

The Immortal's Wine Store

#Chapter 181 - Effects Of The Body Transforming Dan - Read The Immortal's Wine Store Chapter 181 - Effects Of The Body Transforming Dan

Chapter 181 - Effects Of The Body Transforming Dan

Once again, the arena was filled with howls of pain after the one hundred young men consumed the Body Transforming Dan.

"Endure it! If you can't even withstand this baptism, then you're unworthy to become top experts!" Jiu Shen said in a strict voice as he observed them with a cold look. In fact, this Body Transforming Dan was supposed to be consumed together with the 9th-rank Pain Subduing Pill, a healing pill that could remove any painful feeling that a person has. Aside from removing pain, it could also accelerate the healing process of someone.

The reason why Jiu Shen didn't give them a Pain Subduing Pill was because he wanted to give them a final test since only those with strong willpower could survive his hellish training procedure.

After hearing Jiu Shen's words, all of them immediately shut their mouths as they gritted their teeth with contorted looks. They felt as if there were millions of ants gnawing their internal organs. The faces of the youths were covered with sweat and protruding veins as they clenched their fists so hard that their nails already pierced deeply on their skins.

The Body Transforming Dan would change the structure of one's physical constitution upon consumption, but whoever consumes it would experience excruciating pain for a period of time until the transformation of one's body is completed.

"All of you are low-born slaves with no talent to boast about, but with the help of the pill you just consumed, it isn't an exaggeration to say that your talents would exceed even the renowned geniuses of the Profound Dragon Continent. So you have to endure this pain if you want to become dragons among humans!" Jiu Shen said as he took out a chair from his space earring. He then sat down and put one of his legs on top of the other, looking nonchalant and calm. After that, a young lady with long purple hair suddenly appeared behind him and gave his shoulder a massage. This was none other than the dragon lady, Long Meili.

Jiu Shen didn't mind this kind of contact, and he seemed to be unbothered by it as he continued to watch the young men with a satisfied look.

Yang Zenke, Han Sen, and everyone's eyes lit up when they heard Jiu Shen's words. They finally realized how precious the pill that Jiu Shen had just given them. It was actually able to change someone's physical constitution and talent! What a heaven-defying pill!

Yang Zenke closed his eyes as he focused himself on refining the efficacy of the Body Transforming Dan. 'This is the start! I can finally become an expert! This pain is nothing! Argh!' He shouted in his heart.

It was not just him, Han Sen and the other youths also closed their eyes and sat cross-legged to refine the pill's efficacy.

Looking at this, Jiu Shen was quite satisfied that none of them passed out from the pain. Even the young elites of the Primordial God Realm could hardly do this without the help of the Pain Subduing Pill.

After thirty minutes or so, Yang Zenke opened his eyes fiercely and he abruptly rose to his feet. He cracked his head sideways while clenching his fists tightly with a joyful smile on his face. "Initial stage of the 3rd-rank Crusader realm! Hahaha!"

One after another, the other youths also stood up with happy smiles. All of them had broken through! Even the weakest among them was already at the peak stage of the 1st-rank Warrior realm!

Jiu Shen who was seated on his chair smiled as he looked at them. These young men didn't let him down. All of them were able to refine the full efficacy of the Body Transforming Dan without passing out! With this kind of achievement, they would surely be nurtured with care by any supreme powers in the Primordial God Realm.

Jiu Shen slowly stood up from his seat, while Long Meili also took a step back. She remained silent all day since she didn't want to disturb Jiu Shen.

"Since all of you have already practiced your sword techniques for the past month, what you need right now is practical training. Later, I will bring all of you somewhere to test everything that you've learned, but first, divide yourself into groups of ten." Jiu Shen ordered coldly.

Yang Zenke and the others hurriedly grouped themselves into ten different groups after hearing Jiu Shen's command. They were quite excited about the practical training that he spoke about and they could not even conceal the excitement on their faces.

After seeing that they had already divided into ten groups, Jiu Shen opened the Spirit World through the World Heart that was embedded on his left wrist.

Om!

Yang Zenke and the other youths were stunned when they saw a two-meter tall door suddenly appearing out of thin air.

"What is that thing?"

"Just shut up and wait for the master's orders!"

Jiu Shen pushed the wooden door open, making everyone see a different world behind the door. "Follow me inside. Remember, no one must know anything about this!" Jiu Shen said with a serious look. The existence of the Spirit World was one of Jiu Shen's most closely guarded secrets, and he didn't want anyone else to know about it other than his most trusted subordinates. Although no one in Nuar could identify it, the same could not be said in the Primordial God Realm, so he had to be cautious about this.

Yang Zenke and the others felt the gravity in Jiu Shen's tone, so they immediately nodded their heads to express their understanding.

"Yes, master!"

"Yes, master!"

Jiu Shen wanted to let them experience bloodshed, but since they only had less than two weeks before the start of the competition, he didn't have the time to bring them into the lairs of bandits, so he could only bring them to the Spirit World to fight with the savage beasts living within.

He will leave them for ten days in the Spirit World and he would only save them if they are already close to death. They had to experience countless life and death situations to become full-fledged experts!

"What a beautiful place! Is this a paradise?"

"Indeed! The true essence in the atmosphere of this place is many times denser than in the beast fighting arena. This place is a cultivation holy land!"

The youths exclaimed one by one after arriving inside the Spirit World. They have been locked inside the training facilities of the imperial family for all their lives, so they haven't seen anything as beautiful as the Spirit World.

"Save your breaths! I will bring every one of you into the dens of countless savage beasts! You must survive for ten days! You will hunt for food on your own, and your strategies will depend on what your groups would decide!" Jiu Shen said calmly, but his words made everyone's hearts turn cold. This was the first time that they would be sent into the wildlands, so they felt a bit nervous in their hearts. However, they didn't want to disappoint Jiu Shen who had given them the chance to become top experts, so in order to repay his kindness, they vowed in their hearts that they would survive this training!

Chapter 182 - Sending Liuli And Xia Xinyue To Manage The Sect Construction

"Before sending all of you away, I will provide you with the most basic pieces of armor and swords." Jiu Shen said as took out a pile of items from his space earring.

Not long later, Jiu Shen had already taken out one hundred ordinary swords and armors for the youths.

"This will be your equipment. If you manage to survive this training, I will give you guys something much better than these, so you have to work hard and survive this. And after this training, I will select ten among you to participate in the upcoming martial arts competition. Okay, that's all. Now, I will teleport your groups into different locations." Jiu Shen said as he opened multiple rifts in space effortlessly.

Looking at how Jiu Shen had easily used the element of space in such a manner, even Long Meili who was already a Nascent God Realm felt stunned in her heart.

'How did Master do it?'

Of course, this was because Jiu Shen was already the Deity of the Spirit World, and he had the power to do anything as he pleases here!

"What are you waiting for?! Jump into the portal that I've made together with your respective groups!" Jiu Shen reprimanded sternly after seeing the dumbfounded looks of the young kids.

"Y-Yes, master!"

"Yes, master!"

The young men immediately acknowledged the command after hearing Jiu Shen's stern call. And so, with resolute gazes, the youths separated into ten groups as they stepped inside the rifts in space.

After the last kid was gone, Long Meili who was silent the entire time could not help but voice out her thoughts. "Master, will they be alright? I mean they're still inexperienced kids despite the vigorous training that they've undergone. I fear that they might not be able to survive in the wilds..."

Jiu Shen took a glance at her and said with a calm look. "Only through experiencing bloodshed would they emerge as experts. Don't underestimate those kids, Little Lizard. Although they haven't experienced this kind of training yet, the student's that I've trained would not die that easily, and if ever they truly face a life-threatening scenario, then I will save them in an instant."

Jiu Shen then walked closer to Long Meili and patted her head. "Let's go back to the store. I can monitor their progress through this crystal here." He said as he pointed at the crystal that was embedded on his left wrist.

Long Meili stared at the crystal in her master's wrist with a curious look before nodding her head in obeisance. "Yes, master. I obey."

* * *

A week later, Jiu Shen was seated in a random corner on the first floor of his store. His face remained expressionless even though he was being attended by the three ladies, Liuli, Xia Xinyue, and Long Meili.

"Lord Jiu Shen, I'm bored to death here. Could you please give me a mission? I'm not used to staying idle like this..." Liuli grabbed Jiu Shen's right arm, hugging it tightly in her embrace as she glanced at him with pleading eyes.

Xia Xinyue's lips twitched when she saw Liuli's intimate contact with Jiu Shen and she could help but glare at her with piercing eyes. 'This vixen is trying to seduce Lord Sect Master again! Hateful!' Xia Xinyue thought to herself while also feeling a bit jealous in her heart.

Long Meili stared daggers at Liuli and from the looks of her eyes, it was as if she couldn't wait to spit a breath of flames at her.

Jiu Shen heard Liuli's words and he was slightly taken aback. Indeed, he had neglected this rare management talent, but he didn't have any job for her at this moment since his sect's base was yet to be conducted, but suddenly, he thought about something. 'That's right! I can just send her to begin this construction process and let her handle it, but I have to let someone monitor her as well. Hmm...'

Jiu Shen slowly opened his eyes and met Liuli's pleading look that was similar to a puppy asking for a treat. He then said in a calm voice. "In that case, I will give you a job. This is important, so I don't want any mistakes to happen."

Liuli's eyes lit up and she promptly nodded her head in excitement as she grabbed Jiu Shen's arm even more tightly that it almost squeezed her towering bosom. "Yes, Lord Jiu Shen! Don't worry. I won't fail you. Hehe..."

Jiu Shen's lips twitched when he sensed two soft mounds rubbing against his right arm, but he still nodded his head at her with a poker face. He already expected her confidence. After all, she was able to make the Green Wood Pavilion a renowned hotel in the whole Silver Wing Empire.

"I want you to manage the construction of my sect's base. I already have a draft of how it should look like, and as for the materials and people, you will handle it for me. Can

you do this?" Jiu Shen asked with an indifferent look as he handed a scroll made from a savage beast's skin to her.

Liuli unrolled the scroll and her eyes brightened upon seeing the design that Jiu Shen had drawn. She was most confident in her ability to manage things, so she nodded her head at Jiu Shen with a smile. "Lord Jiu Shen, you can rest assured. I will handle everything carefully and won't let you down. Hehe." She then stuck her tongue out while looking at Xia Xinyue with a provoking look.

"Good. Xinyue, I want you to help Liuli in doing this. Although she doesn't need any help, more people working together will make things go smoother." Jiu Shen said while looking at Xia Xinyue.

Xia Xinyue who was staring piercingly at Liuli was pleasantly surprised by Jiu Shen's command, and she immediately cast a smug smile at Liuli which made the latter snort tenderly in response.

"Yes, Lord Sect Master. Don't worry, I won't let this vix- Liuli make any mistakes." Xia Xinyue smiled at Jiu Shen reassuringly.

"I trust that the both of you would be able to complete this with ease. If you need anything from me, don't hesitate to ask. Okay, you may begin this now." Jiu Shen said.

The two girls stood up from their seats and bowed at Jiu Shen.

"We will get this done as soon as possible, Lord Sect Master."

"Leave this to us, Lord Jiu Shen."

After that, the ladies gave Jiu Shen one last look before departing from the store while glaring at each other.

"Master, the two of them... They wouldn't fight, right?" Long Meili asked while smiling in amusement as she pointed at the disappearing silhouettes of Xia Xinyue and Liuli.

Jiu Shen remained silent for a moment before he shook his head lightly. "Xia Xinyue isn't a violent type of woman, so she wouldn't make things more difficult for the both of them. As for Liuli, she might be a cunning lady, but her heart is not treacherous. With their skills, the construction of my sect's main base would definitely progress without a problem."

Chapter 183 - Ten Chosen

It was the final day of the young men's training and there were only a little less than 3 days left before the start of the annual martial arts competition.

Jiu Shen was standing on top of the huge platform inside the beast fighting arena. He was wearing a set of azure-colored robes which gave him a regal and noble aura.

"To think that these kids didn't even need me to save them. And from the looks of it, their strength had also improved a lot that even the weakest among them is already at the early stage of the 2nd-rank Elite Warrior realm. As for those two little guys, Yang Zenke and Han Sen, they are even more impressive. The latter had just broken through the peak stage of the 3rd-rank Crusader realm after experiencing quite a number of life and death battles. As for that brat Yang Zenke, he actually had a lucky encounter and found a high-level spiritual fruit, and he had even broken through the early stage of the 4th-rank Knight Crusader realm after consuming it. Impressive! With the strength and experience of these two little brats, they should be able to get into the top ten even if their cultivation level is weaker compared to their opponents." Jiu Shen muttered as he used his connection with the World Heart to eject the one hundred youths out of the Spirit World.

Om!

A number of rifts in space appeared in front of Jiu Shen and several silhouettes were forcefully thrown out from these rifts in space.

All the youths were now in a disheveled state and they had wounds all over their bodies, and even the two most promising young men among them were in no better condition. All of them looked like beggars with their tattered clothing and armors, and even the swords in their hands appeared to be damaged to a certain degree. However, despite their sorry states, the looks in their eyes were sharp and cold-blooded as if they wolves scanning their surrounding with cautious gazes.

They had experienced quite many life and death battles during their ten days of stay in the Spirit World. Some of them had even almost died, but luckily, they had their teammates who never gave up on them. And because of this training, the friendship and brotherhood between these youths deepened even further.

All of them could now be considered as cultivators!

Looking at the changes in their bearing and aura, Jiu Shen was fairly satisfied with their performance.

While clutching their injured bodies, Yang Zenke, Han Sen, and the rest stood up snappily after realizing that they were no longer in that 'dangerous place'. They then glanced at Jiu Shen with respectful looks as they bowed in unison.

"Greetings, master!"

"Greetings, master!"

A smile appeared on Jiu Shen's expressionless face. He then said. "You have done a great job in surviving that kind of environment, however, that is merely the start of your bloody paths. The road ahead is even more dangerous and life-threatening, but since everybody survived, I will give you guys a present for this achievement."

One hundred wooden boxes were neatly placed in front of the youths, making them curious as to what was hidden inside.

"Open it. These boxes are your rewards." Jiu Shen said after seeing that the young men were still standing foolishly.

After hearing Jiu Shen's command, they hurriedly took one box each and opened it without hesitation. And upon seeing what was inside, they could not help but feel stunned.

Inside each box was an embroidered black robes with red dragon patterns that looked noble and imposing. Other than that, there was also a one-meter sword that was blood-red in color. The sword gave off an elegant and graceful feeling that couldn't be found in any ordinary swords. It was actually an Earth-rank Weapon!

Every one of them received the same set of equipment, but the youths were satisfied with this.

Looking at the materials of the black robes and the blood-red swords, both didn't look simple, and it could be said that they looked luxurious and regal which made these cold-looking youths reveal hearty smiles on their faces.

"Master, is this really our reward?" Yang Zenke held the blood-red sword and the black robes firmly in his hands as he lifted his head to look at Jiu Shen with a disbelieving expression. It was the first time that these former slaves have seen such expensive-looking pieces of equipment, so they felt as if they were in a dream.

Jiu Shen smiled at him in amusement, but he still nodded his head at the kid as he said. "Indeed. Wear your new robes now while I announce who I would bring with me for the annual martial arts contest three days from now."

Everyone nodded their heads upon hearing his words and they immediately changed into their new set of black robes. After changing into their new clothes, the temperament and aura of the young men took a drastic change. If they looked like beggars on a roadside just a few moments ago, then as of the moment, all of them looked like young elites from an ancient sect or clan.

"I've been monitoring the progress that every one of you had experienced in these ten days, so this time, I will bring the ten strongest individuals among you guys to register in the competition. Those who will follow me are: Yang Zenke, Han Sen, ..."

The weakest among the ten that Jiu Shen had called was already at the early stage of the 3rd-rank Crusader realm, but it was not a problem for him to defeat someone at the 4th-rank Knight Crusader realm with his superior sword techniques and Earth Weapon. Not to mention that the black robes he was wearing were also not simple. In fact, it was made from a high-level fabric that could withstand the attack of a 5th-rank Spirit realm savage beast!

As Jiu Shen announced the ten names, everyone held their breaths. Those youths whose names were called clenched their fists in excitement. And after Jiu Shen announced the ten names, those who weren't called felt slightly dejected in their hearts, but their faces instantly lit up with fighting intent. They might not be the strongest right now, but it wouldn't be the same in the future.

"The rest of you will stay here to train and familiarize yourselves with your new weapons. As for the ten of you whose names are called, follow me to the imperial palace." Jiu Shen said.

The registration process for the participants was still ongoing, and the competition would be held right outside the imperial palace. At present, there should still be a lot of youths signing up for the contest.

Hm?

Just as Jiu Shen was about to step out of the beast fighting arena together with the ten chosen youths, he suddenly felt a familiar aura coming towards them.

He glanced in a certain direction and saw the familiar silhouette of his senior disciple Lu Sulan. Following behind her were ten young ladies with cold and icy temperaments. All of them looked below twenty in age, so Jiu Shen guessed that they should be the participants that Lu Sulan's Ice Cloud Sword Sect would send for the contest. Looking at them, they didn't look weak at all, and even the weakest among them was also at the early stage of the 3rd-rank Crusader realm.

Chapter 184 - Auction?

Lu Sulan saw Jiu Shen coming out of the beast fighting arena, so she told her disciples to walk faster. After getting nearer, she was a bit surprised to see the ten youths behind Jiu Shen since she knew who they were. 'These kids. Aren't they part of those youths that are personally trained by master? How the hell did their strength and cultivation level increase by this much in such a short time?! Looking at their aura, their cultivation

seems to be stable and not shaky at all! Amazing! Only master can accomplish this. Hehe.'

After a moment of amazement, a smile blossomed on Lu Sulan's face as she stared at Jiu Shen. "Greetings, master."

The ten young ladies behind Lu Sulan also bowed respectfully as they greeted Jiu Shen in tender voices. "Greetings, grandmaster."

The group of youths behind Jiu Shen glanced at these young ladies with curiosity, and they were quite surprised when they sensed that their cultivation level was actually similar or even greater than their own.

Jiu Shen smiled at Lu Sulan before he took a glance at the ten ladies behind her. He knew four among them since they were the first waitresses in his store. They were Xiao Hua and her three friends. Xiao Hua was still at the peak stage of the 4th-rank Knight Crusader realm, but it won't be long before she could break through to the next realm. As for her three friends, although they were weaker than Xiao Hua, they were all at the early stage of the 4th-rank Knight Crusader realm.

"This is Lu Sulan, my first disciple. Come and greet her." Jiu Shen beckoned to the youths behind him as he introduced Lu Sulan. They already knew who she was because they always see Lu Sulan together with Jiu Shen, so they immediately greeted her with respect.

"Greetings, Senior Sister Lu."

Lu Sulan smiled at them for a moment before she shifted her gaze at her master. She then asked him. "Master, are you also planning to let these kids join the martial arts competition?"

Jiu Shen nodded his head calmly as he replied. "Indeed. And since you're already here, you might as well come with us to the imperial palace to register."

Lu Sulan's eyes lit up and she nodded her head. "Yes, master. We will follow you to the imperial palace."

The young ladies behind her were also excited when they heard that. They had received Jiu Shen's guidance in sword techniques for the past month and their comprehension and skills improved by a margin. Because of this, they treated him with respect and admiration.

Thus, Jiu Shen and Lu Sulan went to the imperial palace together with twenty young men and women.

Jiu Shen waved his right hand as he produced twenty-two flying swords using the element of wind. The green-colored flying swords that were about two meters long and twelve inches wide hovered three meters above the ground.

"Wow! Are these flying swords?"

"Cool! The grandmaster actually has this kind of skill. Amazing!"

Looking at this, everyone was stunned and they could help but praise Jiu Shen, and even Lu Sulan was dumbstruck at this. 'What a splendid control of the wind element! Even I could not do this...'

"With this, we will arrive much faster in the imperial palace. Everyone, hop onto these flying swords. Just sit cross-legged on the flying sword and I'll do the rest." Jiu Shen said as he jumped onto one of the flying swords with graceful movements. Swoosh.

Swoosh. Swoosh. Swoosh. Swoosh.

After hearing his words, Yang Zenke, Han Sen, and their buddies immediately leaped onto the swords and sat cross-legged with eager expressions. They were quite excited at the thought of flying through the skies with a flying sword.

"G-Grandmaster, we wouldn't fall from this, right?" One of the young ladies behind Lu Sulan voiced out her concern with a timid look on her pretty face.

After hearing her words, the other young women felt a bit worried as well. Although they were cultivators, they would still die if they fall from the skies...

Jiu Shen chuckled in his heart when he heard that, but he still put on a serious look as he replied in a calm tone. "You don't have to worry about falling since I will be the one controlling the flight of these swords. And even if you did fall, I will immediately rescue you."

The young girls felt much upon hearing that, and they promptly hopped onto the swords before sitting cross-legged. Their faces were pale and excited at the same time.

Lu Sulan smiled apologetically at her master. Her disciples might have strong cultivation levels for their age, but they haven't experienced any life and death situations yet which made them no different than ordinary girls.

"Master, I heard that there will be an auction tonight in the Silver Dragon Auction House. And I heard that a few rare treasures will be auctioned as well. I'd like to see whether there is some truth to this rumor." Lu Sulan suddenly said.

Upon hearing that, Jiu Shen's curiosity was piqued. Although Nuar's resources were poor and low-level for him, he kinda missed the atmosphere inside an auction house, so he was a bit interested in this.

"It looks like you have already decided about this beforehand. In that case, I will come with you to this auction and see if I could buy something for these young men." Jiu Shen said.

A beautiful smile appeared on Lu Sulan's face upon hearing that. "Good! I will also bring these little girls with me to gain some experience."

It didn't take them a long time to arrive in the imperial palace, and upon their arrival, they saw thousands of young people lining up for the registration of the martial arts competition.

"Eh? So many people! It looks like we can't attend the auction tonight. They should be the last batch of participants that wants to register." Lu Sulan was a bit annoyed and helpless when she saw a huge number of people outside the imperial palace.

There were one hundred square battle platforms prepared for the coming contest, and each platform was currently used to register the young people who wanted to participate.

Looking at this, Jiu Shen furrowed his eyebrows. 'If we line up now, we wouldn't be able to register even until tomorrow. I should inform Elyk about our arrival. He should be able to help us register faster.'

If anyone would know what Jiu Shen was thinking at this moment, they would surely not know whether to laugh or to cry. He actually wanted the emperor to cut the queue for him...

Chapter 185 - Registration

Jiu Shen and the others were still on the flying swords as they remained hovering above the skies.

"Look above! There are people on those flying swords!"

"What kind of supreme power did they come from? Our Silver Wing Empire actually has such people?"

"Whoever they are, we could not afford to offend them."

The crowd exclaimed when they saw Jiu Shen's group in the skies. They looked like immortals that looked down upon the mundane world. Just their bearing and aura alone was enough to scare the people down below. Even the disciples of the three strongest noble families swallowed a mouthful of saliva at the sight of them.

"Let's go down first. Everyone, get ready. We're descending." Jiu Shen said as he controlled the flying swords to descend.

"Look! They're descending!"

"Let's go! I wanna see what kind of people would show up like this."

"They actually have flying swords! Amazing!"

The onlookers stared wordlessly at Jiu Shen's party as they descended from the skies. There was a look of anticipation on the crowd's faces since they were truly curious as to who these guys were. After all, no one was capable of even making a flying sword. However, they didn't know that those flying swords were merely produced by Jiu Shen's power by manipulating the element of wind.

When they were close to the ground, Yang Zenke and the rest rose from their feet with calm and cold looks. As for the young girls from the Ice Cloud Sword Sect, they only stood up when they were only ten meters above the ground.

Swoosh.

Jiu Shen jumped off from his flying sword and gracefully landed on the ground. He ignored the admiring glances of the people around them as he commanded his people.

"Let's go."

Lu Sulan and the others immediately followed behind Jiu Shen while disregarding the onlooking crowd.

Yang Zenke and his buddies had developed a cold and merciless aura after going through countless battles in the Spirit World. And because of the hellish physical tempering that they had gone through, their faces didn't look like immature teens at all. In fact, they might even be mistaken as young adults because of their lean and power builds. Coupled with their grim black robes with red dragon patterns and the blood-red swords that were uniformly strapped behind their backs, they looked like elite sword cultivators. Even the young disciples of the Ice Cloud Sword Sect lost to them by a tiny bit in terms of temperament and bearing. However, these young girls had practiced ice techniques since they had started cultivating, so they were unconsciously giving out a cold and distant aura as if they were ice fairies from a mystical land. This gave them a detached air, making the hot-blooded youths among the crowd drool endlessly.

Looking at Jiu Shen's group, the crowd parted and they didn't even dare block their path. Who would foolishly block the path of such a strong-looking group? Even a retarded person would not dare provoke them...

"Master, it looks like we don't need to fall in line." Lu Sulan chuckled softly while covering her small mouth with her right hand.

"Eh? Isn't this Wine Master Jiu? So that's why their group looks so strong! It's actually Wine Master Jiu and his people!"

"It's really Wine Master Jiu! He actually brought twenty young elites with him! Even Young Miss Lu is here with him!"

Some of the people recognized Jiu Shen and Lu Sulan, so they immediately became excited. After their identities were exposed, even those that didn't know how they look were finally able to recognize them. Who in Beltran City didn't know about the most luxurious wine store in the capital was owned by this man right here?

Jiu Shen realized that the people were actually making way for them which made things easier for them. 'Hm... I thought I would need Elyk's help to cut the queue.' He thought.

And so, without any difficulty, Jiu Shen and the others were able to register themselves without a problem. And even the elder who managed their registration was giving them flattering smiles.

"Young friend, what's your name?" The elder asked as he looked at Yang Zenke with a smile.

Yang Zenke's face remained cold and calm, his expression was almost the same as Jiu Shen. With an indifferent expression, he answered. "Yang Zenke."

The elder didn't mind his attitude and he already expected it especially after seeing their grand entrance from the skies.

"Young Friend Yang, place your right hand on this crystal ball. It will detect your age and cultivation level." The elder smiled humbly. He didn't want to offend this group, so he had to be extra courteous. Even though he was already a 6th-rank King realm cultivator, he could not see through the level of Jiu Shen and Lu Sulan who came together with these young disciples, so he was careful not to provoke them.

Yang Zenke extended his right arm and placed his hand on the crystal ball which immediately lit up upon coming in contact with him.

"Fifteen years old, early stage of the 4th-rank Knight Crusader realm!" The elder exclaimed as he recorded Yang Zenke's information.

"Woah! That guy is actually so strong! Looks like they are the real deal!"

"Shush! Shut up! What if they hear you speaking about them?!"

Yang Zenke lifted his right hand from the crystal ball and cupped his fists at the elder before he left without saying another word.

The others also registered themselves after Yang Zenke, and the elder was quite surprised since all of them were actually formidable despite their young age. 'To think that there are actually young geniuses who are as monstrous as the fourth prince and the fifth princess! Sigh! The young would truly surpass the old...'

"Sister Hua, it's our turn to register! Go and shock these people. Hehehe." The little sisters of Xiao Hua giggled as they urged her to go first.

Xiao Hua smiled wryly but she still stepped forward and cupped her fist at the elder as she said. "Elder, my name is Xiao Hua."

The elder smiled amiably after seeing the innocent smile of Xia Hua. 'This little lass shouldn't be as monstrous as those guys, right?' He thought.

"Young Miss Xiao, place your hand here on the crystal ball."

Xiao Hua did not waste any time and immediately put her hand on top of the crystal ball.

The elder's smile vanished when he saw the results and he almost fell from his seat from the sheer surprise that he felt.

"17 years old, peak of the 4th-rank Knight Crusader realm!"

Chapter 186 - Silver Dragon Auction House

"Woah! Such a young expert! And she's also as pretty as a flower!"

"Don't even think about wooing her. Have you seen those guys with her? Especially that Yang Zenke, he's still fifteen years old, but he's already an early stage 4th-rank Knight Crusader realm expert! Even the best disciples of the three great noble families aren't as strong as him."

"Hey! Have you forgotten about the son of the Xue Family's supreme elder? I heard his strength had mysteriously increased, and he's now at the peak stage of the 4th-rank Knight Crusader realm!"

"You mean Xue Tong? That guy is already twenty-one this year, and you're actually comparing him to a fifteen-year-old? What an idiot!"

The crowd talked among themselves as they observed Yang Zenke and Xiao Hua's group. They were about the same age as them, but Yang Zenke and co were still much stronger and their backing isn't one to be trifled with either.

"Master, how did you manage to increase the strength of these little brats in just a little more than a month? When I last saw them, they were not this strong. I can even sense that they reek the smell of blood and murderous intent. This is a clear sign that they've already experienced killing." Lu Sulan glanced probingly at her master. Although she already knew that her master was someone from the Primordial God Realm, she had no knowledge about that place. So she was somewhat mystified by Yang Zenke and the others' sudden jump in strength.

Jiu Shen was quite secretive about how he had tempered Yang Zenke and the other youths. Even Can Ye who had supervised their training didn't know anything about it.

"Don't forget that your master is a high-rank alchemist. And as to how I trained them, you'll know it after the sect is formally established." Jiu Shen replied indifferently.

Lu Sulan pouted, but she didn't pester Jiu Shen anymore. She knew that he wouldn't tell her no matter how she asks him.

"Master, let's go to the auction house. It's still early, but it should already be opened for their guests." Lu Sulan changed the topic. She was very interested in the auction tonight, so she was a bit excited to talk about it.

Jiu Shen was similarly interested in this auction, but he wasn't hoping to find something valuable in there. Could there be anything that would interest him in a mortal world's auction? That was close to impossible. Besides, he would only go there to have fun.

"I initially wanted to inform Elyk that we are here, but since you're this eager to go to that auction, then let's go. If I'm not wrong, this Silver Dragon Auction House should be owned by the imperial family, so he should be present in the auction tonight. It won't be too late to see him by then." Jiu Shen said.

After getting Jiu Shen's approval, Lu Sulan naturally ice-cold expression suddenly melted into a pretty smile. "Master, let's go." She said as she pulled her master's arms.

Jiu Shen shook his head helplessly, but he still followed behind her. 'Sigh. This girl is even more excited than the kids. It looks like she'd truly been cooped up in their ice castle because of her past condition.'

Yang Zenke, Xiao Hua, and the others followed behind the two with excited looks. It's the first time that they would be going to attend an auction, so they were eager about it.

It was not a long walk towards the Silver Dragon Auction House since it was not that far from the imperial palace.

Upon looking at the imposing building with a dragon statue at the entrance, Jiu Shen became even more certain that this auction house was owned by the Silveria Imperial Family. Who else other than the imperial family would dare to place a dragon statue at their entrance?

There was already a long line of people going inside this building. It was a very big establishment, so it wasn't a problem for it to accommodate several ten thousand people. Besides, only the rich had the ability to enter such a place, as for those without background, they could only dream about entering it.

The entrance of the auction house was guarded by two middle-aged imperial guards. Their cultivation level was at the early stage of the 6th-rank King realm. These two imperial guards sized up Jiu Shen's group, and one of them seemed to have recalled something as he immediately said with a smile. "Guests, you may go inside without paying the entrance fee."

The other imperial guard was surprised by this, but when he saw his partner's signal, he swallowed the words he was about to say.

Jiu Shen's expression remained calm upon hearing this, but he still nodded his head at the two imperial guards to express his thanks. He then went inside the building without even saying another word.

After no longer seeing the figures of Jiu Shen's party, the imperial guard who was silent the whole time finally spoke in bewilderment. "Brother, why did you allow that group to come inside without even asking for the entrance fee?"

The other imperial guard glared at him and replied in a reprimanding tone. "I say brother, you're really ill-informed! You don't even know the famous Wine Master Jiu of our Beltran City?"

The imperial guard was stunned at this. "You mean that man is Wine Master Jiu? I heard that he is great friends with His Majesty."

"Not just that..."

* * *

The interior of the Silver Dragon Auction House was quite huge and spacious, and there was a platform at the very center where the items to be auctioned would be displayed. There were already a lot of people inside, but they didn't even occupy a fourth of the total seats inside.

"Such a huge auction house! Amazing! I wonder what would be auctioned later."

"Won't we know by then? Just stop asking questions and don't embarrass our Ice Cloud Sword Sect."

The young disciples of the Ice Cloud Sword Sect talked among themselves excitedly. As for Yang Zenke and the others, although they were also excited about the auction, they were still able to remain calm.

"Hello, guests eh- Wine Master Jiu?!" A sharp cry of exclamation made Jiu Shen's group glance at the young lady who had greeted them. Upon seeing her face, they were dumbfounded since they knew who she was.

"Greetings Your Highness the Fifth Princess!" Yang Zenke and Xiao Hua's group of disciples immediately greeted her.

"So this is why you're absent this time for work in the store? You're actually here to manage this auction house." Lu Sulan teased Princess Sylvia with a smile.

Jiu Shen wordlessly glanced at the fifth princess and only nodded his head at her in greeting.

"T-This... this is emperor father's arrangement and he said that I would manage the imperial family's auction house in the future. He sent me here to gain experience... Nevermind about that. Follow me to the VIP room upstairs." Princess Sylvia said as she forced out a smile. She was a bit embarrassed after being teased by Lu Sulan. They were quite familiar with each other since they both work as a waitress in Jiu Shen's store.

Princess Sylvia didn't wait for their answer and she immediately led them upstairs. There were five VIP rooms inside the Silver Dragon Auction House, and only the most distinguished individuals were allowed to go inside. Three of the five VIP rooms were already taken by the Beiming Family, Liu Family, and the Alchemist Hall, so there were only two VIP rooms left. The last two were supposed to be taken by the imperial family and the Xue Family, but since Jiu Shen was here, Princess Sylvia didn't even hesitate to offer the VIP room that was meant for the Xue Family to his group.

"Your Highness, didn't you say that this VIP room is prepared for our Xue Family? Why are you bringing people here?" An old man in black and purple robes said with a displeased tone. He just came here earlier and he had already discussed with Princess Sylvia that this room was to be reserved for the Xue Family, but now, he saw her bringing a group of people to this place, so how could he not be displeased?

Princess Sylvia might be subdued and meek in front of Jiu Shen, but she is a naughty and mischievous young girl in front of others.

"Did I say that? I don't remember discussing something with you. Old grandpa, please step aside. Can't you recognize Wine Master Jiu and Sect Mistress Lu with your aged eyes?" Princess Sylvia snorted haughtily. She didn't even spare a glance at this elder from the Xue Family as she went inside the VIP room.

"You!" The elder's beard flared and he almost lost his composure after being looked down upon by the little demoness, but he hurriedly calmed himself and put on a grim smile at Jiu Shen's group before he left with heavy strides.

"Little lass, you are really good at making trouble. You even dare to mess with the Xue Family." Lu Sulan giggled as she looked at the fifth princess' mischievous face.

"Hmph! What can that old man do? If he dares to mess with me, I'll pull his beard off!" The fifth princess snorted in disdain. She didn't place anyone in her eyes at all.

Jiu Shen glanced at her and sighed in his heart. 'Looks like this little kid is still clueless about the Xue Family...'

Chapter 187 - The Four Princes Gathers

"Your Highness, can you tell us what kind of treasures would be auctioned tonight?" Xiao Hua asked while looking at the fifth princess with a smile. The both of them are waitresses of Jiu Shen's store and they had become good friends after working in the same place for quite some time. Although they had a difference in status, the fifth princess treated everyone in Jiu Shen's store as her friends without prejudice.

Princess Sylvia put on a mischievous smile upon hearing that. She then replied in a slightly mysterious tone. "I'm not telling you. Emperor father had already guessed that you'd come here, and he told me to leave you guys in suspense, so I won't speak anything about it. However, I am certain that you would definitely like some of the items that will be auctioned later. Hehe." She stuck her tongue out playfully after saying those words.

Lu Sulan had the urge to knock the little girl's head after seeing her naughty expression, but she held herself back and just slumped on her chair while glaring at the fifth princess.

Most of Lu Sulan's time was spent inside the Ice Cloud Sword Sect's ice castle for the past decade, so she was a bit excited about this auction. She might already be a top expert in the Profound Dragon Continent, but she was still a woman who wanted to buy luxurious things to satisfy herself. Besides, her Ice Cloud Sword Sect wasn't short in True Crystals.

Xiao Hua smiled helplessly when she saw the expression on the fifth princess' face, and she knew that she couldn't force the latter about it especially because it was the emperor's command. In the end, she could only flash a wry smile.

"I'll have to excuse myself now, everyone. I still have to greet the other guests or else emperor father might punish me for my negligence. If anyone from the Xue Family makes trouble for you, just call me and I'll help you thrash them. Hehe. Wine Master Jiu, Sect Mistress Lu, please excuse me." Princess Sylvia smiled as she curtsied at Jiu Shen and Lu Sulan.

Jiu Shen remained silent, while Lu Sulan gestured for her to leave.

After the fifth princess left the fourth VIP room, Lu Sulan turned her gaze to Jiu Shen and asked in a small voice. "Master, do you want me to tell that little girl about the Xue Family? They might do something harmful to her for this humiliation."

Jiu Shen told his most trusted subordinates about the present condition of the Silver Wing Empire, and Lu Sulan was already aware of the Xue Family's involvement with the Undying Corpse Sect. She was worried that something might happen to the fifth princess considering what the latter had done earlier.

Jiu Shen's expression remained calm, and he was looking at the people inside the auction house through the thin glass from their VIP room. He didn't look the slightest bit worried about the fifth princess at all. He then replied to Lu Sulan with an indifferent tone. "You don't need to be worried about her. Although the Silveria Imperial Family looks much weaker on the surface compared to the Xue Family and the Undying Corpse Sect, I can tell that Elyk still has something under his sleeves. Besides, I wouldn't allow them to harm her with me around here." His voice was still calm after he said the last sentence, but Lu Sulan felt a sense of coldness at that instant. She knew her master was not joking after sensing that strange feeling of coldness!

Jiu Shen might be indifferent to the lives of mortals, but Princess Sylvia was now a waitress in his store. She had even received his guidance in swordsmanship and cultivation.

Jiu Shen had already considered Princess Sylvia as one of his own, and he wouldn't allow anyone to harm his people!

"In that case, I can rest assured." Lu Sulan said with a sigh of relief.

Not long after that short interaction, the Xue Family arrived inside the auction house. There were also ten disciples among them, and they were led by three elders. One of these elders was the one that was humiliated by the fifth princess earlier, and he was now looking at her with suppressed killing intent. This elder wasn't weak at all. He was already at the early stage of the 7th-rank Emperor, and the other two elders standing beside him also had similar levels of cultivation.

These three elders were surrounded by a dense amount of corpse qi, but the only one who could sense it was Jiu Shen. Even Lu Sulan with her 9th-rank Saint realm cultivation wasn't able to sense it.

Princess Sylvia snorted in her heart when she saw the elder's face, but she still put on a professional smile on her face. "Guests from the Xue Family, I'm so sorry to inform you that all the VIP rooms in our Silver Dragon Auction House are now occupied, but don't worry, I will arrange the front seats for you guys so that you can see the auctioned item in a much closer distance." Her excuse was flawless and she even spoke in a polite tone as if sitting at the front was something to be proud about, but Elder Kuan who was humiliated by her earlier wasn't happy about this arrangement.

The Xue Family was supposed to be inside the fourth VIP room, but they were actually denied entry because of Jiu Shen's arrival. If it was before, Elder Kuan would never dare show his anger, but after learning the secrets of his Xue Family, his confidence was increased. "Your Highness, do you really want to bully our Xue Family like this?" His voice was eerily cold as if he couldn't wait to tear the fifth princess apart.

The crowd sensed the tense atmosphere at the reception hall, but they didn't dare make any rash move. They just silently spectated the scene with interest.

Princess Sylvia put on an innocent appearance as she replied. "What do you mean, Elder Kuan? Are you dissatisfied with this arrangement? Let me tell you the truth, this is the emperor father's decision!"

"Someone actually dared to snatch the Xue Family's VIP room? But if this is truly His Majesty's arrangements, then the Xue Family could only swallow this insult."

"What do you know? The ones who snatched the fourth VIP room are Wine Master Jiu and Sect Mistress Lu of the Ice Cloud Sword Sect."

"So that's how it is. What a pity."

Elder Kuan glared at the crowd after hearing their discussion which made everyone shut their mouths abruptly. They could sense that the strength of Elder Kuan was greater than their own, and no one among them was foolish enough to provoke the Xue Family, so they immediately ceased their chattering.

Hmph!

Elder Kuan snorted in disdain after seeing that he had scared the crowd with his gaze. He then brushed past the fifth princess as he led his group to the seats in front.

Princess Sylvia made a face while looking at their back figures. She then went back to the reception hall to receive the other guests.

"The emperor has arrived!" The shrill voice of a eunuch echoed inside the auction house, and everyone immediately stood up from their seats while looking respectfully at the man being led by the fifth princess. Even the Elder Kuan and the Xue Family stood up from their seats to stare at the man being led by the fifth princess.

Emperor Elyk had a dignified look as he walked with steady steps. Behind him were his four sons, Crown Prince Reinhardt, Second Prince Arslan, Third Prince Erevard, and Fourth Prince Dante. All of the four princes looked elegant and poised with different kinds of charms. Everyone was shocked to see all four of them present at the same place.

"Greetings, Your Majesty!"

"Greetings, Your Majesty!"

Although everyone inside the auction house came from the most prominent families and sects in the Silver Wing Empire, none of them dared to disrespect the emperor. Who among them didn't see his valiance when a huge dragon had come to Beltran City more than a month ago? Even Elder Kuan who had an ugly expression just a moment ago didn't dare offend the emperor.

"No need for formalities, everyone. You may go back to your seats. I just came here since I heard that my good friend Wine Master Jiu is here." Emperor Elyk said before he went straight to the fourth VIP room to meet Jiu Shen. There was still a bit more time before the auction would start, so he could still chat with Jiu Shen with the remaining time. The emperor also wanted to see the young kids that Jiu Shen brought with him to register in the martial arts contest two days later.

Princess Sylvia led them to the fourth VIP room where Jiu Shen and his group were staying. She then knocked on the door as she said. "Wine Master Jiu, emperor father is here and he wants to come inside and chat with you for a bit."

The room was silent for a moment before an indifferent voice drifted. "Let them in."

Princess Sylvia grinned upon hearing his reply. She then pushed open the door before gesturing for her father and four brothers to come inside the VIP room.

Emperor Elyk saw the naughty smile hanging on his daughter's face, but he could only helplessly chuckle in his heart. Even though he was the emperor, he didn't have the heart to scold his most precious daughter. Who told him to spoil this little girl?

Chapter 188 - Warning The Emperor

Everyone inside the fourth VIP room was now standing after the emperor stepped inside. Even Lu Sulan rose from her seat to express her respect to Emperor Elyk.

"Greetings, Your Majesty."

"Greetings, Your Majesty."

The young disciples brought by Lu Sulan and Jiu Shen bowed as they greeted the emperor.

Yang Zenke, Han Sen, and the others who were formerly the slaves of the imperial family glanced at Emperor Elyk with complex expressions. However, their expression promptly returned to normal after recalling that they were now under a new master! They were now the swords of Jiu Shen!

There was only one person inside the fourth VIP room who had remained seated on his chair. Jiu Shen didn't even face the emperor and he just nonchalantly sat with a calm look.

The emperor and Fourth Prince Dante who knew Jiu Shen's attitude were unbothered by his lack of courtesy. However, the crown prince, the second prince, and the third prince frowned when they saw this. Dissatisfaction covered their faces, but it was instantly replaced by fake smiles.

"Wine Master Jiu, we meet again! Hahaha!" Emperor Elyk laughed happily as he stared at Jiu Shen who was still seated on his chair. He didn't mind Jiu Shen's nonchalance since he already knew the latter's strength and ability.

Jiu Shen didn't even glance at the emperor, and he just spoke indifferently. "Elyk, sit and we'll talk."

Emperor Elyk was all smiles upon hearing this and just as he was about to walk, an unhappy voice suddenly echoed inside the VIP room, making everyone stunned.

"Wine Master Jiu, what is the meaning of this?! You didn't stand to greet emperor father, but I just let it slide. And now, you even dare to order emperor father around?! Who do you think you are?!" Crown Prince Reinhardt said with a loud volume of voice. It was obvious that he was angry about Jiu Shen's lack of respect.

The second prince, third prince, fourth prince, and even the fifth princess were stunned upon hearing this. They immediately cursed in their hearts: Crap!

Every one of them knew that Jiu Shen was not a simple man, but the crown prince was unaware of this since he was not present in Beltran City all this time. He had been moving from one place to another to gather more men to serve under him. He had also visited many noble families all over the Silver Wing Empire in order to strengthen his

status as the crown prince, so he was truly unaware of what was happening to Beltran City since he had just come back a few days from his long trip.

Emperor Elyk glared at the crown prince, but the latter wasn't even looking at his father. Reinhardt was staring straight at the back of this so-called Wine Master Jiu. He had heard a lot about Jiu Shen after he had come back to Beltran City, but he didn't think too highly of this so-called Alchemy Saint and unfathomable expert. He didn't believe that there was really such a capable man in Beltran City.

Jiu Shen had his back facing against them, so the crown prince could still not see his face.

"Reinhardt! Apologize to Wine Master Jiu right now!" Emperor Elyk shouted angrily while looking at his foolish eldest son with disappointment.

Hm?

"E-Emperor father... T-This..."

The crown prince was surprised at the sudden outrage of his father. He was actually telling him, the crown prince, to apologize to someone?

Reinhardt frowned as he thought of countless possibilities. Could it be that this man is truly as the rumors say he is? He suddenly regretted speaking without thinking at that moment, but there was no pill for regret.

The second prince and the third prince smiled gloatingly at the crown prince, while the others remained silent as they looked at the scene with shocked expressions.

"Do you want me to repeat my words?!" Emperor Elyk's voice was a tad louder this time, and his face also started to warp because of his anger. 'This foolish eldest son of mine! Why did I even confer him as the crown prince? Sigh...'

Before the crown prince could speak, an indifferent voice drifted into everyone's ears as Jiu Shen turned to face the emperor. "Elyk, it seems like you failed to teach your son some manners."

The crown prince wanted to retort, but when he saw Jiu Shen's face, Reinhardt's expression froze.

"It's you!" Crown Prince Reinhardt pointed his finger at Jiu Shen's face, but he hurriedly retracted it after seeing the fiery look on his father's face. 'Lord Jiu Shen... Wine Master Jiu... So that's how it is! It's actually this bastard!'

Jiu Shen turned his gaze to the crown prince and said with a disinterested look. "Your Highness, we meet again." There was a tone of sarcasm in his voice when he said the word 'Crown Prince'. It was as if Jiu Shen disdained to talk to him.

"This... So it's Lord Jiu Shen. I apologize for my disrespect Lord Jiu. I didn't know it was you. By the way, how is Proprietress Liuli?" The crown prince said with a forced smile. He wasn't a complete idiot, and he realized that he had misspoken, so hurriedly changed the subject.

Emperor Elyk's expression softened a bit after seeing that the two knew each other. He then said with an angry look. "Reinhardt, you must not talk like that to Wine Master Jiu again, or else I'll beat you up personally."

"Yes, emperor father. I wouldn't dare." The crown prince bowed at the emperor with a forced smile. His father had actually spoken such words in front of a lot of people. Although he felt humiliated, he didn't dare express his dissatisfaction. He just silently cursed in his heart. 'This fucking Jiu Shen again! First, you stole my woman, and now, you even have my father dancing at your fingertips!'

Jiu Shen ignored the crown prince as he turned his gaze back to the emperor. "Elyk, you can send your sons back. I only want to talk to you." Jiu Shen said.

After seeing that Jiu Shen actually ignored him, Reinhardt gnashed his teeth while cursing Jiu Shen's eighteen generations inside his heart.

Emperor Elyk sensed the seriousness in Jiu Shen's tone, so he turned to look at his four sons. "You all can go back to the fifth VIP room." He then turned his gaze to his daughter and said in a berating tone. "And you! Go back to the reception hall to receive the other guests!"

The four princes and the fifth princess immediately scurried out of the fourth VIP room. They didn't want to anger their father any longer. They knew that they wouldn't end well if they remained.

Now, the only ones left inside the fourth VIP room were Jiu Shen's people and the emperor.

Lu Sulan glanced at the young disciples and gestured for them to give space to the two. Although she was curious as to what Jiu Shen wanted to speak with the emperor, she didn't dare sit beside them.

Jiu Shen flicked his fingers, forming an invisible barrier around him and the emperor which blocked the hearing of everyone inside the fourth VIP room.

The emperor sensed it, but he acted normal.

"Wine Master Jiu, what do you want to speak about?" His voice sounded calm, but he was feeling slightly anxious in his heart. Anything that comes out of Jiu Shen's mouth was something serious and usually involves his Silver Wing Empire, so he could not help but feel his heart tightening.

Jiu Shen glanced at him calmly and replied. "I initially wanted to tell you this at a later date, but I keep on sensing that something bad will happen to the Silver Wing Empire anytime now."

Jiu Shen paused for a moment, and the emperor waited for him to continue.

"Elyk, you have to be careful about your second son. He isn't how he used to be." Jiu Shen wanted to tell Emperor Elyk about the identity of the second prince, but he held himself back. It might significantly affect the emperor's psyche and it would be detrimental for the Silver Wing Empire if their emperor's state of mind is unstable.

Emperor Elyk frowned when he heard that and he remained silent. His silence lasted for about three minutes, but Jiu Shen gave him some time. In the end, the emperor released a heavy sigh and he seemed to have aged by a few years. He was no fool, he had also seen the changes of his second son, and although he didn't know what happened to him, Emperor Elyk already had his guesses. Just that, he wasn't sure of what really happened.

"Sigh. Thanks for your reminder, Wine Master Jiu. I'll keep an eye on that brat Arslan." The emperor said with a weak voice.

Jiu Shen patted the emperor's back and said. "Don't make him discover anything abnormal and just keep a close look at his movements. He's no longer the Arslan that you know..."

He left some clues in his words, but he didn't speak the whole truth. It was better left unsaid at this moment.

Chapter 189 - The Beautiful Host Of The Auction

Inside the fifth VIP room, the crown prince punched the thick wall of the room that was made from a combination of several precious metals.

Bang!

A dull banging sound echoed inside the fifth VIP room.

"That fucking bastard! He hid himself so well! Now, even emperor father is so close to him. Dammit!"

The crown prince's strength carried no true essence and it only contained his raw physical power, so it didn't leave any noticeable damage to the wall.

His fist bled, but the crown prince's face remained cold as he stood rooted in his spot.

The third prince and the second prince sneered in their hearts after seeing this, but the both of them put on a consoling look as they swiftly calmed their brother. Both their faces were full of worry, and anyone would surely believe that they were close. However, only the three of them knew that this was merely an act.

As for the fourth prince, he glanced at the crown prince in dissatisfaction and disappointment. Prince Dante respected his eldest brother for his strength even though the latter was a fickle man. However, everything changed today when his eldest brother disrespected the person he admired the most, Jiu Shen.

'Sigh. I can't believe that my eldest brother would actually end up like this. It looks like emperor father would pass the throne to either my second brother or my third brother, but I don't think my third brother is fit for the throne. As for my second brother, I can't understand his personality now.' Prince Dante sighed in his heart as he sat down with a heavy look. He didn't even bother to glance at the fake looks of his three brothers. It was as if he didn't know them anymore.

"Big Brother Reinhardt, don't be like this. If emperor father hears you cursing that Wine Master Jiu, he might punish you for it." The second prince, Prince Arslan said as he patted the crown prince back with a worried look.

"Second Brother is right. You must not let this humiliation take over your head, Big Brother. You have a lot of time to take your revenge, but I advise you not to do it. This Wine Master Jiu is not a simple man." The third prince, Prince Erevard added.

The crown prince, Prince Reinhardt glanced at his two brothers and put on a forced smile, but he was inwardly cursing them. He knew that these two fools were laughing in their hearts after seeing him getting humiliated in the fourth VIP room. However, it wasn't a good idea to provoke them right now. He didn't want to provoke the both of them for this, or they might gang up on him in the fight for the throne. His ascension as the future emperor must not be compromised for his personal feelings. He didn't want all of his efforts to go down the drainage.

'These two fools! After I destroy that Jiu Shen, these two brothers of mine will be next to face my wrath! Did they really think that I don't know about their ambition?! Just you wait!'

* * *

Inside the fourth VIP room, Emperor Elyk and Jiu Shen were still talking about important matters. The former's expression was filled with worry and unease. After all, the news

that Jiu Shen told him earlier was something that involves his second son. Although his second son didn't reveal anything outstanding about his talent in cultivation, the attitude that he displayed all this time was the best among the three who were now in line in the fight for the throne. He even had plans on giving him the chance to become the crown prince, but it seems like it was not going to happen.

The two of them remained silent which made the atmosphere grew heavier, but there was a sudden knock to their room.

Knock. Knock. Knock.

Emperor Elyk heaved a sigh of relief secretly when he heard that, while Jiu Shen remained expressionlessly seated on his chair.

"Emperor father, the auction is about to start." The tender voice of the fifth princess drifted from outside the fourth VIP room. Just from her voice, anyone could tell that she was excited about this auction.

Emperor Elyk stood up from his seat and smiled at Jiu Shen as he said. "Wine Master Jiu, the auction is about to start, so I have to gack to the fifth VIP room. If you have something that you'd like in this auction, just have someone to notify me and I'll get it for you."

Jiu Shen nodded his head calmly upon hearing this. He didn't take the emperor's words seriously. He wasn't optimistic about seeing a treasure in this mortal world that could move him. However, if there is a God Crystal to be auctioned, then that would be a different case.

"Thanks." Jiu Shen said indifferently.

Emperor Elyk smiled as he cupped his fists. He then left the room, leaving behind a group of young disciples sighing in relief.

After the emperor left, Lu Sulan swiftly sat down beside her master, but she didn't ask him what he had talked with the emperor.

Not long later, a woman in her late twenties strode towards the platform at the center of the auction house. All eyes were suddenly attracted to her voluptuous figure and long pair of jade-like legs.

"This woman... Isn't this Vice Guild Leader Tang Tianyin, the vice guild leader of the Mercenary Guild?!"

"To think that the Silver Dragon Auction House would actually invite Vice Guild Leader Tang for this auction! What an eye-opener!"

This Tang Tianyin is indeed the vice guild leader of the Mercenary Guild. Her cultivation was already at the peak stage of the 7th-rank Emperor realm. She was one of the strongest women of the Silver Wing Empire!

The eyes of the men among the crowd suddenly turned fiery and filled with desire as they looked at the enchanting woman at the stage.

She was dressed in half-revealing white clothes that hugged her body tightly which exposed the outline of her slim waist and her thick assets. Her succubus-like face carried a seductive smile as she walked with confident strides. Her long black hair swayed as she glanced at the crowd with a flirtatious look.

She stopped walking when she was already in the middle of the platform. She then glanced at the big crowd with a smile that could take a man's breath away. "Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to the Silver Dragon Auction House! Most of you might have already known my identity, but please allow me to introduce myself to those who don't know me. My name Tang Tianyin and I am the vice guild leader of the Mercenary Guild. I will be the host for tonight's auction, and I hope that everyone would be willing to give their all in bidding for the items that would be auctioned later."

"Miss Tang, I'm willing to spend all my life's fortune to bid for the item that you desire! Just tell me!"

"Don't worry, Miss Tang! We won't disappoint you!"

"Miss Tang, I will spend all my True Crystals today if you're willing to go on a date with me!"

Tang Tianyin was a beautiful woman and she wasn't short on admirers, so the instant she stopped talking, all of her suitors among the crowd immediately voiced out their feelings.

It must be noted that everyone present in tonight's auction was the wealthiest and most powerful individuals of the Silver Wing Empire. Some of the leaders from many different cities even came to participate in this auction. They were the most outstanding people of the Silver Empire and they could command the winds and clouds with their power. However, some of them were still mesmerized by this beautiful host, and there was a look of undisguised thirst in their eyes. After all, it was so rare to find such an accomplished woman with strength and power, so the sight of Tang Tianyin invoke their eagerness to conquer her heart.

Tang Tianyin was still smiling at the crowd. She didn't mind their suggestive looks since she was already used to it. However, a trace of ridicule bloomed in her heart as she glanced at those men who were looking at her with burning desire.

Tang Tianyin raised her right arm to signal the crowd to quiet down, and they immediately stopped talking and shouting after seeing that. They didn't want this beautiful woman to be displeased at them.

Tang Tianyin's smile broadened after seeing that she had gained the crowd's attention. She then said. "I'd like to inform everyone that there will be a special item that would be auctioned later. Alright, I shall no longer waste everyone's time, and I will now announce the start of the auction!"

Thunderous applause echoed inside the Silver Dragon Auction House. Everyone was also curious about the special item that Tang Tianyin had mentioned. What could this item be? They were eager to find out more about this special item...

Chapter 190 - Start Of The Auction

"I wonder what the first item would be? It should not be too shabby, right? After all, this is the Silver Dragon Auction House."

"They even invited Vice Guild Leader Tang to be the host for this auction. That means the Silver Dragon Auction House is going all out in tonight's auction! There are even some people here who are not residents of Beltran City. They should be here for the treasures that would be auctioned later."

Everyone was excited about the auction, and with a beautiful woman like Tang Tianyin hosting the event, everyone's excitement was at its peak.

Just then.

"The first item to be auctioned is a Divine Weapon. It is crafted by one of the best blacksmiths of our Silver Wing Empire! This Divine Weapon is a spear and is named as 'Violent Thunder Spear'. The starting price is 500 True Crystals! Every increment needs to be at least 50 True Crystals!" Tang Tianyin tender voice echoed inside the auction house as she announced the first auctioned item.

The price for a Divine Weapon was indeed high and it was even five times more expensive than Jiu Shen's most expensive wine, the Deep Sea Spring Dew! His wine was indeed helpful when it comes to increasing the speed of cultivation, but it needs to be taken on a daily basis before a big leap in cultivation can be seen. As for a Divine Weapon, only a person in the 8th-rank Divine realm would be able to control its power, and it could enhance someone's strength by a huge margin depending on the person's ability to wield the weapon.

"550 True Crystals!" An imposing voice shouted right after Tang Tinayin announced the start of the bidding.

"600 True Crystals!" Another voice which was no less imposing followed after that.

Jiu Shen and Lu Sulan remained silent. The both of them were wearing calm looks as they watched the ongoing bidding for this Divine Weapon.

Jiu Shen has his Baleful Dragon Sacred Sword while Lu Sulan also has her Saint Weapon, so they weren't really interested in this Violent Thunder Spear. As for the young disciples who are with them, they were not yet 8th-rank Divine realm experts, so this Divine Weapon would only be useless for them.

The bidding for the Divine Weapon finally stopped and the final bidding price was 800 True Crystals. It was bought by a rising noble family in Beltran City.

"The next item is a rare spiritual plant that was found by a top expert near the central parts of the Endless Forest." Tang Tianyin deliberately increased the volume of her voice when she spoke about the Endless Forest.

Everyone's eyes shone when they heard that. They knew quite a few things about the Endless Forest. It was a place infested by countless ferocious savage beasts, and the most dangerous part of the Endless Forest is its central part. There was a lot of 9th-rank Saint realm savage beasts present in that area and only a few people who went there were able to escape with their lives, but whoever comes back from that place would be able to bring some high-level spiritual plants or spiritual fruits.

The alchemists among the guests immediately became excited. They weren't here for the weapons or cultivation techniques. They were attracted to this auction because of the presence of some rare spiritual plants and spiritual fruits which were necessary ingredients for the making of their pills and dans.

Looking at the excited faces of everyone, Tang Tianyin smiled as she said. "The next auctioned item is an 8th-rank spiritual fruit called 'Grim Moon Mango'. This is a rare type of high-level spiritual fruit that would only grow after a hundred years and it needs to be nourished by the moon's light for more than twenty years in order for it to fully mature. It has been many years since the last of this kind of spiritual fruit was seen in Beltran City, so everybody should know the rarity of this. The starting price for this Grim Moon Mango is 1000 True Crystals! Every increment needs to be at least 50 True Crystals!"

It was indeed an expensive price for an 8th-rank spiritual fruit, but no one voiced out their disagreement. This Grim Moon Mango can be used in many different ways, and it is also helpful in increasing one's cultivation upon direct consumption, but the best way to increase its efficacy was still to use it as an ingredient in making a pill or dan.

"1100 True Crystals!"

"1150 True Crystals!"

"1200 True Crystals!"

"I'm Alchemy Emperor Han of the Alchemy Hall! I bid 1400 True Crystals!" An aged but powerful voice echoed from the first VIP room where the people from the Alchemy Hall were seated. Everyone immediately cursed when they heard him speak of his background. He actually used the name of the Alchemy Hall to deter others from bidding! It was a very bold move, but no one among the minor noble families dared to fight against this behemoth. They would only be courting death if they continued bidding.

"Do you think everyone is afraid of your Alchemy Hall?! Our Xue Family bids 1600 True Crystals for this Grim Moon Mango!" Elder Kuan shouted without fear in his eyes. He might be a bit wary of the emperor, but he didn't think too highly of the alchemists of the Alchemy Hall since they were not strong when it comes to fighting abilities.

The alchemists inside the first VIP room were incensed by Elder Kuan's lack of respect.

"Elder Kuan, don't think too highly of yourself! You're just a minor elder of the Xue Family! Our Alchemy Hall bids 2000 True Crystals! Fighting using wealth against us alchemists? You must be dreaming if you think that your Xue Family is richer than our Alchemy Hall! Hmph!"

Elder Kuan's veins protruded when he heard those insulting remarks, but he didn't dare behave wantonly. After all, this Silver Dragon Auction House was under the protection of the Silveria Imperial Family!

Elder Kuan gritted his teeth, but he didn't continue to bid. It wasn't worth it to waste his time fighting with the Alchemy Hall for the Grim Moon Mango. It might be an 8th-rank spiritual fruit, but it needs to be concocted into a pill first to increase its effectiveness.

"2000 True Crystals going once! 2000 True Crystals going twice! Congratulations to the guests from the first VIP room for getting this Grim Moon Mango!" Tang Tianyin smiled as she looked at the first VIP room. There were thin glasses covering the VIP rooms, but everyone could still see the silhouettes of the people seated inside.

Jiu Shen was quite tempted to buy the Grim Moon Mango, but it was still a level lower for the wine that he wanted to brew, so he decided to not join the bidding for it.

'I might be able to see a 9th-rank spiritual plant or spiritual fruit in tonight's auction. I just hope that it could be used as an ingredient for my wine.' Jiu Shen muttered in his heart as he glanced at Tang Tianyin who was at the very center of the platform. His expression remained calm, but his eyes shone with a different light. No one knows what he's thinking.