

The Immortal's Wine Store

#Chapter 171 - Theias Tears - Read The Immortal's Wine Store Chapter 171 - Theias Tears

Chapter 171 - Theia's Tears

"But there is an Origin God Realm expert in the Lion Clan! I know you're strong, but you just reached the Nascent God Realm! I won't allow you to go there, stinky human!" Ice stood up on Jiu Shen's lap and held his face with her chubby hands as she said those words.

Although she was always ridiculed by Jiu Shen and was even often bullied by him, she could still feel his care for her. She had already treated Jiu Shen as her family, so she didn't want to put him in danger.

Jiu Shen grabbed the lolita's chubby arms as he let her sit on his lap with a smile. "Do you look down on my strength? Listen closely little tiger, even if the whole of Nuar fights against me, they would only be buried beneath my feet. Don't worry. Just trust me, okay? Wait until the matter in the Silver Wing Empire is settled, then we will go to visit the Divine Beast Continent." His voice was filled with confidence as if no one in the whole world could stop him.

Actually, Jiu Shen didn't really treat the beings of Nuar in high regard. If he had his full strength, he could even destroy the whole planet with a mere flick of his finger. And even with his current strength, he was still confident that he could defeat anyone in Nuar...

Strangely, Xia Xinyue and Ice felt that he wasn't boasting, but they were still worried since the other party had an Origin God Realm expert among them.

"But..."

Jiu Shen placed his index finger on the little girl's lips and shook his head with a smile. "No buts. Just listen to me, okay?"

The lolita's eyes became misty again when she heard Jiu Shen's words, but she held her tears from streaming out as she hugged Jiu Shen tightly.

Xia Xinyue smiled when she saw the two hugging each other like a family. Unknowingly, she had already stretched her arms to join the two of them.

Inside the room, three people hugging each other can be seen, and they looked like a family, enjoying each other's warmth.

* * *

More than a month later.

Many things happened in the past month in Beltran City. The whole Ice Cloud Sword Sect relocated their ice castle near Jiu Shen's wine store. This sudden movement from them stunned the civilians and nobles living in the capital city, but seeing that there was no movement from the imperial family, the people had eventually forgotten about this.

The area around Jiu Shen's wine store had also been emptied, and no one else was living within aside from Jiu Shen's subordinates. With this, he started the construction of his sect's main building with the help of the emperor's servants, but he has yet to come up with a suitable name for his sect. However, Jiu Shen wasn't in a hurry about this so he just continued to do his usual tasks.

Jiu Shen had also started training his subordinates with the way of the sword, and he even allowed the one hundred young slaves to join them every time he started his lessons. After his teachings, everyone gained significant insights that enhanced their strengths substantially. Even the one hundred young men had already started their cultivation journey under the guidance of Jiu Shen.

Under the respectful glances of countless eyes, Jiu Shen casually showed a sword technique that made everyone cheer in excitement.

A burning dragon phantom manifested out of thin air and it released an earth-shaking roar as it rose to the skies with an overwhelming power that almost suffocated everyone present.

Roarrrr!!

After the burning dragon phantom reached a hundred meters above the sky, its figure slowly turned into countless motes of crimson light that covered the heavens with a rosy color.

Looking above, everyone gasped in admiration and worship. Even those ice goddesses in the Ice Cloud Sword Sect revealed looks of fascination as they glanced at the motes of crimson light that was slowly vanishing.

"The power I used in that sword technique is equivalent to a 7th-rank Emperor realm cultivator. However, because of my strong sword comprehension, my attack's overall power was multiplied by several times, making it even more powerful. If you train according to my teachings, you will eventually be able to do what I did earlier, so every one of you has to work hard." Jiu Shen said as he stared at those worshipping expressions with a calm look.

"That was only the power of a 7th-rank Emperor realm?! It looked like an attack from a 9th-rank Saint! Amazing!"

"Of course! Who do you think the Lord Sect Master is?"

Jiu Shen's lips curved upwards as he said. "That's it for today. Everyone can now return to practice on their own."

Everyone stood up and bowed at Jiu Shen respectfully before they dispersed. They were eager to return and start practicing after seeing Jiu Shen's astonishing performance. They long for the day when they were already capable of unleashing even half of what Jiu Shen had shown them.

Just then, Jiu Shen discovered a lone silhouette who appeared to be absent-minded. Jiu Shen was surprised to see that it was actually Theia.

"Theia, is there anything wrong?" Jiu Shen asked with a hint of concern.

Theia was still in a daze and she appeared to have not heard of Jiu Shen. In her mind, she could recall a hazy figure of a man discussing the art of the sword. He looked familiar and unfamiliar at the same time, and every time he recalled him, she would always feel her heart throbbing with emotions. "Who are you? Just who are you? Why do I always see your figure even in my dreams? Who are you?"

Her voice sounded hoarse as tears unconsciously streamed down her cheeks.

This scene stunned Jiu Shen, but then he suddenly thought of a possibility. "Could it be that Theia also remembered her past? It must have been a lonely past if it could even make the strong-willed Theia cry like this..." He muttered. He was similarly a transmigrator like them, but he could fully remember his past life.

Jiu Shen sighed and gave Theia her private space. He knew that she would be embarrassed if anyone would see her current appearance, so he chose to leave her alone.

Chapter 172 - Long Meili's Tribulation Lightning

Among Jiu Shen's subordinates, the coldest and most unapproachable was certainly Theia. He had never seen that kind of look from her ever since she was summoned by the system to serve him, so he felt a bit worried. He wondered just what kind of painful experience had she gone through in her past life for such a tough woman like her to cry just like that.

"System, could you tell me anything about Theia's past life?" Jiu Shen muttered as he blocked the one hundred meter radius around Theia. He didn't want anyone else to see Theia in that state, so he could only do this for her.

The system remained silent and didn't answer Jiu Shen's question, but a moment later, the system's voice echoed inside Jiu Shen's head. Strangely though, there was a tinge of imperceivable emotion in its mechanical voice.

"Host, everyone's life is predetermined by fate. If you're destined to meet someone, then even death can't stop it..."

Jiu Shen didn't understand why the system had spoken such words, and even with his lifetime of knowledge and comprehension, he could still not fathom the meaning behind those words. However, he could feel that if his heart realm was at the fourth level, he might be able to somehow understand the system's words, but as of the moment, Jiu Shen was incapable of doing this.

That was how important the heart realm was to a cultivator. The higher the attainment in one's heart realm, the easier it is for someone to understand the complexity and intricacies of the universe. Aside from that, a cultivator with high attainment in the heart realm will experience fewer bottlenecks in cultivation, making their progress much faster than most.

With a blank look, Jiu Shen suddenly thought about the dragon girl that he had tamed some time ago. It has been a while since he had given her some healing pills and cultivation resources. She should be about to break through to the Nascent God Realm once again. Aside from that, it was also time for him to refine the World Heart of the Spirit World and become its Deity.

Thinking about that, Jiu Shen immediately communicated with the system. "System, open the Spirit World for me."

Om!

A two-meter tall door suddenly appeared out of nowhere.

Jiu Shen stared at the door with a calm look as he tried so hard to ignore the fact that it was made from a Celestial Tree.

Jiu Shen pushed the door open and immediately went to the island where he had left the dragon girl.

With his current strength, he now had a much better control in manipulating the element of space, so he arrived on the island in just less than ten minutes.

"I can sense the little lizard, Long Meili. Oh! It seems like she's trying to summon her tribulation lightning. Looks like she's already been trying to break through to the Nascent God Realm for several days. With her current progress, it's only a matter of time before her tribulation lightning will descend. Not bad!" Jiu Shen muttered as he teleported near Long Meili's direction.

He saw the huge dragon on top of a mountain with countless toppled trees around her. There were also huge cracks and shattered boulders on the surface of the mountain. Jiu Shen didn't know why Long Meili had caused such massive damage to the mountain, but he guessed that the dragon girl might have been feeling anxious at her incoming tribulation lightning...

Roarrrrr!!

Long Meili issued an earth-shaking roar that shook the entire mountain, causing countless huge boulders and stones to break into pieces. Jiu Shen could also sense that her tribulation lightning was about to descend.

"System, if I face my next tribulation lightning here in the Spirit World, could I use my ability as the Deity of the Spirit World to weaken my tribulation lightning?" Jiu Shen suddenly asked. The system told him some time ago that if he could refine the Spirit World's World Heart, then he would become the Deity of the Spirit World. So he thought that if he could use the ability of a Deity, then even if he faced the God Exterminating Divine Eye once again, wouldn't his next tribulation lightning be as easy as eating rice?

- Ding!

- Host, the tribulation lightning is something that is governed by a different set of rules. It is something that maintains the balance of the multiverse... If you decide to break through in this Spirit World as its Deity, your tribulation lightning will be much fiercer and deadlier. Host, I suggest facing the tribulation lightning outside of the Spirit World for your next breakthrough.

The system's words was like a bucket of cold water which instantly made Jiu Shen erase his previous thoughts of breaking through inside this Spirit World.

"Well, it looks like I can't cheat my way up." Jiu Shen muttered in a self-mocking tone. He then focused his attention on the huge dragon that emitted thunderous roars from time to time.

Suddenly, the sky above the Spirit World parted and a cluster of purple clouds appeared, bringing along with it several dozens of pale purple thunderbolts. Although it was a lot weaker compared to the crimson thunderbolts that struck Jiu Shen in his tribulation lightning, the streaks of purple lightning above were by no means weak. After all, Long Meili was still a dragon descendant, so her tribulation lightning was still stronger than the normal tribulation lightning of an average cultivator.

Zapp!

A bolt of purple lightning suddenly came down, painting the sky with a purplish hue.

Long Meili let out an enraged roar as she faced the incoming lightning with rage.

Roaaarr!!

This was the tribulation lightning that made her fail many times in transcending the boundaries of mortality. How could she not be enraged with it?

A dragon descendant that failed her tribulation for a number of times, if this was known by the god beasts in the Primordial God Realm, then she would surely become a laughingstock.

This time, she consumed the Earth Origin Dragon Fruit which made her more confident. Not to mention that she also had the Supreme Dragon Heavenly Canon that her mysterious master gave her.

Raising her dragon head, Long Meili glared at the purple clouds above while emitting fumes of grey smoke from her nose.

Baaangg!

The purple lightning struck her body, but Long Meili didn't flinch as she continued to glare at the sky as if she couldn't wait to spit a breath of flames towards it.

The ground beneath Long Meili shattered from the devastating power produced by the bolt of purple lightning, and the toppled trees near her turned into ashes.

Roarr!!!

Long Meili issued a taunting draconic cry as if she was unsatisfied by the power of the purple streak of lightning.

Looking at this scene, Jiu Shen smiled unknowingly. He didn't think that this dragon that submitted to him actually have such guts to taunt her tribulation lightning. "To think that this little lizard is actually as crazy as me. Interesting."

Multiple bolts of purple lightning streak towards Long Meili as if they wanted to burn her body into ashes.

Hmph!

Facing this, Long Meili snorted as she spat a scorching ball of fire that was almost as big as the mountain that she was stepping on.

Roarr!!!

Her attack managed to destroy those bolts of lightning!

Long Meili whipped her tail in excitement when she saw how strong her attack had become. This was the effect of eating the Earth Origin Dragon Fruit that was given to her by her master! It enhanced her draconic abilities by quite a margin!

Zaapp! Zaapp! Zaapp!!

This time, dozens of purple lightning bolts came down from the sky as it wanted to cleave the heavens apart.

Long Meili's beastly eyes flashed with a trace of seriousness and she immediately spurted another breath of scorching ball of flames. However, it only managed to block less than ten bolts of lightning, while the rest continued to streak towards Long Meili's body.

Baaaanngg!!!

Baaaanngg!!!

The mountain she was stepping on was split apart and the ground beneath her turned black like charcoal.

Long Meili's huge body trembled as more than several dozens of lightning bolts struck her body with devastating might!

Baaaannggg!!

Baaaanng!!!

She then spat several mouthfuls of blood as she used her true essence to shield her internal organs, but because of the sheer strength from the lightning bolts, she still sustained substantial amounts of internal injuries which made her body feel light and numb.

Her knees almost caved in, but as prideful as she was, Long Meili forced herself to remain standing as she cried out.

Roaaarrrr!!!

She spurted another mouthful of blood as the bolts of purple lightning continued to smite her body. Quite a number of long and deeps gushes covered her huge body, drenching Long Meili with her own blood.

Her knees trembled and her body swayed as she felt that she was almost losing her consciousness.

Just then, she muttered the mantra of the Supreme Dragon Heavenly Canon which immediately stirred her draconic bloodline.

A strong and overpowering aura of a dragon descendant surged out as Long Meili's hidden potential was being utilized.

The pain she was feeling suddenly vanished and all she could feel was the warm current passing through her body and then down to her dantian, strengthening her cultivation on the process.

Even after the last bolt of purple lightning pounded her body like a sledgehammer, she appeared to be unaffected as she focused her senses on the changes happening inside her dantian.

A bright ray of light suddenly covered her body, but Jiu Shen could still see what was happening to Long Meili with the help of his enhanced vision. His pair of golden eyes stared at the transformation happening to Long Meili.

"This little lizard didn't let me down..."

Chapter 173 - Innocent Long Meili

Long Meili's huge dragon body slowly morphed as she transformed into her human form. This transformation was a sign that she was already at the Nascent God Realm! It must be noted that only savage beasts at the Nascent God Realm were capable of transforming into their human forms.

A valiant beauty with long purple hair gracefully stood atop the broken mountain. She wasn't wearing any clothes, so her ample jade bosom, slim waist, and that sparsely forested maiden cave were in full display. She gave off a heroic and seductive aura that was very tempting to any man. There was also a short dagger-like horn on top of her forehead which added a distinct charm to her beauty.

Long Meili thought that no creature would dare stay near the mountain since the strength of her tribulation lightning was destructive, but she didn't think that there was actually a pair of golden eyes secretly looking at her unblinkingly.

Long Meili's eyes were still shut tight as she observed the changes in her body. She then clenched her fists and stretched her muscles which produced a series of popping sounds.

"I've finally broken through to the Nascent God Realm after so many years..." Long Meili's enchanting voice echoed on the mountaintop as she felt slightly emotional in her heart when she recalled everything she had gone through just to achieve her breakthrough. She knew that her breakthrough was made possible by her mysterious master, and she could not help but recall his expressionless image.

"Master... Long Meili's life is yours from now on..." Long Meili opened her eyes, showing a beautiful pair of purple irises that look like miniature universes!

Dragons are proud god beasts with limitless arrogance and overpowering might. Because of their overwhelming strength, they were dreaded by everyone in the Primordial God Realm, and even the three Celestial Emperors didn't dare anger them too much. However, if you manage to gain their loyalty, they will never betray you even if it means their death. They might be prideful creatures, but they were also loyal down to their bones!

Suddenly, Long Meili's peaceful expression turned solemn as she stared in a certain direction. "Who are you?! Roll out for this Immortal Dragon!"

Long Meili's voice was filled with rage. There was actually someone that dared to come close to her during her tribulation lightning! Luckily, the other party didn't sneak attack her, or she might have perished. Thinking about that, Long Meili felt her heart turning cold. She didn't know what kind of place her master had brought her to, so she was somewhat cautious.

Jiu Shen chuckled in his heart as he walked towards Long Meili with a smile on his face.

Looking at the man who had come out, Long Meili's wrathful expression turned into surprise before it turned into joy. Her full lips curved upwards as she expressed her heartfelt happiness when she saw this man.

"Master!" Her eyes lit up as she exclaimed eagerly. She then sprinted towards Jiu Shen, causing her jade rabbits to jump up and down. Her hips also swayed with natural seductiveness as she ran towards Jiu Shen.

Looking at this naked woman who was coming nearer to him, Jiu Shen could not help but smile wryly. 'This little lizard... How can she run around like this? Even that little tiger was much more civilized than her...'

Long Meili stopped in front of Jiu Shen and she immediately bowed her head respectfully at him. "Long Meili greets master."

Cough. Cough.

Jiu Shen cleared his throat before he spoke in a serious tone. "Little lizard, don't you have any clothes with you? Don't run around like this in front of anybody, okay?"

Long Meili raised her eyebrows in confusion. She couldn't understand what her master was talking about.

Since Long Meili only had an impure dragon bloodline, she wasn't truly a noble dragon descendant, and she could only be considered as someone with a bit of dragon bloodline. After living an isolated life in the Endless Forest, she didn't know the customs of humanity and how they should act. Even in her bloodline inheritance, such things were not mentioned. That was why she was perplexed at Jiu Shen's words.

Looking at her confused look, Jiu Shen suddenly thought that he was facing an innocent little lady. He sighed as he grabbed an embroidered white robe meant for women. This time, Jiu Shen was already prepared for this kind of event especially after what had happened when Lu Sulan awakened her supreme physique. At that time, he had to face the dubious look of his junior disciple Can Ye, so he had already prepared several clothes for women just in case a similar event happens.

He then handed it to Long Meili as he said in a serious tone. "Little lizard, your body is precious and you shouldn't allow anyone else to see it."

Long Meili glanced at the white robes in Jiu Shen's hands before she looked at her naked body. Although she had no concept about humanity's customs, she wasn't a stupid dragon. With a brilliant smile on her face, she said to Jiu Shen. "Don't worry, master. Other than you, no one else is allowed to see my body. Everything I own is only yours..."

Looking at this pure young lady with a dragon horn, Jiu Shen could almost not believe that this was the same dragon that threatened to dismantle Beltran City. He could not even sense a hint of overbearingness in her, and he could only see an innocent and enchanting dragon lady with a brilliant smile.

Jiu Shen smiled as he stroked her purple hair. "I'll teach you how to put this on. Now be good and don't move around as I help you wear this, okay?"

Long Meili nodded her head with a sweet smile.

Jiu Shen was still a bit unaccustomed to this sudden change in her personality. After all, she was a feisty and arrogant dragon during their first encounter, so Jiu Shen felt as if this young dragon lady in front of him was someone different. There was no semblance of an aggressive dragon in her at all!

Although Long Meili was innocent regarding the traditions of humans and how their two opposite gender perceived each other, she still felt nervous and shy at this intimate contact with Jiu Shen. It was as if something within her changed after she transformed into her human form.

As Jiu Shen was helping her wear her clothes, he 'accidentally' touched her inappropriate places, but his expression remained the same. Of course, he was sweating nervously in his heart, but luckily, his heart realm continuously maintained his calmness...

Only a eunuch would not have any reaction in this kind of situation. Even though he had met countless immortal goddesses in his past life, it has been many millions of years since he had such intimate contact with one. Of course, that was excluding what had happened to him and Xia Xinyue in Green Wood City.

"Little lizard, you didn't disappoint me. You're now a Nascent God Realm dragon, and with the help of the Supreme Dragon Heavenly Canon, it won't be long before your bloodline would become much thicker and nobler. By then, you can be considered as a true dragon descendant." Jiu Shen gently patted her head after helping her wear her clothes.

"I won't be able to break through without the master's help. I don't dare take all the credit." Long Meili bowed her head humbly as she spoke.

Jiu Shen smiled at her words.

Chapter 174 - World Heart

"Little Lizard, consolidate your strength here first. Your master still has something to do somewhere, so just wait for me here." Jiu Shen stroked the back of Long Meili's head gently as he looked at her with a smile.

Last time, Jiu Shen could still not refine the World Heart because of his lacking strength, but he now had the qualifications to refine with his Nascent God Realm cultivation.

Long Meili nodded her head at her master. Although she wanted to talk with him some more, she knew that she still had to consolidate her strength in order to eliminate any negative effects brought upon by her breakthrough. If not, her foundation might become shaky which would severely impact her future cultivation. She didn't want that to happen, so she instantly followed Jiu Shen's orders with obeisance.

"Master, I'll wait for your return." Long Meili bowed her head.

Jiu Shen smiled at her before he flew through the skies, leaving behind countless afterimages in the air.

Long Meili glanced at Jiu Shen's disappearing figure for quite a while before she sat cross-legged on the ground.

"I have to quickly consolidate my strength and await for my master's return..." She muttered as she closed her eyes to begin her meditation.

"System, where can I find the World Heart of this Spiritual World?" Jiu Shen asked as he stopped his flight. He hovered in the air while waiting for the system's reply.

- Ding!

- Host, the World Heart is located at the deepest part of the ocean beneath you.

"Beneath me?" Jiu Shen was a bit surprised, but he still glanced at the deep blue ocean beneath him.

The sea waves here were quite large since the ocean wind was particularly fierce and strong.

"In that case, I just have to dive down and search for it..." Jiu Shen said as he dived down to the sea without hesitation.

Splash!

With his current level of cultivation, it was not a problem for him to breathe underwater.

"I didn't think that it would be harm here..." He muttered as he swam downward like a torpedo. He saw a fair bit of aquatic savage beasts and some of them were even powerful. However, they

were still nothing in Jiu Shen's eyes since he could casually kill them with a mere flick of his fingers.

As Jiu Shen was swimming deeper into the ocean, he felt that the temperature was getting warmer and warmer, and it was also getting darker. Luckily, he was still able to see clearly because of his enhanced vision and also with the help of his spiritual perception

The number of oceanic savage beasts were also becoming fewer, but their strength was definitely a lot stronger compared to those in the shallower parts of the ocean. However, these savage beasts still didn't dare approach Jiu Shen. They could feel that this human had an unfathomable power that they dreaded him so much after seeing him.

Jiu Shen ignored these savage beasts since he was not here for them, but he had to admit that he was a bit tempted to catch a few to cook for himself. "After refining the World Heart, I'll capture some of you. By then, I hope that you could just obediently stretch your necks for me." Jiu Shen chuckled in his heart as he increased his speed.

The savage beasts felt alarmed when they saw the peculiar look in Jiu Shen's expression, and they hurriedly fled in different directions, afraid that this human might harbor bad intentions to them.

One hour later.

This time, Jiu Shen's vision was significantly reduced and he could only see the five-meter radius around him. Even if he used his spiritual perception, he could only extend his vision by another five meters. Sensing this, he could not help but feel a bit surprised, and he was certain that this was attributed to the mysterious World Heart of the Spirit World.

Just what kind of thing was this World Heart for it to limit his sense of sight despite his Nascent God Realm cultivation level? Jiu Shen was now feeling eager to find out more about this World Heart.

Two hours later.

The water pressure was becoming heavier and Jiu Shen had to circulate his true essence to prevent his blood vessels from bursting apart. Furthermore, his vision was also becoming vague and fuzzy...

Suddenly, Jiu Shen could see something shining with a bright white radiance down below and he could not help but smile excitedly. "Could that thing be the World Heart?"

Even with Jiu Shen's impaired vision, he could somehow see the light emitted by this object due to the sheer brightness that it exudes.

As Jiu Shen was moving closer, he could now see the silhouette of this object. It looked epileptical and it also had a pure and out of this world aura.

Jiu Shen felt his heart palpitating as he stared at this object.

- Host, this is the World Heart of the Spirit World. Just place your hand on top of it and put a fraction of your soul in it using your spiritual power.

Jiu Shen frowned when he heard the system's words. Removing a fraction of his soul would decrease the strength of his spiritual power, and he felt quite reluctant to do it. However, when he recalled what he could do after refining the World Heart, Jiu Shen's hesitation vanished.

After coming closer to the World Heart, he could now sense its dense and pure unadulterated aura. He had never seen anything like this before, so felt fascinated and enamored. He looked at the five-meter tall World Heart for a brief moment before he placed his hands on its surface.

Ha?! It's sucking my blood?!

- Host, the World Heart is checking your constitution and potential since it would not allow a person with insufficient potential to become its master.

Jiu Shen calmed himself down after hearing the system's words. He was confident about his potential and if he didn't have the qualifications to become its owner, then no one else was capable of owning it. After all, he had the Seamless Deity Physique and his physical body was even basked by the God Exterminating Divine Eye's draconic lightning. Coupled with his experience and comprehension, he even had the potential to exceed the three Celestial Emperors!

Jiu Shen focused his attention on cutting a part of his soul. It wasn't that hard, but it was a painful process since it involves a cultivator's soul which was particularly more fragile than other creatures.

As Jiu Shen was separating a fraction of his soul, he felt as if his body and mind were being pierced by millions of needles simultaneously. The excruciating process continued for an hour before Jiu Shen had successfully divided a small portion of his soul.

Throughout the whole process, Jiu Shen's expression didn't change, and he only furrowed his eyebrows slightly. "This is nothing compared to the lightning that the God Exterminating Divine Eye brought along with it..." He said in his heart as he placed the fraction of his soul onto the World Heart.

The World had already stopped sucking his blood as well, and right after Jiu Shen branded it with his spiritual power, the pure aura emitted by the World Heart became even denser that it almost made him exclaim.

Right in front of his eyes, the five-meter tall World Heart slowly reduced in size. It became as big as a basin, then it became as big as a football, and then it turned into an egg-sized crystal. Its decrease in size only stopped when it was only an inch in length.

Jiu Shen tried to grab the one-inch crystal, but it embedded itself on his left wrist which made him a bit stunned. Touching it with his right hand, he could now feel a sense of connection with the Spiritual World through this World Heart. "So this is what it feels like to be a Deity... I can even see that Little Lizard through this World Heart in my wrist. Interesting indeed..."

Aside from gaining ownership of the Spiritual World, Jiu Shen could also sense that his spiritual power was further reinforced after the World Heart embedded itself in his left wrist. "Not bad. The fraction of my soul wasn't wasted. In fact, I have even gained more than what I lost..."

- Ding!

- Congratulations to the Host for successfully refining the World Heart.

After hearing the system's words, Jiu Shen could not help but smile.

Chapter 175 - Hunting Cooking Ingredients

After Jiu Shen refined the World Heart, he could now 'see' everything within the Spirit World as if it was part of his body. Now, he understood why the system told him that he would become the Deity of the Spirit World after refining its World Heart. It was because he could now teleport anywhere in the Spirit World and no one else could also challenge him here no matter how strong they were. Of course, this rule only applies to the inhabitants of this Spirit World.

"First, let me capture a few fishes to cook later, and uh... isn't this a Fragrant Luminous Clam? It's only a 7th-rank aquatic savage beast, and it has pearl which can be melted into a delicious liquid that can enhance the flavor of any wine or food. This thing's pearl is a good ingredient for wine-making. Not to mention its tasty meat. Good!" Jiu Shen muttered after discovering a certain aquatic savage beast that was not too far from where he was.

"I've been making wine using the system's ingredients all this while. Maybe I should make my own wine recipe and sell it in the store..." Jiu Shen's eyes lit up as he thought about that.

- Ding!

- Sudden Mission: Create a personal wine recipe that can pass the standard of the system. The final product of the Host will be assessed by the system and the price will be dependent on the quality of the wine.

Oh? A sudden mission?

Jiu Shen who was about to head in the direction of the Fragrant Luminous Clam suddenly stopped in his tracks when he heard this abrupt notification from the system.

After looking at the mission details, Jiu Shen smiled confidently. When he first transmigrated in Nuar, he had been constantly practicing his wine-making skills under the system's orders, so he was fairly confident in himself. He didn't even have to do much since there were already pieces of equipment that could help his winemaking even more efficient.

"This can wait at a later time. After all, I still need more ingredients if I want to make a good wine recipe. For now, I will get this Fragrant Luminous Clam first." Jiu Shen said as he disappeared from his location.

Several kilometers away deep within the ocean, Jiu Shen reappeared in front of a giant clam that was as huge as an ordinary elephant. Its intimidating mouth had two rows of sharp saw-like teeth. One look and anyone could tell that it could even tear metals apart. The huge clam had a dark color that made it look inconspicuous in the deepest part of the ocean where there is no light. However, Jiu Shen knew that it could produce a brilliant light to attract its prey.

The Fragrant Luminous Clam wasn't even able to discover Jiu Shen's presence and it appeared to be in a state of deep slumber as it burrowed half of its body into the seabed.

Looking at this huge clam, Jiu Shen smiled with a strange look. 'This guy should be hibernating here. Unfortunately, I will have to disturb your deep sleep since I still need to use your meat to cook delicious seafood. Hmm, how should I cook this big guy?'

Unaware that there was a devil in front of it, the Fragrant Luminous Clam remained burrowed into the ground. Although it was hibernating, it could still sense its surroundings perfectly, but it still wasn't able to detect Jiu Shen who was now walking towards it with a bad smile hanging on his face.

"Since this guy is offering himself to me, how could I bear to disappoint it?" Jiu Shen chuckled in his heart as he used his spiritual power to attack the defenseless soul of the poor Fragrant Luminous Clam.

A streak of invisible light struck towards the hibernating clam, and it could not even emit a shriek before it died in a blink of an eye. Its soul was eradicated in just a single second!

The huge mouth of the Fragrant Luminous Clam slightly parted after its death and Jiu Shen could already smell its alluring fragrance even though he was still deep in the ocean floor.

He clicked his tongue as he stored the dead Fragrant Luminous Clam inside his space earring. "This one is not enough, I have to get more and let my most trusted subordinates eat a few delicacies made by me. I'll let them taste the best seafood in their entire lives. Hehe."

Bubble. Bubble.

Not too far away, Jiu Shen appeared in front of a shark-like savage beast. It was more than ten meters in length and its body was covered by tough metallic scales, making it look like an

impenetrable ocean tank. On top of its head was a sword-like horn that was about twelve inches long.

Looking at this monster of the sea, Jiu Shen let out a warm smile that was even more beautiful than the blooming of flowers.

Seeing Jiu Shen's smile, the huge shark felt its heart contorting in alarm. This human is dangerous!

It hurriedly darted away like an arrow that was shot from a crossbow, leaving behind a trail of bubbles.

This aquatic savage beast had a cultivation level at the peak stage of the 7th-rank Emperor realm. It could be considered as a top predator in the ocean.

"This little fish looks tasty. Not bad. I can make a delicious side dish with your meat." Jiu Shen said in his heart as he used the same spiritual attack to kill the pitiful shark-like savage beast. He pointed a finger at the escaping shark and a streak of imperceptible light came out of his finger and it instantly shot towards the shark.

As if it was struck by lightning, the huge shark suddenly turned stiff as it stopped from its tracks.

Jiu Shen 'walked' towards the carcass of the savage beast and immediately stored it inside his space earring. "I need to get a few more before I go back to that Little Lizard."

Thus, Jiu Shen spent another hour hunting for high-level aquatic savage beasts. He was quite picky, so he spent most of his time looking for a suitable savage beast to hunt.

And after an hour, Jiu Shen hunted a little more than ten savage beasts!

"This should be enough. With these ingredients, I can cook some mouthwatering dishes for my people." Jiu Shen smiled as he stored the aquatic savage beast that he just killed a few moments ago.

Chapter 176 - I Messed Up

After hunting more than ten aquatic savage beasts, Jiu Shen sorted everything inside his space earring before he teleported to the mountain where he left Long Meili.

Swoosh.

In front of him was a young lady with long purple hair, and she was dressed in a beautiful and embroidered white robes which accentuated perfectly with her beauty. There was also a dagger-like horn on top of her forehead, but it didn't decrease her charm.

Looking at the meditating Long Meili, Jiu Shen smiled as he took out a chair from his space earring. He then sat down and looked at her with unblinking eyes.

"This little lizard's true essence is becoming more vigorous and robust like a true dragon descendant. The Supreme Dragon Heavenly Canon wasn't wasted on her. Just that, how would the Long Clan react if they discovered that I passed down their most treasured cultivation technique to someone with an impure dragon bloodline? I guess their supreme elder would beat me up." Jiu Shen chuckled as he recalled the face of an old man with a long gray beard and two horns. A moment later, he shook his head and let out a soft sigh.

Jiu Shen silently watched Long Meili as she meditated. She had just broken through the Nascent God Realm, so her foundation was a bit unstable, but with the Supreme Dragon Heavenly Canon, it wouldn't take much time for her to consolidate her strength.

An hour later, Long Meili slowly opened her eyes, and the first thing she saw was a man with long silver hair seated nonchalantly on a wooden chair. He had a smile on his face as they stared at each other.

"Master." Long Meili hurriedly stood up and bowed at Jiu Shen with a respectful look. After she received the Supreme Dragon Heavenly Canon from Jiu Shen, her cultivation speed increased by many times, and even her physical body was strengthened by leaps and bounds. Before, she had a bit of doubt that it was the best cultivation technique for the dragons, but now, all those doubts vanished.

Jiu Shen smiled as he rose from his seat.

"Congratulations, Little Lizard." He said as he stroke her hair gently.

Long Meili remained silent and she could only foolishly stare at this man. Their first encounter was quite dreadful since she almost died by his hands, but she didn't regret coming to invade Beltran City because that decision allowed her to meet him. He was the main reason why she was able to complete her breakthrough.

No words could describe her current emotions and she could not thank him enough, so she just silently vowed to serve him unconditionally.

"Let's go to my store. From now on, you'll follow me wherever I go." Jiu Shen said as he patted her shoulder.

"Mn." Long Meili nodded her head with a sweet smile.

After that, Jiu Shen took her hands as he told the system to lead them out of the Spirit World.

Om!

* * *

Om!

A two-meter tall door suddenly appeared in Jiu Shen's room, and two individuals stepped out of this door hand in hand.

"Master, is this your store?" Long Meili glanced around the room with a confused look. Although she had no idea what a store was, this wasn't the place that she had expected to see.

Jiu Shen's room didn't look luxurious or extravagant. Aside from the huge bed and clean surroundings, nothing else was noteworthy.

Jiu Shen ruffled her hair as he replied. "This is my room. As for the store, it's downstairs. Let's go. I'll show you around." He then pulled her out of his room.

The person guarding the second floor was now Ren Shuang since he had already completed his investigations on Liuli, the proprietress of the Green Wood Pavilion. And according to what he had discovered, Liuli's background wasn't as simple as simply being a proprietress. In fact, she was intricately connected to the Alliance since her father was one of the Alliance Leaders!

Jiu Shen wasn't surprised when he heard this news, and in fact, he had already guessed it. Just that, they still had no clue as to why she had established an inn within the Silver Wing Empire.

After sensing the arrival of Jiu Shen, Ren Shuang immediately bowed his head as he greeted with reverence. "Master."

He had also seen the dragon lady beside his master, but he didn't even bother to greet her despite sensing that her strength was greater than his own. As to where his confidence and pride came from, even Ren Shuang himself didn't know...

Jiu Shen nodded his head at him before he pulled Long Meili down to the first floor.

It was early in the morning, and the customers were already abundant. They greeted Jiu Shen with smiles while also taking curious glances at the young lady beside him, but they didn't dare harbor any lewd thoughts about her at all since there was a pair of cold eyes looking at them... Who could it be other than Theia?

"Master (Lord Sect Master) (Wine Master Jiu)." Everyone greeted Jiu Shen with respect.

Jiu Shen smiled at his subordinates as he announced. "After the store closes later, I will cook for everyone, and I will also let you drink wine for free. Tell all of our people to gather tonight at the beast fighting arena." He then took a glance at the fourth prince and the fifth princess who was now a waiter and a waitress of his store respectively as he said.

"You can also invite your father to join us."

After hearing this, the fourth prince and the fifth princess' eyes lit up as they immediately nodded their heads. "Yes, Wine Master Jiu." They said with excited voices.

"Wine Master Jiu, what about us your loyal customers? Hehe." Liu Xiufeng who was drinking with Boss Scar and his mercenary buddies suddenly said which immediately garnered everyone's attention.

The loyal customers of the wine store knew that anything that Jiu Shen makes was priceless and helpful in their cultivation. Even just a cup of his wine was already equivalent to a cultivation pill, so upon hearing that he would cook for his subordinates, the loyal customers were already curious and excited. They just didn't dare voice out their opinions because they were afraid that Theia would kick them out. And when they heard Liu Xiufeng's words, all the customers silently praised him in their hearts. Such a brave man! Commend! Commend!

And right after Liu Xiufeng's words fell, he suddenly felt a piercing glance aimed his way which sent shivers down his spine. 'Oh f*cking sh*t! I messed up...' He cursed in his heart as he watched the gloating looks of Boss Scar and his buddies. 'These motherf*ckers!'

Liu Xiufeng who was in his drunken state immediately sobered up. He then stood up and smiled wryly at Theia as he said in embarrassment. "Young Miss Theia, you don't need to throw me out. I can go out on my own."

Liu Xiufeng walked towards the exit with a regretful look on his face. Why did he have to interrupt Jiu Shen's speech in the presence of the she-devil Young Miss Theia?

"Wait."

Liu Xiufeng was surprised and he stared at Jiu Shen with a confused look.

"You can join us tonight. And everyone here can also join us later." Jiu Shen said with a faint smile.

Liu Xiufeng's brokenhearted face lit up as he cheered loudly. "Woah!"

All the customers also erupted into sonorous cheers of excitement when they heard Jiu Shen's words.

Chapter 177 - Unplanned Celebration

At night.

The beast fighting arena was already remodeled and it can now accommodate thousands upon thousands of people.

It was supposed to be a quiet night, but this place was bustling with people and activity.

More than several thousand individuals chattered in groups, and all of them were wearing excited expressions as they looked at the lone man on top of the arena.

His long silver hair was tied in a ponytail, and he was now dicing a savage beast that looked like a gigantic shark.

Under his sleek and precise cutting skills, the huge shark was cleanly cut into thin pieces, with each piece as thin as a cicada's wings!

The cut pieces of shark meat were then neatly piled on the plates on top of several huge tables that surrounded the arena.

Jiu Shen grabbed a bottle of Mystic Jade from his space earring and pulled the cork that sealed the bottle of wine. He then threw the bottle in midair causing the liquid inside to spill out, but under his manipulation, the droplets of wine liquid were perfectly sprinkled on the diced shark meat on each plate.

His beautiful and flashy movements garnered the crowd's cheers and everyone immediately clapped their hands in fascination.

"Such precise cutting skills! Even the knife experts of the Crouching Dragon Pavilion couldn't hold a candle to Wine Master Jiu!"

"Crouching Dragon Pavilion? I no longer went there after I tasted Wine Master Jiu's wines and dish."

The Crouching Dragon Pavilion that they talked about was the most famous restaurant in Beltran City and it housed a good amount of skilled chefs. Its reputation was resounding not just in Beltran City, but also in the whole Silver Wing Empire.

"The emperor has arrived!" A eunuch announced the arrival of the emperor in a shrill voice.

Everyone inside the beast fighting arena instantly stood up from their seats after hearing that the emperor has arrived. This was another person that everyone respected, the emperor of the Silver Wing Empire, Emperor Elyk Silveria II.

Emperor Elyk was wearing a gold and silver embroidered robes with the insignia of the Silveria Imperial Family printed at the back of his clothes. On either side of him were the fourth prince and the fifth princess, each of them was now wearing their imperial robes.

Behind the three were the four guardians of the empire, and the most surprising thing was that Defender Duanmu was now at the early stage of the 8th-rank Divine realm! Looking at him, the old man seemed to have regained a bit of his youthful looks, and his graying hair was now black in color. Even the wrinkles on his face were nowhere to be seen...

"Greetings, Your Majesty."

Lu Sulan and Can Ye personally greeted the emperor. As the only disciples of Jiu Shen, they had already given enough face to the emperor with the both of them greeting him in person.

"Hahah! No need for formalities. I'm very flattered that I am invited by Wine Master Jiu to come here!" Emperor Elyk laughed heartily while looking at Lu Sulan and Can Ye. His gaze lingered for half a second longer on Lu Sulan's face before he focused his attention back on the man next to her. This was Can Ye, the second disciple of Jiu Shen.

Just a month ago, this guy was still at the peak stage of the 6th-rank King realm, but now, he was already at the early stage of the 7th-rank Emperor realm!

The speed of his cultivation almost made the emperor gasp in astonishment. It must be noted that it took even Emperor Elyk himself a few years before he had broken through the 7th-rank Emperor realm from the 6th-rank King realm.

'How in the world did Wine Master Jiu cultivate this guy? I don't see anything special from him, but as a disciple taken by Wine Master Jiu, this man must have some secrets in him.' Emperor Elyk muttered to himself.

"Your Majesty, please follow us. We've already prepared a seat meant for your distinguished self." Can Ye smiled warmly at the emperor.

Can Ye who looked middle-aged before now looked like a man in his late twenties after he broke through to the 7th-rank Emperor realm. He wasn't that handsome, but he could still be considered as good-looking.

"Oh, thanks to you guys." Emperor Elyk smiled in a friendly manner. He chose to ignore Lu Sulan and he only glanced and talked with Can Ye. He didn't want to involve himself with her since he didn't believe that Lu Sulan's relationship with Jiu Shen was only that of a master and disciple. So to prevent his friendship with Jiu Shen from going down the cesspool, he decided to forget his complicated feelings for Lu Sulan.

Lu Sulan didn't discover that anything was amiss, so she just led the emperor and his people together with her junior brother Can Ye.

On top of the arena, Jiu Shen flicked his fingers, making more than a hundred wisps of flame to suddenly appear above him. And with another flick of fingers, he sent the wisps of flame on each plate, cooking the thinly sliced shark meat in the process.

This way of cooking was definitely unheard of and everyone was spellbound by Jiu Shen's graceful set of movements. He didn't look like he was cooking at all. It was as if he was performing a beautiful dance on top of the arena.

"Amazing! I can watch Wine Master Jiu cooking all day..."

"Wine Master Jiu, please make babies with me!"

Theia immediately glared at them when she heard those confident young misses expressing their love to Jiu Shen so openly. And when they sensed Theia's cold gaze, those young ladies instantly covered their mouths in alarm.

It would be embarrassing if they get kicked out in front of a lot of people.

"With the average strength of everyone here, they wouldn't be able to eat a lot of dishes made from high-level ingredients, so that should be enough. I have also reduced the potency within these dishes so that they can enjoy them more. As for the wines, I can only serve them according to their level of strength, or they might explode if they drink something that exceeds the limit that their dantians can hold." Jiu Shen muttered as he kept the ordinary knife he used to cut the huge shark.

On top of the huge arena, there were hundreds of tables filled with mouthwatering dishes that were cooked by Jiu Shen. Everyone was already dying to take a bite of each dish, but under the watchful eyes of Theia, nobody dared to move.

The fragrant aroma of the cooked plates of seafood permeated in the air like a tempting vixen trying to enchant a young man. Everyone could hardly resist this mouthwatering aroma, and some of them even had a trail of drool at the corner of their lips.

Looking at their excited faces, Jiu Shen smiled while also feeling a bit proud of his cooking.

Ehem. Ehem.

With a dignified look on his face, Jiu Shen cleared his throat before he randomly bullsh*tted. "Everyone, I've invited you here to celebrate the making of my sect. Although I've yet to formally announce the founding of my sect, it is only a matter of time before that happens. And by then, I hope that everyone could come to celebrate with me."

Chapter 178 - Shark Gossamer Sashimi

Everyone was not surprised when they heard Jiu Shen's words because they had already known his plans of establishing his own sect since a month ago. Besides, Jiu Shen didn't even bother to conceal this news from circulating, so in not more than a week, almost everyone in Beltran City already knew what he was up to.

"Wine Master Jiu, we will definitely come to celebrate with you after your sect is formally established."

"Right! How could we miss such a grand occasion? We will certainly be there, Wine Master Jiu!"

"Count me in!"

Everyone inside the beast fighting arena immediately expressed their good intentions. Who wouldn't want this kind of opportunity to further deepen their relationship with Jiu Shen? All of them knew that Jiu Shen was not just an ordinary person and his strength was also unfathomable deep. Such a person was destined to become a great character in the whole Profound Dragon Continent! They will do anything in their power to be acquainted with such a man...

Jiu Shen nodded his head calmly after hearing their words.

He had already expected this kind of response from the crowd, so he wasn't surprised by this. He then glanced at the emperor who was now looking at him with a friendly smile. Seeing this, Jiu Shen nodded his head at him as he said. "Elyk, I have yet to thank you for your help during the past month, so to express my thanks, join me here in the arena. I will let you be the first person to taste the dishes that I have made."

When the crowd heard how Jiu Shen had just casually called the emperor's name without even batting an eye, they felt a bit stunned. They finally realized at this time that Jiu Shen was definitely close to the emperor, and the two even seemed to treat each other as equals.

Emperor Elyk laughed heartily when he heard Jiu Shen's words. Even before he came inside the beast fighting arena, he had already smelled the fragrant aroma of the dishes that Jiu Shen made, and it became even more apparent after he stepped inside the arena.

"In that case, I won't hold myself back, Wine Master Jiu. Hahaha!" Emperor Elyk leaped on top of the arena and he could not help but close his eyes in delight when he smelled the flavourful aquatic fragrance that surrounded him. He felt as if he was swimming in the middle of the ocean waves.

When he opened his eyes, he was faced with different kinds of mouthwatering seafood delicacies which made his eyes flash with excitement. He had already eaten a lot of tasty dishes, but the aroma of the dishes made by Jiu Shen was many times denser and more enchanting than those he had tasted before.

Jiu Shen gestured for the emperor to follow him when he saw the latter's eager look.

"Elyk, come. This is the best dish among what I've cooked, and I call it the Shark Gossamer Sashimi. Please." Jiu Shen pointed his index finger at a dish filled with thinly sliced shark meat that looked like transparent leaves.

The thinly sliced shark meat was covered by a fragrant sauce made from the Mystic Jade and other high-level ingredients. Just from looking at it, the emperor's eyes already had a drunken look and he didn't even wait for Jiu Shen to speak as he took the fork on the table before lightly poking the sashimi.

Emperor Elyk felt the fork easily penetrating through the shark meat and he could not help but feel a bit surprised. He knew that this shark meat came from a high-level aquatic savage beast and the meat of such a creature was definitely not easy to pierce through even though it was only a thin piece!

Glistening shark oil flowed down from the pierced part of the shark meat and it produced a wave of tantalizing aroma that evoked the hunger of the emperor.

Looking at this, Emperor Elyk impatiently shoved the shark meat in his mouth, and just as it touched his tongue, he felt as if he was electrocuted.

He was motionless for a brief moment before he started to chew the shark meat in his mouth with an indescribable look of fascination on his face.

Gulp.

"Delicious!" The emperor muttered as he licked his lips without even caring for his image. If there wasn't anyone else, he would have also licked the fork he was holding. Unfortunately, all eyes were on him, so he could only remove this thought from his head.

Jiu Shen chuckled in his heart when he saw how the emperor behaved. 'This is only made using some low-level ingredients. If I had a god beast's meat, then it would have tasted much better and the increase in cultivation wouldn't be small either..' He muttered in his heart and he unconsciously searched for the figure of a fat white cat among the crowd.

Ice who was in her cat form felt a strange gaze that made her scalp tingle in alarm. And with a wary look on her face, she fiercely rose from the ground as she glared at Jiu Shen. "Meow!"

Jiu Shen smirked when he saw Ice's reaction. He then shifted his attention back to the emperor.

Emperor Elyk lost his dignified demeanor as he shoved pieces after pieces of shark meat in his mouth without end.

"Delicious..." He muttered once again, but this time, his voice was quivering with emotions.

The emperor had already forgotten the fact that he was being watched by countless pairs of eyes. His attention was only focused on the extraordinary taste that covered his tongue and mouth.

'I thought the shark meat would be chewy and difficult to swallow. I never thought that it would be this succulent and it even seemed as if it would melt every time it touches my tongue. Such excellent cooking skills! Even the imperial chefs in my imperial palace could not cook such dishes. *Sigh.*' The emperor sighed in his heart. He didn't even realize that he had already finished the entire plate. This made him stunned and a bit embarrassed.

He actually lost his cool after eating the food cooked by Jiu Shen!

Cough! Cough!

The emperor coughed to hide his embarrassment. He then laughed as he said with unconcealed admiration. "Hahaha! Wine Master Jiu, I can't believe that you are actually hiding such godly cooking skills. You have hidden your talent well. Hahaha!"

Jiu Shen smiled at this obvious flattery. He then replied in a calm voice. "Elyk, since you've already tasted my dish, I hope you don't mind if I allow everyone to come and join us here."

Emperor Elyk chuckled and shook his head. "Not at all! These dishes must be tasted by everyone! Hahaha!"

After hearing his response, Jiu Shen glanced at the crowd and announced in a calm voice. "Everyone, you've heard him, so please come here and have a taste of the dishes I cooked."

"Ah, finally! I can get to eat the dishes personally cooked by Wine Master Jiu!"

"I've been holding myself back for quite some time. Food here I come!"

Everybody cheered as they jumped onto the arena with excited faces.

This beast fighting arena was already remodeled and even after the crowd had joined the emperor and Jiu Shen on top, it was still a bit spacious.

Looking at the thousands of people enjoying the food he cooked, Jiu Shen felt a bit proud in his heart. He then saw a fat white cat strutting on the arena with a look of disdain on its face.

"Little Tiger, come. I've already prepared something else for you." Jiu Shen grabbed Ice which made her squirm from his grasps.

"Stinky human, I don't like to drink milk this time! I want to eat the food you cooked! Meow!" Ice kicked her lower legs and crossed her two front paws while looking at Jiu Shen with a dissatisfied face.

There was already a trail of drool at the corner of her mouth.

Jiu Shen patted the chubby head of Ice as he said. "Little Tiger, I won't be giving you milk this time. Look, this is what I have prepared for you."

On Jiu Shen's hand was a large plate with a thick piece of shark meat lying at the very center. It was cooked in a style similar to a seared steak, and it was overflowing with meat juices that produced an exquisite meaty aroma that made the nose of the fat cat in Jiu Shen's left arm twitch continuously.

The trail of drool at the corner of her mouth streamed like the gushing of a river, and her big and adorable eyes were staring straight at the big piece of shark meat. "Stinky human! Release me! I

want that! I want that shark meat! Meow!" She fiercely smacked Jiu Shen's arm with her paws, but she didn't dare use her claws since she didn't want to injure Jiu Shen.

Jiu Shen released the fat cat from his embrace and Ice immediately leaped towards the huge plate he was holding in his right hand.

With nimble movements, Ice grabbed the thick piece of shark meat with her paws before taking a big bite out of it.

"Ahh! I like this! Meow!" The huge eyes of the fat white cat lit up as she munched on the thick piece of shark meat with gusto.

Looking at the fat white cat's adorable look, Jiu Shen smiled warmly while stroking her thick fur gently.

Chapter 179 - Annual Martial Arts Contest

Jiu Shen held a chubby cat as he strode towards the emperor with steady footsteps, his face was expressionless and calm. There were still a lot of people enjoying the delicacies on top of the arena, but every one of them gave way to Jiu Shen the moment they saw him. Some of them even greeted him with respectful smiles and flattering looks.

Following behind Jiu Shen were the three beauties, Liuli, Long Meili, and Xia Xinyue. All three of them were staring daggers at each other as if they couldn't wait to scratch someone's face.

Long Meili's dragon horn was also nowhere to be seen since Jiu Shen had told her to hide it. Her dragon horn was just too conspicuous and although she didn't look like a demon, it was still much better to not show it in public since demons are hated by everyone in the Profound Dragon Continent. And to prevent unnecessary attention and gossip, Jiu Shen told her to hide it temporarily.

Hm?

Emperor Elyk saw that Jiu Shen was walking towards him, and from the looks of his face, he knew that Jiu Shen must have something important that he wanted to talk about.

The emperor then moved his gaze on the three beauties who were following closely behind Jiu Shen and he could not help but feel a bit jealous in his heart. All three of them were country toppling beauties with looks that could charm any man, especially the one with long purple hair. 'This young lady, she's giving me a very thick sense of danger. Who is she? Wait... This other lady beside her, isn't this Young Miss Situ, the daughter of Alliance Leader Situ?!'

Emperor Elyk's heart spasmed when he identified Liuli. How could he not be restless when the daughter of a top expert in the Alliance was right in front of his eyes? He hasn't gone to Jiu Shen's store recently since he was occupied with certain matters, so this sudden encounter with Liuli came as a surprise.

He didn't know how Jiu Shen managed to attract Liuli, and from how she behaved, it seemed as if she was Jiu Shen's subordinate. This thought made him admire Jiu Shen even more since he knew that Liuli was also a top expert of the Alliance. She might not look like one, but behind that enchanting look of her was a dreadful power that could subdue anyone.

'How the hell did Wine Master Jiu manage to get Young Miss Situ under him? Hmm, I wonder how Alliance Leader Situ would react if he learns that his most treasured daughter is serving under a man? Although Wine Master Jiu's strength is unfathomable, no one knew his real strength. Perhaps I'm the only one who knows how strong he really is aside from his people. It looks like Alliance Leader Situ might come to visit my Silver Wing Empire and make things difficult for Wine Master Jiu... Interesting.' Emperor Elyk thought in his heart.

"Elyk, how's the food I made? Are they to your liking?" Jiu Shen glanced at the emperor. He could sense that the latter's dantian was almost full, a clear sign that he was infinitely close to breaking through the 9th-rank Saint realm. And from the density of his true essence, the longest time he needed before he could break through should be around three months or so.

Emperor Elyk nodded his head in satisfaction when he heard Jiu Shen ask that. "Wine Master Jiu, whoever eats the food you cook would be mesmerized by it. It even helped my cultivation to progress by a notch. I really have to thank Wine Master Jiu for inviting me here! Hahaha!"

Emperor Elyk was satisfied with the delicacies served in the arena. Although there were a lot of people who dined with him, he didn't mind it too much since his focus was entirely on the plates of seafood. Each of them made him feel as if he was floating in the clouds. A truly wondrous sensation! Not to mention the fact that the food also boosted his cultivation.

"It's good that you like it."

Jiu Shen's lips curved upwards upon hearing his words, but his expression turned serious all of a sudden as he asked. "Elyk, how's the situation of the Silver Wing Empire?"

Emperor Elyk's smile vanished and it was replaced by his usual dignified and calm look. And with a slight shake of his head, he answered in a whispering voice. "Wine Master Jiu, I've followed your suggestions to monitor the Xue Family, and I discovered that they are somehow related to the illegal transaction of smuggled weapons and resources with the neighboring Blue Fang Empire. It looks like it was also the Xue Family who ruined the reputation of the Beiming Family."

After speaking those words, Emperor Elyk glanced at the women behind Jiu Shen with a bit of concern. He didn't feel at ease speaking about this kind of matter in front of anyone else. He was particularly nervous about Liuli since she was related to the Alliance.

The three women could sense the emperor's wary gaze lingering on them, but they didn't move back without Jiu Shen's orders.

Liuli who had the most rebellious attitude among the three sneered in her heart. She knew that the emperor was cautious about her because of the identity she had.

"Elyk, you don't need to be afraid to speak about this matter. These ladies are my most trusted subordinates, so you can freely say anything without holding back. I have also blocked the space around us to prevent anyone from hearing our conversation." Jiu Shen said as he patted the emperor's shoulder. Of course, Jiu Shen was still monitoring Liuli...

Upon hearing Jiu Shen's words, the eyes of the three ladies lit up. They then glanced at his side profile with warm and gentle expressions. The fact that Jiu Shen trusted them made their little hearts flattered and happy.

Emperor Elyk heaved a sigh of relief as he continued speaking in a heavy tone. "Wine Master Jiu, I've also discovered that the Xue Family had some dealings with the Undying Corpse Sect, and from the looks of things, some of their clansmen might even be disciples and elders of the Undying Corpse Sect. If I'm not wrong, they should be planning to usurp the throne within a year or so."

Xia Xinyue and Liuli were surprised when they heard his words. They were familiar with the Undying Corpse Sect, so they were both stunned when they learned that the Xue Family was related to them. As for Long Meili, she had been staying in the Endless Forest throughout her life and she rarely comes

out, so she had no idea about what the Undying Corpse Sect's name signified.

Jiu Shen gave Emperor Elyk an imperceptible glance of pity as he said. "Elyk, the problem of your Silver Wing Empire isn't just the Xue Family and the Undying Corpse Sect..."

Emperor Elyk felt his heart becoming heavier upon hearing that. He knew that Jiu Shen wasn't someone who spoke nonsense, so it must be something serious.

"Wine Master Jiu, what do you mean by that?" The emperor asked while feeling a bit anxious. The Xue Family and the Undying Corpse Sect already made him very restless, so if there was another one, he didn't know if he could still maintain his sanity.

"There is no use in telling you about this right now. You just have to focus on monitoring the Xue Family and the Undying Corpse Sect. As for what I've told you just now, you can rest assured that they wouldn't attack your Silver Wing Empire at this time." Jiu Shen replied in a calm voice. He didn't want anything to happen to the Silver Wing Empire since his business was at stake, so he decided to bring up this topic to the emperor.

Emperor Elyk's complexion was pale after hearing all this, but his expression became calm in an instant as he changed the topic. "With Wine Master Jiu's assurance, I feel at ease. By the way, Wine Master Jiu, the annual martial arts competition of our Silver Wing Empire is coming close. I hope you'll be there to watch the younger generation compete among themselves. You can also register some of the young ones under you to join the competition... Although my Silver Wing Empire is in a precarious situation, I must not show weakness during these troubled times! The competition will continue as per usual since it's already a tradition of the empire..."

'Ho, this guy has some backbone. It seems like he still has something to rely on. Interesting.' Jiu Shen muttered in his heart.

Xia Xinyue who was listening at the sidelines felt excited after hearing about the martial arts competition and she could not help but ask the emperor. "Your Majesty, what is the age requirement for this competition?"

There are some talented young disciples in their Ice Cloud Sword Sect, and after receiving Jiu Shen's guidance, their strength increased by leaps and bounds. And since their Ice Cloud Sword Sect was already part of Jiu Shen's sect, she wanted to gain prestige and honor for him.

The emperor wasn't angry for the sudden interruption of Xia Xinyue. From the clothes she was wearing, he knew that she was an elder of the Ice Cloud Sword Sect.

"The martial arts competition is for the younger generation of the Silver Wing Empire, so only those with ages 25 and below are eligible to join. The fourth prince and the fifth princess will also be there as participants." Emperor Elyk replied with a smile.

Chapter 180 - Body Transforming Dan

The fourth prince had just turned twenty this year, and he is already at the initial stage of the 5th-rank Spirit realm, while the fifth princess who is thirteen years old is at the peak stage of the 3rd-rank Crusader realm. The fifth princess is also on the verge of breaking through to the 4th-rank Knight Crusader realm after drinking and eating in Jiu Shen's store. Since there was still two weeks before the competition starts, she still had the chance to increase her strength before the contest begins.

"Wine Master Jiu, I would be happy if you spectate in this coming event. The imperial family and patriarchs of the three great clans would also reward the top ten for this contest. It's a good opportunity for the young ones to gain experience, so I hope that Wine Master Jiu could bring some of your little disciples to join the fun." Emperor Elyk smiled widely at Jiu Shen to ease up the atmosphere. He didn't want to talk about the problems that the Silver Wing Empire was facing since it gave him too much headache, luckily, he recalled this annual martial arts competition that would take place in two weeks.

Jiu Shen thought for a moment, before eventually nodding his head. It was indeed not a bad idea to exercise the bones of the one hundred kids that had received his special training all this while. After a month of vigorous physical training and tempering, all of them were already at the 1st-rank Warrior realm, and there were even two kids that stood out among them. One was Yang Zenke who was now at the peak stage of the 2nd-rank Elite Warrior realm, while the other one was Han Sen who was at the early stage of the 2nd-rank Elite Warrior realm.

As to how they improved that much in a short amount of time, it was because of Jiu Shen's torturous training that was as strict as to how elite soldiers were trained. Besides, the young men also ate spiritual fruits and cultivation pills like they were eating candies. With all those experiences, even an ordinary pig would become a strong savage beast...

"I'm interested in this martial arts competition that you speak about, so I'll bring some of the little ones that I've trained to register in this contest. Aside from that, I will also add something to the rewards for the top ten participants." Jiu Shen's words made the emperor's eyes lit up which also made him laugh heartily.

"Hahaha! That's more like it! In that case, I'll expect your presence in two weeks, Wine Master Jiu." Emperor Elyk was excited at the thought of Jiu Shen spectating the coming martial arts contest. With his presence, Emperor Elyk was more confident that nothing would go wrong in the event.

After that, all of them talked about other matters as the unplanned celebration continued for the whole night.

* * *

Two days later, inside the beast fighting arena.

A huge cauldron that was almost as big as a mountain can be seen on top of the arena. If one would look closely, this cauldron somehow looked similar to Jiu Shen's Heaven Trampling Cauldron. In fact, this was indeed the Heaven Trampling Cauldron and Jiu Shen merely increased its size.

Screams of pain and agony reverberated within the cauldron as the bodies of a hundred young men were being soaked in the boiling mixture inside the cauldron.

The faces of the young men were contorted in suffering that they almost looked inhuman. However, none of them stepped out of the cauldron and they all continued to soak their bodies inside.

Yang Zenke was the calmest among them, and he was only shivering in pain as he gritted his teeth, while occasionally letting out muffled groans.

'I want to be strong! I don't others to look down on me! I will prove to the master that I can become a strong expert! Arghh!' Yang Zenke shouted in his heart as his figure shook slightly.

Beside him was Han Sen who looked much worse in comparison. His eyes were already bloodshot and his skin had several burnt marks as he let out heavy breaths like a wounded savage beast.

Jiu Shen stood at the opening of the cauldron observing the entire process with cold unblinking eyes. This kind of body tempering might look dangerous and deadly on the surface, but the effect of this special tempering was significant since it could greatly enhance the physical body's strength.

He was also controlling the temperature of the mixture inside the Heaven Trampling Cauldron just enough for these young men to survive without dying. He wouldn't allow anyone among them to die, since they would become his arms and legs in the Primordial God Realm!

With a cold expression hanging on his face, Jiu Shen observed the faces of everyone inside the cauldron as he suddenly asked. "Are you in pain?!"

One hundred pairs of bloodshot eyes glanced at him with unbending willpower. Veins protruded on their faces as they replied like snarling wolf cubs. "NO!!!"

Jiu Shen smiled for a brief moment after hearing their answers, but it abruptly turned cold. "Then stay here for another hour!"

Bone-chilling screams of agony echoed non-stop for another hour.

Jiu Shen waved his right hand, producing invisible ropes that tied around the bodies of the young men. He then pulled them out of the piping hot cauldron before bringing them to the arena.

Through the invisible ropes, Jiu Shen injected his true essence to heal the bodies of everyone.

Yang Zenke, Han Sen, and the others felt a soothing sensation enveloping their mutilated bodies, healing them at a discernible speed. The burnt marks on their skins slowly vanished under these calming threads of true essence which also continuously healed their other injuries.

Every one of them felt as if they were desert people who had finally swum in a cool lake after bathing under the sun for several years...

In not less than ten minutes, the injuries of the young men were fully healed and they were now seated cross-legged on the ground as they meditated. All of them had various gains after that torturous body tempering, so they immediately started to consolidate their strengths.

When the emperor had first brought them to Jiu Shen's store, they were still weak-looking youths with frail bodies, but looking at them now, their bodies were now tanned with explosive and lean muscles. Their once innocent eyes were now painted with maturity and growth.

After another ten minutes, Jiu Shen clapped his hands loudly as he said. "Stand up!"

The young men instantly rose from their feet upon hearing his command. All of them glanced at Jiu Shen while silently waiting for his next orders.

With a wave of his right hand, Jiu Shen handed them one pill each as he said. "The pill in your hands is the 9th-rank Body Transforming Dan which will transform your constitutions. Drink it."

This Body Transforming Dan was a 9th-rank pill that was able to enhance a person's physical constitution. Even a waste would transform into a peerless genius after eating this pill! However, this kind of pill didn't exist in Nuar and it could only be seen in the Primordial God Realm. All the young elites of the Primordial God Realm would consume this to enhance their constitution... Now, Jiu Shen had given them the opportunity to change their fates with just a single pill!

They might not know the importance of this because of their inexperience, but they knew that it was something with unequal value especially after they heard that it was a 9th-rank pill!

With slightly emotional expressions, they swallowed the Body Transforming Dan...