long had already heard from the crowd surrounding the House of Rankings, that Bai Longtian was the young white lord, the son of a peak expert in the Night star continent called the white lord.

Most people seemed to have been talking about the powerful Bai Longtian, but Shun Long also noticed that the top 4 spots had stayed untouched.

Since the last time that he had visited the House of Rankings, the names in the top 4 places had all stayed the same.

With an apathetic look, his cold eyes were focused on Hu Liu's name that was still in 3rd place, before he and Liu Mei got off from the black panther and entered inside the House of Rankings.

The moment that they stepped through the entrance, Shun Long and Liu Mei were slightly stunned seeing the amount of people that were inside the building.

There were far more people compared to the last time that they had come, and even with the spacious interior of the House of Rankings, it was still crowded inside.

A huge crowd had gathered around the giant screens of light in the air, that were showing the ongoing battles behind the gates.

Only a small crowd was paying attention to the battle behind the Challenge Gate, while everyone else was staring at the screens of light that showed the battles behind the Survival Gate.

Even the atmosphere inside the House was more heated, as people cheered and shouted loudly.

With all the new geniuses that were coming towards the Heaven's Dome city, the House of Rankings was the best place to visit.

After taking a look at the enormous screens of light in the air that were broadcasting the ongoing survival challenge, Shun Long and Liu Mei walked through the crowd, as they headed towards one of the huge gates at the back.

Shun Long had already learned of the procedure to participate in the challenges of the house from the 2 women at the information counter, and without any hesitation, he followed some other people as he and Liu Mei entered through the half-opened Survival Gate.

After entering inside the Survival Gate, Shun Long and Liu Mei walked through a long corridor that was decorated with countless rare jewels, before they arrived inside a vast hall.

Shun Long saw more than 3.000 people who were gathered inside the hall, while a giant circle that covered more than 2000 square meters, was shining with countless runes in the middle of the hall.

Around the circle were more than 12 counters, operated by employees of the House of Rankings'.

Once Shun Long and Liu Mei entered the room, quite a few people's eyes turned to look at the peak rank 5 'Silver-winged panther king' that was following behind them, before they turned their eyes to examine Shun Long and Liu Mei.

However, unlike Liu Mei's early rank 1 Spirit realm aura, Shun Long's aura was completely hidden, and even powerful Dao Kings were unable to detect it, let alone the people inside the hall whose cultivation was much weaker.

Surprisingly, every few minutes, the circle in the middle of the hall would light up with sudden flash of lights, as people would appear on top of it one by one.

Almost everyone who appeared on the huge circle had haggard expressions on their faces, while their bodies would be filled with countless injuries.

With lowered heads, these people would usually choose to leave the Survival Gate's hall, but there were some of them who chose to pay 3000 low-grade spirit stones to the employees of the House of Rankings, before they joined the rest of the crowd as they waited for the next survival gate challenge to start.

After taking a look around him, Shun Long noticed that the cultivation of most people here was at the rank 2 and rank 3 of the Spirit realm, while a small number of them had even reached the early rank 4 of the Spirit realm. Turning his head to look at Liu Mei, Shun Long then asked seriously

"Mei'er, are you sure that you want to enter as well?"

Liu Mei nodded her head with a determined expression behind her white veil as she looked at Shun Long and simply said

"Mhm!"

Shun Long nodded, and didn't question her decision, as he walked up to one of the counters where a young man dressed in the robes of the House of Rankings was standing behind.

Seeing Shun Long and Liu Mei approaching the counter, the young man then asked

"Can I help you?"

Nodding his head, Shun Long took out 6000 low-grade spirit stones from the 'Stone of Time', as well as his and Liu Mei's golden medallions that they had received from the women at the information counter and handed them to the young man, before he explained that he wanted to join the next Survival Gate's challenge.

The young man nodded his head, but then his eyes widened when he realized that the young woman next to Shun Long would join as well.

With Liu Mei's early rank 1 Spirit realm cultivation, she would be the weakest person who was signed up for this challenge so far. Before her, the weakest people who had signed up were at the peak of rank 1 in the Spirit realm after all.

However, it wasn't the young man's job to stop the people who wanted to participate.

With a kind look on his face, he looked at the white-veiled Liu Mei, before his eyes turned to Shun Long and said seriously

"In case you are entering the challenge for the first time, let me remind you that, as long as you are in a difficult situation and want to exit immediately during your challenge, all you have to do is inject your qi inside the golden medallions, and you will immediately be transported back to the hall."

Shun Long nodded his head, and thanked the young man for the information, before a sense of relief filled his heart.

After all, Shun Long already knew that killing wasn't forbidden inside the Survival Gate, in order to temper the people who participate even further. But at the same time, with Liu Mei's weak cultivation, she would be in danger if she met someone who was far stronger than her.

Of course, the 'Golden Exchange firm' was aware of this issue as well, and as long as someone didn't die in a single strike, they would be able to return back to the Survival hall after they injected their qi inside their medallions.

The young man also explained to Shun Long and Liu Mei, that the participants here would be called to enter the giant circle in the middle of the hall as soon as the ongoing survival challenge ends, but the black panther behind them could not enter with them.

Seeing Shun Long nod his head, the young man then took a deep breath, as he started to explain the rules of the Survival Gate.

#### Chapter 242 - 242 The Survival Gate's rules

Looking at Shun Long and Liu Mei, the young man continued

"As soon as the ongoing Survival challenge ends, the previous challengers will appear on top of the giant teleportation formation.

Then, everyone who has already registered themselves for the upcoming survival challenge will step on the teleportation formation, before they are transferred to a secluded place outside of the Heaven's Dome city.

The challenge grounds are owned by our 'Golden Exchange firm', as well as the other 4 peak powers of the Heaven's Dome city, so outsiders will never intrude inside.

When you arrive at the challenge grounds, every person will be sent at a random direction, so it's pointless to try and form teams. The most important goal will be to survive.

Additionally, you must try to incapacitate any other challengers you can, and force them to use their own medallions to escape.

Once you arrive at the challenge grounds, you will then be given 1 ranking point in your medallion. The more opponents you defeat, the more ranking points you can obtain.

Every time that you force another challenger to escape... or kill them, you will automatically obtain their own ranking points in your own medallion.

Of course, if the person that you defeat had defeated another person before, in that case, you will obtain their cumulative ranking points that they have gathered during the trial.

3 days later, the trial will end, and the contestants who haven't been defeated will be transported back here.

In the end, the most important goal should be to survive, as the total ranking points that you will obtain, will allow your ranking inside the House to rise."

After a moment's hesitation, the young man continued with a look of dread in his eyes

"However, even more dangerous than the other contestants are the powerful magic beasts that live in the challenge grounds. Some of them have even reached the rank 5, and even powerful cultivators at the early stages of the Nascent Soul stage will have to run from them!"

Shun Long nodded his head, as he and Liu Mei finally understood the rules of the House of Rankings.

Shun Long quickly understood, that this Survival Gate didn't just test personal strength, but also how careful someone was.

After all, even the strongest of the participants around him, were at the rank 4 of the Spirit realm, and in front of a rank 5 magic beast, that was equal to a Nascent Soul stage cultivator, they wouldn't even last a few moments.

Shun Long was also excited to fight against powerful Spirit realm cultivators. Although he didn't know if he would be able to beat a rank 4 Spirit realm cultivator just yet, he knew that he would definitely be able to put up a fight against them.

After his breakthrough to the Spirit realm, Shun Long believed that if he had to fight with the middle rank 3 Spirit realm Hao Jingguo again, he would be able to crush him effortlessly this time.

Even peak rank 3 Spirit realm cultivators wouldn't be able to last for too long against Shun Long if he fought with his full power.

Shun Long and Liu Mei then waited, until the ongoing Survival challenge ended.

Almost half a day later, a batch of almost 30 people had suddenly appeared on the giant teleportation circle in the middle of the hall, all at the same time.

Among these people, only a few of them seemed to be in a bad condition.

The rest of them were brimming with energy as they looked at each other with eyes filled with fighting intent.

Aside from one middle rank 5 Spirit realm expert, the rest of these people were all at the rank 4 of the Spirit realm.

The middle rank 5 Spirit realm cultivator had an arrogant expression as he stared at the people around him, and with a look that was filled with pride, he was the first one to step out of the teleportation circle as he left the Survival Gate's hall.

Soon, everyone else, including Shun Long and Liu Mei, walked up, as they stood on top of the gigantic teleportation circle in the middle of the hall.

Seeing that everyone was standing inside the circle, the employees of the House of Rankings covered the edges of the huge circle with more than 5000 middle-grade spirit stones, before they slowly backed away.

The runes inside the giant circle lit up and seemed to have magically connected with the middle-grade spirit stones around them.

As the runes of the circle lit up, the power inside them was actually increasing with every passing second, while the l.u.s.ter of the middle-grade spirit stones had started to dim rapidly in response.

It looked like the runes themselves were extracting the power from the middle-grade spirit stones, when suddenly, the familiar feeling of spatial teleportation covered Shun Long's body.

And yet, this feeling was somehow different from when Shun Long opened a space tear by himself.

Looking at Liu Mei next to him who was holding his left hand, Shun Long smiled, before his vision suddenly turned dark.

A bright golden light erupted from the large circle beneath his feet, as Shun Long could feel his body traveling through space.

A few moments later Shun Long opened his eyes, as he found himself on top of a small mountain, with a large and lush forest below.

The forest spanned as far as Shun Long's eyes could see, while the roars of angry magic beasts resounded in the distance.

After taking a look around him, Shun Long noticed that Liu Mei had disappeared from his side, but he had already expected that as well.

It was only natural that they would be split up after arriving in this place.

Among the cries of the magic beasts however, Shun Long also heard the sounds of swords clashing, just a few hundred meters away from the mountain he was standing on.

The auras of 2 rank 3 Spirit realm cultivators fighting with each other could be felt even from 5 miles away, let alone a few hundred meters.

Shun Long's eyes lit up, and without hesitation, he jumped down from the mountain as he entered inside the forest, heading towards the sound of the fight.

Chapter 243 - 243 Gathering ranking points

Shun Long was running through the forest as he headed towards the source of the fight.

Around 500 meters away from him, he could see trees being cut down one after the other, as the people who were fighting, headed towards the opposite direction of him.

Hastening his speed, Shun Long circulated the 'Monarch's Hourglass', before he activated the 'Gale steps'.

Once the Mystic high-grade martial skill was activated, his feet turned blurry while his speed turned twice as fast as before.

Barely 30 breaths of time later, Shun Long had climbed on top of a tree, as the scene of the fighting appeared in his eyes.

Inside the forest, trees and large rocks were destroyed one by one, as a young man in blue robes was being chased by a young woman who seemed to be in her middle 20s.

The young man was actually at the early rank 3 in the Spirit realm, while the young woman had already reached the middle of rank 3.

Waving her green sword in the air, she repeatedly slashed at the young man, chasing after him without giving him a moment to rest.

And yet, the young woman seemed to have been toying with the young man, as her sword missed him by a single hair's breadth every time.

It seemed as if the young woman wasn't trying to win, but was trying to play around with the blue-robed man, the same way that a cat would play with a mouse.

Shun Long watched, as a look of hatred appeared in the young man's eyes, as he looked at the young woman in front of him, before he waved his hand and a golden medallion appeared on it.

The woman's eyes narrowed when she saw that the blue-robed young man wanted to escape, and her feet hurriedly kicked the ground, while her sword was stabbing towards his chest.

The young man however, had enough time to inject his qi inside the golden medallion of the 'House of Rankings', as a golden light covered his body.

His body turned illusory and disappeared on the spot, leaving the young woman staring at his disappearing silhouette with a dumbfounded expression.

A golden light had appeared from the man's medallion before he had escaped, as it headed towards the young woman's small chest.

The young woman had no time to dodge, as the light landed on her body.

Her robes on her chest started to lit up, as the medallion that she was carrying in her bosom started to glow with a bright light.

Her left hand reached inside her robes, entering between her b.r.e.a.s.t.s, as she took out her golden medallion from there, that was now shining with the number 2.

Shun Long smiled when he saw the 2 ranking points in the woman's medallion, before he jumped from the tree, swiftly landing on the ground in front of the young woman.

"Who is it?"

The young woman asked almost reflexively, when she saw that someone had appeared in front of her, without her even noticing it.

Even more surprising to her, was that she couldn't sense Shun Long's cultivation.

Unless it was an early rank 4 Spirit realm expert whom she was facing, the woman should have been able to sense her opponent's cultivation.

Of course, since Shun Long had retracted his aura earlier, the young woman and the blue-robed young man had no chance of detecting him... unless they had developed their soul sense of course.

Seeing the woman take a step back, Shun Long had a smile on his face, before he once again circulated the 'Monarch's Hourglass' and activated the 'Monarch's Domain'.

The invisible figure of an hourglass expanded from his body, while at the same time, a blue-colored light had also covered him.

Since this was a competition where one could win, only as long as they defeated their opponents or sent them to retreat, Shun Long wasn't planning on wasting any time with this woman.

A scornful look appeared on the young woman's face when she finally sensed Shun Long's cultivation, before she exhaled a sigh of relief

"Just an early rank 1 Spirit realm."

At the same time, anger had also appeared on her face, when she realized that she had been duped by the young man in front of her

"I was actually afraid of an early rank 1 Spirit realm kid?"

The woman then ran towards Shun Long, hacking her green sword at him with a twisted smile on her face.

Shun Long didn't seem to have paid any attention to the woman's expression however, as he simply pointed forward with his right hand.

His qi started gathering in his forefinger, as sparks of lightning started to appear on it at the same time.

A mocking smile was formed on the young woman's lips, as her sword aimed to pierce through Shun Long's chest.

Before her sword could connect with Shun Long however, a sudden bolt of thunder exploded from Shun Long's finger.

The sound of thunder booming sounded in the sky, while a powerful lightning bolt headed towards the young woman's head.

Horror had filled the woman's eyes, as she hurriedly retracted her sword to defend from Shun Long's 'thunderbolt finger'.

She barely had enough time to retract her hand and defend her head, as her green sword lit up with a bright blue light, before it collided with Shun Long's bolt of thunder.

BOOOM

The young woman felt a numbing pain on her hand, barely being able to hold on to her sword, as the web of her hand between her thumb and her forefinger split apart, while lightning invaded her body.

The terrifying bolt of thunder sent the woman flying backwards for more than 100 meters, destroying many tree branches in the process, until her body collided with a large tree.

The look of horror in the young woman's eyes deepened as she stared at the handsome young man in the distance, who was now walking towards her.

She hurriedly grabbed her golden medallion from her chest, and injecting her qi inside it, her body immediately disappeared from the forest.

A golden light appeared from her medallion before the woman disappeared, as it flew towards Shun Long's.

Holding his medallion in his hand, Shun Long saw the golden light merging in his medallion, as the number 3 appeared on it.

Seeing that there was no one else around him, Shun Long continued deeper inside the forest.

At the same time, next to a vast lake near the edge of the forest, a burly young man who was holding a red saber in his hand, was walking towards the white-veiled Liu Mei with a light smile on his face.

#### Chapter 244 - 244 Liu Mei's defeat

After sensing that Liu Mei was just at the early rank 1 of the Spirit realm, the young man had no more misgivings fighting against her.

Liu Mei had a grim expression on her face, as she faced the peak rank 3 Spirit realm expert who was slowly walking towards her.

Without hesitating, a black ball of qi was formed between her hands, while death aura exploded from her body.

The black ball of light then fell on the ground, as jade white skeletons started to appear from it.

Dozens of skeletons who were holding bone swords, along with black-armored undead knights had emerged from the black ball of death qi in large numbers.

The burly young man instantly halted his steps as he looked at the dozens of undead creatures that were emerging, seemingly out of nowhere.

Although he wasn't afraid of fighting, the creepy appearance of the creatures in front of him, sent shivers down his spine.

Barely 5 breaths of time had passed, as more than 200 skeletons along with 12 undead knights had now appeared in front of Liu Mei, as they all faced the burly young man opposite to them.

A smirk formed on the burly young man's face as soon as he sensed the cultivation of the creatures in front of him.

Even though their appearance was certainly scary, these skeletons were still at the peak of rank 9 in Heaven grade, while the black-armored knights were barely at the early rank 1 of the Spirit realm.



Holding his red saber, the man started to inject his qi inside it, before he rushed at the skeletons standing in front of him.

The moment that they met the burly man's attacks, the skeletons were crushed in an instant.

With every slash of his saber, the burly young man would destroy almost 10 skeletons, as he continued to run towards Liu Mei.

Even the black-armored undead knights who were much stronger than the skeletons, could only block a single attack of the man's saber before they were destroyed as well.

Liu Mei sighed inwardly when she understood, that the difference between this burly man and her couldn't be breached.

She had simply been too unlucky this time, meeting with a peak rank 3 Spirit realm expert as soon as they were sent to the challenge grounds.

The skeletons and the undead knights were only able to stall the man for a few breaths of time before he appeared in front of Liu Mei, and with that same smirk on his face, he hacked his saber towards her neck.

It was obvious that he wanted to kill her in one-shot.

Liu Mei however was already holding her medallion, and injecting her qi inside it, a golden light immediately covered her body.

Before the man's saber could approach her, her body turned into wisps of golden light before it disappeared on the spot.

"Tsk"

The young man clicked his tongue when he saw Liu Mei disappearing, when a golden light merged in his medallion, and the number 2 then appeared on it.

The crowd inside the House of Rankings' main hall was stunned when they saw Liu Mei's battle.

Although she had lost extremely quickly, the weird creatures that she had summoned had drawn everyone's attention

"Who is this person and what kind of monsters were these skeletons?"

"Not only the skeletons, but the black-armored knights as well. I have never seen someone summoning such things before."

"Hmph! So what? In the end she still lost in just a few breaths of time. These creatures are surely extremely weak."

As these discussions were taking place in the main hall of the House of Rankings, the people inside the hall of the Survival Gate were even more surprised, when they saw Liu Mei appearing on top of the giant teleportation circle.

After all, as soon as she appeared, everyone understood that she was actually, just an early rank 1 Spirit realm cultivator.

"No wonder she lost so quickly!"

"Right! Her opponent was Hao Yuan after all! He is already at the peak of rank 3 in the Spirit realm."

Liu Mei didn't pay much attention to the crowd's discussions however, as she walked towards the 'Silver-winged panther king', who was waiting for her and Shun Long inside the hall.

Nobody had dared to go near the peak rank 5 magic beast while Shun Long and Liu Mei were inside the trial.

Although some people's curiosity had been piqued by Liu Mei's abilities, in the end, no one approached her, as they continued to watch the survival challenge.

Liu Mei's eyes lit up as she saw Shun Long appearing in the giant screen of light.

Shun Long didn't just attract Liu Mei's attention, but many other people's as well, as he continued to rake in points at an incredible speed.

No matter whether he met a middle rank 3 Spirit realm expert or a rank 2 one, they were all destroyed in a single move.

Soon, 2 days had gone by, as the last day of the Survival gate's challenge arrived.

Shun Long had already gathered more than 150 ranking points in these 2 days.

As for Little Black, he was watching his master with his eyes filled with interest from the 'Stone of Time'.

Since Little Black knew that Shun Long wanted to temper himself, he didn't inform him of the location of the other participants around him.

By now, the people who were watching the last day of the Survival Gate's challenge were already certain, that Shun Long was a powerful peak rank 3 Spirit realm cultivator, if he hadn't already reached the early rank 4 in the Spirit realm.

Suddenly, the eyes of the crowd in the House of Rankings were filled with excitement, as they watched the scene inside the screen of light.

At the same time, in the sky a few hundred meters in front of him, Shun Long could see a red-haired young man whose body was clad in crimson flames, holding a tall, bald man from his neck.

Shun Long could feel that the red-haired man's aura was at the early rank 4 in the Spirit realm, while the tall bald man's was only at the peak of rank 3 in the Spirit realm.

The bald man let out screams of agony as he felt his body getting charred by the crimson flames, while his feet tried to kick the red-haired man's groin, in an attempt to catch him off guard and escape.

The red-haired man however had a sinister smile on his face, and just before the bald man could catch his golden medallion, the red-haired man suddenly clutched his hand, snapping the bald man's neck.

A golden light then appeared from the tall, bald man's medallion, as it entered the red-haired man's chest.

The red-haired man's medallion lit up brightly as it absorbed the golden light, and from the previous 103, the ranking points inside it shot all the way up to 139.

At the same time, the red-haired man seemed to have noticed Shun Long's gaze on him, and with that same sinister smile on his face, he rushed towards his direction like a flying meteor.

#### Chapter 245 - 245 Fighting a rank 4 Spirit realm cultivator

Seeing the red-haired man flying towards Shun Long, the crowd inside the House of Rankings was excited.

People had seen Shun Long gathering many ranking points in the last 2 days, and they knew that he was probably already at the top 5 in this survival test.

As for the red-haired man, now that he had 139 ranking points, he was definitely within the top 10.

Looking at the early rank 4 Spirit realm cultivator who was flying towards him, Shun Long didn't feel any fear.

Instead, he felt excitement as he was ready to test his strength to the fullest.

Even if he wasn't able to defeat an early rank 4 Spirit realm expert, Shun Long was still confident in fighting against one.

Activating the 'Monarch's Hourglass', his eyes immediately turned golden, while blue wisps of light appeared inside them as well.

At the same time, he activated the 'Monarch's Domain', as the invisible figure of an hourglass expanded from his body in a radius of 200 meters around him.

Although the red-haired man failed to realize it, his speed was reduced by 10 percent as soon as he entered inside Shun Long's 'Monarch's Domain'.

Actually, it was more accurate to say, that the flow of time around the red-haired man, was restricted, and was now flowing 10 percent slower than before.

As soon as he felt Shun Long's aura at the early rank 1 in Spirit realm, a sneering smile appeared on the red-haired man's face.

The moment that the red-haired man had arrived just 100 meters away from Shun Long, he clenched his fist before he punched the air in front of him.

The flames around his body seemed to have turned into an enormous flame fist, that burned the air itself as it moved towards Shun Long.

Shun Long could feel the temperature around him rising rapidly as the powerful flame fist approached closer and closer to his body.

Even with his peak third stage 'Monarch's Eternal body', Shun Long knew, that he would sustain serious injuries if this flame fist connected with his body.

Raising his right hand he then pointed forward, as the qi inside the single ball of qi that was hovering above his head, was quickly gathered at his forefinger.

Sparks of lightning appeared on his finger, before a sudden bolt of thunder left Shun Long's body, heading towards the fist of flame in the air.

BOOOM

The sound of thunder booming sounded in the sky, before Shun Long's thunderbolt finger collided directly with the powerful flame fist.

A powerful explosion of fire and lightning filled the sky, the moment the thunderbolt finger met with the flame fist.

And yet, even though the flame fist was halted for a moment, it continued to fly forward, practically devouring the thunderbolt finger.

The red-haired young man was stunned for a moment, after seeing his martial skill being halted in the air by Shun Long's thunderbolt, but shortly afterwards, a sneering smile had formed on his lips, as he saw the flame fist continuing to fly forward.

Although part of the flames had been destroyed when they clashed with the 'Thunderbolt finger', the red-haired man knew, that the power of the flame fist was still enough to destroy any peak rank 3 Spirit realm cultivator.

Shun Long sighed inwardly when he saw the thunderbolt finger being swallowed by the flame fist, but he had already expected this outcome.

After all, with the power of a single ball of qi while he had just reached the early rank 1 of the Spirit realm, the chances of him contending against an early rank 4 Spirit realm expert were just too slim.

Shun Long then took out the 'Purple Blossom staff' from the 'Stone of Time', before a blue light covered his body as he activated the second 'Monarch's Domain'.

Holding the 'Purple Blossom staff' from its base, a determined look had filled Shun Long's eyes, as he allowed the incoming flame fist to hit his body.

The giant flame fist pushed Shun Long's body to the ground, creating a large crater in the process, while the powerful flames around it had already covered a radius of 50 meters around Shun Long.

When the red-haired young man saw the giant flame fist engulfing Shun Long's body, he exploded in laughter, as he waited to hear Shun Long's screams while he was being burned alive.

At the same time, an expression of fear had appeared in Liu Mei's face, beneath her white veil, as she watched this scene from the Survival Gate's hall.

Her nails had dug inside her hands, and yet, she didn't even seem to have noticed, as she watched the scene in front of her with an anxious expression.

Liu Mei understood, that if Shun Long's 'Thunderbolt finger' had failed to deal with an opponent's attack, then that attack was surely much more terrifying than it looked.

Indeed, even with his early rank 1 Spirit realm qi as a shield, and his 'Monarch's Eternal body' that had reached the peak of the third stage, the moment that the flame fist hit his body, Shun Long could feel all of his defenses crumbling rapidly.

And yet, despite the pain that was burning his skin, Shun Long gritted his teeth before he gathered the energy of the 'Monarch's Eternal body' towards his upper body.

Holding the 'Purple Blossom staff' from its base, Shun Long's hands burst out with all of his strength, as he threw the staff upwards, towards the red-haired man in the sky.

The flame fist had already turned into a mass of flames after hitting the ground, and it didn't have the power to stop the 'Purple Blossom staff', that was now flying towards the red-haired man like a javelin.

However, even though the 'Purple Blossom staff' was still enshrouded by the crimson flames as it traveled through the air, the red-haired young man's eyes narrowed, almost as if he could see through the flames at the purple-colored staff that was flying towards him.

The crowd in the House of Rankings watched with bated breaths, as crimson flames covered the red-haired young man's left hand, while his eyes stared at the flames in front of him.

Suddenly, a purple-colored staff shot out from the flames, as it headed towards the red-haired man's head like an arrow that had just flew out from a cloud of smoke.

The red-haired man smirked as his hand shot forward, ready to meet the 'Purple Blossom staff' head-on.

At that moment however, Shun Long's eyes had turned a golden blue color, and even though his body was being badly charred by the flames, he still looked towards the red-haired man's direction, as 2 words left his mouth

"Time Prison!"

Chapter 246 - 246 Terrifying pressure

The moment that he muttered these words, an enormous amount of his qi was gathered in Shun Long's eyes.

Almost two-thirds of his remaining qi were sapped almost instantly, as a bright blue light had filled his golden eyes.

Suddenly, time around the red-haired man was forcefully halted for a single instant, as Shun Long's gaze had placed him in a time prison.

The red-haired man's hand had also stopped in mid-air, but that only lasted for a single breath of time, before it once again continued forward.

And yet, this single breath of time was all that Shun Long needed.

In a fight between experts, the slightest mistake could make the difference between victory... and death.

The young man's eyes were filled with horror when he noticed that his hand that punched forward, had actually been a moment too late.

The purple-colored staff brushed past the red-haired man's left hand, before it appeared in front of his face.

It wasn't just the red-haired man who was shocked at this scene. Everyone inside the House of Rankings watched with their mouths agape, as the Purple Blossom staff hit the man's face directly.

Blood spurted in the air like a fountain, as the young man's head exploded on the spot.

The discussions and noises inside the House of Rankings instantly died down, as silence permeated the Survival Gate's hall.

"Wh-What happened?"

It wasn't until a young man's voice sounded, that everyone in the hall snapped out of their reverie.

Seeing the scene inside the screen of light, where the headless corpse of the red-haired young man was now falling from the sky, the crowd exploded in heated discussions

"This! What happened to Shi Zhong? His hand was powered up with his flames, ready to punch the purple rod but... he hesitated?.."

"HA! What an idiot! Wasn't Shi Zhong supposed to be a rank 4 Spirit realm expert? What kind of idiot makes a mistake like that?"

A young man whose body was covered in injuries, couldn't help mocking loudly when he saw the red-haired Shi Zhong's death. It was obvious from the tone in his voice, that he was clearly rejoicing in the red-haired man's death.

However, no one rebuked his statement for a while, until the voice of a young woman at the early rank 2 of the Spirit realm, sounded in everyone's ears

"I... I think that this person in blue robes did something to Shi Zhong before he threw his staff."

"Right! He must have done something when he was covered by Shi Zhong's flames. I'm sure I saw a blue light appearing inside the flames before the staff hit Shi Zhong!"

"Of course he did something! Otherwise, Shi Zhong would have never stopped his punch."

As the crowd in the Survival Gate's hall tried to guess what had happened to Shi Zhong, the scene inside the screen of light changed, showing 2 peak rank 3 Spirit realm experts fighting with each other.

After all, there were only a few hours left until the Survival Gate's challenge finished, making the remaining fights extremely scarce.

Only those who were truly confident in their strength would still roam around the challenge grounds, while the rest would hide, as they wait for the day to end.

At the same time, Shun Long was still covered by the crimson flames, with barely 20 percent of his qi left in his body.

Using the Gale steps, it was as if a gust of wind had appeared beneath his feet, as he quickly appeared a few tens of meters away from his original location.

Without the red-haired man's support, the crimson flames had already started to die down, but the damage they had done to Shun Long's body was already immense.

Burn marks had covered his body from head to toe, and even with his peak third stage 'Monarch's Eternal body', Shun Long still felt pain with every step that he took.

He felt as if his skin was going to be peeled off if he kept walking, as he sat down cross-legged on the ground.

His blue robes had been destroyed almost completely by now, with barely a few pieces of cloth that were stuck on his body.

Suddenly, a golden light appeared from Shi Zhong's headless body that had just crashed on the ground, before it shot towards Shun Long.

The light entered his golden medallion and Shun Long saw his ranking points rising rapidly, from the original 158, all the way to 297.

Without paying any more attention to his golden medallion however, Shun Long circulated the remaining energy inside his 'Monarch's Eternal body' to heal his damaged body.

At the same time, he also took out a handful of top-grade rank 4 'Sun-healing pills', as well as a stalk of a rank 5 'Dragonblood grass' from the 'Stone of Time', before he consumed them directly.

The healing energy from the top-grade 'Sun-healing pills', along with the powers of the 'Monarch's Eternal body', were restoring his horrifying injuries at a speed visible to the n.a.k.e.d eye.

As for the 'Dragonblood grass', it immediately restored the energy that the 'Monarch's Eternal body' had lost, before it brought it back to its peak.

A little more than an hour passed, and almost 90 percent of Shun Long's injuries had already been healed by now. The burn marks on his body had already disappeared, and as for the rest of his internal injuries, Shun Long estimated that he only needed to half an hour at most, until he was back in perfect condition.

Standing up, he put on a spare blue robe on his body, before he once again sat down to heal the rest of his injuries.

4 hours later, a bright light appeared from his golden medallion, completely covering Shun Long's body.

Shun Long once again felt the familiar feeling of spatial teleportation, as his vision turned dark.

A few breaths of time later, Shun Long opened his eyes, and found himself back on the giant teleportation circle inside the Survival Gate's hall.

Liu Mei had a bright smile on her face beneath her white veil, once she saw Shun Long appearing to be fine.

Seeing that his injuries had already healed, a feeling of relief spread through Liu Mei's heart.

After all, Liu Mei had already heard from the crowd earlier, that the red-haired man that Shun Long had fought against, was an early rank 4 Spirit realm cultivator.

Shun Long smiled lightly as he walked towards Liu Mei who was waiting for him next to the black panther, when suddenly a terrifying pressure covered his body.

Little Black's eyes inside the 'Stone of Time' had suddenly turned serious when he felt their pressure around Shun Long's body.

It wasn't just Shun Long, but everyone else inside the House of Rankings... no... everyone in the entire Heaven's Dome city could feel a terrifying pressure looming above their heads.

Chapter 247 - 247 Hall master of the Demon Emperor palace

The entire Heaven's Dome city had fallen silent after this terrifying pressure had descended upon it.

No matter whether it was earth grade cultivators or Dao Kings, everyone could feel the suppressive aura that was now covering their bodies.

Shun Long could feel the 'Monarch's Hourglass' that had started to circulate by itself, as soon as that aura had covered his body, quickly getting rid of this suppressive feeling around him, when Little Black's serious voice sounded in his head

"Master! A person has arrived in the sky above the Heaven's Dome city, and he is stronger than the average peak rank 9 Dao King. Although he hasn't reached the Dao Emperor realm yet, he is just a step away from it!"

At the same time that Little Black had explained to Shun Long what he had sensed, 10 people rushed out from 5 different locations of the city, like pillars of light that shot to the sky.

From the northern part of the city, inside the Shengtian dynasty's palace, the old king of the Shengtian dynasty, Sheng Jun, along with his wife Qiao Lifen, rushed out from the palace.

From the east, 2 stunning women of the dark elf race also took to the sky to see who had arrived to the city and dared to cover it all with his peak rank 9 Dao King realm aura.

From the western part of the city, a middle-aged man and an elderly woman flew out from the 'Mercenaries' Association' headquarters, along with 2 old men from the 'Golden Exchange firm'.

From the south, inside the 'Alchemists' Guild' headquarters, the rank 3 gold grade alchemist Zhao Lan and another old man dressed in golden robes both looked at each other for a moment, with a deep look inside their eyes, before they also took to the sky.

The 10 peak experts of the Heaven's Dome city were now standing in the sky above the Heaven's Dome city, as they all turned their eyes to look at the person who had arrived.

It was a handsome middle-aged man who seemed to be in his middle 40s, with bright red hair that had the color of blood.

His eyes were a bright crimson color that gave him a devilish charm, while his purple robes that were fluttering in the wind, had the words 'Demon Emperor palace' on their back.

The man had an unperturbed smile on his face, as he stared at Sheng Jun and the others who had arrived to 'greet him'.

A solemn expression had appeared on Sheng Jun's face as soon as he saw the middle-aged man, while traces of fear were hidden in the other experts' eyes.

Seeing that no one else was willing to speak right now, Sheng Jun took a step forward, before his aura of a peak rank 9 Dao King exploded from his body.

Cupping his hands, he looked at the middle-aged man in front of him as he said

"Hall master Duan Zhu! Is there a reason for your sudden visit to our Heaven's Dome city? I am sure that hall master Duan Zhu knows, that there are still 3 more years until your Demon Emperor palace is allowed to step foot to the Eastern region."

Although the other experts from the peak powers of the Heaven's Dome city didn't speak, they nodded their heads, indicating that they all agreed to Sheng Jun's words.



After all, the old king of the Shengtian dynasty, was definitely among the 3 strongest experts in the entire Night star continent, and he was the only one strong enough to speak to the man in front of them.

The purple-robed Duan Zhu smiled when he heard Sheng Jun's words, before he said in a calm voice.

"Sheng Jun, you are wrong. As you all see, it is just me who have come here, and not my Demon Emperor palace. I don't recall there being a rule, that members of our palace are not allowed to come to the Eastern region.

As long as the Emperor realm experts don't come to your Night star continent, then this so-called rule of yours isn't broken.

Besides... even if I had broken this so-called rule, what could you do? Which of you is strong enough to fight me?"

Although Duan Zhu's voice was calm, there was an unmistakable authority and arrogance in his voice, as if he didn't even put the old king of the Shengtian dynasty in his eyes.

Sheng Jun however didn't back down after hearing Duan Zhu's words, and with a serious look in his eyes, he looked at the red-haired man in front of him as he said

"Hall master Duan Zhu, are you sure you are confident in fighting 10 peak rank 9 Dao Kings by yourself?"

No matter what, none of us here will allow you to step foot inside the Heaven's Dome city!"

Sheng Jun's wife, Qiao Lifen nodded her head, before she added

"Of course, if hall master Duan Zhu wants to test us, we can certainly fight with you in the end. But you should be aware that during a fight, accidents are bound to happen."

"HAHAHAHA!"

Uncontrollable laughter left Duan Zhu's mouth when he heard Qiao Lifen's words, and narrowing his eyes he looked at her, as he asked in a mocking tone

"Qiao Lifen, are you threatening me?"

Seeing that the old queen of the Shengtian dynasty didn't respond, but simply looked at him seriously, Duan Zhu smiled, as his eyes swept over the other experts of the peak powers of the Heaven's Dome city around him, before his gaze landed on Zhao Lan and the other old man in golden robes from the 'Alchemists' Guild' as he said

"10 peak rank 9 Dao Kings? I really wonder if the vassals of the Feng family are even allowed to fight against our Demon Emperor palace. Will the Feng family let you go unpunished if they find out about this?"

When they heard Duan Zhu's words, everyone else around them turned their eyes to look at Zhao Lan and the other old man from the 'Alchemists' Guild'.

Zhao Lan was the first one to respond however, and under everyone's shocked gazes, he lowered his head and took a step back, before he cupped his hands at Duan Zhu and said in a solemn tone

"Hall master Duan Zhu must be joking. Our 'Alchemists Guild' wouldn't dare fight against you."

## Chapter 248 - 248 Betrayal

Everyone was shocked when they heard Zhao Lan's words.

Although they knew that the Feng family hadn't allowed the 'Alchemists' Guild' to interfere, they had still expected Zhao Lan to fight for the Night star continent, even against the orders of the Feng family.

After all, he was a person who had been born and raised in the Night star continent as well, so how could he simply allow the Demon Emperor palace to take it over.

The golden-robed old man next to Zhao Lan didn't speak, but he also nodded his head, showing that he agreed with Zhao Lan's words.

When he saw this scene, Duan Zhu exploded in laughter as he looked at the 2 rank 3 gold grade alchemists and said

"Hahahaha! Of course you wouldn't fight against me. After all, unlike them, you already know how strong the powers of the Central region really are!"

The old woman from the 'Mercenaries' Association' looked at Zhao Lan with a look of scorn in her eyes, before she turned her gaze towards Duan Zhu, as she spoke with a serious look

"Hall master Duan, even without these 2 spineless worms, I can assure you that the 8 of us are more than sufficient to fight against you.

No matter how strong you are, don't tell me that you really believe, that you can fight against 8 peak rank 9 Dao Kings by yourself.

Perhaps you can show us how strong your Demon Emperor palace's 'Blood Palm' really is."

Duan Zhu's eyes narrowed when he heard the words of the elderly woman from the 'Mercenaries' Association'.

A mocking look had appeared on his face as he stared at her, before he turned his attention towards the 2 women of the Dark elf race. as he then smiled and asked

"Are you going to come here or not?"

Everyone else, including the old woman from the 'Mercenaries' Association', as well as Sheng Jun and his wife, had suddenly turned their attention to the 2 beautiful women of the dark elf race.

Under everyone's shocked gazes, the 2 stunning women both smiled seductively at Duan Zhu, before they flew to his side.

A look of fear, as well as shock and disbelief, had covered the old woman's face, as she stared at the scene in front of her.

Even after opening her mouth a few times, the words that she wanted to say just wouldn't come out.

Surprisingly, the first person who spoke was Qiao Lifan, as she looked at the 2 women next to Duan Zhu and asked with an incredulous expression

"Yi Huian, Yi Xiaosi, are you certain that you want to do this? If you betray us, not only will you become enemies with the entire Heaven's Dome city, but your dark elf race won't be spared either."

The red-haired Yi Huian looked at Qiao Lifan with a derisive look in her eyes, as she then asked

"Enemies with the entire Heaven's Dome city? Do you think that your Shengtian dynasty is strong enough to declare something like that? And even if you were strong enough in the past, can you say the same now that lord Duan Zhu is here?"

Qiao Lifan wanted to rebuke the beautiful red-haired dark elf, when she felt Sheng Jun's hand holding her back.

It seemed as if Sheng Jun's old eyes had just been enlightened, as he looked at the 2 women next to Duan Zhu, before he said in a calm voice

"It seems that your dark elf race has been planning this for a long time.

This is probably the reason why you wanted us all to go to the 'Dragon Lord's villa' together and advance to its core region... since you were traitors all along.

I suppose that this also why you were against having the younger generation of our continent gather in the 'Heaven's Dome city'. After all, as long as one of them enters the Holy sect, then the Demon Emperor palace will not be able to act wildly here right?"

Everyone was stunned when they heard Sheng Jun's deduction.

Didn't this mean that the Demon Emperor palace knew of all their plans from the start?

At the same time, cold sweat had formed on the other experts' heads, when they thought of what would have happened if they had agreed to explore the core regions of the 'Dragon Lord's villa' together with the 2 women of the dark elf race.

With 2 traitors guarding their backs, who knew how many of them would have survived in that case.

As everyone turned their eyes to Yi Huian, the second beautiful dark elf, Yi Xiaosi, looked at the people around her with contempt, before her eyes were focused on Sheng Jun.

Looking at the old king of the Shengtian dynasty, she then said in a calm tone

"Sheng Jun, you are the only one who is somewhat smart among these people.

However, the reason that we wanted you to go to the 'Dragon Lord's villa' wasn't to kill you. It was so you could scout the path ahead for lord Duan Zhu.

After all, even for lord Duan Zhu, traveling to the core region of the 'Dragon Lord's villa' will still hold some dangers. It's indeed unfortunate that you refused in the end.

As for your second 'deduction' however, you are completely mistaken.

The reason that Huian was against gathering every strong, talented person in the Heaven's Dome city, is because it was a pointless thing to do.

No matter how many people gather, none of them will pass the Holy sect's test.

After all, in all these years, how many people from the Night star continent have survived and passed through the fourth test to become official disciples of the sect?"

Ignoring the shocked looks on the Dao Kings faces, Duan Zhu looked at the elderly woman from the 'Mercenaries Association', and in a voice that oozed with confidence and arrogance he said

"Your name is Shao Wenqian or something isn't it? Do you still want to fight with me? Come then!"

## Chapter 249 - 249 Duan Zhu's recruitment

After seeing Duan Zhu's overbearing attitude, the elderly woman, Shao Wenqian gritted her teeth before she turned to look at Sheng Jun, as she waited for his answer.

As long as he agreed, she would be the first to fight against the hall master of the Demon Emperor palace.

Sheng Jun seemed to have fallen silent for a moment as he looked at the hall master of the Demon Emperor palace, but in the end, he shook his head in response.

It was indeed too risky to fight against Duan Zhu right now.

If they were 8 against 1, then Sheng Jun wouldn't have hesitated in the slightest, but the betrayal of the 2 women from the dark elf race had completely tipped the scales of the battle.

After all, as a hall master of the Demon Emperor palace, Duan Zhu had access to much stronger cultivation techniques and martial skills than the peak powers of the Heaven's Dome city.

There were rumors that the most famous technique of the Demon Emperor palace, the Blood palm, was even a Saint high-grade martial skill.

Even though Sheng Jun was one of the 3 strongest Dao Kings in the entire Night star continent, even he couldn't say with certainty that he could hold down Duan Zhu by himself.

Shao Wenqian and the rest shook their heads when they saw Sheng Jun's reaction, but they all understood what this meant.

In a fight where the winner and the loser weren't clearly certain, Sheng Jun wouldn't risk fighting with Duan Zhu to death.

Besides, even if they somehow managed to kill Duan Zhu, or just repel him from the 'Heaven's Dome city', wouldn't the Demon Emperor palace send other peak rank 9 Dao Kings to the Night star continent?

Seemingly as if he had guessed Sheng Jun's thoughts, Duan Zhu smiled as he nodded his head at him.

Then, after taking a deep breath, under Sheng Jun's and the other peak Dao Kings astounded eyes, Duan Zhu suddenly opened his mouth, as his loud, deep voice sounded in every corner of the Heaven's Dome city

"People of the Heaven's Dome city!

My name is Duan Zhu and I am a hall master of an Emperor realm force, the Demon Emperor palace!

My Demon Emperor palace is a power much stronger than any other in your Night star continent, and I have come here today, to offer you all a chance.

For the next 5 days, I will be staying in the dark elf race's palace. Those of you who are below 800 years old and have reached the late stages of the Spirit realm, can come to the dark elf race and apply to become outer disciples of my Demon Emperor palace.

This is your chance to come to the central region, the strongest place in the world!

This is the place where all the peak experts of the world gather after all.

If you don't want to stay as pathetic worms of the Night star continent for the rest of your lives, this is your chance."

Duan Zhu's words didn't just shock the entire Heaven's Dome city. Even the 10 peak rank 9 Dao Kings around him were stunned when they heard this.

Was he trying to steal away the younger generation of the Night star continent?

Duan Zhu however, didn't seem to care at all about the furious expressions of the people around him, and placing his hands around Yi Huian's and Yi Xiaosi's waists, he laughed loudly before he headed towards the eastern part of the Heaven's Dome city, where the palace of the dark elf race was situated.

At the same time, inside the House of Rankings, complete silence had filled the place, after everyone had heard Duan Zhu's voice that had resounded throughout the entire city.

Even after the horrifying aura that was suppressing them earlier had disappeared, no one seemed to be moving, looking like they had been rooted in place.

Even Shun Long was stunned for a moment after he had heard Duan Zhu's voice. However, it only took a moment for him to regain his clarity, as his eyes were once again focused on Liu Mei and the black panther.

With a smile on his face, Shun Long was the first person to break the silence in the Survival Gate's hall, as he started walking towards Liu Mei.

Seeing someone else move, the people inside the hall instantly returned to their senses, as shocked discussions of what had just happened immediately filled the room.

It wasn't just the crowd inside the House of Rankings, but everyone in the entire Heaven's Dome city, were now discussing about that terrifying aura that had covered them a few seconds ago, as well as the voice of the hall master of the Demon Emperor palace.

After all, this was something that had never happened before, and could change people's lives.

Young people from all over the Heaven's Dome city who had reached the late stages of the Spirit realm, could be seen running towards the eastern part of the city.

Ignoring the heated discussions of the crowd around them, Shun Long and Liu Mei sat on the 'Silver-winged panther king's' back, as they left the House of Rankings. Since he wasn't planning on participating in another Survival challenge right away, Shun Long had no reason to keep staying in the House of Rankings any longer.

As they were heading back to the inn, Liu Mei's eyes stared at Shun Long's back, as her sweet voice that was filled with curiosity sounded in his ears

"Long-ge, will there be many people who will try to enter that Demon Emperor palace? After all, the voice of that hall master even said, that they are more powerful than any other power in the Night star continent."

Nodding his head, Shun Long turned his head to the side to look at Liu Mei, and with a serious voice he said

"You are right, Mei'er. There will certainly be a lot of people who will try to enter that Demon Emperor palace. However, it looks like there is even more to this situation than what meets the eye!"

Chapter 250 - 250 Refining the rank 4 internal reconstruction pill

Seeing the confused expression on Liu Mei's face, Shun Long then continued

"It looks like the things happening in the Heaven's Dome city right now, are much more complex than they originally seemed to be.

First, the geniuses from all over the Night star continent started gathering in the city in droves. This was certainly connected to the Holy sect's test that Zhao Lan and Jin Wenling mentioned in the 'Alchemists' Guild'.

In addition, considering the scale of this recruitment, there is no way that the 'Alchemists' Guild' could pull this off without help. The other powers of the Heaven's Dome city are definitely involved in this as well.

There must have been a very important reason that would make the peak powers of the Heaven's Dome city gather the geniuses from all over the continent to the city, and have them compete with each other.

However, this hall master from the Demon Emperor palace, now came from the central region and is practically ruining their plans.

After all, if the peak powers from the Heaven's Dome city have agreed to send their disciples to participate in the Holy sect's test 3 years from now, and considering the aggressive behavior which this Duan Zhu person came with, there is practically no chance that they have suddenly agreed to send everyone to the Demon Emperor palace instead.

The most plausible chance is, that the Demon Emperor palace isn't on good terms with the powers from the Night star continent, and by offering to take the strong people of the younger generation in their sect, they are both weakening the Night star continent, as well as strengthening their own sect at the same time."

After hearing Shun Long's deduction, both Liu Mei, as well as Little Black inside the 'Stone of Time', nodded their heads simultaneously.

Indeed, as long as one knew about the Holy sect's test that was taking place 3 years from now, then Shun Long's deduction could very well be true.

A few minutes later, Shun Long and Liu Mei had arrived in their courtyard.

Looking at the black panther, Shun Long smiled as he took out more than 10 stalks of rank 5 'Dragonblood grass' from the 'Stone of Time'.

After smelling the 'Dragonblood grass', the 'Silver-winged panther king' started to salivate, like a kid that had seen its favorite food.

Without any hesitation, Shun Long gave the 10 stalks of grass to the panther, who started munching them in excitement, before he and Liu Mei entered their room.

After entering inside the room, Shun Long and Liu Mei both took a shower together, before they spent the next 3 hours in arduous dual cultivation.

On the bed, Liu Mei's exhausted, n.a.k.e.d body was lying on top of Shun Long's, and with a gentle smile on her face, she said

"Long-ge, I think that I am too weak to participate in the survival challenge just yet."

With a curious expression on his face, Shun Long then asked

"What happened? Did you get eliminated early in the survival challenge?"

Liu Mei pouted as she narrated to Shun Long, how she had been unlucky enough to meet with a peak rank 3 Spirit realm cultivator, as soon as she had arrived in the trial grounds.

Seeing that Shun Long started laughing when she finished recounting her experience, Liu Mei pouted even further.

Shun Long smiled instead, when he saw Liu Mei's reaction. This was an expression on her face that he hadn't seen before.

However, he also knew that Liu Mei's words made sense. Although she probably had a chance if she were to fight against an early rank 2 Spirit realm cultivator, against a peak rank 3 Spirit realm expert, it was only natural for her to lose.

After handing a few bottles of pills that were filled with top-grade rank 4 'Spirit enhancing pills' to Liu Mei, Shun Long closed his eyes, as he once again returned to the foggy place in the 'Stone of Time'.

Now that he had entered the Spirit realm, Shun Long already knew that he could no longer blindly advance his cultivation, by simply absorbing the pure qi from the 'Heaven swallowing vine'.

His spirit sense had to advance along with his cultivation as well, all in preparation for the Nascent Soul stage.

Little Black had already explained to Shun Long, that the stronger one's spirit sense was before their breakthrough to the Nascent Soul stage, the bigger the benefits they would obtain after breaking through.

There were countless things that Nascent Soul experts could do, that Spirit realm cultivators were unable to.

This included taking over someone's body after they were killed, using their powerful soul to search the soul of other cultivators and many more.

Entering the Nascent Soul stage was practically the same thing as having a second life.

However, the most pressing matter to Shun Long right now, was to first refine the rank 4 'internal reconstruction pill', and enter the fourth stage of the 'Monarch's Eternal body'.

After sitting down cross-legged, Shun Long took out the 3 main medicinal ingredients from the herb garden, along with more than a dozen rank 3 herbs, and his rank 2 silver grade cauldron.

After warming up the cauldron, he added in the rank 4 'Spirit cleansing fruit', the 'White spirit lotus' and the 'Purple wind ice fruit' inside, all at the same time.

Even with his powerful spirit sense that had reached the same level as a weak soul sense, Shun Long still found it hard to refine these 3 rank 4 medicinal herbs together.

Seeing the 3 rare rank 4 medicinal herbs being slowly refined inside the cauldron, Shun Long mumbled to himself

"Although this is harder than normal, it is the only way to merge perfectly the 'Spirit cleansing fruit' and the 'Purple wind ice fruit' with the 'White spirit lotus'!

Half an hour later, the 'White spirit lotus' had turned into a pure white liquid, before Shun Long started adding in the rank 3 medicinal herbs inside the cauldron.

More than an hour passed like this, when the 'Spirit cleansing fruit' had finally started to turn into a pure liquid of orange essence as well.

Seeing that the orange essence of the 'Spirit cleansing fruit' was about to merge with the pure white liquid of the 'White spirit lotus', Shun Long mumbled to himself

"Monarch's Domain!"

The moment that the indistinct figure of an hourglass expanded from his body, time inside the cauldron was immediately halted.

Seeing the swirling liquids inside the cauldron that were stopped in place, Shun Long didn't hesitate, as he started to increase the temperature of his qi flame, in order to refine the 'Purple wind ice fruit', as well as the rank 3 medicinal herbs at the same time.

An incense stick of time later, the rank 4 'Purple wind ice fruit' had turned into a sparkling purple liquid, that merged together with the green-colored essence of the rank 3 herbs.

Retracting the 'Monarch's Domain', Shun Long allowed the time inside the cauldron to flow normally once again.

The moment that the invisible hourglass figure had returned inside Shun Long's body, the 3 liquids reacted together as they tried to merge with each other at the same time.

Beads of sweat had appeared on Shun Long's forehead, as he used his spirit sense to control the situation inside the cauldron.

The 3 medicinal essences were being grinded against the cauldron itself, while they were being slowly merged into one at the same time.

Finally, a full hour passed like this, as Shun Long's qi flames were extinguished while a strong medicinal scent erupted from the cauldron.

Little Black's eyes lit up when he smelled the medicinal fragrance in the air.

Even for the early rank 6 black dragon, the medicinal fragrance had a calming effect on his mind.

After taking a deep breath, Shun Long opened the lid of the cauldron, where a single purple-colored pill could be seen inside.