

Walker 1401

Chapter 1401: Falling Luxuries

The counter was empty and there were no customers standing there unlike the many other counters. This was the counter that sold spirit herbs and there seemed to be no one buying them.

'Guess with the massive number of immortals here, spirit herbs aren't as useful for them.' Lin Mu guessed.

~step~step~

Lin Mu came to stand in front of the counter, making the man rouse from his drowsy state.

"Ah! A customer!" the man stood up with surprise. "What do you want sir?" the man asked enthusiastically.

'Finally someone willing to buy. I thought I would never fulfill the quota.' The man thought.

"I need a catalog of all wood elemental spirit herbs that you might have." Lin Mu inquired.

Hearing this the man took a look at Lin Mu again, finding him to be an immortal too.

'Doesn't matter, its good as long as he buys.' The clerk thought and quickly took out a small plate.

~clink~

He tapped on it and several runes appeared in the air. The runes turned into a screen that showed several lists of items.

"Here are all the wood elemental spirit herbs we have, sir. If you buy in bulk, we also offer discount." The man stated.

Lin Mu looked through the wood spirit herbs and found them to be relatively cheap.

'Aren't these herbs considered really rare in the Xiaofan world? Here they are selling for the same price as mid level herbs.' Lin Mu saw another big difference between a mortal world and a peak level immortal world.

They were at different standards and even herbs as rare as these were not being sold.

'Still, all these will be pretty good for Little Shrubby.' Lin Mu decided his order.

"I'll take all of these." Lin Mu pointed out several of the high level herbs that were rare.

"All of them?" the clerk asked for confirmation.

"Yes, all of them." Lin Mu confirmed.

Upon hearing this the man beamed with a wide smile. 'This is enough for the coming four months of quota!'

"It'll get the ready right away sir, please wait here. I'll let someone to serve you some tea." The clerk almost sprinted away with joy, making Lin Mu raise a brow.

"That was a little weird..." Lin Mu said before sitting down.

A minute later a servant arrived to serve Lin Mu tea.

The scent of the tea was quite good and Lin Mu could sense the spirit qi emanating from it as well.

'Even the basic serving tea is of a high quality. Spirit tea like this would sell for quite a lot. This is the same as consuming an elixir.' Lin Mu was starting to see the luxuries of his past world falling to basics.

He continued to enjoy the tea while listening to the conversations of the people. There were easily over a hundred immortals in the shop right now and all of them were here to buy different things.

In all this though, Lin Mu picked on some interesting conversations.

"Did the Crown Prince of Dao Wind Empire really return?"

"Yeah, wasn't he cultivating in the Immortal court? Why did he return?"

"Who knows, but he's brought several people with him too. All of them seem to be people of high status as they are all eligible to practice in the Immortal court."

"That's nothing, I heard that they are going to the Tournament of the Four Guardian beasts later too."

"Will they be participating too? If they do then the winners are already decided."

"Mhmm, the crown prince is rumored to be at the Sixth Tribulation Stage of the Immortal realm."

Lin Mu was interested because of the mention of the tournament but didn't expect to hear such information.

'The crown prince of the Dao Wind Empire... it's the largest one on Rust Sky world and the Emperor is said to be the strongest expert too.' Lin Mu had seen information about him in the jade slip.

And another thing that made him curious was the fact that the crown prince had been practicing in the immortal court too. Lin Mu had been offered a position there by the Saintess, thus he knew that it was a big matter to have that.

"Also, have you heard about the Trash Prince?"

"What Trash Prince?"

"The supposed eleventh prince of the Holy Topaz Empire. He has apparently become domineering after a breakthrough. He broke through from the Immortal Ascension realm directly to the Second Tribulation stage of the immortal realm in one go.

Then he went and fought two Fourth Tribulation stage experts at the same time and won. I think it won't be long before we'll hear about another Immortal Court candidate." This part of the conversation was quite interesting to Lin Mu.

'A trash prince that would breakthrough suddenly? And that too from the Holy Topaz Empire...' Lin Mu took note.

He looked through the jade slip to learn more about the Holy Topaz Empire and soon found quite a bit.

'Hmm... the Holy Topaz Empire worships their ancestor and the ranking in the royal family is also based on their bloodline. Those who are able to awaken the Holy Topaz Bloodline are considered as the top level members.

The eleventh prince in question was unofficially called trash since his meridians were mutated and he accumulated a lot of pill toxins. Additionally

due to the mutated meridians, the royal family considers him to have an impure bloodline.' Lin Mu read all the present information.

He could see that the intelligence in the jade slip did not have the latest information about the Eleventh Prince.

"This must be a very recent thing then..." Lin Mu found it a little strange.

While he didn't know what kind of person the eleventh prince was, his domineering rise showed that he was now exacting revenge against those who had suppressed him before.

Lin Mu continued to listen to the conversations and about fifteen minutes passed like that. It was at this point that the clerk finally returned with a pouch.

Chapter 1402: A Mistaken Scheme

"Here you go, sir. This is all the herbs you have asked for. You can check yourself." The Clerk handed the small pouch to Lin Mu.

The clerk looked to be quite eager and Lin Mu found it to be strange even now.

'Is it just the normal procedure or is this man just too eager?' Lin Mu wondered.

Still, he took the small pouch from the man. And the moment he held it, he found it to be different.

'Mm? This is a strange way to make a spatial storage treasure...' Lin Mu sensed the spatial storage pouch to have a new type of a spatial array on it.

It seemed to be normal at first, but if one looked at the stabilization sub formation, they would realize that it was really weak. But at the same time, it had an obfuscating formation added to it. This was highly unusual for a spatial storage tool to have, and Lin Mu hadn't seen any.

'Why would they add an obfuscation formation and increase their own complexity? It would be a lot easier to just put a better stabilization array in here.' Lin Mu was confused.

Even if the storage tool was meant for fooling someone with inferior goods, they weren't doing it well enough. Usually one did this to save costs, but in this case it was increasing the cost.

'The runes also seem to be rather fresh... as if they were just inscribed.' Lin Mu looked deeper and found more peculiarities.

This alarmed him a bit and made him think that he might be getting scammed.

'The preservation formations... are they bad? Or is there an illusory formation added to make the herbs look better?' Lin Mu had several concerns popping up in his mind.

His expression changed too and he looked at the clerk with a straight face.

~Shiver~

At that moment, the clerk felt like he was facing a mountain as the aura of Lin Mu spiked in a unique way. It was only contained within a few meters of him, but it was enough to pressure the clerk.

The man was actually an Immortal Realm cultivator too, but only at the First Tribulation Stage of the immortal realm. One could tell from this just what kind of status an organization like this held to employ a first tribulation stage Immortal realm expert for the post of a basic clerk that had no work.

But even if Lin Mu was at the same stage as the man, the pressure he felt was on an entirely different level.

"S-sir... Please... Sir..." The man stuttered trying to ask Lin Mu to stop.

Internally, the man was also getting really confused.

'Why hasn't the security acted? No customer can act with hostility and not be stopped.' The Clerk thought at first, but then a few seconds later his eyes went wide.

'No... that only applies to guests at a certain level... DAMMIT! I knew something was wrong! He isn't just a first tribulation stage expert. He must be offended somehow.' The Clerk thought to himself.

Lin Mu continued to gaze at him with a silent look, only making the man feel more pressured. This lasted for just a minute, but it felt like an hour to the clerk.

And when it ended, he felt a great relief.

At the same time though, he heard Lin Mu speak.

"Why does this Spatial Storage Pouch have a passive collapsing function?" Lin Mu questioned in a firm voice.

"W-what?" The Clerk said in a baffled tone. 'Why would someone of his status ask that?' he wondered.

"The pouch, why is it made to collapse after a few days?" Lin Mu asked again.

"That!?" the Clerk felt like Lin Mu's question was absurd.

Even Lin Mu could sense it in the clerk's tone and knew that his question had made the man think again about him.

"Just... Tell me." Lin Mu stated again.

'Someone of his status should know it but I'll just have to cooperate anyways.' Fearing for his life, the Clerk decided to speak according to Lin Mu's wishes.

"M-My lord... the Spatial Storage pouches offered to our customers have the highest privacy protection functions. This is made to ensure that your goods cannot be stolen and others cannot take them for themselves after being obtained." The man answered.

"Mmm? So it's mean to keep away thieves?" Lin Mu asked.

"Y-yes... well for several reasons. I hope that the lord does not test me more and understands it all." The Clerk tried to plead.

After hearing this, Lin Mu truly calmed down. The feature that he had thought was meant to scam him was in fact a common feature for deals like this.

Since many immortals didn't like showing others what they obtained, they would make uses of pouches like these since they left no traces of what was contained in them originally.

This was also why Lin Mu couldn't fully sense it at the same time and needed to go through it layer by layer.

But in reality, the array that was present on the pouch was nothing malicious, it was just a common feature that many people liked. With there being mostly immortals buying stuff, the spatial storage tools weren't that precious to them.

Especially the ones that were given to customers like this. They were meant to be complimentary and they could very well make them proper spatial storage tools.

But as immortals, most would be concerned about this and would be hesitant in trusting tools that were given to them by other people. Because of this, a cautious practice of making self erasing spatial storage tools was developed.

This made it so that they had absolute privacy in buying things and at the same time, they could not get their goods stolen.

It was a common concern that people would rob the customers of resource pavilions, but the use of such spatial tools made it so that anyone else using them would make the tool collapse.

This would end up with them losing the items that were kept inside, thereby defeating the original goal.

Having heard of all this, Lin Mu felt a little embarrassed.

But he knew showing it on his face would be detrimental to his image, thus he simply kept a straight face.

He fully withdrew the pressure he had put on the clerk and let the man relax.

"T-thank you my lord." The Clerk quickly said while lowering this head.

The other people and customers hadn't noticed this since it was a rather ignored area, plus Lin Mu hadn't outwardly expressed his hostility either.

Normally, places like these had arrays that could sense hostility and high fluctuations of energies. But in Lin Mu's case none of them arise at all.

Even if it were another immortal standing and watching them, there would be no reaction. As the way Lin Mu exerted pressure was intrinsically different than others.

He was simply using his Dao Embryo to do it, thus there were no obvious signs.

It was the best way to pressure others while giving no clues to the foes. Plus after grasping it, Lin Mu wanted to use it more and more so that he could get proficient in it.

He knew that after he progressed more in it, he would be able to have a breakthrough in his own skill level and it would improve the skill's power too.

Even if he had gained the new Spatial Dao Embryo, the Four Faceted Embryo, there was no way he could forget nurturing the Earth Dao Embryo, True Earth Heart as well.

"My lord... forgive me if I've offended you in any way. But I assure you that I am not trying to trick you in any way. Our Resources pavilion would never do something like that and compromise our image.

If you wish to have a proper spatial storage tool, we'll be glad to provide you one for no extra charge." The clerk quickly offered.

At this point, the concept of 'Customer is always right' applied. And the Clerk wanted nothing more than to placate Lin Mu.

"Fine." Lin Mu said calmly.

"Yes sir!" the clerk immediately went to get the spatial storage tool.

Lin Mu truly didn't need one, but at this point it was more about keeping up appearances.

~sigh~

"I should have been more reserved." Lin Mu sighed to himself.

"It is fine, you were just being careful. Besides, with the demonstration you've shown the clerk, he won't question you either.

In fact, if you try to apologize after this, they will find it very suspicious. This is something you will simply need to experience and learn in an Immortal world." Xukong explained to Lin Mu.

He thought over this and found it to be reasonable. Thus not wanting to waste anymore time, he simply took the new spatial Storage tool he was gifted and left the pavilion.

~Phew~

"He's finally gone... I thought I was a goner too..." The Clerk thanked his fate.

Chapter 1403: A Shivering Gaze

After having obtained the spirit herbs, Lin Mu just took a stroll around the city. He listened to their conversations and learned more about the situation in the Huiqing empire.

There were a lot of things that were not mentioned in the comprehensive intelligence set he had bought after all. It was mostly the concrete information about the things that would not change for a long time.

For the most recent news though he would have to depend on the people to learn more.

And he did learn a lot too.

From mundane things such as which restaurant was having the best dishes, to which poet ranked the highest in the rankings and earned the pleasure of the nobles and to which genius performed the best in recent days.

It was safe to say, that the little walk Lin Mu did enlighten him about the current situation of the Huiqing continent. It even got him the news of some fortunate encounters that were opening up in the area nearby.

Lin Mu actually felt like it was worth taking a look, but didn't know which one to pick simply because there were so many of them around.

'Just a single fortunate encounter was incredibly rare in my original world and now there are several of them being talked about like they are just some common goods being sold on the street.' Lin Mu thought to himself.

With the number of people speaking, there was a lot of information being thrown around but to Lin Mu it was easy to sort through. He took note of them since he didn't know about what was being spoken about and was intending to look at it later.

But while walking, he was suddenly stopped by Xukong.

"Lin Mu, halt." Xukong spoke.

"Huh? Is there a problem senior?" Lin Mu questioned.

"Did you hear that person talk about the Spiral Flake Crystal" Xukong asked.

"Yes, is it something important?" Lin Mu was now alert and focused on a person.

"A Spiral Flake Crystal is something that will be quite useful to you in training your Spatial Dao. It is one of the rare materials that are of dual elements.

The Spiral Flake Crystal belongs to the Ice as well as Spatial element. Most people use it has a material for special preserving tools, but there are other uses for it as well.

You should get it." Xukong explained.

The moment Lin Mu heard that the material had to do with the Spatial Dao and would be of help to him, he was already convinced.

"I'll look into it right away." Lin Mu turned into an alley before using phase to sink into the ground.

He moved under the place where the person talking about the Spiral Flake Crystal was located which was a relatively small tavern. There were not many people in it, and it also looked old compared to most of the other buildings.

"When do you think the shipment will arrive?" A man dressed in a warrior's armor questioned. He held a large mug of liquor and had an Axe strapped to his side.

"I'm sure that it is already here. They are simply trying to make people more desperate so that the sale would be higher." Another person that looked like a merchant replied. He had satchel strapped to his side and had no weapons on him.

"Bah! Those damned smugglers. It's stolen good and they are still trying to peddle it at an inflated price? Do they not think the authorities will act?" the warrior looking man scoffed.

"As long as they grease the right palms they will be ignored." The merchant looking man replied.

~thud~

The warrior slammed his mug on the table before standing up. "Let's go,"

"Go where?" The merchant asked.

"To get the Spiral Flake Crystal of course. If we just take it from them, not like they can complain to others." The warrior replied with a smug smile.

Hearing this the merchant also smiled, "that'll be perfect. I also have the right customers for it." He too stood up.

The two men walked out of the tavern and made their way to a distant area in the city. Just by looking around, one could tell that this area wasn't a good one and the people here looked to be similar too.

The buildings looked shady and had covered windows, while there were some that didn't have windows at all. One could also see a few beggars lying around. But even these beggars were cultivators.

Then there were a few that wore collars on their necks. The collars had several fine runes carved on them and one could tell that these people were slaves.

But the surprising part was none of the slaves looked haggard or weak. In fact all of them were strong cultivators and were decked in immortal tools.

Lin Mu who was observing everything from the ground was finding it strange. 'Are they slave warriors? Bodyguards perhaps?' He thought.

These slaves were walking behind their owners and were stronger than them too. Lin Mu also realized that all the owners of the slaves were young cultivators and were dressed richly too.

As Lin Mu continued following the two men, he realized that the slaves and their owners were also going on the same path. They passed one building after the other, until they finally reached what looked like a large warehouse.

And at the top one could see a large name board that read, Black Candle Pavilion.

"Huh, so this is the Black Candle Pavilion? It's located in such an area?" Lin Mu actually recognized the name as it was part of the intelligence set he had obtained.

The Black Candle Pavilion was technically a legitimate business and had branches all over the Rust Sky world. This particular one seemed to belong to the city he was in.

But while it was legitimate on the surface, there were a lot of shady deals going on in the underbelly.

It was even rumored that the Black Candle Pavilion had several links with Unorthodox sects in other worlds.

One could even call the Black Candle Pavilion one of the top powers of the Rust Sky world when one considered its scope.

"Looks like I'll need to change my tactic here." Lin Mu parted from the two men and surfaced at a secluded location nearby.

He couldn't enter the pavilion without being detected as there were tons of arrays set up around it.

'It'll also be risky to act with all the immortals inside.' Lin Mu thought to himself. "Time to take out the mask again."

The mask was the same spirit tool that he had used in Xiaofan world, but he knew it wouldn't be that effective here. There were immortals with immortal sense, and if they wanted to peek at him, they could do so forcefully.

Though Lin Mu knew, they wouldn't do this unless a conflict arose. But keeping his face hidden would still provide him enough time to escape.

"Buying it outright is also an option, but that'll bring more attention to me." Lin Mu muttered to himself.

He made his way back to the pavilion and followed the other people who were entering it.

Thankfully there was no need to talk, or verify anything and thus he was granted entry quite quickly.

"This way to the auction hall," A worker guided them to the area.

The Black Candle Pavilion had several services and had an auction house within their pavilion as well.

Lin Mu looked around and saw that there were several other people wearing masks as well. A few even wore masks that were Immortal tools and could fully conceal their aura and cultivation base.

'If it was the Saintess, she would be able to do this without the need for any tool. The Dao of Air is quite versatile.' Lin Mu felt interested in it too.

"Ladies and Gentlemen, I welcome you all to our auction today!" A loud voice was heard pulling Lin Mu's attention.

He saw a fat man dressed in elaborate robes standing at the dais.

"I shall be your host today and will be introducing all our items for your pleasure." The fat man said with a wide smile on his face. "For our VIP guests, the booths are already prepared and the rest can simply find a seat in the hall." He gestured with his hands.

The people started moving according to their status and Lin Mu was going to find a seat in the general area as well.

But just as he was about to move in, he felt a gaze on his back. It made him shiver faintly, and he felt alert.

'Danger!' Lin Mu's muscles tensed up while his immortal sense spread around while avoiding the people.

He turned around quickly and was ready to escape at any moment.

"Where do you think you are going?!" A firm voice called him out. "You do not belong there."

Chapter 1404: Belong To The Indigo World Hegemony ?

Lin Mu's nerves were stretched taught and he wondered just how he had been caught.

'No wait... I haven't even done anything. There should be nothing that could be the cause for this. Even the entry was open for everyone.' Lin Mu started thinking rationally.

And when he did he calmed down. Under the mask, his face straightened and his eyes glimmered with confidence. He looked at the person who had called him out, finding him to be a middle aged man dressed in the same type of clothes as the rest of the Staff.

The only difference was that his chest had the motif of the Black Candle Pavilion and his cultivation base was also quite strong. Just from the pressure that Lin Mu had felt, he could tell the man was at least at the fifth or fourth Tribulation Stage of the Immortal realm.

He was part of the higher level staff of the Black Candle Pavilion as well.

"What's the issue?" Lin Mu said calmly.

"Why is someone of your status going to sit with the normal guests? The Indigo World Hegemony's private suite is here." The man pointed to a specific room. "You are the only guest from Indigo World Hegemony today, so you'll have the suite to yourself." He added.

The man's voice wasn't too low or too high, thus many people had looked over at that time.

"Someone from the Indigo World Hegemony's here too?"

"Damn, just what would they come here for?"

"I know right? They should have access to better stuff through their own connections."

"If someone like that is here, how will we even have a chance to win something. They'll just outbid everyone."

"Outbidding? Do you think others will bid once they see him bid? No one will want to offend the Indigo World hegemony like that."

Hearing this, Lin Mu had several questions pop up in his mind.

'Indigo World Hegemony? What? How am I a part of them?' Lin Mu couldn't figure it out.

"I don't know either." Xukong said as well.

Lin Mu thought over it for a few seconds before deciding to just ask the man. He had done nothing, so he just wanted to see what could give rise to such a misunderstanding.

Besides it seemed like this identity might be of help to him. He thus followed the man to the private suite and discovered that it actually had a formation screen that showed the scene of the auction inside.

'Good and private...' Lin Mu thought.

"If you want to bid you can just say it and the array will respond accordingly. You can also chose to get something directly at a buyout price if you so wish to do. The catalog of today's items is available through the screen as well." The man explained.

Lin Mu quickly understood it all and nodded his head.

"And if you need anything else, you can contact us with the plate on the seat. We have several 'services' available if you so desire." The man added. "Is there anything else you want to inquire?" He questioned at the end.

"Yes, I do." Lin Mu said in a plain voice. "How did you know I am from the Indigo World Hegemony?"

"There is no way I would not recognize the ring on your hand. If I didn't I would be not be deserving of my position as the auction manager. Half of my work is knowing who's who." The man revealed.

'The ring?' Lin Mu raised a brow knowing that the man was talking about the second ring he had on his hand.

It was the spatial storage ring he had obtained and had been repaired by Jing Wei in the past.

"You might have disguised and changed the ring, but I can still recognize it." The auction manager chuckled.

"I see... I just wished to be a bit... discreet." Lin Mu replied.

"You do not need to worry much here. We shall not allow anything to happen to someone of the Indigo World Hegemony under our roof." The auction manager stated.

"That's good then." Lin Mu was pleasantly surprised. 'Looks like this Indigo World Hegemony is some really big power if the Black Candle Pavilion is being respectful like this.' He reckoned.

Lin Mu watched the man leave before sitting down. It was at this point that Xukong spoke again.

"You do know what this means right?" Xukong questioned.

"Yes... the ring belonged to the man who brought the Invader to Xiaofan world. That... Merchant. Now we know which power he belongs to." Lin Mu's face darkened.

He had not forgotten the tragedy that was caused by the Invader. And while he had taken revenge on Gu Yao and the Northern Tribes, it would still not bring back his parents or all those that had suffered.

It also made him a bit more careful about the Indigo World Hegemony.

'If they can sneak in someone like that into the Xiaofan world and send the Shadow Gloom Bone lord as well, then who knows what else they can do.' Lin Mu thought. 'Not to mention, they also had the Great Slumber Bear with them.'

Just the fact that they could capture and bring around a Great Slumber Bear with them meant that their power was quite great. After all, while the bear that Lin Mu killed was a weakened juvenile its mother would still be around.

A fully grown adult Great Slumber Bear was a beast that could even exceed the immortal realm. If someone could snatch a cub from it, that would mean they either killed it or managed to trick it somehow.

But this also made Lin Mu confused as to how a mere Nascent soul realm cultivator had a strong beast like the Great Slumber bear in his grasp.

'It's a shame that I only saw his skeleton. If he had an entire body left, I might have been able to glance at some clues.' Lin Mu thought to himself before tapping the plate on the armrest.

Chapter 1405: Spiral Flake Crystal And Auction Catalog

~shua~

The formation screen lit up at Lin Mu's command and the scene of the auction appeared.

It had not started yet as more guests were still taking seats.

'May as well check the catalog for now.' Lin Mu scrolled through the options and saw one for the item catalog.

"That's a lot of things..." Lin Mu could easily see over two hundred items on the screen.

He picked one of them and it changed to show the details. On one side there was a picture and on the otherwise there was its description. The pricing was also shown at the bottom with there being 2 such prices.

The first was the starting bid price and the second was the buyout price.

"The buyout price is certainly quite high..." Lin Mu saw the difference between the starting bid and buyout price, finding it to be at least 20-30 times higher.

This also varied from item to item, with unique items having a higher buyout price.

"The pills and other such abundant materials have the lowest buyout price, but even then it's ten times the first bid." Lin Mu muttered to himself.

Having understood this, Lin Mu decided to check on the price of the Spiral Flake Crystal.

"Here it is... starting bid is four high grade immortal stones and the buyout price is... 5000?!" Lin Mu exclaimed.

That was the highest buyout price that he had seen so far. And looking at the position of the Spiral Flake Crystal, Lin Mu realized that this might be the final item for the sale.

"It is the prime attraction for today and for a good reason too. The Spiral Flake Crystal is rare even in the Immortal realm." Xukong spoke.

"Mhmm..." Lin Mu nodded his head as he read the information about it on the side.

The Spiral Flake Crystals were formed in icy asteroids that were wandering out in the space. They would only form when such an asteroid passed through a spatial crack by some miracle and survived.

Even then, it would need to absorb a lot of spatial energy to turn into a true Spiral Flake Crystal. Its main use was to make Spatial storage tools that would be used to preserve very rare herbs and fruits.

It could keep them fresh for quite literally thousands of years and was needed for some sensitive herbs as well.

"Looks like I'll have to pay quite a bit for this... or just take it from the person who buys it." Lin Mu wondered how he should go about it.

With the value of the item, he knew that the other buyers would be really guarded too. This made him confused as to how the other two men were going to steal it.

'They weren't that strong either, just the second tribulation stage of the Immortal realm.' Lin Mu remembered.

He didn't know if they were overconfident or were just bluffing. Regardless, Lin Mu knew he was not that different from them in terms of strength.

"Wonder if there is anything for body cultivation." Lin Mu scrolled but didn't find anything that could help him at his level. 'All these are body cultivation items that will only help below the Immortal realm.

"Body cultivation isn't mainstream now after all. It isn't unusual for the higher ranked items to not be present." Xukong chimed in.

"That's true." With the difficulty that body cultivation had, there were few people that would follow it. And even if they did, they wouldn't follow both body and qi cultivation at the same time.

It would be too expensive and also time consuming.

With the items that Lanbao and Elder Niji had provided him, Lin Mu didn't actually lack general cultivation resources. What he lacked were specific ones needed for his techniques.

He continued to look through the catalog and saw some interesting items. There were some cultivation techniques that were apparently found in some old tomb as well as ones that were obtained from a fallen sect.

There were immortal weapons and immortal tools for sale as well. Lin Mu didn't need any weapons as of now, but he did find an item that would come in handy for him.

"That mask is perfect replacement for my current one." Lin Mu saw an Immortal tool that was in the form of a mask.

Its price was also relatively low and he shouldn't have a hard time buying it.

As he continued to scroll, Lin Mu realized that the majority of items were things that could be sold in bulk or manufactured in bulk too.

"Fifty percent of the items are alchemical pills and twenty percent are... formations?" Lin Mu was surprised by the last part.

The formations in this case weren't instructions but rather pre-made formations that could be deployed quickly. They were either in the form of a talisman, a formation plate or a formation flag.

For example, there was a formation called as the Diamond Mountain Talisman that was used as a defense. There were three version of it available for sale, the Minor Diamond Mountain Talisman, the lesser Diamond Mountain Talisman and the great Diamond Mountain talisman.

The Minor Diamond Mountain Talisman could defend against a Dao Shell realm cultivator and there were literally a stack of a hundred available for about a single low grade immortal stone.

The lesser version could defend against the attack of an Immortal Ascension realm cultivator and cost about 10 Low Grade immortal stones for 100 talismans.

Then there was the great version of the talisman which was worth about 10 low grade immortal stones. But it was only for a single talisman and could defend against a False Immortal.

While they seemed a bit weak for Lin Mu's level, one must not forget that these were still being sold at a high markup. After all, the materials needed for the talisman were nothing but just a normal formation stone.

What made it valuable was the complexity of it. Thus as long as one had the skill, they could make hundreds of them at once.

Chapter 1406: The Auction Starts And A Familiar Person

Lin Mu didn't know who had made the talismans, but he could see that they were all made by the same person as all of them had the same signatures on them.

This proved to the people that the talisman was made by a qualified formation master and would not be unstable.

'Considering they sell for such a high cost, perhaps I should look into them too. If they need less resources I might start making them too.' Lin Mu thought.

Even if he did have a lot of fortune in the ring, he also knew that it was best to have a continuous source of income. And formations might just be a good opportunity.

Not only would he make money selling them, he would also be improving his own skill too. It was killing two birds with one stone and was the perfect option for him right now.

The only question was that he would need to obtain a few such lucrative formations.

'It would be best if I find some that need no specific resource...' Lin Mu thought to himself.

And when he thought of this, he recalled something else.

"Wait a second, didn't the manager say that they have more services and items for sale other than the auction?" Lin Mu changed to a different section on the formation screen and saw a separate catalog.

This catalog was divided into multiple sections as well, with there being pills, formation, cultivation techniques and weapons being sold just like a normal shop.

The only difference was that this section had items that were regularly available and didn't need an auction to be sold. And among all these, Lin Mu found the exact thing he was looking for.

"There it is... The Formation manual for the Diamond Mountain Talisman." Lin Mu discovered.

It included all forms of the Diamond Mountain talisman, right from the minor grade all the way to the greater grade one's that could even stop the attack of a Third Tribulation Stage Immortal expert.

"Hmm, the cost isn't actually that high..." Lin Mu read it to be just 200 mid grade immortal stones.

While this might look high, one must not forget that this was a comprehensive set of manuals and was given entirely at once.

'I'll mark this, and take it before leaving.' Lin Mu decided.

At the very least, he'll have a good formation to practice with.

~DENG~

And just as he was looking at more formations he heard a gong being rung.

"Ladies and Gentlemen! We shall now commence our auction." The host of the auction announced.

Lin Mu looked at the screen which had automatically switched to showing the scene of the auction.

On it the fat host was talking out loud, his voice being amplified with his qi. The people sitting in the hall had a mixture of emotions, with some being excited, some depressed and some that were just disinterested.

"For the first item, we shall start with one of our classics." The Host spoke before gesturing to a cart that was brought to the front.

The cloth was lifted from the cart and a root could be seen placed on a platter. The root was knotty and was about ten centimeters long. There were fine hair like smaller roots growing from it as well.

It emanated a bitter feeling and a similarly bitter smell could be felt coming from it.

"Bitter Burrow Root!" The people in the hall recognized immediately.

"Not just that, look at the knots on it! They are at least two centimeters wide, too!"

"The length is also decently long."

The people in the hall were quickly to analyze the features of the Bitter Burrow Root.

"Since all of you already know about it, I'll just give a short introduction to the rest. This is a ten centimeter long Bitter Burrow Root. It is an immortal herb that is very well known for its detoxification properties and is sought but cannot be found.

For our latest offering, this Bitter Burrow Root was especially imported from the Dao Wind Empire!" The Host explained.

The more the people heard the more they got excited. One could tell that this was an item that would have no issues selling and was always in demand.

"Hmm... Bitter Burrow Root is something that can neutralize a multitude of poisons and when refined into an alchemical pill with other herbs, it can even remove pill toxins.

It certainly is something that most people would like to have in their ownership even if they didn't need it." Lin Mu muttered to himself.

But admits this excitement, there were still a few people that were a little on the negative side.

"How can we be sure that this is authentic Bitter Burrow Root?" Someone sitting in the front questioned.

"Yeah, who know's if someone has adulterated it to grow its size. Everyone knows that any Bitter burrow Root bigger than eight centimeter is a miraculous finding.

Even if it came from the Dao Wind Continent, I cannot help but doubt its authenticity." Another person that seemed to be dressed in the robes of an alchemist stated.

Lin Mu wondered if it was a bad move to antagonize the auction house like this, but much to his surprise the Host didn't seem to be offended at all. Instead, he had a smile on his face.

"Don't worry respected customers, I can assure you that this is an authentic Bitter Burrow Root. And as for the verification, I have the person who had brought this here for sale.

You might chose not to trust us, but you cannot do the same for this person." The Host replied with confidence.

"And who is this person?" the people in the hall questioned.

"For proving the authenticity of the Bitter Burrow Root we have the Young Miss of the Cong clan herself!" The host answers before extending his hand towards a certain direction at the side of the room.

~Shua~

A large drapery was originally covering the side but it was soon lifted. And from it walked out a noblewoman dressed elegantly. She had confidence on her face and yet her body seemed to be saying otherwise.

The more experienced cultivators in the hall could look through her facade right away, but did not oust her. For they knew someone like her was way above their status.

As for Lin Mu, he was also surprised. But for a different reason.

It being the fact that he had actually come along with this woman in the ship. She was the same noblewoman who had a lot of guards as well as three servant girls that were accompanying her.

"What's she doing here?" Lin Mu raised a brow.

He had thought that she should be under great protection and was traveling to some other place. But not it seemed like her destination was this.

'She doesn't have any of her people with her though... strange.' Lin Mu thought.

From the way they had acted before, he was sure that she would be a flower in a greenhouse. But now seeing her in a place like this, made Lin Mu's view of her change.

The young woman of the Cong clan stepped forward before cupping her hands high above her head.

"Everyone, I thank you all for attending this auction today." The woman said while taking a look around.

Her appearance was certainly beautiful and brought her quite a lot of attention. Most of the men sitting in the hall couldn't look away and were quite likely to be attracted to her.

"I swear upon the name of the Cong clan that this Bitter Burrow Root is truly authentic. If it is not, may by clan perish in the flames of retribution!" The Young woman stated with great confidence.

~HUM~

And the moment she did this, everyone could feel a large presence descending on the area.

'She took a Heavenly Oath? She definitely has guts to do it like this.' Lin Mu thought to himself.

And oath that was taken on behalf of one's clan was even more severe as breaking it would mean that they would harm not just themselves but also the clan.

Of course, there were several restrictions on this such as the fact that the person would need the authority of running a clan in the first place. And from the Young woman's voice, Lin Mu was sure that she was not at that point.

"She hasn't even reached the minimum cultivation base to reach that level." Lin Mu understood.

But at the same time, he was surprised by the fact that her clan had given her an authority like this even if it might be temporary.

"If it is the Cong clan, then how can we not believe it?" the people quickly flipped their opinions.

"Since everyone has come to an agreement, let's start the bidding then.

For the first item, we start at a humble cost of... 500 Mid Grade Immortal stones!" The Host announced loudly.