

## Time 771

### Chapter 771 - 771 Entering The Fourth Floor

After hearing what the purple-robed Dao Emperor had said to Murong Feng before he left, Shun Long finally understood why those Dao Emperors had all come to the 'Elderwood mountain' this time.

Indeed, only an earth flame or a treasure at a similar level could possibly attract so many high-level experts in this place, to the point that they would even risk entering the territory of a rank 8 magic beast.

"Let's go as well."

After throwing one last look at the massive mountain behind him, Shun Long patted Little Silver's head, before Little Silver spread its bright silver wings and flew towards Murong city in the distance.

...

Half an hour later, Little Silver's figure descended from the sky, as it flew straight towards the city gates of Murong city.

Taking a look at the hundreds of luxurious carriages that were pulled by numerous powerful magic beasts and were lined up to enter the city, a smile was formed on Shun Long's lips as he queued up to enter the city as well.

A little more than an hour later, after paying the fee of 10 high-grade spirit stones, Shun Long entered the city along with Little Silver.

The moment that he stepped foot inside the city Shun Long quickly noticed, that although this Murong city couldn't compare to a behemoth like the 'Northern Sovereign's city' in terms of size, it was actually much larger than the Holy city itself!

Of course, the moment that he stepped foot into the city, Shun Long attracted quite a bit of attention too, as the cultivators around him all turned their attention towards Little Silver after sensing its aura.

No matter what, within Murong city, peak rank 6 magic beasts were still extremely rare and belonged only to a few Dao Emperors.

At the same time, since Shun Long had completely concealed his aura using his 'Monarch's Hourglass', it was impossible even for Dao Kings around him to see through his real cultivation base, which made them all come to the conclusion that this black-robed person in front of them was a powerful Dao Emperor.

To most people, Dao Emperors were exalted figures that could summon the wind and rain wherever they went in the central region, and even powerful forces like the Murong family would look to rope those experts in if they could.

...

After walking around the busy streets of Murong city for a while, Shun Long soon arrived in front of a massive building that looked like it was made from pure white jade, while the words 'White tiger chamber of commerce' were carved above its entrance.

Seeing the hundreds of cultivators that were coming and going from the building's entrance at all times, Shun Long took a step forward, as he entered the building with Little Silver following by his side a moment later.

Naturally, magic beasts weren't prohibited from entering as long as they didn't go wild and harm others.

Just like the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' back in the Holy city, the moment that he entered inside, Shun Long noticed that the items on the first floor were meant for Qi condensation and earth-grade cultivators.

Shun Long barely threw a look at the items on the first and the second floor, before he headed directly for the third floor.

Seeing that most of the rank 6 medicinal herbs on the third floor were ones that he had already purchased from the 'Myriad pills pavilion' in the Northern Sovereign's city a few days ago, Shun Long shook his head and turned his gaze towards the stairs that led to the fourth floor.

2 guards that were clad in golden armor were blocking the entrance of the fourth floor, preventing anyone who wasn't strong enough from entering the fourth floor.

With just a glance, Shun Long could sense that those guards were both rank 9 Dao Kings, and it was obvious that they could easily defeat other experts at the same level as them.

As soon as someone would try to get close to the staircase that led to the fourth floor, the guards' auras would explode outwards, preventing anyone from getting any closer.

And yet, Shun Long's lips simply curved up, as he walked towards the stairs of the fourth floor a moment later.

The 2 guards narrowed their eyes simultaneously when they sensed someone approaching them, before their cultivation burst outwards without any hesitation.

At the same time however, Shun Long didn't even move as Little Silver's aura at the peak of rank 6 exploded as well, suppressing the 2 guards' auras in practically an instant!

The guards' powerful auras were powerless in front of Little Silver, who let out a powerful roar that shook the entire third floor soon after.

This sudden change ended up stunning every single person on the third floor, including the 2 guards themselves.

Although the 2 guards were strong, they hadn't expected that they would have to face a peak rank 6 magic beast today.

Despite their cultivation bases, the 2 guards knew that their chances of winning against a peak rank 6 beast by themselves were practically nonexistent.

Additionally, the person who owned a peak rank 6 magic beast had to be a Dao Emperor!

After a brief moment of hesitation, the guards retracted their auras and cupped their hands at Shun Long, as they allowed him to enter the fourth floor.

After all, their job wasn't to fight to the death, but simply to prevent anyone who wasn't strong enough from entering the fourth floor.

These were the rules of the 'White tiger chamber of commerce'.

Shun Long nodded his head at the 2 guards, as he walked towards the fourth floor with Little Silver next to him.

However, the moment that he stepped foot on the fourth floor, Shun Long was stunned when he noticed how different this floor was compared to the previous three.

The fourth floor didn't have even a single counter in sight.

Instead, it was filled with a number of private rooms that were all guarded by golden-armored guards, similar to the guards in front of the staircase of the fourth floor!

#### Chapter 772 - 772 Information

As he stared at the doors of the private rooms on the fourth floor, Shun Long also noticed that in front of each door, there was also a small sign that indicated what each room was used for.

After throwing a quick glance at the rooms where the star-rank pills and the star-rank weapons were sold, Shun Long eventually walked towards the room that sold medicinal herbs.

Even though he had spent more than 130.000 high-grade spirit stones in the 'Myriad Pills pavilion' in the 'Northern Sovereign's city', Shun Long knew that he only had a handful of rank 7 medicinal herbs inside his herb garden right now, while the chances of obtaining rank 7 medicinal herbs were already limited in the first place.

Of course, Shun Long knew that right now, his spiritual strength wasn't enough to refine any rank 7 pill in the first place, and that he would first have to become a peak rank 3 Dao King before he could do so.

As the 2 golden-armored guards in front of the room sensed someone approaching them, one of them took a step forward and extended his right hand as he blocked the black-robed person in front of him and the silver-winged panther by his side, before he said in a calm voice

"Guest, please halt. You have to wait for the person inside to leave before you can enter the room."

Shun Long stared at the guard in front of him and nodded his head without saying anything else, as he waited in front of the room with Little Silver.

It was obvious that the rules on the fourth floor were different from the previous 3 floors.

After all, he could also see a handful of Dao Emperors on the fourth floor, waiting in front of the other rooms for their turns as well.

Thankfully, the room that sold medicinal herbs was among the least popular ones and didn't have a long line.

A few minutes later, a green-robed middle-aged woman stepped out of the room before Shun Long's turn came to enter inside.

As soon as he entered the room, Shun Long saw a yellow-robed old man sitting behind the counter where the medicinal herbs were displayed.

This old man had a calm look in his eyes as he stared at Shun Long, not surprised in the least that Shun Long had chosen to hide his identity.

The old man knew that there were plenty of people who would choose to hide their faces when they visited the 'White tiger chamber of commerce', for whatever reason that may be.

After taking a look at the rank 7 medicinal herbs on display, Shun Long eventually spent 60.000 high-grade spirit stones to buy a couple of rank 7 herbs, before he took a look around the rest of the fourth floor.

A few moments later, Shun Long realized that the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' wasn't just a place that sold pills, medicinal herbs, or weapons.

As long as a Dao Emperor had enough money, they could even head to the 'Assassination room' and request the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' to kill someone for them.

Of course, only the Dao Emperors who stepped foot on the fourth floor knew about this.

After he walked around the fourth floor for a while, Shun Long finally stopped as he arrived in front of a room with the words 'Intelligence room' in front of the door.

Since there was no one else inside the room, the 2 guards didn't stop Shun Long and allowed him to enter inside right away.

The moment that he entered the room, Shun Long saw a silver-robed old man sitting comfortably on a luxurious couch, while occasionally sipping some tea that was placed on the jade-white table in front of him.

As soon as Shun Long entered the room the old man raised his head and looked at the person in front of him with a curious look, before he gestured for Shun Long to sit on the couch opposite to him soon after.

Shun Long nodded and sat on the couch without any hesitation, while Little Silver stood by his side, staring vigilantly at the old man in front of Shun Long.

Just like Little Silver, Shun Long could also sense that this old man in front of him was a Dao Emperor, and from the aura that was coming from his body, this old man had most likely exceeded the early stages of the Dao Emperor realm long ago.

A profound look flashed past the old man's eyes as he stared at Shun Long, and after he threw one brief look at Little Silver next to him, the old man suddenly smiled and cupped his hands at Shun Long, as he then said

"Welcome to Murong city, dear guest. This old man is Liao Huo of the 'White tiger chamber of commerce', and I am the person responsible for the 'Intelligence room'. How may I help you?"

Shun Long's eyes flashed with a deep look the moment that he heard Liao Huo's words, and after he stared at him seriously for a few moments, Shun Long asked in a hoarse voice

"Interesting. How do you know that I am not from Murong city?"

The old man's eyes turned into slits as he looked at Shun Long, before he smiled and said laughingly barely a moment later

"Haha, you underestimate me quite a bit dear guest. I am the head of the 'Intelligence department' of the 'White tiger chamber of commerce', and I am already familiar with every single Dao Emperor in Murong city.

Naturally, I know every single person inside the city who has the ability to completely conceal their aura in front of me, and even without seeing your face, I can tell with certainty that I have never met you before.

This can only mean that you are not from Murong city, otherwise, there is no way that I wouldn't have known about it."

As he finished speaking, Liao Huo stood up and waved his hand, taking out a small empty cup from his spatial ring that he placed on the jade-white table in front of him.

After he filled the cup with tea, he placed it in front of Shun Long, before he continued speaking with that same smile on his face

"Of course, whether our guests are from Murong city or not doesn't matter.

Our 'White tiger chamber of commerce' operates throughout the entire central region, and the only thing that's important is whether you have enough spirit stones or not. As long as there is something you need to know and you can pay the corresponding price, our 'White tiger chamber of commerce' will definitely leave you satisfied."

An extremely deep look flashed inside Shun Long's eyes as he looked at the silver-robed old man in front of him, and after staying silent for a few moments, Shun Long's lips curved upwards as he looked at the old man in front of him and spoke in the same hoarse voice as before

"Then, Liao Huo.... what can you tell me about the Murong family?"

Chapter 773 - 773 Information About The Murong Family

"The Murong family?" The silver-robed Liao Huo raised his eyebrows as he looked at the black-robed person who was sitting opposite to him, since he clearly hadn't expected Shun Long to ask about the Murong family.

After all, the Murong family was still the ruler of Murong city, so even if someone wanted to learn information about them, they would usually go to some other city and ask the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' there.

After staring at Shun Long silently for a few moments, Liao Huo's lips curved upwards before he answered calmly

"Of course, if dear guest wants to learn information about the Murong family, our 'White tiger chamber of commerce' can naturally help you. However, dear guest, I must inform you in advance, that depending on the information that you want to learn, the price that you will have to pay may not be cheap.

After all, the Murong family is still the strongest force in Murong city, and even our 'White tiger chamber of commerce' don't want to clash with them unless absolutely necessary."

Although Liao Huo had just said that the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' didn't want to clash with the Murong family unless absolutely necessary, Shun Long could see from the confident look in the silver-robed Dao Emperor's eyes, that there wasn't even a single hint of fear inside them when he mentioned the Murong family.

But of course, Shun Long knew that this was only natural.

The 'White tiger chamber of commerce' was rumored to have branches throughout the entire northern part of the central region, including major cities like the 'Northern Sovereign's city' and the Holy city. Although the place where Shun Long was in right now was just a branch in Murong city, one could guess how terrifying the power behind the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' really was, to allow them to operate a branch in every single major city in the northern part of the central region.

This was why, even powerful families like the Murong family didn't want to clash with them, unless it was an irreconcilable situation where one of the 2 forces had to truly disappear.

Staring at Liao Huo, Shun Long nodded his head calmly before he said

"I want information about every single Dao Emperor of the Murong family, including how many Dao Emperors they have within the city as well as their cultivation levels."

Liao Huo's eyes instantly lit up as a friendly smile quickly covered his face soon after, before the silver-robed old waved his hand and said

"No problem."

A moment later, a piece of pure-white jade appeared on the table in front of him, as Liao Huo pushed the jade towards Shun Long and continued

"This memory jade contains exactly what you asked for, dear guest... information about every single Dao Emperor of the Murong family, including how many of them there are inside and outside the city right now, their cultivation levels, and even the details of some of the cultivation techniques and martial skills that most of them use.

But of course, this is only the information that our 'White tiger chamber of commerce' currently has, and some of it may be slightly inaccurate, so I hope that dear guest can understand. After all, some of them are Dao Emperors who have entered seclusion for thousands of years while others may have found some rare treasures to consume in secret, so it's possible that their strength has also advanced."

Shun Long took the memory jade from the table, but he didn't send his soul sense inside it right away, and instead, he turned to look at Liao Huo in front of him before he asked in a calm tone

"How much?"

Liao Huo didn't beat around the bush as he answered straight away

"60.000 high-grade spirit stones. The price is non-negotiable as well. I hope that dear guest understands the reason."

Nodding his head, Shun Long didn't try to haggle and simply waved his right hand, taking out 60.000 high-grade spirit stones from the 'Stone of Time' and letting them fill the private room in the blink of an eye.

Although 60.000 high-grade spirit stones was indeed a sky-high price that one could even use to buy a peak 1-star weapon, Shun Long knew that it was absolutely worth it.

Even if the price was higher, he was still going to pay.

What Shun Long lacked the most at this point, was any information about the Murong family itself, as well as information about Murong Tian.

Although he knew that he could simply ask about information for Murong Tian instead of asking for details about every single Dao Emperor of the Murong family, Shun Long knew that doing so would be no different than telling Liao Huo that he had come here for Murong Tian.

Without knowing what relationship Liao Huo may have with the Murong family, doing so would be no different than throwing himself in the mouth of the lion.

Liao Huo accepted the spirit stones with a bright smile on his face, before he turned to look at Shun Long and asked a moment later

"Dear guest, is there something else that I can help you with? Hehe, I am sure that you have also heard about the auction that our chamber of commerce is hosting a month from now, and that many Dao Emperors from all over the central region have come to participate in it. If you want to know the details about any of those Dao Emperors, our chamber of commerce can provide that as well... for the right price of course."

Shun Long's eye twitched behind the black robes but he didn't answer immediately.

Instead, he fell silent for a brief moment, before he turned his attention towards Liao Huo and waved his right hand.

A thud resounded throughout the private room in the next moment, as a rusty-looking iron halberd and 3 golden scrolls all appeared on the surface of the jade-white table in front of Shun Long!

#### Chapter 774 - 774 Selling The Treasures

Liao Huo was momentarily stunned as he stared at the iron halberd and the 3 golden scrolls that had appeared in front of him, before he turned to look at Shun Long and asked in a confused manner

"Dear guest?"

Shun Long nodded his head and answered calmly

"There is indeed something that I will need your help with. Since your 'White tiger chamber of commerce' is hosting an auction, I want to auction these things as well. I hope you can help me take care of it."

A look of understanding flashed inside Liao Huo's eyes before he stretched out his hand and began to inspect the iron halberd first.

A few seconds later, Liao Huo mumbled to himself

"A peak 1-star weapon with the 'Dao of Earth' engraved inside it. The quality is not bad, and the runes themselves seem to be in perfect condition as well... almost as if this thing was just forged. It should bring at least 70.000-80.000 high-grade spirit stones if it's sold in the auction."

Without any hesitation, Liao Huo placed the iron halberd to the side before he turned his attention towards the 3 golden scrolls on the table in front of him.

A few moments later, after he finished inspecting the first scroll, the silver-robed Dao Emperor raised his head and stared at Shun Long with a somewhat surprised look on his face before he asked seriously

"Dear guest, this is a Saint high-grade cultivation technique! Are you sure that you want to auction this?"

Liao Huo's tone turned slightly solemn when he said this.

Of course, it wasn't surprising that Liao Huo would ask this question.

As a powerful Dao Emperor and the supervisor of the 'Intelligence room' in the 'White tiger chamber of commerce', Liao Huo knew how rare Saint high-grade cultivation techniques really were.

Even first-rate powers like the Holy sect and even the Murong family didn't have any immortal-grade cultivation techniques, and they only had Saint high-grade cultivation techniques in their treasury.

Even if one of their disciples had somehow managed to obtain an immortal-grade cultivation technique, they wouldn't share it with anyone else and would do anything to keep it for themselves.

At the same time, although it wasn't unprecedented for someone to sell a Saint high-grade cultivation technique during an auction, Liao Huo knew that instances like these were extremely rare, and that those cultivation techniques usually came from extremely powerful individuals who were already renowned throughout the central region and didn't have much use for these cultivation techniques.

Naturally, those individuals would choose to sell them for high-grade spirit stones instead.

However, aside from those powerful individuals, Liao Huo also knew that there was one other group of cultivators who would occasionally try to sell these cultivation techniques... people who had deserted their family or sect and had stolen their core techniques before they left.

Of course, Liao Huo didn't know whether Shun Long was an expert who belonged to the first group or the second, but he still decided to ask regardless.

Judging from Shun Long's reaction, Liao Huo would then know which group the person in front of him really belonged.

If Shun Long hesitated, Liao Huo would then be certain that the black-robed person in front of him belonged to the second group.

Using the resources and the information channels of the 'White tiger chamber of commerce', it then wouldn't be difficult for him to locate which power Shun Long came from simply by taking a look at the name of the cultivation technique, and then inform them that their cultivation technique would be auctioned at their branch.

No matter what, a cultivation technique was every power's utmost priority, and they would do anything they could to get it back if it was stolen.

At the same time, Liao Huo could sell them the information about Shun Long's whereabouts and let that power come and take revenge.



Clearly, these were the skills of a shrewd businessman. Anything and everything that could be converted to money would be used by Liao Huo!

Unfortunately for him, Shun Long didn't hesitate for a moment, as he calmly nodded his head and said

"I have no use for these things so it's better to sell them."

At the same time, inside the 'Stone of Time', Little Black had a mocking look in his deep azure eyes as he stared at the silver-robed Dao Emperor in front of Shun Long.

Although Liao Huo was shrewd, how could his intentions possibly escape the black dragon's eyes?

Shun Long could also guess what Liao Huo's intentions were, but he didn't care about it one bit.

After all, this cultivation technique clearly belonged to Huo Wuyi who had disappeared thousands of years ago.

Even if Huo Wuyi had stolen it from some power, it would be uncertain if that power would still be as strong as it had been in the past and if they would still be looking for it.

Even strong powers could end up disappearing after the passage of many years from the cultivation world.

Besides, as a powerful Dao Emperor who was also a talented formation master, Shun Long knew that Huo Wuyi was at least a rank 6 Dao Emperor and would definitely look for a cultivation technique that suited him perfectly instead of stealing the first Saint high-grade cultivation technique that he could get his hands on.

Liao Huo also understood that Shun Long had most likely found out his intentions, but he wasn't flustered in the slightest as he smiled brightly and nodded his head before he answered

"Of course, dear guest. You can leave this to me. I will make sure to put your items in our auction a month from now!"

A moment later, Liao Huo took a look at the other 2 golden scrolls that included 2 Saint middle-grade martial skills as well, before he swept everything inside his spatial ring.

Liao Huo then waved his hand, as he took out a silver token from his spatial ring and tossed it to Shun Long before he continued

"Dear guest, this is the VIP invitation from our 'White tiger chamber of commerce'. You should come and take a look at the auction even if you don't intend to buy anything.. I can assure you that the items will be worth your time. Hehe, even Sovereign realm experts will come to participate in this auction after all!"

## Chapter 775 - 775 The Strength Of The Murong Family

Shun Long nodded his head and accepted the silver token from Liao Huo, before he placed it inside his spatial ring along with the memory jade with the information about the Dao Emperors of the Murong family.

Even if Liao Huo hadn't mentioned it, Shun Long was still planning to take a look at the auction and see if there were any treasures that could help him, as well as Liu Mei and the rest, all increase their strength before the opening of the City of Immortals.

As for the earth flame, although Shun Long wanted to get his hands on it, he knew that his chances of winning the auction were practically nonexistent.

Just like Liao Huo had said, there were bound to be even some Sovereign realm experts who would be fighting over the earth flame.

Although Shun Long knew that he would be considered wealthy even if he was compared to most peak rank 9 Dao Emperors like the Grand Elder, he also understood that if he wanted to fight Sovereign realm experts for the earth flame, even a million high-grade spirit stones wouldn't be enough to let him secure it.

Sometime later, under Liao Huo's attentive gaze, Shun Long left the 'Intelligence room' and walked towards the staircase that led him back to the third floor.

Since he had already obtained everything he needed from this place, Shun Long was planning to enter seclusion for the next month, until the auction of the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' began.

Meanwhile, inside the 'Intelligence room', a moment after Shun Long had left, the amiable smile quickly vanished from Liao Huo's face, as the silver-robed Dao Emperor stared at the door of the 'Intelligence room' and mumbled to himself in a calm manner

"More and more experts have been gathering in the city lately. If the Murong family wants to obtain the earth flame, it seems that they will have to bleed quite a bit."

Liao Huo's serious expression disappeared soon after, as the silver-robed Dao Emperor continued to enjoy his tea with a calm smile on his face. No matter what happened, Liao Huo was certain that the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' would be the one who would end up profiting the most from this.

At the same time, sitting on Little Silver's back, Shun Long left the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' and walked around Murong city as he looked for a place to stay.

Around an hour later, he arrived at a large inn near the heart of the city and spent 4000 middle-grade spirit stones to rent a courtyard for the next one month.

After he entered the room Shun Long sat cross-legged on the bed and closed his eyes, before he imagined himself entering the foggy space inside the 'Stone of Time'.

A moment later, sitting on his usual spot, Shun Long held the memory jade that he had purchased from Liao Huo in his hands and used his qi to activate it, before he sent his soul sense inside it soon after.

The moment that his soul sense entered the memory jade, Shun Long could feel a stream of information entering his mind, as different faces and information about those faces quickly filled his mind.

"Murong Chang: Early rank 1 Dao Emperor. Broke through to the Dao Emperor realm 30 years ago while cultivating a Saint middle-grade cultivation technique of the Murong family. He doesn't belong to the main branch of the Murong family and thus, he wasn't given access to the core cultivation technique of the Murong family, the 'Soul encompassing lotus' until he broke through to the Dao Emperor realm.

He wields a saber and has mastered a powerful Saint middle-grade martial skill for it, making him stronger than most other early rank 1 Dao Emperors."

"Murong Hu: Middle rank 2 Dao Emperor. He belongs to the main branch of the Murong family. He broke through to the Dao Emperor realm 600 years ago, while cultivating the core cultivation technique of the Murong family, the 'Soul encompassing lotus'.

He wields a greatsword and although he has powerful physical strength that surpasses average early rank 3 Dao Emperors, his speed is his greatest weakness."

As he kept taking in the information from the memory jade, Shun Long was surprised to see how detailed the information of the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' about the Dao Emperors of the Murong family really was.

Not only was there information about the cultivation techniques and the martial skills of most of those Dao Emperors, but it even included the weapons that they used, as well as their strengths and weaknesses.

Of course, although Shun Long wasn't interested in most of these Dao Emperors, he didn't mind learning more about them either.

After all, some of them may end up blocking his path once he tried to kill Murong Tian.

Shun Long also noticed that the Murong family had several more Dao Emperors than the Holy sect.

At least as far as he knew, the Holy sect only had around 20 Dao Emperors, including the Grand Elder and all the inner court Elders, but the Murong family seemed to have well more than 30 of them.

Finally, after reading information for more than 30 Dao Emperors of the Murong family, a familiar name finally appeared in Shun Long's mind.

"Murong Tian: The current patriarch of the Murong family. He is the strongest Dao Emperor of the Murong family and one of the strongest experts in the entire city, breaking through to become a peak rank 9 Dao Emperor 3000 years ago! The old ancestor of the Murong family personally appointed him to become the patriarch after Murong Tian broke through to the peak of the Dao Emperor realm."

Shun Long was momentarily stunned when he took in the information in his mind about Murong Tian.

The person that Huo Wuyi wanted him to deal with was actually the current patriarch of the Murong family?

## Chapter 776 - 776 The Strength Of The Murong Family (2)

Despite his initial surprise Shun Long didn't stop reading the information about Murong Tian.

However, the more he read, the more surprised Shun Long felt in his heart as time went on.

After reaching the peak of the Dao Emperor realm and becoming the patriarch of the Murong family, Murong Tian had only appeared twice in Murong city in the last 3000 years, and he was now presumed to have entered seclusion in preparation for his breakthrough to the Sovereign realm.

According to the information of the 'White tiger chamber of commerce', Murong Tian was considered to be one of the 10 strongest Dao Emperors throughout the entire northern part of the central region.

His greatest strength was his spiritual strength that vastly exceeded other peak rank 9 Dao Emperors, while his soul attacks could threaten anyone who had yet to step into the Sovereign realm.

Shun Long guessed that even experts like commander Quan from the Northern Sovereign's army would have to take someone like Murong Tian seriously.

Murong Tian's only weakness seemed to be fighting in close combat. However, according to the information of the 'White tiger chamber of commerce', Murong Tian also wore a piece of peak 2-star armor that protected him from most physical attacks.

With a peak 2-star armor to protect him, it didn't matter how weak his physical strength was, Murong Tian essentially didn't have any weaknesses whatsoever.

As soon as the information about Murong Tian entered his mind, Shun Long felt the memory jade in his hands finally crumble, before it turned into dust soon after.

Naturally, this was done from the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' to prevent its information from being passed down freely.

Although Shun Long could also try to create a similar memory jade if he wanted to, the information he would be able to record down clearly wouldn't be as detailed as that of the 'White tiger chamber of commerce', since he hadn't met the Dao Emperors of the Murong family personally.

Sometime later, Shun Long finally opened his eyes, and after a brief moment of silence, he mumbled to himself in a calm voice

"It seems that dealing with Murong Tian is nearly impossible right now."

Little Black immediately opened his bright blue eyes the moment he heard Shun Long's voice, before the black dragon asked curiously

"Master, what's wrong?"

Naturally, Shun Long didn't hide anything from Little Black, as he shared with him all the information that he had obtained from the memory jade.

Without any hesitation, Little Black nodded his head and said calmly

"Master, it's better to forget about this matter for now. If that Murong Tian hasn't showed his face for 3000 years, he is most likely cultivating in seclusion inside the Murong family to prepare and breakthrough to the Sovereign realm. Since there are 2 Sovereign realm experts behind the Murong family as well, it's too dangerous for master to try and do anything to him."

Little Black knew that the current Shun Long could afford to take this risk if he wanted to, since even Sovereign realm experts would be hard-pressed to take his life after Shun Long broke through to the Dao King realm, but whether he could succeed in killing Murong Tian was a different matter altogether.

Shun Long fell silent for a few moments before he nodded his head and agreed with Little Black.

Indeed, infiltrating the Murong family to deal with Murong Tian wasn't an option.

Putting aside how difficult it would be to even find and kill Murong Tian in the first place, Shun Long knew that there was no way that the 2 Sovereign realm experts of the Murong family would just sit there and allow him to kill a peak rank 9 Dao Emperor realm expert under their noses.

A few moments later, Shun Long mumbled to himself

"I will try to increase my cultivation as much as possible in the next few days. As for Murong Tian's matter, it will have to wait for now."

Shun Long then took a deep breath, before he summoned the 'Heaven Swallowing vine' from the herb garden and started to feed it with high-grade spirit stones.

The enormous vine started to hungrily absorb the high-grade spirit stones around it, before it filled the air around Shun Long with extremely pure qi.

Shun Long closed his eyes and started to absorb the qi around him, as the outline of a golden ball of qi began to appear in his hands a while later.

..

At the same time, back in the 'Northern Sovereign's city', Liu Mei and the others had gathered at the entrance of the 'Southern dragon's courtyard' and faced the silver-robed Northern Sovereign who was standing in front of them, before Bai Longtian cupped his hands at the Northern Sovereign and said in an apologetic manner

"Apologies senior, but brother Shun has entered seclusion and cannot be contacted right now. We hope that senior understands."

The Northern Sovereign stared at Bai Longtian silently for a few moments, before she then asked

"Did he say how long he was planning to stay in seclusion?"

Nodding her head, Xingyi answered the Northern Sovereign's question

"Brother Long said it shouldn't take more than 2 months if things go well."

The Northern Sovereign didn't speak right away, and after a few more moments of silence, she shook her head and said

"I was planning to introduce him to the geniuses of the Tianhuan dynasty that would enter the 'City of Immortals' this time, but it seems that that's impossible for now. So be it then. You can tell Shun Long to come and see me in my courtyard after he is finished with his seclusion."

Nodding their heads, Bai Longtian and the others all cupped their hands at the Northern Sovereign who disappeared from the entrance of the courtyard shortly after.

A moment later, after Xingyi and the others returned back to the courtyard, Liu Mei turned to look at Xingyi, Jiang Chen, and Bai Longtian, and said in a calm voice

"I'm going to leave the city for a few days."

-

"Sister Liu, are you going to cultivate?" Bai Longtian asked a moment later as he looked at Liu Mei.

Naturally, Bai Longtian, Jiang Chen, and Xingyi weren't surprised to hear that Liu Mei was planning to leave the city, since they had actually expected this long ago.

After all, the 3 of them knew that Liu Mei's Dao and cultivation technique were both different from theirs.

If Liu Mei wanted to advance and comprehend her Dao of Death even further, she had to kill other cultivators and absorb the essence of death around them.

Clearly, she couldn't just stay inside the city to do that.

Nodding her head, Liu Mei looked at Bai Longtian and the others and answered seriously

"Staying inside the courtyard to cultivate is meaningless to me. Even if I could absorb the qi in here, I would still have to leave the city to comprehend my Dao of Death further."

Jiang Chen, Xingyi, and Bai Longtian all nodded, before Jiang Chen said in a calm voice

"Since that's the case, it's better to ask commander Quan for a few experts to protect you while you leave the city."

Xingyi and Bai Longtian both agreed with Jiang Chen's suggestion, and a few moments later, the 4 of them made their way towards commander Quan's quarters.

In reality, Xingyi and the others weren't too worried about Liu Mei's survival since they knew that she still had the pendant that she had received from Elder Xuan as a gift when Elder Xuan accepted her as her disciple.

According to Elder Xuan, that pendant could save her life twice if she was in a life-threatening situation, blocking the attacks of even some late-stage Dao Emperors.

But of course, Jiang Chen and the others weren't going to take any risks, since they all understood, that right now, they were in the heart of the northern part of the central region.

The 'Northern Sovereign's city' was the biggest city in the northern part of the central region, and there were bound to be plenty of high-level experts in this place.

For an early-stage Dao King to wander alone was simply too dangerous.

This was even more so when one considered that Liu Mei was a heavenly beauty who would attract the attention of everyone around her.

A few moments later, inside commander Quan's private quarters, commander Quan agreed right away to send a squad of experts to protect Liu Mei when he heard that she was planning to leave the city.

Barely 10 minutes passed before a group of experts appeared outside commander Quan's quarters, all of them staring reverently at commander Quan in front of them.

Surprisingly, there were even 2 early-stage Dao Emperors who were leading this squad, one tall, burly man, and a beautiful middle-aged woman.

Behind the 2 Dao Emperors were 10 peak rank 9 Dao Kings who were all trying hard to conceal the looks of excitement in their eyes as they stood in front of commander Quan and received his orders.

Although these people were all soldiers who belonged to the Northern Sovereign's army, they rarely had chances to leave the city since they would spend most of their time cultivating inside the 'Northern Sovereign's estate'.

Of course, if someone within the city dared to create trouble, the Northern Sovereign's army would immediately be dispatched, but instances like these were extremely rare. After all, who would dare to make trouble within the 'Northern Sovereign's city'?

Thus, the soldiers in the Northern Sovereign's army would end up spending most of their time inside the Sovereign's estate, training for hundreds, and sometimes even thousands of years without a chance to go out.

Of course, this didn't mean that they were prisoners, but their only chance to freely move around would be to either reach the middle-stages of the Dao Emperor realm and be inferior only to the 12 commanders in status, or leave the Northern Sovereign's army and become independent.

But of course, the first option was simply too hard while the second one was extremely foolish.

Experts throughout the 'Northern Sovereign's city' were dying to enter the Northern Sovereign's army, since they would have the chance to obtain better resources and cultivation techniques the more their strength advanced.

Who would choose to leave willingly and become a rogue cultivator for no reason?

This was why the soldiers in front of commander Quan were so excited even though it was such a simple mission of protecting a small early-stage Dao King.

In the eyes of the 2 Dao Emperors who were leading the squad, this was no different from vacation for them.

A while later, the squad led by the 2 Dao Emperors followed behind Liu Mei and left the 'Northern Sovereign's estate', as they headed straight towards the city gates.

At the same time, Xingyi, Bai Longtian, and Jiang Chen all returned to the 'Southern dragon's courtyard', looking like they were in a hurry to continue cultivating.

Of course, the 3 of them all knew, that now that Liu Mei was going to leave the city, they couldn't slack for even a moment or they would be left behind by her, even if they cultivated inside this 'Southern dragon's courtyard' in the Northern Sovereign's estate.

After all, Liu Mei's 'Blood Absorption art' was perfectly suited for her Dao of Death, since it allowed her to increase her cultivation at the same time that she increased her Dao comprehension.

Additionally, the cultivation speed of Liu Mei's 'Blood Absorption art' outstripped even Xingyi's and the others' speed.

Even after they obtained immortal-grade cultivation techniques from Shun Long, Jiang Chen and the others knew that their cultivation speed was still inferior to Liu Mei's.

It was almost as if her 'Blood Absorption art' was tailor-made for Liu Mei.

...

At the same time, back in Murong city, Shun Long continued to cultivate with his eyes closed, as he continued to absorb the pure qi around him that had completely filled the foggy space inside the 'Stone of Time'.

A second... a third... and a fourth golden ball of qi appeared inside the 'Monarch's Hourglass' as the days went by, and in the blink of an eye, a month passed before the day of the auction of the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' finally arrived.

-

## Chapter 778 - 778 The 'White Tiger Chamber Of Commerce's' Auction (1)

Inside the foggy space in the 'Stone of Time', Shun Long opened his eyes and exhaled once, before he turned his attention to the 12 golden balls of qi that were hovering above his head.

After breaking through to the Dao King realm, Shun Long truly realized how much more qi his 'Monarch's Hourglass' required compared to other cultivation techniques.

During this past month that he had spent in seclusion, Shun Long had spent nearly 10.000 high-grade spirit stones before he finally reached the early rank 2 of the Dao King realm.

If it was any other early-stage Dao King who had absorbed all of this qi, they would have certainly reached the middle stages of the Dao King realm.

However, Shun Long still knew that the benefits of the 'Monarch's Hourglass' far outweighed the disadvantage of needing to absorb enormous amounts of pure qi.

After all, the higher the grade of a cultivation technique, meant that a person had higher chances of reaching the immortal realm in the future.

At the same time, it was only after he broke through to the Dao King realm that Shun Long realized another benefit of his 'Monarch's Hourglass'.

If he had been training in any other cultivation technique, even if he had comprehended the 'Dao of Time' as well, Shun Long was certain that he wouldn't have been able to use his 'Monarch's Domain' or any other of the skills that he had comprehended, simply because the requirements to use them were extremely high.

"Master, are you going to take a look at the auction?" Little Black asked as he coiled his large head around Shun Long who was still sitting cross-legged on the ground.

According to what Liao Huo had said, there wasn't much time left until the auction started.

Shun Long nodded and patted Little Black's head once before he answered

"I am curious to see what type of earth flame the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' is planning to auction. Besides, that old man, Liao Huo said that there will be other treasures as well that will be worth to take a look at."

Naturally, in Liao Huo's eyes, Shun Long who could completely hide his aura in front of him was at least a late-stage Dao Emperor, which meant that the treasures that the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' was planning to auction would most likely be enough to attract the attention of even



some extremely powerful Dao Emperors, otherwise Liao Huo wouldn't be so confident to make such a claim.

A few moments later, Shun Long closed his eyes and imagined himself leaving the foggy space in the 'Stone of Time', before he returned back to his room inside the inn.

This time however, Shun Long didn't keep Little Silver by his side and had the black panther return to the foggy space inside the 'Stone of Time', before he walked towards the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' all by himself.

Sometime later, Shun Long arrived in front of the entrance of an extremely crowded 'White tiger chamber of commerce' that had a sea of cultivators in front of its entrance.

It seemed that the auction today had attracted a huge number of people.

Of course, this was only natural since everyone inside Murong city had learned during the past 2 months that an earth flame was going to be auctioned today.

A treasure that needed hundreds of thousands or perhaps even a million years to form itself naturally... how could it not attract the attention of every single powerful cultivator within the city?

But even though every person present coveted the earth flame, everyone understood that it would most likely end up in the hands of the few Sovereign realm experts who were present today, or the representatives of the large powers throughout the northern part of the central region who had come to get their hands on it.

Sometime later, Shun Long managed to enter the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' before heading straight for the fourth floor.

Of course, the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' wasn't going to let just anyone participate in the auction since there were simply too many people present today, while the seats in the auction couldn't hold all the cultivators present.

This was why the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' was holding the auction on the fifth floor, and every person who wanted to participate would have to pay a fee of 100 high-grade spirit stones.

Although this price was nothing to the powerful Dao Emperors who were going to bid for the earth flame or the other treasures, to most ordinary cultivators who only wanted to take a look at the auction out of curiosity, it was an exorbitant price that few of them were willing to pay.

Of course, powerful experts who had an invitation token like the one that Shun Long had received from Liao Huo didn't have to pay any fee whatsoever.

As soon as he reached the staircase that led to the fifth floor, Shun Long saw more than a dozen of golden-armored guards standing there silently, as well as a number of beautiful young women dressed in white robes who were receiving the guests with smiles on their faces.

Every single one of those guards was at the peak of rank 9 of the Dao King realm, but Shun Long was certain that there were even some Dao Emperors hidden in the surroundings as well.

"Perhaps the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' has even asked for the help of a Sovereign realm expert, to make sure that things go smoothly today." Shun Long thought to himself as he showed his silver token that he had gotten from Liao Huo to one of the white-robed women in front of him.

The moment that the guards and those young women noticed Shun Long's silver token, they all bowed respectfully, before the young woman in front of Shun Long offered to lead him to the private room that was reserved for him.

-

## Chapter 779 - 779 The 'White Tiger Chamber Of Commerce's' Auction (2)

Shun Long didn't decline and allowed the young woman in front of him to lead him to the fifth floor.

A few moments later, Shun Long noticed, that the fifth floor of the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' only comprised of the auction venue itself.

More than half of the normal seats below were already occupied, while experts were still arriving in droves.

"Esteemed guest, this way please." The young woman smiled and gestured for Shun Long to follow her, as she walked past a certain corridor that 2 golden-armored guards were guarding and headed towards one of the private rooms there.

The white-robed young woman stopped in front of the entrance of a certain room a few moments later, and bowed towards Shun Long before she continued

"Esteemed guest, you can go ahead. I will be right here if you need anything, so don't hesitate to call me."

Shun Long nodded and thanked the young woman for leading the way, before he took a few steps forward and entered the room.

As expected, the quality of the private room itself wasn't any inferior to the 'Intelligence room' where Shun Long had met Liao Huo.

A luxurious couch and a jade-white table were placed at the center of the room, facing the main stage of the auction venue, as well as the people who were seated in the normal seats down below.

With just a glance, Shun Long could also see the rest of the private rooms around him, but he couldn't make out the appearance of any of the people present in those rooms and could only see their silhouettes instead.

Clearly, there was some sort of formation set up by the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' within every private room, as it obscured the appearance of the people inside.

Naturally, this was done by the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' to let everyone bid freely, without the need to feel afraid that their identity would be exposed and that they would end up offending someone during the auction.

However, just as Shun Long was about to sit on the couch and wait for the auction to begin, a dozen different soul senses suddenly entered his room and swept past his body, before they moved towards the rest of the private rooms a few moments later.

Shun Long narrowed his eyes when he sensed this but his body didn't seem to have the slightest bit of reaction to it, as he calmly seated himself on the couch a few moments later and took out a wooden barrel of wine from his herb garden, placing it on the jade-white table in front of him.

At the same time, inside the foggy space in the 'Stone of Time', a dangerous glint flashed inside Little Black's deep azure eyes when he sensed this sudden intrusion in Shun Long's room, before the black dragon's serious voice resounded in Shun Long's mind a moment later

"Master, it seems that this 'White tiger chamber of commerce' has managed to attract quite a few people. There are at least a dozen late-stage Dao Emperors, as well as 4 Sovereign realm cultivators present in this place."

4 Sovereign realm experts!

If the people inside Murong city knew that there were 4 Sovereign realm experts who had come to the auction of the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' today, they would be sitting on pins and needles.

Even the Murong family, the overlord of Murong city only had 2 Sovereign realm experts backing them and they could do whatever they wanted in the city.

It was almost certain that if those 4 Sovereign realm experts started fighting, the entire Murong city would be razed to the ground!

And yet, Shun Long wasn't too surprised when he heard this.

After all, even Sovereign realm experts would want to get their hands on any earth flames that appeared, and this was even more so for the rarer earth flames with special attributes.

Although most people didn't know about this matter, Shun Long was perfectly aware that each earth flame was unique and had its own properties. Some earth flames purely had the element of fire inside them, but there were earth flames with the element of wind, the element of lightning, and even the element of ice, along with many other elements.

There were even some earth flames who focused on the special attributes of a person's soul.

When an expert absorbed an earth flame, they would then have the chance to gain insights on the element inside the earth flame, increasing their strength even further!

This was why, more often than not, even experts who weren't alchemists or formation masters would do everything they could to get their hands on an earth flame!

-

At the same time that Shun Long sat down on the couch and started to drink some of his wine while completely ignoring what was going on in the rooms around him, in one of the private rooms that was just a few meters away from his own, a silver-haired middle-aged woman in white robes narrowed her eyes as she mumbled to herself in a curious voice

"Who is this person? Someone that even I can't see through their cultivation base...? Don't tell me that it's a middle-stage Sovereign? But the people from the 'Northern Sovereign's city', the 'Black mist valley', and 'Lord Zhu's garden' are already here and none of their middle-stage Sovereigns have come to Murong city! It's not the old ancestor of the Murong family either..."

Perhaps this person belongs to another power that's not from the northern part of the central region..."

The 3 white-robed women who were standing next to the silver-haired middle-aged woman all had looks of shock on their faces when they heard this, before one of them asked

"Master, didn't the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' tell us that there were only 4 Sovereign realm experts who had come to Murong city, including master herself? How come there is another one now?"

After a moment of silence, the silver-haired middle-aged woman shook her head and answered in a calm manner

"Perhaps this person hid himself too well, or he has a special relationship with the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' which is why they kept this a secret. Regardless, it doesn't matter who he is. The only thing that matters is who will get their hands on the earth flame in the end."

The 3 white-robed women nodded without saying anything else, as they all turned their attention to the main stage of the auction venue as they waited for the auction to start.

Finally, a little more than an hour later, the seats in the audience below, as well as the private rooms up above, were all filled to the brim with people, before a beautiful young woman in yellow robes finally appeared on the main stage of the auction venue, causing the entire crowd to immediately fall silent.

Chapter 780 - 780 Finally Appeared!

Shun Long saw that the beautiful, yellow-robed young woman who was standing on the main stage, had an enchanting smile on her face as she faced the crowd in front of her, before she bowed slightly and introduced herself in a warm voice that was akin to a gentle breeze that warmed up the entire venue

"Dear guests of our 'White tiger chamber of commerce', my name is Jia Guiying and I will be your auctioneer for today's auction. I want to thank you all, esteemed guests, for coming.

Since many of our esteemed guests today have even come from various parts of our central region, our 'White tiger chamber of commerce' has prepared many exceptional treasures for today!"

Quite a few people in the crowd stared at the beautiful young woman who had appeared on the stage with love-struck eyes, before someone said soon after

"Indeed, miss Jia is worthy of being called the most stunning jewel of Murong city. Since she is the auctioneer today, I am sure the rumors about the earth flame must be true!"

"Of course they are true! Do you think that so many experts would be present today if they weren't? I heard that today's auction will even have some other treasures other than the earth flame that can entice Sovereign realm experts to go all-out!"

People in the crowd immediately began chatting with each other shortly after Jia Guiying's appearance, and Jia Guiying herself merely smiled and didn't speak when she saw this scene, allowing the excitement of the crowd to reach its peak before they began the auction.

After all, as a talented auctioneer, she knew that only when the crowd couldn't contain their excitement any longer, would the prices of the auction reach a new high.

A minute later, Jia Guiying bowed to the crowd for a second time, before her gentle voice entered the ears of every single person present in the venue

"Then, esteemed guests, without further ado... let us begin with the first item of today's auction!"

As Jia Guiying clapped her hands, 2 beautiful young women dressed in red robes walked out from the back of the auction venue, carrying with them 2 bottles that were filled with alchemy pills.

Some of the people in the crowd stared at the pills curiously, while the eyes of the most experienced ones quickly lit up.

At the same time, Shun Long's eyes flashed momentarily inside his private room, before he mumbled in a calm voice

"High-grade rank 7 pills?"

Indeed, Jia Guiying verified Shun Long's and the others' guesses barely a moment later, as she took one of the pill bottles in her hands and gently removed one of the pills inside, showing it to the crowd in front of her before she said

"Dear guests, as many of you have already guessed, the first item for today's auction is a set of high-grade rank 7 'Limb restoring pills' made by Grandmaster Hu Dai himself!

Grandmaster Du Hai is the greatest alchemist in our Murong city, and this set of high-grade 'Limb restoring pills' made personally by him, can even allow a person who isn't a body refinement cultivator to restore a missing limb without any issue.

As long as you are not a Sovereign realm expert, just one of these pills will allow you to restore a missing limb within a day after consuming it!

I am sure that everyone here understands how rare these high-grade rank 7 'Limb restoring pills' are, and that you normally won't be able to see them even if you tour through half of our northern part of the central region!

The starting price for these 18 pills will be 70.000 high-grade spirit stones, and every subsequent increase must be a minimum of 500 high-grade spirit stones!"

The crowd didn't hesitate to start bidding, as a person in the lower seats instantly called out his bid

"70.500"

"71.000!"

"73.000!"

In the blink of an eye, the price climbed all the way to 80.000 high-grade spirit stones and it was still going strong.

Although these rank 7 'Limb restoring pills' didn't require any exceptionally rare rank 7 medicinal herbs to concoct, due to how difficult the actual pill refinement of the pills was, they were considered to be quite rare rank 7 pills that many cultivators coveted.

A few minutes later, the price finally stopped as a person in the lower seats obtained the 'Limb restoring pills' for 93.000 high-grade spirit stones!

Of course, the person who had obtained them was a late-stage Dao Emperor who happened to be sitting in the lower seats, since only some extremely powerful middle or late-stage Dao Emperors, as well as people from extremely strong powers, could afford to pay such a high price for 2 bottles of pills.

But of course, to those experts, even a hundred thousand high-grade spirit stones were nothing if they could restore a missing limb.

These pills were no different from offering a second life to those who weren't training in body refinement!

Jia Guiying clapped her hands and congratulated the old man who had just won the pills, before the second item of the auction soon came out.

Staring at the rusty iron halberd that appeared in Jia Guiying's hands, Shun Long's lips curved up slightly as he watched the auction.

His iron halberd eventually sold for 80.000 high-grade spirit stones, and someone came to Shun Long's private room a few moments later to deliver him 76.000 high-grade spirit stones.

Clearly, those 4000 high-grade spirit stones were the 5 percent fee that the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' would get from every transaction.

The third, the fourth, and the fifth item of the auction soon followed, and nearly every single one of them sold for more than 30.000 high-grade spirit stones!

Unfortunately, none of those items were of any use to Shun Long who kept enjoying his wine calmly, while the wine's scent had already started to spread to some of the nearby private rooms by now, attracting the attention of the experts inside those rooms, who sent their soul sense to check Shun Long's room soon after.

Of course, since none of those experts could see through Shun Long's cultivation base and they were all enemies during the auction, none of them dared to approach him during this time.

A little more than an hour later, after more than 10 items had already been auctioned, a bright smile suddenly blossomed on Jia Guiying's face, as the beautiful yellow-robed young woman faced the crowd and said in a warm voice

"Dear guests, our next item is an exceptionally rare rank 7 medicinal herb that is very rarely seen even in most auctions, and it can even compare to some rank 8 medicinal herbs in terms of rarity. Our 'White tiger chamber of commerce' happened to obtain it by pure luck a few days ago, and we decided to auction it today!"

As she finished speaking, Jia Guiying personally went over to carry a small jade box on the main stage, revealing a seven-petaled flower inside the box that was emitting a bright light.

Staring at the flower in Jia Guiying's hands, Shun Long's eyes instantly lit up as he said with a smile

"A 'Golden light flower'!"