The Immortal's Wine Store

#Chapter 81 - Hestias Strength - Read The Immortal's Wine Store Chapter 81 - Hestias Strength

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"We must hurry! Defender Duanmu is currently fighting with their leader, but the underlings of that man should be tailing us." The leader of the imperial guards shouted with a solemn voice. He then glanced at the fourth prince who was still unconscious in his arms before he turned to look at the fifth princess who was being carried by one of his men.

'Just how strong are the wines in that store for them to make these two geniuses remain unconscious for an extended amount of time?' He thought to himself.

"Halt!" More than ten men in black robes blocked the imperial guards from their path.

"Move away! The army of the Silver Wing Empire is just nearby! If you don't want to die, then step aside at this instant!" The leader of the imperial guards threatened while glaring at the opposing side. His heart was beating faster than normal, but he had to act tough to prevent the morale of his people from dropping down.

Although the imperial guards had the advantage in numbers, they were significantly weaker than the men in black robes.

One of the enemies stepped forward and sneered derisively. "So what if the army of the Silver Wing Empire is nearby? Even if you send them a distress signal, they still won't be able to see it! Our leader already blocked this zone from the outside world using a treasure! Hahaha!"

The leader of the imperial guards felt his heart skipping a beat when he heard those words. His men were also starting to get nervous.

'I have to maintain everyone's morale for us to escape here! Although we're weaker than them, we have the advantage in numbers. If we sacrifice our lives, the fourth prince and the fifth princess should be able to get out alive.' The imperial guard's captain thought while ignoring his rising nervousness.

He was the only 6th-rank King realm on their side and the enemy group had more than five of them. The combat strength of the two groups should be almost equal. But no matter who wins, the losses wouldn't be small for either side.

"Stop buying time! That old defender of yours will die under our leader's hands! Hahah! Men, kill the fourth prince and the fifth princess!"

Following that shout, the men in black robes started charging towards the imperial guards.

"Don't cower! We're soldiers of the mighty Silver Wing Empire! Even if the enemies outpower us, we will not back down!" The captain of the imperial guards shouted with vigor. He then grabbed the soldier holding the fifth princess and handed the fourth prince to him. "Soldier, you go and bring them back to the imperial palace. They must return alive!" The captain said with determined eyes.

The soldier who was holding the two imperial children held back the tears that were about to fall out from his eyes and replied with a resolute look. "Captain, don't worry. I will not fail you."

The captain nodded his head and glared at the incoming enemies with a fearless expression. "Brothers, let's use all of our strength in this final battle! Charge with me!" He shouted as he led the imperial guards to fight back.

But just as the two parties were about to clash, a brilliant ray of light descended towards the men in black robes. The scene surprised everyone greatly.

"Boooomm!" A violent explosion rang out after the brilliant light hit the men in black robes.

The imperial guards covered their eyes from the light while feeling extremely shocked in their hearts.

'Just what was that brilliant ray of light? Was it the Defender Duanmu?' The imperial guards thought to themselves as they slowly opened their eyes.

They glanced at where the men in black robes last stood only to see a huge crater enveloped by raging flames.

"What the hell?" The captain and the others were flabbergasted at what they saw. He stopped his men from going near the crater and went there himself.

As the captain was walking towards the crater, a lithe silhouette came into everyone's view.

"That's... Isn't she..." The captain muttered with a blank look on his face.

A woman with long red hair dressed in a maid's uniform walked out from the blazing crater. She had a kind smile plastered on her face but the short sword in her right hand which was covered in blood destroyed her saintly image.

"Young Miss Hestia, why are you here?" The captain asked with a dumbfounded look.

Hestia flicked her arm to removed the bloodstain on the blade of her sword before she turned to look at the stupefied captain. "These people might have forgotten to pay for their wines. That's why the master sent me to let them rest forever." Hestia smiled tenderly, but that smile sent shivers down the imperial guards' spines.

The captain of the imperial guards gulped in fear as he slowly inched towards the crater. He took a look at the situation down below only to see the mangled body parts of the men in black robes.

"Don't worry. All of them are now resting in peace." A gentle voice filled with warmth reached the captain's ears, making all the hairs on his body stand on end.

"Tha-Thank you for your help, Young Miss Hestia." The captain forced out a smile as he bowed his head.

Hestia giggled like a carefree teen after seeing the nervous imperial guards. She then turned to look at the fourth prince and fifth princess and said. "You should bring them back to the imperial palace... I still have to go back and help the old man."

After saying those words, Hestia slowly rose in midair and flew out of their sights.

The imperial guards stood rooted on the ground still not believing what they had just seen.

"To think that the gentle and kind Young Miss Hestia is actually an expert at the 8th-rank Divine realm. So Young Miss Theia isn't just the expert in that store..."

"Don't forget that Wine Master Jiu himself is also an Alchemy Saint. And there is also that new waitress working for him. Everyone in that store are monsters..."

"Everyone! Let's not waste our time talking about this here! We still have to bring the fourth prince and fifth princess back to the imperial palace and report everything to His Majesty!" The captain said while looking at the horizon.

Chapter 82 - Body Enhancers

"Old thing, you should just stop struggling. My men might have already killed the fourth prince and fifth princess at this time. Hahaha!" The man in black robes laughed scornfully as he looked at Defender Duanmu with taunting eyes.

The latter's eyes reddened as he let out a savage howl full of hate and anger. After consuming the Berserk Pill, Defender Duanmu's strength was temporarily upgraded to

the next level. Although he was only at the initial stage of the 8th-rank Divine realm at the moment, he believed that he had sufficient strength to defeat the man in front of him.

"Prepare to die you bastard!" Defender Duanmu held his spear in front of him and pointed it towards the man in black robes.

"Sky Cleaving Spear Thrust!"

Defender Duanmu's biceps bulged and his feet sank deeper on the ground as he thrust his spear forward.

His attack produced a vibrating wind blade that sliced towards the man in black robes. The wind blade left fissures on the ground showing how destructive it was.

The man who was on the receiving end of such an attack was still wearing a disdainful smile. "If I can only use my true form, this old man should have died earlier. But it doesn't matter, he will still die by my hands today! Hahah!" The man laughed in contempt.

The training method of the demons didn't differ much from the humans. Just that the former enhances their bodies mostly through body strengthening, while almost eighty percent of the humans enhance themselves by cultivating their true essence.

The demons were so talented in the art of body strengthening that it was easier for everyone in their kind to improve themselves by simply training physically. Of course, their development will continue to become harder as their level increases.

A cultivator can control 'true essence', while a body strengthening expert can control 'anma'. The difference between these two energies lies in their ability to control the power of the elements.

With sufficient true essence, a cultivator can freely control the power of elements once they reached a high level of cultivation, but a body strengthening expert can only use their anma to maximize the hidden potential in their bodies.

The man in black robes gathered the anma in his body and waved his sword against the incoming attack aimed his way. 'Tsk! I can't control my anma properly with this weak body, but it's more than enough to block that old man's attack.'

"Haaaa!!" The man in black robes forcefully cleaved the wind blade with his sword.

"Baangg!"

Defender Duanmu's eyes widened when he felt the energy from the man in black robes. "You! You're a body enhancer! Who are you?! There is no body enhancing expert in our

Silver Wing Empire. You must be from one of our neighboring empires." He glared at the man in black robes.

The latter ignored Defender Duanmu and started his assault.

"Now, it's my turn, old bastard!" The man lifted his sword and dashed towards Defender Duanmu at breakneck speed. His movement was so fast that he left afterimages in his wake.

After closing his distance against the old defender, the man raised his sword and slashed it towards Defender Duanmu.

Defender Duanmu raised his spear with two hands to block the slash.

"Clangg!" A thunderous clanging sound echoed as their weapons collided.

Defender Duanmu's feet sank even further on the ground after receiving the strike.

'Crap! This man's physical strength is at the 8th-rank Divine realm! I can't continue fighting with him in close combat or I'll only be defeated.' Defender Duanmu thought to himself as he controlled more true essence from his dantian.

The man in black robes smirked after sensing his opponent's actions. "Do you think I'll allow you to gather more true essence? Keep dreaming you old bastard!" He sneered as he added more strength to his sword.

Defender Duanmu gritted his teeth while holding on to his spear tightly. He then twisted his spear and backed off several meters away.

The man in black robes refused to give him time to gather himself together and swiftly rushed towards the panting Defender Duanmu.

The man in black robes somersaulted in mid-air and slashed his sword with both his hands.

As Defender Duanmu was about to raise his spear, he felt his body weakening at rapid speed. He spat a mouthful of black blood and knelt on the ground with one knee. He then raised his head and glanced at the approaching enemy with weary eyes. "Is this the end of my old life?" He muttered as black blood continued to stream out of his mouth.

"Dijiee!!" The man in black robes shouted with a malicious look.

Just as his sword was about to cleave Defender Duanmu's body, a short sword with a white handle blocked his strike.

"Shiing!"

The man in black robes hurriedly distanced himself after feeling a grave sense of danger. His eyes dilated as he glanced at the graceful figure standing in front of the old defender. "Who are you?! Why are you putting your nose on someone's business?!" He shouted while looking at Hestia alertly.

Hestia ignored him and turned to look at Defender Duanmu who was now looking at her with a stunned look.

"Yo-Young Mi-Miss Hestia..." The old man muttered with difficulty. He wasn't really injured, but the effects of the Berserk Pill was slowly taking effect. If he wasn't treated right away, he might turn into a cripple.

"Shh... Stop talking and drink this." Hestia smiled and stuffed a healing pill inside the old man's mouth.

Defender Duanmu did not reject the offer and absorbed the effects of the pill in his mouth. He was very grateful for the help, but he was too weak to continue speaking.

Hestia turned to look at the man in black robes and shook her head gently. "Sigh. I don't want to kill a guest from our store, but your presence can destroy my master's business."

The man in black robes laughed at her words. "Do you really think that I'm afraid of you? You're just a mid stage 8th-rank Divine realm cultivator. Let me show you my true form!" He then grabbed a jade necklace that was tied to his neck and pulled it.

The man's body slowly morphed into a two-meter tall humanoid with dark purple skin. There were also two long black horns attached to his head. His appearance looked grotesque as he let out a twisted smile that exposed his two rows of sharp teeth. "Little girl, I look forward to eating your body. Your taste shouldn't be too bad, right? Hahaha!"

Chapter 83 - Yin-Yang Life Decaying Sword Slash

Defender Duanmu was dumbfounded when he saw the man in black robes slowly transform into a demon.

The demons and humans were nemeses since the olden times. Countless wars ravaged the world of Nuar because of their feud. That's why their ancestors came into an agreement of living in two separate continents. The demons lived in the Crimson Fiend Continent while the humans and the alliance lived in the Profound Dragon Continent.

"A demon?!" Defender Duanmu muttered in surprise while clutching his aching chest. 'What could be the reason for a demon's emergence in our Silver Wing Empire? Is it the beginning of another continental dispute among countless races?' He felt horrified at his own thoughts.

"Scared? It's too late for that. Since you have already seen my true appearance, I will not allow the both of you to leave this place alive!" The demon general laughed eerily, causing his hideous face to become even more unsightly to look at.

Hestia remained unperturbed at the scene. Although she could not remember anything about her life before meeting Jiu Shen, she had a strange feeling that it wasn't her first time seeing a demon.

Hestia felt a sense of deja vu, but it was just a faint lingering sensation that she could not understand. All she knew was that there was a deep sense of loathing and hatred hidden inside her heart as she looked at the demon general.

Hestia's smiling expression froze and was replaced by an icy cold look. She glanced at the demon general frostily and said while pointing her sword at him. "I shall not waste my time with you."

Hestia's true essence fluctuated vigorously as she gathered all the strength she could muster from her dantian.

The demon general's expression turned grim when he sensed the towering true essence coming out of Hestia's slender figure. He could not believe that this strength was being emitted by someone at the mid stage of the 8th-rank Divine realm. "This woman! Is she really just a mid stage 8th-rank Divine realm cultivator?!" He muttered in a grating and demonic voice.

Hestia's silhouette vanished from her spot and reappeared behind the stunned demon general. She then lifted her sword and struck the back of the demon general.

The latter felt a cold sensation behind him and hurriedly distanced himself, but it was already too late to evade the attack.

"Chiyaa!"

The defenseless back of the demon general was split open creating a deep diagonal wound that stretched from his left shoulder to his right waist.

"Aarrghh!" The demon swiftly channeled the anma inside his body to heal his gaping wound. He then glanced at Hestia with a deathly stare. "You damn human! You sneak attacked me! Argghh!"

The demon general ignored the painful sensation from his back and charged madly towards Hestia. He raised his muscular arms and aimed his fist at Hestia's slim figure.

Hestia had a cold look as she watched the demon who was lunging straight in her direction.

She gathered her true essence and created an invisible yin-yang diagram in mid-air using her sword. The diagram glowed brightly after Hestia finished the last strokes and it slowly manifested in front of her.

"Yin-Yang Life Decaying Sword Slash!"

She shouted as she slashed the diagram with her sword.

White and black rays of light intertwined against each other. The two opposing elements slowly merged as it traveled at a speed that was almost as fast as the speed of sound.

The demon general had an alarmed look when he felt the strength of Hestia's sword technique.

"This can't be!" The demon general felt his adrenaline rising as he forcefully gathered the anma inside his body.

"Frenzied Slaughter Body!" He shouted.

Although body enhancers could not control the power of elements, they could tap the hidden potential of their physical bodies by awakening it with their anma. Just that the amount of anma needed to maintain this form was immense.

Black metallic scales emerged from his body and his stature also grew twice larger. He was now almost five meters in height and looked like a giant armored monstrosity!

The demon general then shielded his face with his thick arms as he covered his body with huge amounts of anma.

"Baaangg!"

Hestia's sword slash struck the demon general's body causing an ear-splitting sound that created shockwaves.

Defender Duanmu weakly cast his true essence to shield his body from the blast but he was still thrown several dozen meters away.

"Is this the true strength of Young Miss Hestia? Just what kind of monsters are the people inside that store? Even if His Majesty was in his peak condition, he could still not

survive that kind of sword technique..." Defender Duanmu who was now covered in dust muttered with a blank look.

Hestia waited for the dust to subside but she was still holding her sword warily because she could feel that the demon general's aura was still present. "This demon isn't an easy opponent." She muttered silently to herself.

Just then, a huge shadow dashed towards Hestia catching her unprepared.

"Diieeee!!!" The demon general shouted as he raised his bloodied right arm in a bid to smash Hestia.

Hestia lifted her sword hastily to block the pummeling fist of the angered demon.

"Baanngg!" The demon's punch threw Hestia several hundred meters away.

"Boooom!" Hestia's body created a huge hole in a nearby mountain.

The mountain shook causing countless rock debris to fall.

The demon general smirked but his face suddenly contorted in pain as he sprawled on the ground in all fours while coughing dark green blood.

"Cough! Cough! Wha-What kind of... What kind of sword technique was that? It actually caused...caused severe damage to my internal organs. Fuck!" The demon general cursed as he slowly reverted to his two-meter demon form.

"I need to get out of here before someone else from that store comes here!" He muttered as he clutched his chest while weakly standing up. He then grabbed a jade necklace from his storage ring and put it on his neck.

His demon body morphed back into a human under the surprised gaze of Defender Duanmu.

"Demon! I will not allow you to escape here!" Defender Duanmu stood up unsteadily as he shouted in a hoarse voice.

The demon who was now in human form smiled widely in contempt and replied in a mocking voice. "Old thing, you're lucky that an expert helped you. But there will be no next time. For now, I will let you live. Hahaha!"

His figure then vanished and Defender Duanmu could only stare helplessly at the place where the demon previously stood. "I should report this to His Majesty as soon as possible. This news involves the safety of our Silver Wing Empire. No... It involves the whole of the Profound Dragon Continent..." He muttered as he walked towards the mountain where Hestia was thrown.

Chapter 84 - Hall Of Life And Death?

Inside the Immortal's Wine Store.

Jiu Shen glanced at the void with a perplexed look on his face.

"System, I can sense a feeling of doubt rising from within Hestia's soul when she saw that demon. You told me that she is a creation that you made for me, but it seems like her background isn't just that." Jiu Shen communicated with the system through his mind.

- Ding!

"Host, Hestia is indeed a creation made by the system. Her soul is something that the system took from the Hall of Life and Death. Her reaction just now is something understandable since her death had something to do with the demons." The system replied in a mechanical voice.

"Hall of Life and Death? To think that you're actually able to get a soul from that place. Even the three almighty Celestial Emperors did not dare offend the people from there. Just how did you get Hestia's soul from them?" Jiu Shen who was usually calm felt surprised in his heart.

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In Jiu Shen's previous life, there was a majestic holy land floating up above the Primordial God Realm. No one knew when this hovering island was made, but the oldest immortals mentioned that it had already existed even before they were born.

Because of the mysteriousness of this place many grew curious about its origin. Some tried to visit it, but there was some kind of restriction that prevented everyone from going near this floating holy land.

The strongest of immortals tried, but they powerless in their endeavors of ascending this holy land. Celestial Emperor Lao Gou and Celestial Emperor Jian Wang also attempted to soar to that place but they were similarly met with the restrictions. All they could do was stare at its towering silhouette helplessly.

Everyone later called that place as the..."Three Towers of Divine Dao". The reason for its name was because of the three towers erected on top of this floating island.

No one knew what those three towers represented.

Jiu Shen was among those people who tried to visit the Three Towers of Divine Dao, but like everyone else, he also failed. It was only when Jiu Shen met the third Celestial Emperor, the ruler of Hell that he learned the origins of the Three Towers of Divine Dao. As for how the ruler of Hell knew everything about it, even Jiu Shen was clueless.

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'According to Asmodeus the Ruler of Hell, the Hall of Life and Death is responsible for the rebirth and death of all the souls in the multiverse. The Hall of Life and Death is also where the souls are kept before they are given the chance of rebirth. In that case, was my soul also kept in there before I was taken away by the system?' Jiu Shen thought to himself.

The system remained silent and ignored Jiu Shen.

The latter sighed and then glanced at Theia who was standing at the store's entrance.

Theia had a cold expression, but Jiu Shen saw the blazing fighting intent in her eyes. He knew that Theia might have already seen the fight between Hestia and the demon general. She was just holding herself back since Jiu Shen did not command her to help Hestia.

'Master should be training Hestia, so I should not intervene in this, but...' Theia used her spiritual power to watch the fight between Hestia and the demon general, but she was feeling restless as the fighting continued.

When Theia saw Hestia was thrown to a mountain, the former unconsciously held the sword strapped behind her back. Thick murderous air shrouded the entire store making the customers shut their mouths in trepidation. They didn't know what made this demoness incarnation angry that it made her react like that.

"Theia, don't be impulsive. Hestia won't be killed from that attack. It was just a moment of distraction on her part. That's why she was defeated. Furthermore, the demon is also severely injured. It will take much time for him to heal those wounds." Jiu Shen said telepathically to Theia.

"But master, that demon hurt Hestia! I want to kill him!" Theia's murderous stare did not subside, instead, it became even stronger.

Jiu Shen's calm eyes turned chilly all of a sudden, making Theia instantly recognize her imprudent actions. She sighed and bowed her head with a downcast look. "My apologies, master. It shall not happen again."

Jiu Shen sighed and shook his head. "I understand your concerns, Theia. But as of the moment, I have no plans of intervening with the fate of the mortals in this world. That is unless if they decide to mess with us openly..."

Theia exhaled a long breath and nodded her head in understanding. She then walked towards Jiu Shen and bowed with a look of regret. "Master, I was impatient just now. I deserve to be punished."

Jiu Shen's indifferent eyes turned mild when he felt the sincerity in Theia's words. He walked near her and rubbed her head gently. "Don't worry, Theia. I know you've been itching for a fight after being trapped inside this store as a guard. In fact, you don't have to wait for that long to have this wish granted."

Theia blushed after having her desire exposed. She didn't know how Jiu Shen was able to know about it.

'Just how did master know?' She thought while feeling a bit abashed.

"Master, what do you mean?" Theia asked with a curious look. She was indeed craving for a battle, but all she did inside the store was kick the asses of the customers who created trouble.

Jiu Shen patted her head lightly as he replied with a mysterious tone. "Haven't you felt all those strong presence gathering inside of Beltran City? They will come here soon and that's when you'll make a move."

Theia had a flash of understanding when she heard her master's words. She then glanced at the four Earth Origin Dragon Tree that each had three flowers blooming splendidly. That was the sign that the Earth Origin Dragon Tree was about to bear fruit!

Chapter 85 - Hatred

The second prince was feeling a sense of foreboding when he felt the strong fluctuations of true essence coming from Theia. He felt that the disparity between them was so huge that he could not help but swear in his heart.

'Fuck! To think that this woman is so strong! Did she sense the demonic presence of my subordinate? That stupid fool actually pulled out his Shape-Shifting Jade Necklace! Just what could be the reason that made him use his true form? Speaking of which, I saw Young Miss Hestia come out of the store... Perhaps...' Prince Arslan's eyes narrowed when his thoughts reached that point. He glanced at Jiu Shen and thought coldly in his heart. 'Wine Master Jiu, did you already find out my identity?'

Jiu Shen felt the second prince's stare but he ignored him completely. Even if the latter was a demon prince, Jiu Shen didn't give a damn about him. In his opinion, they were just like ants seeking for material things and emotional contentment to feed their ego. In his past life, aside from the three celestial emperors, no one even dared to glance his way...

"Let's go!" The second prince stood up from his seat and issued a command to his subordinates.

The soldiers bowed at Prince Arslan and followed behind him obediently.

The latter walked towards Jiu Shen and gave him a fist-palm salute as a show of respect. "Wine Master Jiu, I really love your wondrous wines and I will surely come to visit here occasionally. I hope you won't deny me entry then." Prince Arslan said with a face full of smiles.

Jiu Shen took a quick glance at the second prince and calmly nodded his head at him.

Seeing the nonchalance of Jiu Shen, the second prince's smile twitched and he could not help but laugh coldly in his heart. 'Jiu Shen, Jiu Shen, Jiu Shen. I'll give the victory to you this time, but once my army arrives at this place, I will remove that arrogance in you!'

Prince Arslan gave Jiu Shen one last look before he turned around and walked away with his subordinates following behind him.

Jiu Shen glanced at his figure with a profound look and said telepathically. "I won't involve myself in the affairs of you demons, but if you dare to mess around inside my store, then I can't promise the same thing."

Prince Arslan's eyes flickered and he stopped in his tracks for a brief moment before he continued walking out of the store with a dubious smile on his face. 'Just you wait, Jiu Shen. Today you win against me, but next time, it will be your turn to lose.'

"Master, that guy is up to no good." Theia muttered coldly as she glared at the receding figure of the second prince.

"It doesn't matter. What can an ant possibly do to us?" Jiu Shen replied in a cold and detached voice before he went to his room upstairs.

Jiu Shen paused his steps for a moment and said without turning his head back. "Once Hestia arrives, bring her to my room immediately."

Theia bowed her head and replied in a respectful voice. "Yes, master."

* * *

An hour later.

In a remote location somewhere in Beltran City.

A middle-aged man with average facial features and was wearing an imperial guard's standard military armor can be seen walking with unsteady steps while clutching his chest. Although he did not have any visible injuries on his body, he appeared to be in extreme pain. His expression contorted that it almost looked inhuman.

"I've already changed my appearance using the Shape-Shifting Jade Necklace. That old fart Duanmu should not be able to identify me now! Fuck! That woman's final attack is so vicious that it left internal injuries in my body! But even so, I was lucky to have escaped from that place..." The man said as he recalled the sword technique that Hestia used. He could not help but shiver as he thought about it. Luckily, he was able to activate his Frenzied Slaughter Body perfectly on time. If he wasn't able to, he didn't dare think about what might have possibly happened to him.

"Balrog... What happened and why are you in this state?" A familiar voice suddenly echoed behind him, surprising the middle-aged man.

He turned around and when he saw the face of the second prince, the middle-aged man immediately knelt down respectfully, ignoring the pain he was feeling. "Your highness, everything should have gone smoothly and I was also about to end the life of that old fart Duanmu. But then, an unexpected guest intervened!"

Prince Arslan's eyes narrowed into slits when he heard those words. "Is it Young Miss Hestia?" He asked with a cold voice. The moment Hestia left the store, he was already feeling suspicious.

It was hard to believe that this man was the same kind and noble second prince that all the citizens revered and admired. Just that, he didn't have his usual gentlemanly facade.

Balrog nodded his head with a look of anger. "Indeed, it's that woman! I didn't expect her to be that strong! I even had no choice but to use my Frenzied Slaughter Body to block an attack from her! But even with that, I still receive heavy internal injuries!"

Prince Arslan's expression became even colder after that. "So that means that old fart has seen your true appearance! What about the fourth prince and fifth princess?"

Balrog was feeling nervous when he felt the second prince's worsening mood, so he immediately answered carefully. "I looked around for my subordinates, but it appears that the little bitch Hestia already helped them escape beforehand!"

"So it's that bitch again, huh?! Rise and recuperate your injuries. For now, let's lay low and avoid clashing with the people from that store. It's not yet time for us to show ourselves and we must not destroy the plans of the Demon Lord! Just let them be for now. The time will come when we will exact our revenge!" Prince Arslan muttered in an icy voice as walked away.

Balrog stood up and followed behind him with a dark look as he recalled Hestia's figure. 'Little bitch, your days are numbered!'

Chapter 86 - A Different Side Of Jiu Shen

Jiu Shen carefully held Hestia who had received minor injuries from her battle with the demonic general. She was brought back to the store by Defender Duanmu who immediately left after bidding farewell. The old man appeared to be in a hurry, so Jiu Shen didn't stop him from leaving.

"Master, I have failed to live up to your expectations. And I even allowed that detestable demon to escape from my grasp!" Hestia said with a look of remorse and self-blame. Her hatred towards the demon general also soared which was evident in her burning gaze.

She was stronger than the demon general by a minor realm since she was a mid stage 8th-rank Divine realm cultivator, while the demon general was merely an initial stage 8th-rank Divine realm body enhancer.

If she wasn't distracted with her thoughts at that crucial moment, then she could have defeated that demon without a problem. But during that time, it was as if something at the depths of her soul was awakened. She felt like she had suddenly recalled something about herself but everything seemed too blurry for her to realize what it was.

Jiu Shen shook his head and held Hestia's shoulder gently. He then glanced at her and sighed. "Hestia, you don't have to blame yourself for this. Besides, the mission I gave you was only to protect those humans and allow them to safely go back to the imperial palace."

Hestia raised her head and looked at Jiu Shen with a look of dejection and puzzlement. "Master, the moment I saw that demon, something within me seemed to have been evoked. I don't know how to explain it, but... It feels like I have remembered a few things about myself. But I don't understand anything about it... I-" She held back her tears as she spoke in a trembling voice.

Jiu Shen released another sigh and a rare look of gentleness flickered in his silver eyes. "Hestia, it's hard to explain this now, but I will tell you the truth about your origin."

Hestia was confused but she still felt warmth in her heart when she saw the look of concern in her master's usually indifferent eyes.

Lu Sulan and Theia who were standing behind Jiu Shen tactfully left the room and provided the two their privacy.

"You have already died and you're someone who was given the chance to reincarnate in order to serve me. And as to why you were distracted when you saw that demon... My guess is that your death had something to do with them..." Jiu Shen did not tell her about everything since his identity was too sensitive to be divulged. But what he said to her was not a lie either.

Hestia covered her mouth with her dainty hands and her eyes flickered with surprise. "Master... That means all those hazy memories that surfaced within my mind earlier... they were something that happened during my past life?"

Jiu Shen glanced at her calmly and nodded his head. "Hm, that should be the case... If you wish to gain your freedom, you're free to do so. Don't worry, I won't stop you." He said indifferently, but there was a faint ripple in his heart when he said those words.

Hestia's eyes widened, and she could no longer control her tears from streaming down her face. "No! Master, ar- are you... throwing me out? No!" Hestia held Jiu Shen's arms while looked at him with sorrow.

Jiu Shen's felt a prickling sensation slowly spreading in his heart when he saw the tearstained face of Hestia. He thought that he had already trained his emotion to become rigid and cold, but the sensation he was feeling now was certainly out of his expectations. 'To think that after billions of years, a woman's tears can still make my heart waver...' He mocked himself, but he didn't know why he was feeling relieved instead.

Jiu Shen pulled Hestia to his embrace and rubbed her back gently. "I will never do that. I'm sorry for suddenly saying that to you..."

Hestia was surprised at her master's actions. She didn't think that Jiu Shen who was usually composed would actually hold her affectionately in his arms.

She felt her heart beating wildly as if it was about to leap out of her chest. All the worries she was recently feeling was thrown at the back of her mind as she inhaled Jiu Shen's natural manly scent. She then buried her face in his chest and quietly listened to his rhythmic breathing. 'Jiu Shen... Just what am I to you? No matter what it is, I will cherish this moment forever...'

Jiu Shen was oblivious to Hestia's thoughts as he absentmindedly rubbed her back. A familiar yet unfamiliar feeling rose in his heart as he held Hestia in his arms.

"Master, can you hold me like this for a little bit more?" Hestia asked without looking at Jiu Shen, but she felt bashful when those words left her mouth.

Jiu Shen's poker face broke into a smile. "Mn." He replied softly.

* * *

Inside the throne room of the Silver Wing Empire's imperial palace.

"Are you speaking the truth, Duanmu?" The emperor's dignified voice echoed in the throne room.

Defender Duanmu nodded his head and replied in a grim voice. "Your Majesty, this subordinate will never lie to you about such matters. This time, we're lucky enough to gain the help of Young Miss Hestia. If not for her, the fourth prince and the fifth princess would have... Sigh!"

Emperor Elyk sighed in relief. "It must be Wine Master Jiu who ordered her to protect you guys. And we now owe him a huge favor..."

Defender Duanmu remained silent after that.

Emperor Elyk closed his eyes as he gathered his thoughts. "After the continental war fifty thousand years ago, no demons dared to step foot in our Profound Dragon Continent. Our ancestors already made an agreement with them to stay out of each other's territories. But to think that there is actually someone among them who dares to go against this agreement! Are they not afraid of the Alliance?" He muttered as he tapped his fingers on the armrest of his throne.

Chapter 87 - Hu Xiandao

"Your Majesty, another group of experts came inside our Beltran City. They are already the fifth group that entered in our territory. Furthermore, each of them has a 7th-rank Emperor realm cultivator leading their groups." Defender Duanmu reported.

Emperor Elyk sighed weakly. 'I'm almost at the age of abdicating the throne, but why are all these troublesome matters happening right now? Sigh!'

"Are there any 8th-rank Divine realm cultivator spotted within our borders?" Emperor Elyk asked with a weary voice. It was only in front of Defender Duanmu that he could display this kind of weakness. Emperor Elyk trusted him so much and he even treated Defender Duanmu like a real brother.

Defender Duanmu felt sorry for the emperor, but he didn't show it on his face. "Your Majesty, our people haven't reported any sightings of experts at that level, but there is a possibility of someone with that strength appearing in these troubled times. The Earth Origin Dragon Tree is just too precious for them to pass up, even I am feeling a bit tempted..." The old defender said truthfully.

He couldn't be blamed for this. The Earth Origin Dragon Tree was, after all, a 9th-rank spiritual plant. Just its fruit alone was capable of helping an 8th-rank Divine realm expert

to break through to the 9th-rank Saint realm. Such an astonishing treasure would surely be highly sought by many high-ranking experts!

Emperor Elyk narrowed his eyes but still sighed in the end. "Even this emperor wants to take a single fruit from Wine Master Jiu. Just that after learning everything about his strength, I don't even have the courage to ask him for one. Just let those people be for now. Let them suffer a little bit for going inside our empire without notifying us." The emperor said.

Defender Duanmu broke into a grin but he frowned soon after since his injuries weren't fully healed yet. Although Hestia already provided him with a high-level healing pill, he still needed more than ten days to recover his peak condition.

"Those fools actually dared to harbor thoughts of snatching something from Wine Master Jiu. I just hope that Wine Master Jiu will be magnanimous enough to let them off. If not, then our Silver Wing Empire might have to face the full brunt of their factions' retaliation." Defender Duanmu said with a serious look.

Emperor Elyk nodded in agreement. "Indeed. But no matter what Wine Master Jiu's choice will be, if his actions will implicate our empire, then even if I have to beg him, I will make sure that he will have to ride along with us." A trace of brilliance flickered in the emperor's eyes and the buried majestic air within him resurfaced in that instant. He might be nearing his twilight years, but the awe-inspiring regality and charisma of an emperor were already deeply rooted in his bones.

Both men who were inside the throne room didn't even think that begging Jiu Shen was contemptible. They both know that an expert at Jiu Shen's level was far from their reach, so what is there to worry about begging someone like him?

* * *

The Immortal's Wine Store.

A towering single-armed man with long wavy red hair and dark skin entered the store who then instantly garnered the attention of the customers due to his wild and untamed presence. It was as if they were facing an alpha lion that had escaped from the forest.

Each of his steps created a loud thumping sound that caused the customers' hearts to beat wildly in nervousness.

Behind this man were four individuals with the same ferocious air. Two of them were youths at the 4th-rank Knight Crusader realm and the other two were middle-aged men at the 6th-rank King realm.

Aside from their feral aura, all these men had something else in common. They were all tall and had hulk-like bodies that it almost looked as if they could crush their chairs into smithereens.

"Can this little thing really be sat on?" The single-armed man muttered as he glanced at the ordinary-looking chair in front of him. He touched the fragile-looking chair and used a bit of his strength to try crushing it. He was a high-level body strengthening expert and anyone with such strength could surely crush anything with their grip power alone!

Just as he thought that the chair would crumble into dust, he felt a strong rebound force that made him release it instinctively.

"Huh?!" He frowned while glancing at his hand in bewilderment. His hand was now feeling numbed and is slightly red in color as if it had experienced some kind of minor physical damage.

He then glanced at the chair and was about to smack it when he heard a cold and indifferent voice behind him.

"If you still value your remaining arm, then I advise you not to do anything funny. Of course, you're free to disregard my words."

The single-armed man paused his actions and narrowed his eyes as he turned around to face the person who had spoken such bold words.

His narrowed eyes widened when his gaze locked onto the person in front of him. It was actually a valiant young lady with short blonde hair! Everything about her was perfect and even her cold expression accentuated her overall bearing.

"This little lady, are you speaking to me, Hu Xiandao?" The man asked while looking at Theia in amusement.

In their Mythos Wildlands, nobody dared to talk to him like that. Whoever dared to do so were heavily thrashed by him to the point that even their parents could no longer recognize their faces.

Physical conflicts were pretty common in their place since it was the land of the barbarians. Almost all of their people were uncultured individuals who think using their fists. And in order to gain the respect of such rough people, one had to have sufficient strength. This Hu Xiandao was someone heavily respected in the Mythos Wildlands not just because of his strength, but also because of his ferocity!

Mythos Wildlands was a kingdom of barbarians in the northern part of the Silver Wing Empire. All of their people practiced body strengthening and they even battle with ferocious savage beasts almost on a daily basis.

Their ferociousness and undaunting courage made them famous in the entire Profound Dragon Continent. Even a huge empire like the Silver Wing Empire was wary of their presence! Just this alone was enough to tell their strength.

Facing such a man like Hu Xiandao, Theia remained calm.

The face-off between them looked like a rabbit facing against a lion, but the customers inside the store had strange expressions on their faces.

"If this person isn't sensible enough, then we might see someone getting kicked out like ragdoll once again..." Someone among the customers muttered.

Chapter 88 - Hu Xiandao's Story

Hu Xiandao released a bit of his anma in a bid to scare Theia with his strength. Although the latter was a beauty, he wanted to teach her a lesson for talking to him in such a manner.

There was a faint glow in Hu Xiandao's body as his anma slowly gushed out of his body. He gave Theia a faint smile that looked terrifying to behold.

"What a pity! That little lady is so pretty, but why did she have to provoke Lord Hu?" One of the young barbarians said as he shook his head.

The other three barbarians held the same sentiments, but they could only watch the scene with a look of regret.

They didn't even realize the weird atmosphere enveloping the whole store as the faceoff between Theia and Hu Xiandao continued. The customers were wearing excited looks on their faces as if they were waiting for something to happen.

The barbarians were confused at their reactions, but they could not comprehend the reason for their behavior. They were also perplexed that no one even stood up to dissuade Theia from provoking an expert like Hu Xiandao. Just why?

Being stared in such a way by Hu Xiandao, Theia's cold eyes remained tranquil with no hints of ripple. She looked like a stubborn little shrub facing a huge storm with an unbending will!

"Are you done talking?" She asked in a calm and indifferent voice, but when the customers heard her speak, they could not help but shiver.

"Hahaha! You've got guts little lady. To think that there is someone in Beltran City with such an attitude. I respect your courage, but I don't want being looked down especially

by a woman!" Hu Xiandao's smiling face turned ferocious as he spoke in an intimidating voice.

It could be said that this Hu Xiandao was truly a full-blooded barbarian. The savagery of someone who had grown up from the vicious wildlands was already deeply-rooted in his bones. Just his overwhelming presence alone could even make the patriarchs of the noble clans treat him with respect. So how could he bend to a mere woman just because of her beauty?

Suddenly, a bone-chilling true essence gushed out of Theia's body. It was so dreadfully dense that even Hu Xiandao had to take a step back!

"Just a woman, huh?" Theia's calm voice was like death's whisper echoing beside everyone's ears.

Hu Xiandao's playful expression froze and he could not help but put on a serious look as he hurriedly gathered the anma from his body to protect himself.

At that moment, he finally realized that this blonde beauty was actually an expert that was many times stronger than he was!

'The customers' weird expressions and their uncaring attitude. Now it all makes sense... They all knew that this lady is a top expert...' Hu Xiandao thought to himself while cautiously looking at Theia.

Just as the two sides were about to clash, an alluring voice echoed inside the store.

"Wait, Sister Theia!"

Everyone glanced at Lu Sulan with puzzled looks, but they didn't dare voice out their curiosity. They could only silently stare at her graceful figure while waiting for her to speak.

Theia recalled her true essence and looked at Lu Sulan in bewilderment. "Sister Lu, what's the meaning of this?" She asked in a mild tone, but she was obviously displeased. She really wanted to punish Hu Xiandao for daring to act impudently in her presence.

Hu Xiandao glanced at Lu Sulan and his eyes widened like saucers. "Sect Mistress Lu? Why are you here? And why are wearing a maid's uniform?" He asked with a surprised tone.

Lu Sulan walked towards them and stood in between the two before she glanced at Theia apologetically. "Please forgive Lord Hu, Sister Theia. He's someone from the Mythos Wildlands and barbarians like him are known for their overbearing attitude. But Lord Hu is someone with a kind heart" The former said gently.

Theia knitted her eyebrows and glanced at Hu Xiandao from head to foot. In her eyes, he didn't look kind at all.

"Just this alone is not enough to stop me from punishing him." She said coldly.

Hu Xiandao wanted to speak, but Lu Sulan raised her slim arms to prevent him from speaking. The former reluctantly closed his mouth and he could only glare at Theia.

"Sister Theia, please. He may not look like a good person, but he saved my life when I was still young back then. One of his arms was even severed just to save me from being devoured by 7th-rank Emperor realm savage beast." Lu Sulan could not help but feel a bit emotional as she recalled the scene that happened many years ago.

She was still a 6th-rank King realm cultivator at that time and she was out on a mission given by the sect elders of the Ice Cloud Sword Sect.

During her travel, she encountered a 7th-rank Mountain Breaking Serpent. And just as she thought that she would be devoured by the huge behemoth, a brave barbarian warrior raised his thick arms to shield her body from the serpent's bite.

Lu Sulan could still remember as that brave barbarian's arm was torn off by the serpent, but the barbarian gritted his teeth amidst the excruciating pain and carried Lu Sulan away with his remaining arm.

Starting then, their Ice Cloud Sword Sect became the strongest ally of the Mythos Wildlands...

Lu Sulan glanced at Hu Xiandao's missing arm with teary eyes before she turned to look at Theia with a determined expression.

Theia sighed as she listened to the story, but her overall impression of Hu Xiandao improved by many times. She glanced at the headstrong barbarian and muttered. "I respect you for being a real man." She then walked back to her spot, making everyone sigh in relief.

Lu Sulan smiled at Theia's back figure and she then turned to look at Hu Xiandao with a faint smile. "Greetings, Lord Hu and welcome to The Immortal's Wine."

Chapter 89 - Boss Scar's Plan

"Sect Mistress Lu, who is that woman? How come such an expert is here?" Hu Xiandao asked with a baffled look. He could not fathom how an expert like Theia ended up working in this store as someone's lackey. Just who was the owner of the store? Isn't he a bit too kick-ass for taming such a beautiful expert?

Lu Sulan smiled and gestured for Hu Xiandao to sit. "Lord Hu, that young lady right there is Sister Theia and she's an expert who is even stronger than me. She is now serving as my master's subordinate and is also a guard of this store."

Hu Xiandao's eyebrows knitted closely together as he listened to Lu Sulan's words and he was surprised to find out that she had accepted someone as her master.

After that, he glanced at the chair in front of him with unease, but he still sat on it after seeing Lu Sulan gentle smile.

After carefully sitting on the chair, he could not help but feel surprised that it was actually able to hold his weight. He was, after all, a tall and buff man, so his weight was at least three times heavier than an average man. 'This little thing should be made from a sturdy tree...' He thought to himself as he gestured for his men to sit beside him.

If he only knew that he was actually sitting on a chair made from a God-rank Sacred Safarwood Tree, what would his reaction be? Perhaps he might even shamelessly sit on it forever...

"Lord Hu, if you want to order anything, you can choose which one to buy from that blackboard right there." Lu Sulan pointed at the inconspicuous-looking blackboard in one corner of the store.

Hu Xiandao and his men followed the direction she was pointing and when their gazes locked onto the price list, they could not help but widen their eyes in disbelief.

Although their Mythos Wildlands was also a strong power within the Profound Dragon Continent, but their wealth isn't really that much. Since almost all of their people were mostly body enhancers, they rarely used true crystals for cultivation because the tonics they use to increase their cultivation speed are savage beasts' blood.

True crystals might be capable of helping them in strengthening their bodies, but the upgrade in strength is much lesser compared to using savage beasts' blood. Furthermore, true crystal is a rare resource that can only be found in True Crystal Mines. On the other hand, they can just hunt for savage beasts any time they want and extract their blood to use as a tonic.

"Am I seeing things wrongly? Brothers, can you confirm the prices for me? I think I might have read Silver Coins as True Crystals." Hu Xiandao said while looking at his men with a dumbfounded look.

The other four barbarians acted as if they didn't hear his words and continued to stare at the blackboard with unblinking eyes.

Lu Sulan smiled after seeing how they acted. They couldn't be blamed either since her master's wines were just too precious that ordinary people could not afford to buy them. Only the wealthy and the strong could purchase and taste Wine Master Jiu's wines.

"Lord Hu, if you didn't bring enough True Crystals with you, then please allow me to treat you guys. You can choose anything you like and I'll pay it for you." Lu Sulan said generously.

Hu Xiandao glanced at Lu Sulan with a sheepish smile and was about to tactfully decline her offer when one of the young barbarians behind him spoke eagerly. "Sect Mistress Lu, we thank you on behalf of Lord Hu! Hehe."

"Come on, Lord Hu! Sect Mistress Lu means well, so why don't you just accept her offer?" The other young barbarian nudged Hu Xiandao with a mischievous smile on his face.

Hu Xiandao glared at the two young barbarians but they merely chuckled, completely unafraid of him.

In all honesty, they were already beaten many times by Hu Xiandao that they were no longer afraid of getting his aggro. Furthermore, how could they pass up such a rare opportunity of poking fun at him?

Hu Xiandao's expression turned a hundred eighty degree turn when he glanced at Lu Sulan. He then put on a forced smile and said. "If that's the case, then we shall humbly accept Sect Mistress Lu's grace."

Lu Sulan smiled and waited for them to choose their wines. There are not that many customers anyway, so she could still wait for them patiently.

Hestia was still recuperating, so Lu Sulan was the only waitress for today.

The customers were slightly disappointed at the outcome of things. They really want to see some action today, but who knew that those barbarians were actually acquaintances of Young Miss Lu. Furthermore, they were also impressed by Hu Xiandao's bravery when they listened to Lu Sulan's story.

"To think that those fearsome-looking guys are actually amiable. You can't really judge a book by its cover. Sigh! I'm ashamed to have judged that guy wrongly." Boss Scar shook his head and sighed.

His mercenary brothers nodded their heads in agreement as they looked at Hu Xiandao and the other barbarians with a look of respect.

"Boss, I can sense that something bad is about to happen to our Silver Wing Empire in the coming days. I don't want to say it, but we are too weak to be involved in this

turmoil. And even if we join, then we might only serve as cannon fodder." Liu Xiufeng spoke self-mockingly... He was someone from the Liu Family and he still had some connections with them, so he was quite knowledgeable about the current state of things in their empire.

Boss Scar wanted to rebuke him when he heard those words, but he could not really find fault in what Liu Xiufeng said.

"Sigh! Brother Liu is right, so I suggest we brothers accept that mission and train ourselves along the way." Boss Scar said after a moment of thought.

Liu Xiufeng and the others glanced at Boss Scar with surprise.

"Boss Scar, do you mean that cave exploration mission posted just recently?" Liu Xiufeng asked excitedly.

Boss Scar smiled and nodded his head. "Yes. It might be dangerous, but I know that us brothers will be able to come out of that cave safely since we've already improved so much after drinking Wine Master Jiu's wines."

Liu Xiufeng and the other mercenaries nodded their heads with shining eyes.

Chapter 90 - Third Prince

"Lord Hu, I know you're not just here to drink wine. Are you perhaps here for my master's Earth Origin Dragon Tree?" Lu Sulan smiled playfully.

She had already heard from her master that the Earth Origin Dragon Tree will bear fruit in less than three days. Counting the days that have passed since then, the fruit should grow by tomorrow morning and ripen at night. And that's the time when all those hidden experts would show up to snatch the fruits for themselves.

Hu Xiandao who was drinking his wine almost choked himself when he heard her words. He then glanced at Lu Sulan with a crooked smile and cursed the elders of the Mythos Wildlands in his heart. Still, he couldn't blame them since they must have not known that Lu Sulan was actually the disciple of the rumored Alchemy Saint Jiu Shen.

It was still a few days since the customers have heard about Jiu Shen being an Alchemy Saint, but news has already spread far and wide that even the neighboring powers have already heard a thing or two about him.

Just that, almost everyone found it hard to believe that an alchemist at that level would stoop so low and actually open a small wine store in a remote alley of Beltran City. So

after hearing the rumors, most of those who have heard it merely laughed and thought that it was just an exaggerated joke to promote their store.

This includes the Mythos Wildlands. They believed that it was merely a rumor purposely spread to incite fear and confusion to everyone. Some believed that it was a move to prevent those with covetous hearts from stealing their valuable treasures.

Hu Xiandao and his men were sent here specifically to get ahold of the Earth Origin Dragon Tree, but who knew that their strongest ally's sect mistress was actually the disciple of the store's owner?

Hu Xiandao glanced to his left and right before he moved closer to Lu Sulan. He then whispered silently. "Sect Mistress Lu, we are indeed sent here by the elders of our Mythos Wildlands to get the Earth Origin Dragon Tree. But since the owner of this store is your master, then we will never dare to continue this mission any longer. And as your ally, we will aid you in protecting this place."

Lu Sulan smiled and she shook her head. "I'm happy about your choice, but there is no need for Lord Hu to interfere."

Hu Xiandao frowned and thought that Lu Sulan didn't want them to be involved in the turmoil. With a determined look, he said. "Sect Mistress Lu, we've been living in the desolate lands of the north and fighting is a common occurrence in there. And the barbarians of the Mythos Wildlands don't fear death!"

Lu Sulan felt warmth in her heart and she broke into a wry smile. Even if countless strong experts will come to strike them, she believed that her master was capable of subduing everyone with a mere flick of his fingers. Not to mention the existence of Theia who could even make an 8th-rank Divine realm expert like her feel an intense amount of pressure. She really didn't think that they were in need of support...

"Lord Hu, have you forgotten about Sister Theia? Just her alone is more than enough to stop those people from taking away my master's Earth Origin Dragon Tree." Lu Sulan said with a slightly proud expression. The feeling of having someone to rely on was truly a refreshing feeling to her since she was used to bearing the pressure alone during her time as the Sect Mistress of the Ice Cloud Sword Sect.

Hu Xiandao was stunned and he was at loss for words. 'Indeed! Although Sect Mistress Lu didn't tell the specific cultivation level of that little blondie right there, she should be a 9th-rank Saint realm cultivator. Even the Barbarian Emperor of our Mythos Wildlands is not her opponent, so what is there to be worried about?' He thought as he slowly calmed himself down, but deep inside his heart, he was still planning to offer his help even if Lu Sulan had already declined his offer.

"If that's the case, then I will bring my brothers to the nearest inn so that we can immediately provide our assistance if needed. Please agree to this, Sect Mistress Lu or I won't be able to calm down." Hu Xiandao said while scratching the back of his head.

He was worried about her safety since she was very important in the alliance between their Mythos Wildlands and the Ice Cloud Sword Sect. If something bad happened to her, Hu Xiandao didn't dare think about the consequences...

Lu Sulan sighed, but she knew how stubborn Hu Xiandao was. In the end, she nodded her head and said with a confident look. "Okay, Lord Hu. I agree to your request, but you don't need to be on the frontline since my master and Sister Theia will surely suppress those people easily."

Hu Xiandao nodded his head faintly and smiled. "I'll listen to your orders, Sect Mistress Lu."

Lu Sulan gracefully smiled and bowed her head before she left them.

* * *

Outside the Immortal's Wine Store.

A cold-looking man in his thirties glanced at the entrance of Jiu Shen's store with an intrigued gaze. "So this is the wine store of that so-called Alchemy Saint? From the looks of things, everything was merely a bluff." He tried to keep his calm, but the disdain in his tone was evident.

One of the servants behind him stepped forward and bowed his head. "Your highness, our men have already gathered news about this establishment. And we have solid evidence that the owner is indeed someone with notable strength. As for him being an Alchemy Saint, many claimed that it's true, but we are still unsure about this. But this humble servant suggests avoiding conflict with them before we know their true abilities." The servant said respectfully.

The third prince gestured for the servant to step back before he walked inside the store with a cold smile.