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Chapter 751 - 751 The Sovereign's Estate

"City lord, you are back already?" The golden-armored old man asked in a surprised tone as he looked at the Northern Sovereign, before his eyes darted towards the group of 5 young people who were floating in the air behind her.

There was approximately half a year left until the King's Palace closed, so the golden-armored old man was naturally stunned to see Lu Qigang return to the city so quickly.

This old man had followed her for many years, but he had never seen the Northern Sovereign return from the King's Palace ahead of time.

Nodding her head, Lu Qigang looked at the golden-armored old man and said calmly

"Things have changed in the core region of the palace. Old Lin, you will learn about this soon enough as well. Hehe, even if I wanted to keep this matter under wraps, I wouldn't be able to do so in the first place."

Lu Qigang then turned around to look at Shun Long and the others before she continued

"I have some things to take care of, so old Lin will be the one to show you to your courtyard. If you need anything, don't hesitate to ask him. Other than me, he is the person with the most power inside my Sovereign's estate!"

Old Lin was stunned when he heard the casual tone that the Northern Sovereign used when she spoke to Shun Long and the rest.

Her voice lacked the usual authority and coldness that she usually had when she spoke to others, and instead, it seemed like she was actually speaking to someone whom she considered her equal.

However, with his cultivation that was clearly in the Sovereign realm, how could old Lin not realize that the 5 people in front of him were just a bunch of newly advanced Dao Kings?

Even Sovereign realm experts like himself had to bow their heads in front of the Northern Sovereign, let alone a small group of Dao Kings.

"City lord, are these guests really going to stay within the Sovereign's estate?" After a moment of hesitation, old Lin couldn't help but ask the Northern Sovereign, intending to make sure that he had understood her intentions.

Nodding her head, Lu Qigang said seriously

"Naturally! Shun Long and his friends are my guests. Let them stay in the 'Southern Dragon's courtyard' and have commander Quan personally protect them when they leave the Sovereign's estate."

Although old Lin was surprised inwardly, on the outside he didn't show any hesitation as he looked at the Northern Sovereign and bowed before he said respectfully

"Understood, city lord!"

Old Lin knew that commander Quan was one of the Northern Sovereign's personal guards, an extremely powerful expert at the peak of the Dao Emperor realm who was just a step away from breaking through to the Sovereign realm.

To have such an expert personally guard Shun Long and his group, it only served to show how much importance the Northern Sovereign placed on this matter.

As for the 'Southern Dragon's courtyard', it was actually the second-best courtyard in the entire city, second only to the Northern Sovereign's own courtyard!

To have Shun Long's group stay there, old Lin naturally wouldn't take this light-heartedly.

Nodding her head, the Northern Sovereign looked at Shun Long and the others and said with a smile

"Feel free to tour around my Northern Sovereign's city and have a look. I am sure that you will find plenty of interesting things that you have never seen before while you were in the Holy sect. For the next few days, I will be busy with the matters of the golden skeleton, but I will come and find with you for a chat once I am done."

"Thank you, senior." Shun Long and the others cupped their hands in thanks at the Northern Sovereign, who nodded her head before she disappeared on the spot.

"Young lords, young ladies, please follow me."

The golden-armored old man then turned around, as he led Shun Long and his group deeper inside the Northern Sovereign's estate.

As they walked deeper inside the Northern Sovereign's estate, Shun Long and the others could see countless guards patrolling the interior of the estate.

The guards inside the estate were actually even more numerous than those who were guarding the outside, and even the weakest of them was at the peak rank 1 of the Dao King realm, while most of them were at the late stages of the Dao King realm instead.

There were actually plenty of those guards who had reached the Dao Emperor realm as well, surprising Shun Long and the others quite a bit.

In the Holy sect, the number of Dao Emperor realm experts didn't even exceed 20 and every single Dao Emperor was an inner court Elder.

However, in the Northern Sovereign's estate, Dao Emperors were only qualified to be just above most guards in terms of status.

A few minutes later, the golden-robed old man stopped in front of a massive open silver gate, while the passionate shouts of guards could be heard from the inside.

Old Lin led Shun Long and the others past the silver gate before he said calmly

"Young lords, young ladies, this is the training ground where the guards of our Sovereign estate spar with each other. Naturally, as the guests of our Sovereign, if the young lords and the young ladies are willing, you are welcome to spar with any of the guards here at any time."

Seeing the provocative gazes that the guards were sending them, Jiang Chen and the others all stared at them with looks that were filled with fighting intent.

Unlike old Lin who knew that they were the Northern Sovereign's guests, these guards thought that Shun Long and the others were new guards who were about to join them.

Even if Shun Long's group was brought there personally by old Lin, those guards would only respect strength and nothing else.

A group of newly advanced early rank 1 Dao Kings would naturally be at the very bottom of the ranks among the Northern Sovereign's guards.

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At the same time, Shun Long also nodded his head calmly as he stared at the group of thousands of guards whose eyes seemed to be filled with fighting intent.

Indeed, sparring with the Northern Sovereign's guards was probably going to be a good thing for him, as well as Liu Mei and the others, who had all just stepped foot into the Dao King realm a few days ago.

Although in terms of talent most of the guards should be probably inferior to the strongest disciples of the Holy sect, as the Northern Sovereign's guards, their actual strength was definitely nothing to scoff at. Normal Dao Kings wouldn't be able to take more than a few punches from them before they collapsed on the ground.

Besides, with so many guards in this place, Shun Long believed that there were going to be plenty of geniuses among them as well, some of whom would probably be even more talented than the strongest disciples of the Holy sect.

After all, the Northern Sovereign's city was the most powerful city in the entire northern part of the central region.

How could the Northern Sovereign herself possibly lack talented people?

Even the Holy sect that gathered only the strongest geniuses from around its territory was nothing in front of a behemoth like the Northern Sovereign city!

A few moments later, the golden-robed 'old Lin' led Shun Long and his group away from the training grounds, as they headed deeper inside the Northern Sovereign's estate.

After walking for a while, a massive red building that was more than 300 meters(984ft) tall and was covered in hundreds of protective formations appeared in Shun Long's and the rest's eyes, while the scent of medicinal herbs seemed to be continuously wafting out from the wide-open wooden gates of the building, as it entered Shun Long's and the rest's noses.

The golden-robed old man, 'old Lin' looked at Shun Long and the others and smiled, before he said in a proud tone

"Young masters, young ladies, this is one of the most important buildings in our entire Sovereign's estate, the 'Earth flame tower'!

This tower was personally built by the lord of the Tianxuan dynasty countless years ago, and the protective formations around it are said to be on par even with the formations on top of the city walls.

There are 5 earth flames sealed inside the 'Earth flame tower', which the alchemists and the formation masters inside our Sovereign's estate can use when they need to refine difficult pills, inscribe powerful formations, or refine star-rank weapons.

Naturally, if the young masters and young ladies wish to, you are also free to visit the 'Earth flame tower' at any time. Normally, if someone wants to use the earth flames inside the tower, they will have to pay 50.000 middle-grade spirit stones, but since the young masters and the young ladies are guests of the city lord, you will be able to enter the tower free of charge."

Shun Long nodded his head as he kept staring at the gigantic red building in front of him. Of course, he wasn't surprised by how heavily the 'Earth flame tower' was guarded. After all, with 5 earth flames sealed inside, the Northern Sovereign would have to be a fool to not protect the tower seriously.

At the same time, after breaking through to the Dao King realm, Shun Long could now identify with just a glance, that most of the formations around the tower seemed to be peak 1-star protective formations, while plenty among them had even reached the 2-star rank. Additionally, a group of crimson-armored guards were also guarding the wooden gates of the tower, not allowing anyone to step any closer to the entrance without permission.

Every single one of those guards had an aura that was even stronger than the aura of peak Dao Kings, and had clearly reached the Dao Emperor realm already.

And yet, Shun Long was certain that this wasn't everything that the 'Earth flame tower' had to offer in terms of defense.

Even in the Holy sect, the Refinement Hall was personally protected by Xingyi's master, a peak rank 6 Dao Emperor, Elder Mao Jing. It was very likely, that the defenses inside this tower would be even more terrifying than what was shown on the surface.

"There should be at least a single peak Dao Emperor who is guarding this tower in secret. Perhaps there could even be a Sovereign realm expert hidden inside, to make sure that nothing goes wrong. Of course, it's unlikely that anyone will dare to cause trouble inside the Northern Sovereign's estate in the first place, but it wouldn't harm the Northern Sovereign to be careful." Shun Long thought inwardly as he stared at the 6 crimson-armored Dao Emperors who were standing guard in front of the gates.

The golden-robed old man, 'old Lin' smiled as he looked at Shun Long who seemed to be intrigued by the 'Earth flame tower', before he waved his hand, taking out a pitch-black token from his spatial ring and handed it to him, as he continued a moment later

"Young master, this is my personal token. As long as you show it to the guards here, you will be able to freely enter inside the tower whenever you want to. It may also prove to be useful to you when you tour through the city."

Shun Long thought seriously for a bit before he cupped his hands at the old man and accepted his token.

No matter what, since he was going to spend the next 6 months inside the Northern Sovereign's estate, aside from researching formations, he would also have to refine quite a few pills, so he would have to visit this 'Earth flame tower' quite a few times.

Naturally, 'old Lin's' token would end up coming in handy in such cases.

With a smile on his face, old Lin looked at Shun Long and the others and continued

"Young masters, I will take you to meet commander Quan Lin. After that, you can go and have a look around the city if you want.. If this is your first time in the Northern Sovereign's city, I am sure that you will find plenty of interesting things here. Hehe, whether you want to have some fun with the ladies inside the 'Hundred flowers pavilion', visit the Dao Tower, or just tour through the shops and look for some things to buy, the city will definitely not disappoint you!"

Chapter 753 - 753 Southern Dragon's Courtyard

'Old Lin' had a knowing smile on his face as he looked at Shun Long, Jiang Chen, and Bai Longtian, and said the words 'Hundred flowers pavilion'.

In his eyes, every single young master who visited the Northern Sovereign's city, as long as they had enough spirit stones with them, would definitely visit the 'Hundred flowers pavilion' at least once.

Aside from the company of the beautiful women that those young masters could enjoy there, the 'Hundred flowers pavilion' was said to be the best restaurant in the entire city as well.

Additionally, the wine sold in that place, the 'Hundred flowers wine', was also the best wine in the entire city, while its recipe was only something that the owner of the pavilion had in her hands.

Sensing Liu Mei's and Xingyi's gazes landing on his back, 'old Lin' smiled and coughed dryly before he led their group deeper inside the estate.

An hour later, 'old Lin' finally stopped walking, as he brought Shun Long and the others in front of the gates of a massive courtyard.

'Old Lin' then turned around to look at Shun Long and the others and said in a confident manner

"Young lords, young ladies, other than the city lord's own courtyard, this is the best courtyard in our Sovereign's estate, the Southern Dragon's courtyard.

To enter the courtyard you can just use my personal token. All you have to do is simply inject some of your qi inside it, and the barriers around the courtyard will be lifted, allowing you to enter inside. Of course, other than the young masters, no one else will be able to step foot inside the courtyard without your permission, including peak Dao Emperors and even Sovereign realm experts."

Shun Long nodded his head after hearing 'old Lin's' words, before he sent some of his qi inside the pitch-black token that he had received from him earlier.

The token in his hands didn't seem to have any particular reaction after Shun Long injected his qi inside it, but the restrictions around the courtyard started to retreat a moment later.

Even without old Lin saying anything, Shun Long could clearly see that the protective formations around the courtyard were either peak 1-star or even 2-star protective formations. Although they couldn't compare to the protective formations around the city walls or the 'Earth flame tower', they were enough to easily keep even a peak Dao Emperor like the Grand Elder of the Holy sect at bay.

Unless a 2-star formations master or an expert at the Northern Sovereign's level attacked it, it would be almost impossible for the protective formations around the courtyard to break in a short amount of time!

Turning around, Shun Long looked at Liu Mei and the others and said calmly

"Since the Northern Sovereign has prepared this courtyard for us, let's have a look inside."

Taking a step forward, Shun Long then pushed the courtyard's iron gates open, as he led Liu Mei and the rest inside.

As soon as their group stepped past the gates and entered the courtyard, a wave of extremely pure qi assaulted Shun Long and his group, momentarily stunning them all for a few seconds.

The qi inside the Southern Dragon's courtyard was so pure and dense, that even the courtyards of the inner court Elders' back in the Holy sect couldn't compare to it in the slightest.

"This... how can the qi in this place be so pure?" Xingyi mumbled in a voice filled with disbelief as she stared at her surroundings with a stunned look.

Indeed, it wasn't just the qi in the air itself, but even the trees around Shun Long and the others, and even the blades of grass on the ground, that had clearly been imbued with the pure qi inside this courtyard.

Jiang Chen, Bai Longtian, Xingyi, and even Liu Mei, all took a deep breath as they absorbed the qi around them.

"A peak 2-star 'Qi gathering formation' that was most likely set up by a 3-star formation master and is constantly using high-grade spirit stones... no wonder that old man said that this courtyard is the best after the Northern Sovereign's own courtyard."

Shun Long said to himself as he stared at the nearly transparent runes that were engraved on the ground below him.

As an alchemist, Shun Long had a general idea of how rare 3-star alchemists and formation masters really were.

A 3-star formation master... even if such a person was slightly inferior to the Northern Sovereign in terms of direct strength, their status would most likely not be inferior to the Northern Sovereign's in the slightest.

"The cost of inviting that person to create this 'Qi gathering formation' and even use so many high-grade spirit stones... the Northern Sovereign really didn't hold back."

Of course, although the qi inside the Southern Dragon's courtyard was ideal for Jiang Chen, Bai Longtian, and Xingyi, who all needed pure qi to advance faster now that they were cultivating in 'immortal-grade cultivation techniques', Shun Long didn't hold it in high regard.

Even though the 'Qi gathering formation' in this place was created by a 3-star formation master according to what Shun Long could see, the qi in this place was still much inferior compared to the qi produced by the Heaven Swallowing vine when it absorbed high-grade spirit stones.

After taking a look around the courtyard for a while and seeing that there were more than 10 large rooms, Shun Long was about to turn around and head back to the entrance of the courtyard, when he suddenly sensed the black token in his hands tremble before an image appeared in his mind.

Outside the courtyard's gates, a silver-armored middle-aged man with short spiky hair seemed to be waiting next to 'Old Lin', as he stared at the courtyard in front of him with a curious gaze.

The silver-armored middle-aged man' looked at 'old Lin' next to him a moment later and asked in a bewildered tone

"General, is there a reason why you summoned me here?"

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Old Lin nodded his head as he stared at the middle-aged man in silver armor in front of him and answered seriously

"Naturally, I wouldn't call you here for no reason. Commander Quan, there are some guests that the city lord has personally invited here, and as per the city lord's instructions, you will be the one to protect them while they stay in our city."

"Protect?" The silver-armored middle-aged man, Quan Lin mumbled, as he stared at 'old Lin' with a look of surprise on his face.

Although there had been cases in the past where certain powerful people were invited in the Sovereign's estate by the Northern Sovereign herself, there had never been a case where an exalted peak Dao Emperor like Quan Lin would be assigned to personally protect those people.

Besides, most people who were invited to the Sovereign's estate as guests, would usually be extremely powerful individuals who had no need for protection in the first place.

At most, a group of peak Dao Kings would be instructed to follow them around, in case someone was blind enough to offend them.

"Since the city lord has personally said this, I will naturally follow her orders. General Lin, can you tell me if there is something special about those guests?"

Shaking his head, the golden-armored old man, 'old Lin' looked at the entrance of the Southern Dragon's courtyard in front of him and said calmly

"I don't know much about this matter either. The city lord just returned from the King's Palace today and told me to take care of this issue. If you want to know more about this, you can only ask the city lord herself."

Nodding his head, the silver-armored Quan Lin didn't say anything else and simply stared at the entrance of the Southern Dragon's courtyard as well, curious to see what kind of guests could warrant so much attention from the Northern Sovereign that she would send a peak Dao Emperor like him to protect them.

In reality, even if Quan Lin was compared to someone like the Grand Elder of the Holy sect, he would still be slightly stronger in terms of strength and he was half a step away from breaking through to the Sovereign realm. It was no wonder that he was surprised after he was asked to personally guard a group of guests.

At the same time, inside the Southern Dragon's courtyard, Shun Long stared at the black token in his hands for a few more moments with a smile on his face, before he turned his attention back towards Jiang Chen and the rest and said calmly

"I'm going to have a look around the city for a bit and see if there is anything to buy. After that, I'm planning to leave for a few months."

"Leave the city?" Bai Longtian and the rest were all surprised when they heard this.

"Brother, where are you going?" Jiang Chen looked at Shun Long and asked curiously a moment later.

As far as Jiang Chen and the others were aware, ever since Shun Long had entered the Holy sect, aside from cultivating or when they were completing missions, Shun Long had spent his entire time within the sect.

Shun Long's lips curved up into a big smile as he looked at Jiang Chen and the others before he answered calmly

"I am going to a city called Murong city for a few days. There are some treasures hidden outside the city, and it's finally time to go get them. It shouldn't take too long for me to come back. I should be back in less than 2 months."

Liu Mei's eyes suddenly lit up when she heard the words 'Murong city'.

She knew that before she and Shun Long entered the Holy sect, they had obtained Huo Wuyi's treasures from the 'Dragon Lord's villa' back in the Night star continent, and she also knew that Huo Wuyi had buried the rest of it outside Murong city.

In the past, Shun Long didn't have a chance to go to Murong city and he also didn't have any idea how strong the Murong family really was... but now things were different.

Not only had he broken through to the Dao King realm by now, but Little Silver had also reached the peak of rank 6, while Little Black had reached the middle rank 7 and was strong enough to fight most peak Dao Emperors.

Only peak Dao Emperors like the Grand Elder could possibly threaten him, but even then, at least in terms of speed even a peak Dao Emperor like the Grand Elder was vastly inferior to him.

Besides, after breaking through to the Dao King realm, Shun Long was also extremely confident in his ability to survive.

Bai Longtian, Jiang Chen, and Xingyi didn't ask anything else as they simply nodded their heads. Since Shun Long was planning to leave, the best thing they could do was try to find increase their cultivation as much as possible during this time. After all, there was less than half a year left until the estimated opening of the legendary City of Immortals.

A few moments later, Shun Long's group of 5 appeared back in the entrance of the Southern Dragon's courtyard, where 'old Lin' and commander Quan were both waiting for them.

Commander Quan Lin's eyes instantly started to inspect the group of 5 young people in front of him curiously without speaking.

For the Northern Sovereign to take an interest in 5 newly advanced Dao Kings, there had to be something extremely special about them.

At the same time, the golden-armored old man, 'old Lin' looked at Shun Long and the others and gestured towards the silver-armored man next to him and said

"Young lords, young ladies, this is Commander Quan, the most powerful of the 12 commanders of our city. He will personally protect you while you stay here."

Commander Quan stared at Shun Long and the others for a few moments, before he nodded his head and said

"Young lords, my name is Quan Lin. If you wish to leave the Sovereign's estate and tour through the Northern Sovereign's city, you should first talk to me about it."

Shun Long didn't object since he knew that these were the Northern Sovereign's arrangements, and after a moment of thinking he said

"Commander Quan, we are planning to take a look around the city. Is there a place where we can get a detailed map of the central region?"

Chapter 755 - 755 Priceless Map

"A detailed map of the entire central region?" Both 'old Lin' and commander Quan looked at Shun Long with surprised looks, before commander Quan shook his head and answered seriously

"Young master, if you want a detailed map of the entire central region, I'm afraid that would be impossible, unless you can visit one of the largest cities in the center of the central region like the Tianxuan city.

Although our Northern Sovereign's city is the largest city in the northern part of the central region, in reality, the central region as a whole is simply too big, making it nearly impossible to map it all.

Only the strongest powers who stand at the peak of the central region like the Tianxuan dynasty can possibly have a detailed map like that.

But of course, if young master simply wants a detailed map of the northern part of the central region, then that requirement would be easy to fulfill."

As he finished speaking, Quan Lin took out a large map from his spatial ring and handed it to Shun Long before he continued

"This map is many times more detailed than the ones that you can normally buy at the large shops around the city. Since the young masters are guests of our city lord, you can consider this a gift from me."

Shun Long didn't decline Quan Lin's offer, as he nodded his head and accepted the map.

At that moment, Shun Long suddenly realized that he hadn't placed enough importance on getting a map of the central region. Since he had spent the past 2 years within the Holy sect's territory, there was no reason for him to look for a detailed map earlier either, which was why he didn't know how rare such a map really was.

Unfurling the map in his hands, Shun Long started to inspect it seriously a moment later, while his eyes took in the countless names that were written down on the map in great detail.

"White ice city: First-rate power, 6 Sovereign realm experts."

"Lord Zhu's garden: First-rate power, 4 Sovereign realm experts."

"Black mist valley: First-rate power, 5 Sovereign realm experts."

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"Holy sect: First-rate power, 1 Sovereign realm expert."

"Zhong city, Zhong clan: First-rate power, 1 Sovereign realm expert."

Indeed, not only had Quan Lin's map recorded down the name of every single power in the northern part of the central region and their location, but it even contained the number of Sovereign realm experts who were standing behind every power.

As Shun Long's gaze landed on the name 'Zhong clan', he quickly remembered the time when his faction was returning back to the Holy sect from the 'Blue star continent'.

Back then, while they were flying past the Zhong city, Jiang Chen's father, Jiang Tianfang had said that the old ancestor of the Zhong clan was close to breaking through to the Sovereign realm, but whether he had succeeded in his breakthrough or not was actually uncertain.

However, based on the information on Quan Lin's map, the Zhong clan indeed had a Sovereign realm expert behind them, which meant that their old ancestor must have most likely succeeded.

Quan Lin seemed to have noticed that Shun Long was staring at the Zhong clan and said calmly

"Young master, please keep in mind that those powers who only have a single Sovereign realm expert behind them, are only considered to have barely reached the rank of first-rate powers in our northern part of the central region. In reality, if they were compared to the strongest powers like the 'White ice city' or the 'Black mist valley', then those powers would only be considered to be second-rate powers at best.

However, under the city lord's commands, every power that has a Sovereign realm expert behind them, even if they are a newly advanced Sovereign realm cultivator, will then be considered to be a first-rate power."

Liu Mei and the others were all stunned momentarily after hearing Quan Lin's words, but they soon realized that it made sense.

Indeed, the only reason why the Holy sect could stand tall in the first place and suppress the countless powers in its territory like the Yang clan, to the point that they would not dare to rebel, was all thanks to the sect master of the sect who was a Sovereign realm expert.

But of course, to an expert like Quan Lin who was a commander in the Northern Sovereign's army and his own cultivation was just a step away from reaching the Sovereign realm, powers like the Zhong clan were nothing important in his eyes.

Only the strongest powers like the 'White ice city' and the 'Black mist valley' were powerful enough to warrant his attention.

Shun Long didn't pay much attention to Quan Lin's 'subtle' bragging, as his gaze was still focused on the map in front of him.

It wasn't abnormal for someone like Quan Lin to look down on those 'first-rate powers', but Shun Long understood that Quan Lin didn't really look down on the Sovereign realm experts behind those powers.

After all, those Sovereign realm experts had all been recognized to be strong enough by the Northern Sovereign herself.

A few moments later, Shun Long's eyes suddenly narrowed as his gaze landed on a city that was located a good distance away from the Northern Sovereign's city and was close to the edge of the northern part of the central region itself, as the information about that power entered his eyes

"Murong city, Murong family: First-rate power, 2 Sovereign realm experts!"

Shun Long's eyes didn't linger on Murong city for too long, certain that 'old Lin' or commander Quan would notice this anomaly, and after taking a quick look at the rest of the powers on the map, Shun Long turned his attention towards Quan Lin and said

"Commander Quan, I want to buy and sell a few medicinal herbs. What is the best place in the city to do so?"

Quan Lin wasn't surprised by Shun Long's question as he nodded his head and answered without any hesitation

"If the young master is interested in buying rare medicinal herbs, you should visit the 'Myriad pills pavilion' or the 'White tiger chamber of commerce'.. The 'Myriad pills pavilion' isn't far from our Sovereign's estate either."

Chapter 756 - 756 Third Floor Of The 'Myriad Pills Pavilion'

"Young lords, if you don't have anything else to do right now, let me lead the way to the 'Myriad pills pavilion'. Coincidentally, I also have something to talk about with the 'Myriad pills pavilion' vice pavilion master." Quan Lin continued a moment later as he stared at Shun Long and the others.

With his experience, how could Quan Lin not notice that the one who was leading the group in front of him was the spiky-haired young man with short black hair?

After a moment of thinking, Shun Long nodded his head towards Quan Lin and said

"We will have to trouble commander Quan to lead the way then."

Quan Lin had a friendly smile on his face as he waved his hand, indicating that he didn't mind, as he led Shun Long and the others outside of the Northern Sovereign's estate.

The truth was that Quan Lin himself was also curious about the group of newly advanced Dao Kings that could attract the Northern Sovereign's attention.

As the strongest of the 12 commanders in the Northern Sovereign's army, Quan Lin was someone who answered directly to the Northern Sovereign herself.

Even the golden-armored old man, 'old Lin' wasn't qualified to order him to do anything, let alone ask him to guard a group of Dao Kings. This by itself was enough to indicate how high Quan Lin's status within the Northern Sovereign's estate was.

For an expert like him to play the role of a bodyguard, it was indeed out of the ordinary, making Quan Lin extremely curious about the people that the Northern Sovereign had told him to protect.

"Eh? Look! Is that commander Quan? Who are those people behind him? Could it be new soldiers?"

"Wait! I saw those people earlier following general Lin. Don't tell me that they are joining commander Quan's squad!"

Quan Lin leading the way for Shun Long and his group ended up attracting the attention of many of the surrounding soldiers, who soon started to whisper among themselves.

Since Shun Long's group didn't have any powerful expert guarding them, none of the soldiers within the Northern Sovereign's estate even entertained the thought that a group of early-stage Dao Kings could possibly be guests of the Northern Sovereign herself.

Even the thought that Shun Long and the others were going to join Quan Lin's squad, one of the most powerful squads in the Northern Sovereign's army, was already far-fetched in the soldiers' minds.

Unfortunately, neither Shun Long and the others, nor Quan Lin himself seemed interested in explaining anything to these soldiers.

As Quan Lin led Shun Long's group through the busy streets of the Northern Sovereign's city, Shun Long and the others noticed quite a number of powerful peak Dao Kings and even Dao Emperors who all seemed to be heading in the same direction as them.

While most of the Dao Kings were walking on foot like Shun Long, Bai Longtian and the rest, most Dao Emperors were sitting inside luxurious carriages that were led by powerful magic beasts.

Even the weakest of those magic beasts was a peak rank 6 beast, while there was no lack of even middle rank 7 magic beasts among them.

Quan Lin was the only Dao Emperor who seemed to be walking on foot, making him the odd one out, but as the surrounding cultivators noticed the silver armor he was wearing and the insignia on his chest, everyone subconsciously made way for him to pass.

Naturally, even if one put aside the fact that Quan Lin was a peak rank 9 Dao Emperor, an expert who was considered rare even in the Northern Sovereign's city, the fact that Quan Lin was a commander of the Northern Sovereign's army was enough to inspire awe and fear into the eyes of most cultivators.

After all, within the Northern Sovereign's city, nobody dared to offend a commander of the Northern Sovereign's army.

A little more than an hour later, Quan Lin's footsteps suddenly came to a halt, as he arrived in front of the entrance of a massive building that was shaped like a cauldron.

This building was more than 100 meters(330ft) tall and 150 meters(492ft) wide, with thousands of cultivators coming and going from its entrance at all times.

"Young lords, young ladies, this is the biggest pill shop in the entire city, the 'Myriad pills pavilion'. I have to admit that even our 'Sovereign's estate' and the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' are slightly inferior to the 'Myriad pills pavilion' when it comes to concocting pills.

However, the items on the first and second floors are still common ones. If you want to buy rare pills or medicinal herbs, it's best for us to head straight for the third floor instead."

As Shun Long's group stepped past the entrance of the pavilion and entered inside, Quan Lin explained calmly as he headed directly for the next floor, not paying even the slightest bit of attention to the items on the first floor.

With just a brief glance, Shun Long noticed that the pills on the first floor were all middle-grade or high-grade rank 4 pills, with a few top-grade rank 4 pills mixed in as well. At the same time, the medicinal herbs sold here were all rank 4 herbs.

It seemed as if the first floor of the 'Myriad pills pavilion' was made purely for Spirit realm cultivators to do business.

It was no wonder that Quan Lin would choose to skip this floor without even paying attention to the pills and medicinal herbs here.

Rank 4 medicinal herbs would be useless even for Dao Kings, let alone a peak Dao Emperor like Quan Lin.

As soon as they stepped foot on the second floor, Liu Mei and the others realized that this place was filled with countless rank 5 pills and medicinal herbs.

The pills and medicinal herbs on this floor were actually even more numerous than those on the first floor.

Even pills that were extremely hard to find in the Holy sect like the 'Barrier-piercing pill', were sold in bulk here.

However, Quan Lin didn't pay any attention to the pills and medicinal herbs on the second floor either, as he headed straight for the third floor instead.

And yet, the moment that they stepped foot on the third floor, Shun Long, Liu Mei, and the others were all stunned when they noticed that something was different compared to the previous 2 floors of the 'Myriad pills pavilion'.

The moment that Shun Long's eyes landed on this stunning scene in front of him, a creepy smile that oozed of greed subconsciously formed itself on his lips.

Chapter 757 - 757 Third Floor Of The 'Myriad Pills Pavilion' (2)

A moment later, Shun Long quickly suppressed the smile on his face and kept staring at the scene in front of him.

Not only did the third floor of the 'Myriad pills pavilion' have plenty of rank 6 pills and medicinal herbs for sale, but it even had some 'empty' counters where certain white-robed old men and women were sitting behind them.

Surprisingly, those counters were the most popular ones on the third floor, as people had queued up in front of them, forming extremely long lines.

However, Shun Long's eyes were focused on the words above each of those counters, which made his eyes lit up once again.

"Rank 2 gold-grade alchemist, Yan Feng. Able to refine low and middle rank 6 pills. Price per refinement: 40.000 middle-grade spirit stones."

"Rank 3 gold-grade alchemist, Shi Tai. Able to refine middle and high-grade rank 6 pills. Price: 100.000 middle-grade spirit stones."

"Peak rank 3 gold-grade alchemist, Huang Ming. Able to refine high-grade pills with 80 percent certainty. Price: 180.000 middle-grade spirit stones."

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"Commander Quan, are these alchemists all from the 'Myriad pills pavilion'?" Bai Longtian asked in surprise, as he, Liu Mei, and the others, all stared at the scene on the third floor of the 'Myriad pills pavilion' in front of them.

There were more than 100 rank 2 and rank 3 gold-grade alchemists on this floor, and almost all of them had long lines in front of their counters, with many cultivators lined up to reach them.

The vast majority of those cultivators were Dao Kings, while a few Nascent Soul stage cultivators were also mixed in among them.

Shaking his head, commander Quan looked at Bai Longtian and answered seriously

"Of course not. Although the 'Myriad pills pavilion' has many gold-grade alchemists, how could they have more than 100 of them who are so free that they have nothing else to do? If that was the case, our Northern Sovereign's estate and the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' wouldn't even have a chance to compete with the 'Myriad pills pavilion' in this regard.

The alchemists here are all alchemists who are working by themselves, and most of them are rogue, or they belong to some of the smaller powers in our Northern Sovereign's city.

However, since refining pills is so profitable, many of them choose to set up stalls within the 'Myriad pills pavilion'." Commander Quan's voice was laced with hints of envy as he stared at the numerous stalls around him.

It didn't matter if one was a Spirit realm cultivator or a Dao Emperor realm expert, everyone would need the help of an alchemist at some point in their lives.

This was why alchemists could charge exorbitant prices to refine pills and no one would bat an eye.

After all, one could earn back spirit stones, but they couldn't get back those years in their lives that they spent on training when they could have advanced even faster by consuming pills.

"Interesting. So the 'Myriad pills pavilion' doesn't care that these alchemists are stealing its business?" Jiang Chen asked a moment later as he looked at the hundreds of counters around him.

Without question, the counters of the rogue alchemists were the most popular ones, attracting more than half of the cultivators on the third floor.

Commander Quan smiled and shook his head when he heard Jiang Chen's question, before he answered in a slightly derisive manner

"Hehe, young master, do you think that the 'Myriad pills pavilion' would do something that would hurt their business? How could those old fools possibly let anyone steal their business under their noses? This is actually even more beneficial to the 'Myriad pills pavilion' as a whole.

Firstly, the pavilion doesn't let those rogue alchemists put their stalls there for free, as it will always take a 20 percent commission from them with every purchase.

Additionally, the 'Myriad pills pavilion' has its own gold-grade alchemists who are refining rank 6 pills. Why would any of the cultivators here pay those rogue alchemists tens of thousands of spirit stones while also providing them with the medicinal herbs they need for the pills they want to refine and even risk the chance for the pill concoction to fail, when they can just buy the pills from the 'Myriad pills pavilion' directly?"

Looks of realization appeared on Jiang Chen's and the others' faces when they heard this as commander Quan then continued

"Naturally, they won't! They will only employ the services of those alchemists only if they can't purchase the pills they need from the 'Myriad pills pavilion' directly.

As for those pills that have an extremely low success rate, why would the 'Myriad pills pavilion' possibly risk refining them themselves while losing those expensive medicinal herbs in the process?

They will instead be extremely happy to let those cultivators purchase these medicinal herbs from them and let those alchemists try their hands on them.

Even if the pill concoction is a failure, the pavilion doesn't lose anything from it since they will have already sold the medicinal herbs to those cultivators, and they will even take a 20 percent cut from the alchemists.

The ones who take all the risks are the cultivators who need those pills!"

Shun Long's lips curved up as he stared at the counters around him before he said smilingly

"This way, not only does the 'Myriad pills pavilion' boost its business since they attract more cultivators, but the more successful alchemists make a killing after building their reputation since more people will choose to buy their pills."

Commander Quan nodded his head calmly, and after taking a brief look at the third floor, he looked at Shun Long and the others and said

"Young masters, I need to meet the vice pavilion master. If you finish your business here, please come find me on the 5th floor."

As he finished speaking, commander Quan cupped his hands at Shun Long and the rest, before his figure disappeared on the spot.

Chapter 758 - 758 Emptying The Third Floor

Even though commander Quan tried to hide it, it was clear to everyone that he was overly anxious about meeting the vice pavilion master on the 5th floor.

"Brother, what do you want to do?" Jiang Chen looked at Shun Long and asked curiously a moment later after taking a look at his surroundings.

Although they had all chosen to accompany Shun Long in this place, neither Jiang Chen, nor Liu Mei and the others were interested in buying any pills from the 'Myriad pills pavilion'.

Whether it was 'anti-toxin pills', 'Qi refinement pills', or any other kind of pills, their spatial rings had all been filled to the brim before they had even left the Holy sect.

"Let's take a look around here first. This is the largest pill shop in the entire city. I don't believe that there won't be any rare medicinal herbs in this place." Shun Long said as he turned his gaze towards the stairs that led to the fourth floor for a single moment, before he led Liu Mei and the others around the third floor of the 'Myriad pills pavilion'.

Indeed, Shun Long noticed that whether it was in terms of quality or quantity, the pills and the medicinal herbs available on the third floor of the 'Myriad pills pavilion' were many times better than those in the medicinal shops inside the Holy city.

Even the items on the second floor of the 'Golden Treasures Hall' back in the Holy sect couldn't compare to the items here.

"Rank 6 medicinal herb, '200-year-old, Thunder lotus petal', Price: 90.000 middle-grade spirit stones"

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"Rank 6 medicinal herb, 'Heart sealing grass', Price: 120.000 middle-grade spirit stones"

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"Rank 6 medicinal herb, 'Ghost crying flower', Price: 300.000 middle-grade spirit stones"

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As he walked around the floor Shun Long only threw a glance at the rank 6 pills that were available for sale, as his eyes focused on the medicinal herbs instead.

The cheapest rank 6 medicinal herb was actually priced at 80.000 middle-grade spirit stones while the more expensive ones even exceeded the 500.000 middle-grade spirit stones mark.

Still, Shun Long didn't hesitate as he spent more than 30 million middle-grade spirit stones in one go, buying every single rank 6 medicinal herb that wasn't in his herb garden before.

This attracted the attention of many of the surrounding cultivators who happened to notice this scene as well.

After all, 30 million middle-grade spirit stones wasn't an amount that early-stage Dao Kings would have in their possession, let alone spend it like that.

"Hehe, boss, should we make a move on them? They are just a bunch of early-stage Dao Kings without any protection. Forget about a peak Dao King like you, even I can easily take care of those brats." A man in black robes asked greedily while his eyes stared at Shun Long's group of 5.

"No protection? Hmph! I refuse to believe that a bunch of early-stage Dao Kings who can walk around the city and spend millions of middle-grade stones like that, don't have any protection. I'm certain that they either belong to an extremely powerful force or that there is a powerful expert protecting them in secret, otherwise they wouldn't dare be so brazen unless they are idiots."

The black-robed man next to him answered coldly as his eyes focused on Shun Long's back like a viper that was staring at its prey.

Although this black-robed man was a peak rank 9 Dao King and he was indeed tempted to rob Shun Long and the others on the spot, even he didn't dare make a move on someone while they were still inside the 'Myriad pills pavilion', or the experts hidden inside the pavilion would surely take his life.

Additionally, the black-robed man didn't believe that there was no one protecting Shun Long's group. The number of early-stage Dao Kings within the Northern Sovereign's city who could spend 30 million middle-grade spirit stones in one go was definitely less than a handful, even if one included the scions of the strongest families and clans.

However, the man next to the black-robed man didn't seem satisfied with his boss' answer and continued

"Boss, what if they were just lucky and just chanced upon an expert's legacy? Are we really going to let them go? Those brats definitely have more spirit stones on them!"

After a moment of hesitation, the black-robed man gritted his teeth and continued in a determined tone

"Fine! We will simply follow them for now and wait until they leave the 'Myriad pills pavilion'. If there really is no expert protecting them, we will attack them the moment there is a chance!"

The black-robed man's body seemed to slowly turn transparent until it disappeared, while his voice entered the ears of his subordinate soon after.

At the same time, a pretty young woman behind one of the counters stared at Shun Long with her sparkling black eyes and said

"Young master, do you need anything else?"

After taking a look around him and realizing that he had nearly emptied the entire third floor of medicinal herbs, Shun Long looked at the young woman in front of him and nodded his head before he asked

"I heard that your 'Myriad pills pavilion' buys medicinal herbs as well, right? I have a few that I want to sell."

The young woman was taken aback momentarily, but she still nodded her head soon after and answered with a bright smile

"Of course. The supervisor of the third floor, Lord Wei will personally inspect the medicinal herbs before our pavilion purchases them. Please follow me."

The young woman then led Shun Long and the others towards a large private room at the depths of the third floor.

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Chapter 759 - 759 Lord Wei

As soon as they arrived in front of the private room, the young woman who was leading Shun Long and the others halted her steps and knocked on the door twice, before she called out in a respectful voice

"Lord Wei, this is Xiao An. I brought a group of young masters who wish to sell some medicinal herbs."

"Very well. They can come in." The calm voice of an old man was heard from behind the door a moment later, as the door of the private room started to open by itself soon after.

In reality, before someone wanted to sell some medicinal herbs, the employees of the 'Myriad pills pavilion' like the young woman who was named Xiao An, would first have a look at those herbs to make sure that it was worth their time.

After all, if one wanted to sell rank 4 medicinal herbs, they would have to go to the supervisor of the first floor, while rank 5 medicinal herbs would be dealt with by the supervisor of the second floor.

Only rank 6 medicinal herbs or above would be handled by the supervisor of the third floor, 'Lord Wei' himself.

But of course, considering that Shun Long and his group had just spent an astronomical amount of spirit stones on the third floor, nearly emptying half the floor in the process, the young woman named Xiao An believed that if Shun Long and the others wished to sell some medicinal herbs, those herbs would be at least rank 6 medicinal herbs.

Xiao An looked at Shun Long and the others and bowed as she said

"Young masters, Lord Wei is waiting inside."

Nodding his head, Shun Long thanked her, before he led Xingyi and the others inside the private room.

The interior of the room was actually extremely spacious, but aside from a large alchemy cauldron that was covered in many mysterious runes and patterns and was placed in the center of the room and the old man who was sitting behind it, there was nothing else inside.

As soon as he entered the room, Shun Long's eyes only glanced at the black alchemy cauldron for a brief moment, before his gaze landed on the white-robed old man who was sitting behind it with an amiable smile on his face.

This old man had long white hair and a clean-shaven face, while his deep brown eyes were curiously examining Shun Long and the others without speaking.

Shun Long, Jiang Chen, and the others could all sense, that the aura coming from this person's body had clearly exceeded the Dao King realm long ago, and was definitely that of a powerful Dao Emperor!

Naturally, as the supervisor of the third floor, how could 'Lord Wei' not notice Shun Long and his group when they had just purchased a large number of the medicinal herbs available on his third floor?

Lord Wei could also see that Shun Long and the others were only a group early rank 1 Dao Kings, which made this even more surprising.

After all, as the supervisor of the third floor of the 'Myriad pills pavilion', Lord Wei was already familiar with all the powerful or influential Dao Kings within the Northern Sovereign's city, and he was certain that none of the 5 people in front of him belonged to the powerful factions of the Northern Sovereign's city.

"Hmm, there doesn't seem to be an expert who is protecting them in secret either... How interesting!" Lord Wei mused to himself with a smile, as he stood up from his seat and waved his hand, causing 5 meditative cushions to appear on the floor around him.

Staring at Shun Long and the others, he then said with that same amiable smile on his face

"Please, have a seat. My surname is Wei. How should I address you?"

At the same time that Lord Wei spoke, inside the foggy space in the 'Stone of Time', Little Black's bright azure eyes narrowed for a moment, before the black dragon's playful voice resounded in Shun Long's mind

"Heh, master, this old man is actually a peak rank 6 Dao Emperor, but his strength is actually even lower than that old hag's from the Refinement Hall of the Holy sect. Even though he is trying to suppress it, I can clearly feel that the qi inside his dantian is extremely chaotic."

Shun Long nodded his head without speaking after hearing Little Black's voice, while his eyes kept inspecting the old man in front of him seriously.

Naturally, Shun Long understood that the old hag that Little Black was referring to, was no one else other than Xingyi's master, Elder Mao Jing.

Shun Long's gaze briefly stopped on 'Lord Wei's' hands that were placed on the surface of the black alchemy cauldron in front of him, before Shun Long cupped his hands and said calmly

"Senior can call me Shun Long. I wish to sell some medicinal herbs, so I wonder if your 'Myriad pills pavilion' is interested in them."

Lord Wei narrowed his eyes momentarily, before he answered in a calm tone soon after

"Of course. As long as the quality of your herbs is good enough my pavilion won't be stingy with you either. Let me have a look at them first."

Nodding his head, Shun Long threw one last look at Lord Wei, before he smiled and waved his hand, causing a small mountain of medicinal herbs to appear around him.

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The eyes of the peak rank 6 Dao Emperor, Lord Wei widened in incredulity, as he stared at the mountain of medicinal herbs that had appeared in front of him.

Hundreds of rank 5 and rank 6 medicinal herbs were piled up together on top of each other, filling the entire private room in the blink of an eye.

After a moment of silence, the white-robed old man stared at Shun Long and narrowed his eyes dangerously before he asked in a serious tone

"Kid, are you sure that you wish to sell everything?"

Chapter 760 - 760 10 Million Spirit Stones

It was no wonder that Lord Wei would suddenly turn so serious.

The number of rank 5 and rank 6 medicinal herbs that Shun Long had taken out just now had already exceeded what even the 'Myriad pills pavilion' had in reserve.

Although many of them were the same type of herbs, Lord Wei was certain that if Shun Long wanted to open his own shop in the Northern Sovereign's city, just these medicinal herbs alone would be enough to make his shop a peak second-rate power in the city.

If a few star-rank alchemists decided to join, they would definitely make that shop a first-rate power, and perhaps in a few hundred years, that shop could even rival the 'Myriad pills pavilion' as well.

Naturally, the 'Myriad pills pavilion' wouldn't ignore the existence of an emerging shop that could threaten their own business. Dealing with the alchemists from the 'Northern Sovereign's estate' and the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' was more than enough.

Nodding his head, Shun Long looked at the white-robed old man in front of him and continued "Senior should understand that every single one of my medicinal herbs is more than 10.000 years old. As an alchemist, I am sure that you understand their value as well."

Lord Wei nodded his head calmly without saying anything else, as he sent out his soul sense and started to seriously inspect the piled-up medicinal herbs around him.

Lord Wei understood that Shun Long was indeed intending to sell these medicinal herbs to him, otherwise, he wouldn't have taken them out in the first place.

At the same time, Lord Wei also understood that Shun Long wasn't lying about the maturity of these medicinal herbs, but he still decided to seriously check every single one of them.

After all, experienced alchemists could easily identify how old a medicinal herb was, simply by checking the amount of medicinal essence inside it.

The purer and more concentrated the medicinal essence inside a herb was, the more valuable the medicinal herb would then be.

After staying silent for a couple of minutes, Lord Wei opened his eyes and looked at Shun Long, before he said seriously

"412 rank 5 along with 536 rank 6 medicinal herbs, all of which are more than 10.000 years old. Although most of them aren't rare herbs, their maturity age is old enough to concoct high-grade rank 5 and rank 6 pills. Our 'Myriad pills pavilion' is thus willing to buy them for 150 million middle-grade spirit stones."

As he finished speaking, Lord Wei took out a white-colored spatial ring and tossed it to Shun Long who caught it a moment later.

Inside this spatial ring were indeed 150 million middle-grade spirit stones. This was a sizeable amount of spirit stones even for a large sect in the northern part of the central region like the Holy sect, but for a first-rate power like the 'Myriad pills pavilion', it wasn't actually that much.

After a moment of thinking, Shun Long accepted the spatial ring, causing a smile to break out on Lord Wei's face.

Shun Long knew that if the 'Myriad pills pavilion' sold all of his medicinal herbs, they could easily sell them for 250 million middle-grade spirit stones, making a profit of more than 100 million middle-grade spirit stones in the process, but it would definitely take a couple of months for them to sell everything.

Although a couple of months was nothing to a large superpower like the 'Myriad pills pavilion', Shun Long knew that he didn't have the luxury to open a shop and wait until he sold all of his medicinal herbs, since, in less than half a year, the City of Immortals would most likely open.

By then, he had to increase his strength as much as possible, since an early rank 1 Dao King would be nothing but cannon-fodder within the City of Immortals, where the most powerful Dao Kings of the entire central region would gather!

Besides, Shun Long knew that it was very likely that other powers would try to create trouble for him if he truly chose to open a shop within the 'Northern Sovereign's city'.

Thus, selling everything to the 'Myriad pills pavilion' and letting them handle things themselves was definitely a much better choice.

Seeing the 150.000 high-grade spirit stones inside the spatial ring, Shun Long's lips curved up into a smile, before he placed everything inside the 'Stone of Time'.

This was an astonishing amount of wealth that would make even Dao Emperors salivate. After all, even a peak rank 9 Dao Emperor like the Grand Elder only had 200.000 high-grade spirit stones in his possession.

"Kid, since you have already done business with my 'Myriad pills pavilion', I will tell you one piece of information for free. Your actions earlier attracted the attention of a few peak Dao Kings on my third floor, and it's certain that they will go after you once you leave the pavilion.

However, as long as you are willing to pay this old man 10 million middle-grade spirit stones, I can naturally take care of them for you. Hehe, what do you think?"

Lord Wei's eyes lit up as he looked at Shun Long with a smile.

In his eyes, since Shun Long and the others didn't have an expert backing them, they would face quite a bit of trouble if they wanted to leave the 'Myriad pills pavilion' under the noses of those greedy Dao Kings.

But to a peak rank 6 Dao Emperor like Lord Wei, it would be a piece of cake to deal with those people.

Dealing with a bunch of ants for 10 million middle-grade spirit stones... how could Lord Wei pass this chance?

Contrary to Lord Wei's expectations, Shun Long simply smiled and waved his hand as he said

"Thank you senior, but there is no need for that."

Without saying anything else, Shun Long turned around and led Liu Mei and the others out of the private room, under Lord Wei's stunned eyes.