

A Demoness 431

Chapter 431: Learning the One Heart Palm

The next day, Jiang Hao was still sitting in the inn and listening to the conversations of the people around him.

Yesterday, he had appraised someone.

He found out that the person was from the Fallen Immortal Clan and was going to meet up with his companions.

He had used the contact information left by Wan Xiu and Si Cheng and told them everything.

He didn't know what had happened after that. If these two were taking action, then it seemed plausible that no one would be their match.

So far, he hadn't felt that anyone could compare to them.

The Dao Conference was starting the day after tomorrow. Yet, Hong Yuye still hadn't come out of her room.

After careful thought, he decided to go to her room.

He didn't find any barriers. The only protective barriers were the ones they had set up when they first rented the room.

Jiang Hao approached her room. He thought of knocking but decided against it.

He chose to go in silently.

This way, he wouldn't disturb her. If everything was fine with her, he could leave quietly.

There was no sound from Hong Yuye at all. He wanted to check in on her.

When he was about to go in, the door suddenly opened from inside.

His hand hovered in the air close to the person who had opened the door. If he had gone even an inch forward, his hand would have touched her.

Hong Yuye stared at him and smiled.

In an instant, a chill spread throughout the entire inn.

Jiang Hao quickly withdrew his hand and lowered his head. "Senior, I didn't mean to..."

Bang!

A vast aura surged and sent Jiang Hao flying.

The people in the inn only felt a chill but didn't notice anything unusual. The sudden coldness came and went very quickly, so no one paid much attention.

Jiang Hao held his face and got up from the floor.

He had just hit his face against the wall.

Hong Yuye had used her power to push him from outside the room, and he had crashed into the wall.

It was an accident! He hadn't expected Hong Yuye to open the door so suddenly.

He was curious. He wondered what would have happened if he had entered the room. Would he be dead by now?

It was better not to be curious about such things. He could end up dead.

When he regained his composure, Hong Yuye was already sitting at the table.

Jiang Hao didn't dare hesitate and went over to make tea.

"What were you trying to do just now?" Hong Yuye asked as she raised her teacup.

"I was just about to knock on the door to check in on you, Senior. The Dao Conference is approaching..."

"You use your palm to knock on the door?" Hong Yuye sipped her tea.

"I apologize, Senior." Jiang Hao bowed respectfully.

Hong Yuye looked at the person in front of her. "How long until the Dao Conference?"

"It's the day after tomorrow," Jiang Hao said.

It was time. Otherwise, he would never dare to push on her door. "The day after tomorrow?" Hong Yuye sipped her tea. "Are you prepared?" "Yes." Jiang Hao nodded.

He had indeed made all the other preparations, but the most important one was still Hong Yuye.

She was unpredictable and beyond anything he had ever encountered.

For example, he knew his meeting with Wan Xiu and Si Cheng was because of her.

If it were just him, they wouldn't be so courteous to him.

Although Hong Yuye hadn't done much, her mere presence was impactful.

Hong Yuye didn't seem to care about the rumors and the Fallen Immortal Clan.

It seemed that these matters were nothing to her.

She was probably more interested in the Great Thousand God Sect, The End of All Things, and the stone tablet.

The stone tablet was probably her greatest interest.

Before, she used to collect the stone tablets, but not anymore. Collecting more of them would affect the gathering.

It would be even harder to find the person behind the stone tablet.

"It's quite difficult to succeed in the Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment. No one will know how it will go until the very end," said Hong Yuye as she put down her teacup. "But for the good of the whole world, it is important for the Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment to succeed."

Jiang Hao nodded.

The Earth Extreme Heart Devouring Pearl had appeared, and the Earth Extreme Silence Pearl was also being sought after. These items were all apocalyptic.

Once they appeared, ordinary people couldn't withstand the destruction.

Only those with great luck could suppress these things.

For many, there was a benefit to someone achieving the Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment. Even demonic sects acknowledged it. After finishing the tea, Hong Yuye walked behind the folding screen.

"Prepare the water."

Jiang Hao knew that Hong Yuye wanted to bathe.

After testing the water temperature, Jiang Hao sat down with his back to the folding screen.

He could hear the sound of clothes being taken off and the sound of water as someone entered the tub.

Images flashed through his mind. At this moment, a book suddenly fell in front of him.

"I won't make you help me for nothing," said Hong Yuye from behind.

Jiang Hao picked up the book and looked at it. There were three words on it: One Heart Palm.

Even if he learned this technique, it wouldn't be of use.

He examined the book curiously.

The One Heart Palm was created by a couple. Their love was supposedly forbidden.

On the night they were separated, they created this palm technique.

They planned to elope afterward.

The woman was confined, and the man traversed endless distances to reach her.

As long as this palm technique succeeded, the woman would be by his side in an instant.

Jiang Hao read further.

He found that the subsequent pages contained the cultivation method for the palm technique.

‘What happened next?’

Jiang Hao was curious. ‘Did they elope in the end? Why was their love forbidden?’

The cultivation world was vast and boundless, and what was considered forbidden in one place might not be so in another. What could be so forbidden that the entire world would despise it? He couldn’t understand.

“Are you curious to know if they succeeded?” Hong Yuye suddenly asked.

“Yes. From this book, it seems the palm technique was successfully created. So, they should have succeeded in eloping together, right?”

“They failed,” Hong Yuye said.

“Why?” Jiang Hao was puzzled.

“Because that man was involved with other women, the One Heart Palm failed,” Hing Yuye said.

“So, if one person is involved with many others, both will fail?” Jiang Hao asked.

“Yes.” Hong Yuye nodded.

“Is it possible that the woman might have been the problem?” Jiang Hao asked.

Hing Yuye remained silent.

Jiang Hao dared not say more.

He continued reading and found out that the technique was supposed to be cast on the chest.

He wondered if it could be cast on the back instead of the chest.

If the back was an option, he had a chance to use it.

But casting it on the chest...

Jiang Hao shook his head. That was impossible.

Hong Yuye might go berserk and just kill him at that point.

After that, he began to comprehend the technique.

It wasn't until late at night that he had an epiphany.

There was no sound behind him.

“Senior?”

He called twice, but Hong Yuye didn't respond.

He turned around and saw that Hong Yuye was lying in the wooden tub.

He approached the folding screen and found that Hong Yuye had fallen asleep.

He shook his head and sat back down to read more about the One Heart Palm.

On the day of the Dao Conference, Jiang Hao emerged from Hong Yuye's room.

He had been reading about the One Heart Palm all along. It wasn't a difficult technique, but it was somewhat strange.

It seemed to be related to one's state of mind as well.

If one had a strong aversion toward someone, the technique couldn't be used at all.

This surprised Jiang Hao..

Chapter 432: The Gap Between Heaven and Earth

On the way to the Bright Moon Sect, Jiang Hao glanced at Hong Yuye.

After learning that she didn't reject him too much, he felt a bit strange.

He was surprised.

After careful consideration, he realized that not being rejected didn't mean much.

He didn't reject people who spread rumors about him, but that didn't mean he thought highly of them either.

It could go either way.

Perhaps the mindset of the strong was similar to that.

Jiang Hao couldn't help but think positively about it.

He didn't dare to show it at all.

The consequences of being too clever were something he couldn't afford.

He couldn't even imagine the state of mind of someone like Hong Yuye.

If he jumped to conclusions based on some small guesses, what awaited him would be an endless abyss.

The only safe approach was to get stronger.

He had learned almost everything about One Heart Palm. He only lacked practice.

The only person he could practice it with was the woman beside him.

"Do you want to try the One Heart Palm?" Hong Yuye suddenly turned to him and asked teasingly.

Jiang Hao's heart skipped a bit. Then, he shook his head. "I was just thinking about the Dao Conference and wondering what would happen there." Hong Yuye chuckled but didn't say anything.

This time, they were heading directly to the Bright Moon Sect and not to the rIWvin Peaks.

It was time for the development of the Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment, so they weren't in a hurry.

As they approached the Bright Moon Sect, more and more people appeared around them.

Some were not strong enough to live in the Bright Moon Sect, so they were heading there slowly.

Some flew on their swords, while others walked.

"There are so many people, and their strength is formidable," Jiang Hao said as he watched the crowd.

The Dao Conference of the Bright Moon Sect attracted only the strongest individuals.

Even if they were not the absolute strongest, they were among the top elite. They either had enough opportunities or astonishing talent.

For example, there were two individuals from the Cliff of Broken Hearts, Mu Qi and Han Ming. He knew them and recognized them at the Bright Moon Sect.

There was also Liu Xingchen, who was even more extraordinary.

There were three remnant souls inside him: a True Dragon, a sorcerer, and a Blood Demon.

Each remnant soul had an extraordinary background, but they were all held captive.

It was clear how strong Liu Xingchen was.

Jiang Hao believed that he couldn't do something like that. He couldn't hold them captive for so long, let alone devour them.

He was curious about how these three remnant souls would resist. If they resisted, they might win, but if they didn't, Liu Xingchen would get bored and devour them.

"Is there anyone among these people who belongs to The End of All Things?" Hong Yuye asked.

"It's hard to say. The End of All Things mostly looks at experience and temperament. People filled with hatred, anger, and darkness are the most likely to join them," Jiang Hao said.

And such people were impossible to spot, which was the tricky part.

The people of The End of All Things were the hardest to find. Any stranger could be one of them.

Although there was a way to appraise them, it would take too long because there were too many people.

They could only rely on their own observations.

As long as Chu Jie doesn't appear, those people wouldn't rush to come out.

On their way to the central square, Jiang Hao saw a group of people.

Leading them was his master, Ku Wu Chang, and behind him were many others. Among them, he saw Xiao Li holding the spirit beast. She was excited.

"Beast, will there be food later?" Xiao Li asked.

"After it's over, we can have a meal. Remember to mention my name then, and you'll get more food," the beast said solemnly.

“Can we keep eating like that?”

Yes. You have to keep mentioning my name.

“Really?”

“Do you still not know who I am?”

“I know you treat people with integrity.”

Chu Chuan nodded. He believed that the beast was absolutely right.

Jiang Hao walked past them without attracting anyone’s attention. It was only when their group had gone far away that Hong Yuye spoke up. “Xiao Li regards you as an older brother, which doesn’t seem like you at all.”

“What do you mean, Senior?” Jiang Hao asked curiously. Hong Yuye chuckled. “She doesn’t lie like you.”

Jiang Hao couldn’t respond.

It seemed that the spirit beast wasn’t a bad influence on Xiao Li.

He wasn’t unsure what the beast had been teaching her. The spirit beast was adept at lying more than most, after all.

Jiang Hao glanced at Chu Chuan and thought about how those who wanted to target him would do so during the Dao Conference.

It was unclear whether he could handle it.

The gap between him and Chu Jie would become apparent after the Dao Conference: an ordinary sect disciple and the most outstanding Foundation Establishment Realm cultivator.

He could even influence the future course of the world.

How would Chu Chuan face such a person? The gap between them couldn't be crossed with just effort.

The gap was there. It would become more and more evident, and wider as time passed.

It wasn't a matter of one person falling behind. It was a matter of the other person soaring to great heights.

Childhood friendships would gradually fade away in the face of such a gap. That was inevitable.

Jiang Hao sighed and looked at the others. 'Where is Liu Xingchen?'

Jiang Hao was quite surprised.

Soon, Jiang Hao arrived at the central square and showed his jade pendant. He was invited to a high seat on the side.

He looked around after taking his seat.

There were many arenas in the center, and there were many marked areas around them. Each belonged to a different sects.

Jiang Hao found the Heavenly Note Sect.

Compared to other sects, the Heavenly Note Sect was indeed inferior in terms of heritage and strength.

The fact that the Bright Moon Sect had invited them was already quite impressive.

Soon, Jiang Hao and the others sat down. Others began to take their seats as well.

They gathered in groups of two or three. They all seemed familiar with each other.

Each of them had extraordinary cultivation.

Soon, they saw Jiang Hao and Hong Yuye, and they seemed surprised.

The two were seated in the most central position. Not everyone was invited to be seated there. The center seats were reserved for the most important people.

“May I ask who you are?” Chang Zizai came over to greet them.

Jiang Hao stood up to return the greeting.

“It’s you?” Chang Zizai expressed surprise and delight. “I’ve been looking for you everywhere. I didn’t expect to find you here.”

Jiang Hao felt a little embarrassed. He hadn’t expected that a few words he had exchanged would make these senior cultivators remember him. The two other seniors had gone all out in watching and stalking him everywhere. Fortunately, they didn’t intend to do anything. They were only here for the Heavenly Dao

Foundation Establishment.

Jiang Hao didn’t recognize this particular cultivator.

“Can I sit here?” Chang Zizai pointed to the seat next to Jiang Hao.

“Of course, Senior,” Jiang Hao said politely.

“Calling me Senior feels a bit formal. If you can sit here, you’re not an ordinary cultivator. By the way, is there more to the poem you recited aloud before?” asked Chang Zizai.

“Apologies, Senior. I only heard about it from my father when I was a child, and I only remember that much,” Jiang Hao said apologetically.

“What about your father now?” Chang Zizai asked.

Jiang Hao lowered his head and didn’t answer.

“I apologize for being too abrupt,” Chang Zizai said. “Who do you think will shine the most in this Dao Conference?”

Jiang Hao turned to look at the highest position, where people were beginning to appear..

Chapter 433: Now, Truly A Senior

The central square was incredibly vast.

There were forests and lakes around, and a long river ran through the surroundings.

Many sects were located behind some of the forests, but they all had a view of the central arena.

Those with lower cultivation were provided with a formation to watch the center area.

In the Dao Conference, there were arts and philosophies. But mostly, it was a competition of cultivation techniques, including all aspects like formations, alchemy, and talismans.

In a corner of the forest, there was a raised platform with seats and an open space.

It was where the Heavenly Note Sect was located.

Chu Chuan stood in the open space and looked toward the highest platform.

As various major sects arrived, the strong members of the Bright Moon Sect gradually revealed themselves.

On the platform, figures appeared one after another, and then starlight enveloped the platform as a young girl descended from the sky.

She was dressed in a blue and white gown and was surrounded by starlight, which dimmed the heavens and the earth. She drew the attention of everyone present.

Chu Chuan was stunned.

At this moment, he finally understood what Jiang Hao had meant.

The talent and status of Chu Jie surpassed his expectations.

He felt that Chu Jie was unattainable and beyond reach.

This was a gap in status.

Chu Jie was the bright starlight in an immortal sect, while he was just an ordinary sect disciple of a remote demonic sect.

The gap between them was as vast as the galaxy.

“She’s... incredible,” Chu Chuan said with a smile.

“Beast, where’s the food?” Xiao Li looked around.

Behind them, Mu Qi looked at Chu Jie with some disbelief. “She still hasn’t reached the Foundation Building stage?”

Han Ming was also amazed. “The rumors seem to have some basis.”

They all knew the rumors, and although they hadn’t been sure at first, it seemed that the Bright Moon Sect did have other plans.

At this moment, Liu Xingchen arrived with his group.

He respectfully greeted the three individuals at the highest position.

“Greetings, Masters.”

“What’s the situation?” The leading man in black asked.

He was Cheng Liu, the head of the Law Enforcement Hall.

“I investigated it. It seems that someone leaked the information secretly,” Liu Xingchen said.

“What is it?” Cheng Liu asked.

He was responsible for everything at this time.

Although rumors were not always reliable, they still needed to investigate them to feel at ease.

Even if they couldn't do anything, they had to at least try.

Liu Xingchen looked around and whispered, "Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment."

"Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment?" None of the three understood.

"It's said that it follows the heavenly principles and brings blessings to the common people," Liu Xingchen said.

"Where did you hear this news?" Cheng Liu asked.

"One of the Bright Moon Sect disciples mentioned it. It's only known to a very small circle of people, and it seems that anyone interested can find out," Liu Xingchen said.

Cheng Liu frowned.

"It seems that we are still ignorant," he said helplessly.

They really didn't understand the Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment, so they couldn't really make sense of the situation.

They could only take it one step at a time for now.

"The little girl is talented. It is no wonder the entire Bright Moon Sect admires her," Chang Zizai said.

Jiang Hao could also feel that Chu Jie had a certain affinity with the heavens and the earth.

Indeed, she was suitable for the Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment, as she herself was like a vast and brilliant galaxy.

She was qualified to accommodate the great blessing of heaven and earth.

At this moment, the Bright Moon Sect announced the start of the Dao Conference.

Jiang Hao noticed that they were competing in many things. It wasn't just about the cultivation realm but also their mental state, formations, alchemy, and more.

Even talismans were being compared.

What surprised Jiang Hao was that they could suppress or temporarily enhance their cultivation here at whim.

They could either suppress or enhance it but enhancing it required using a particular magical treasure.

Jiang Hao first focused on the group making talismans. There weren't many people there.

Then, he turned to look at the place where the people from the Heavenly Note Sect were gathered.

He saw Xiao Li running around with the spirit beast. She was likely looking for food.

'What was she here for?'

Jiang Hao thought that his master must be helpless. No one could control her.

They could only let her be.

As time passed, light began to appear below. It was accompanied by exclamations from the crowd as some individuals began to glow radiantly.

Jiang Hao felt that some sort of power was gradually appearing. It seemed that the Bright Moon Sect was getting ready for the Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment.

Once it began, it couldn't be stopped. They had to move forward with it.

Jiang Hao looked around but didn't find anything interesting. He wanted to see the power of the Soul Ascension Realm cultivators, but they weren't here yet.

Chang Zizai often talked to him, so he had to keep up with the conversation.

"What are you doing, Chang Zizai? Why did you bring a young person up here?" asked a woman suddenly.

She wore a beige gown and a green gauze shawl. She looked very classy.

"Senior Qingshan?" Chang Zizai was surprised. "Did the Clear Sky School send you?"

"I didn't expect that a waste like you would come from the Astronomical Academy," Qingshan said mockingly and sat down.

"I heard that your sect has a disciple with the heart of a sage. Is he here too?" Chang Zizai asked.

Jiang Hao's heart skipped a beat. 'Is that Shang An?'

"No. He won't leave the sect so easily." Qingshan shook her head and then looked at Jiang Hao. She looked puzzled.

How could an ordinary disciple come here?

“Senior, there seems to be a misunderstanding,” Chang Zizai said hurriedly.

“These two are not from my academy. They are guests invited by the Bright

Moon Sect. Though, I wish they were from my academy.”

Jiang Hao greeted her politely. “Greetings, Senior.”

“I am Qingshan of the Clear Sky School. I don’t know which sect you two are from,” Qingshan said.

No one dared to question someone in the high seat. These two looked like ordinary disciples in the Foundation Establishment Realm, but something was strange.

“We are just humble wandering cultivators,” said Jiang Hao.

Qingshan frowned slightly but didn’t ask further questions. Instead, she planned to find out about it secretly.

At this moment, some disciples from the Bright Moon Sect approached them. They were tasked with serving tea to the guests. Hua Han led the way.

She was serving tea to the others. When she saw Jiang Hao, she was startled. She bowed hurriedly.

“Greetings, Senior. I apologize for unintentionally offending you before. Please forgive me.”

Jiang Hao shook his head and didn’t take it to heart. He didn’t want to hold grudges against anyone.

This surprised Qingshan. After they were served the tea, she followed Hua Han out.

“Wait a moment, girl.”

“Do you need anything, Senior?” Hua Han was puzzled. “Do you know that person?” Qingshan asked.

“We’ve... met once,” Hua Han said.

“Why is he sitting here?” Qingshan was worried that the person was of questionable background and could affect the gathering.

Everyone, even the Clear Sky School, wanted the Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment to be a success. The only regret Qingshan had was that the one achieving the Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment wasn’t from their sect.

If they had such a disciple, they would also go all out. “According to the list, they shouldn’t be here, but...” “Did they come here suddenly?”

“Yes. They are friends invited by Senior Si Cheng.”

Qingshan was surprised. “Senior Si Cheng?! The Senior Si Cheng?”

Hua Han nodded.

“That should be fine, then.” Qingshan was shocked.

She turned toward Jiang Hao and the woman beside him.

It was no wonder she couldn’t figure them out.

‘But why did he refer to himself as a ‘junior’?’

On a high mountain, several old men looked down below. Their brows furrowed slightly.

“Are there any other strong individuals or special people on the scene?”

Everything... seems stable.”

“Do we need to go and check?”

“No need. We still have to prevent any accidents. The Saint bandits are still lurking, and they may want to sabotage the Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment.”

“Where did they come from, anyway?”

“Perhaps... the deep sea..”

Chapter 434: Dominating The Weak

After Qingshan returned to her seat, Jiang Hao had a strange feeling that she might have misunderstood something.

He then turned to look at Hong Yuye, who had been staring at something for long enough now.

Following her gaze, he saw Xiao Li wandering around. She was probably restless because she hadn't found any food.

Jiang Hao didn't pay much attention to Xiao Li and instead tried to locate the disciples from the Clear Sky School.

Although the senior members of the Clear Sky School were present, he didn't want to approach them. That would be inappropriate.

After observing for a while, he still couldn't spot anyone from the Clear Sky School.

One day had passed, but there was no significant progress. He hadn't found anyone from The End of All Things yet.

However, cries of astonishment frequently erupted from the crowd below. Even people like Chang Zizai often expressed admiration.

Indeed, the younger generation possessed limitless potential, while the old folks like them were stubborn and stuck to the paths paved by their ancestors. Jiang Hao also wanted to follow the old path, but what he lacked was time.

At this moment, a figure shot up into the sky, and a group of people chased after them.

"Are they competing in speed?" Qingshan was surprised as she watched the figure in the sky.

"It seems like they are." Chang Zizai sighed. "They aren't taking their job seriously. The Bright Moon Sect even arranged for such competitions. "

"Is it the Light and Dust again?" Qingshan chuckled. "How many times has the

Astronomical Academy's Light and Dust Technique been ridiculed?"

Jiang Hao looked into the distance and saw the same Astronomical Academy disciple from before. He was still using the Light and Dust Technique, albeit a slightly improved version. However, he was still lagging behind.

"Is that the Light and Dust Technique?" Hong Yuye watched He Du with curiosity.

"It should be." Jiang Hao nodded. He was also surprised when he first saw it.

“Have you heard of it?” Qingshan approached them. “The Light and Dust Technique was first learned by someone from the Astronomical Academy from an unknown source. It’s said to be extremely powerful. Unfortunately, no one in other sects has learned it yet.”

“What do you mean by no one has ever learned it?” Chang Zizai asked. “He Du told me that he saw someone using the Light and Dust Technique perfectly.

Even Hua Han saw it. That proves that our sect is not wrong.”

“How many times has your sect said the same thing?” Qingshan asked.

It seemed like the Astronomical Academy had been humiliated because of the Light and Dust technique.

However, he had no intention of using it again. He had only used it before because he had no other choice.

Seeing that it was getting dark, Hong Yuye stood up.

Jiang Hao got up to follow.

Whenever Chang Zizai was about to speak, the two of them disappeared in an instant. He was puzzled.

Qingshan and some others felt the same way.

Silently, they vanished without a trace.

Many people breathed a sigh of relief. They didn’t want to provoke those two.

At the Twin City Peak, tables and chairs appeared around Hong Yuye. She sat down, and Jiang Hao brewed some tea.

The tea had not been used for a while, so there was still plenty left.

When he finished brewing the tea, it was already nighttime.

Jiang Hao sat down and took out the stone tablet. He wanted to see if there were any messages.

Sure enough, Gui and the others were online.

Text appeared on the stone tablet.

[Gui: I didn't feel like there were any outstanding individuals present today.]

[Xing: It's just the beginning. There will be more exceptional disciples arriving soon.]

[Gui: The rewards are quite generous. Tomorrow, I plan to suppress my cultivation and participate in the first and second rounds.]

[Liu: I heard that the cultivation realm of the disciples this time isn't very high.

Gui, would it be too much to do that?]

[Gui: I've seen many people suppress their cultivation and participate. If I do the same, it won't make much of a difference. Besides, there is no possibility of physical conflict. It should be fine.]

[Liu: By the way, the rumor about stealing great luck is getting more and more intense in other sects. It might be the doing of The End of All Things. I wonder how significant the impact will be.]

[Xing: This is something we need to ask Dan Yuan.] [Gui: Do you think Jing is watching our chat?]

Jiang Hao was speechless.

Without entering, he couldn't chat with others. He hadn't participated after the first time.

He probably wouldn't enter the chat unless there was something important.

So far, he hadn't discovered anything.

He could remain mysterious as long as he could stay out of sight.

The more people he interacted with, the easier it would be for his identity to get exposed. That would be troublesome.

For now, it was good as it was.

"Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment won't be affected just because of rumors," Hong Yuye said suddenly.

Jiang Hao looked up and saw Hong Yuye looking at the stone tablet.

"Does that mean the rumors don't affect it at all?"

"If the person who is to achieve the Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment is affected by the rumors, then it might cause some damage," Hong Yuye said.

Jiang Hao nodded. That needed a solid and unwavering mind to withstand the overwhelming force of heaven and earth.

The stone tablet had more incoming messages:

[Gui: I heard that the Bright Moon Sect has many Holy Medicine Seeds. I want to win one.]

‘Holy Medicine Seeds?’ Jiang Hao was suddenly interested.

The next day, Jiang Hao arrived at the scene.

He had used the excuse of finding the End of All Things to come along with

Hong Yuye.

She had agreed, but their smile was somewhat unsettling.

Fortunately, there were no more surprises.

At the scene, he looked at the rewards on both sides.

Alchemy, talisman crafting, formations, forging, defense, understanding of magical arts, and more.

He spotted three seeds in total.

Alchemy, forging, and formations all had seeds as the top rewards.

Jiang Hao felt tempted, but...

He didn’t know anything about them.

He looked at the category of body techniques and found that the highest reward consisted of three items.

One unknown Holy Medicine Seed, one unknown Bright Moon Sect cultivation technique manual, and one unknown pill.

Three to choose from.

All he needed to do was to win.

Jiang Hao understood the rules. By suppressing his cultivation at the Foundation Establishment Realm, he could participate in the competition. He needed to use his body technique to catch up with the Golden Core Realm cultivator at the front to be declared the winner.

‘It feels like a game.’

He then asked some more questions related to the competition.

He asked whether anyone had succeeded before.

Unfortunately, no one had ever succeeded.

After making sure that there was no one he recognized, he decided to participate.

He was not worried about his fellow disciples from the Heavenly Note Sect but rather the people he knew from the Bright Moon Sect.

Because in everyone’s eyes, he was a senior.

If he participated so suddenly, it might seem like he was trying to dominate others. It was better to be anonymous.

Sometimes he envied the thick-skinned nature of the spirit beast. It didn't have any shame.

Soon, he became one of the participants in the competition. He was joined by nine others. Ahead of them was a woman in the early stage of the Golden Core Realm.

"Dear fellow disciples, if you can surpass me, you will be eligible for the rewards. If you can maintain your position, you can freely choose the highest rewards. A reminder... I'm using my Golden Core Realm for this task. If your body technique isn't up to par, you can withdraw now," said the woman at the Golden Core Realm.

Jiang Hao and the others remained silent. They waited for the competition to begin.

Looking around, he noticed that quite a few people were suppressing their cultivation, with only two genuinely at the Foundation Establishment Realm.

It was a little like dominating the weak, indeed.

However, a Holy Medicine Seed would benefit him, so he aimed to obtain it. It all came down to who had a deeper understanding of body techniques..

Chapter 435: He Must Be a Senior From My Academy!

On the high seat, Chang Zizai felt somewhat disappointed when he noticed that Jiang Hao hadn't arrived.

He always felt like there was something more to discover with him. It might not be significant to others, but it was crucial to him.

One sentence from him had made their morning readings better. Such a person happened to be a senior at that.

Otherwise, there were many ways to get him to join the academy.

“Chang Zizai, are your people still competing in movement techniques?” asked Qingshan.

“Probably not. I heard they were badly defeated, and going there would just result in ridicule. Everyone would say scholars should go back to their books,” Chang Zizai said helplessly. Then, he looked curious. “Why are you suddenly asking about this?”

“Some of our sect’s people also competed, and some elders asked me to keep an eye on a disciple. Unexpectedly, he went to compete in movement technique. It seems he finds that interesting,” Qingshan said in annoyance. “It is said that one disciple only studied for less than two years and then escaped from the sect, and he’s still missing. I remember he told his master that he wanted to play hide and seek, and then they couldn’t find him. I’m a bit worried that the same thing might happen this time.”

“Why would disciples of Clear Sky School escape?” Chang Zizai couldn’t understand.

Qingshan had no idea what those people were thinking.

At this moment, they looked at the area where the movement technique competition was taking place.

Sure enough, they saw a man with extraordinary bearing and an air of ease about him.

Chang Zizai was stunned for a moment. “Why are there people from the academy?”

His gaze fell on a woman. She was also a scholar who sought knowledge and enlightenment.

He was surprised. Then, he saw the others around her, which shocked him even more.

“Isn’t that Disciple Jiang?” Qingshan stared at him.

He was still using his cultivation realm at the late stage of the Foundation Establishment Realm.

Why was that senior here?

Was a movement technique competition really that interesting?

They paid attention to the competition.

Meanwhile, Hua Han came to serve tea once again.

When she saw the seniors watching the competition so seriously, she looked in that direction.

“Huh?” She saw Jiang Hao and stopped to watch.

“Who do you think will win?” The seniors discussed. Jiang Hao’s participation had made the competition more interesting.

“Of course, that disciple. After all, we can’t lower ourselves to bullying children,” someone said helplessly.

“It’s hard to say. Movement techniques don’t necessarily depend on high cultivation. Many people specialize in agility, like Light and Dust from the Astronomical Academy. That’s why they were the weakest and the slowest,” said a man carrying a sword.

Chang Zizai was speechless.

He had been ridiculed so many times because of the worthless disciples.

“If this Disciple Jiang loses, won’t he be embarrassed? Even if he wins, it’s nothing special,” said a woman.

Hua Han didn’t speak. In theory, that was correct, but it depended on how this senior would win.

“I don’t know about the others, but I’m sure Light and Dust Technique will fall behind.”

“Light and Dust Technique is famous, so he won’t be the last.” Chang Zizai’s face changed, but he couldn’t refute them.

He had to stop those old men from making fun of the Light and Dust technique. It had become a constant joke now.

At this moment, Jiang Hao looked ahead. He was ready to start.

Suddenly, a spell bound them, and then the spell dissipated.

In an instant, everyone rushed. Jiang Hao didn’t fall behind.

However, he didn’t rush to exert himself but instead followed the others with the same calm and ease as Light and Dust taught him.

But what surprised him was that a woman next to him used a spell somewhat similar to his.

‘Light and Dust from the Astronomical Academy?’ Jiang Hao guessed.

The woman also looked at Jiang Hao with some astonishment. She felt that the Light and Dust Technique he used was somewhat similar and yet different. She couldn’t describe it.

At this moment, Jiang Hao looked at a young man on the right. He had a smile on his face, and his aura displayed a Foundation Establishment Realm cultivation. Yet, he seemed as free as the wind. He seemed unbound and unrestricted.

‘Pretty impressive!

It seemed that agility was also related to one’s state of mind.

“You guys are a bit slow. I’ll leave you behind,” he said, then quickly moved ahead.

The remaining people were struggling to catch up.

Jiang Hao smiled and suddenly felt that this was getting interesting.

No matter who his opponent was, it didn’t affect his inner peace.

His steps were steady and balanced, and his aura was restrained.

The scholars from the Astronomical Academy felt somewhat helpless. They thought this time they could earn other’s respect.

The woman from before wanted to greet her fellow disciple nearby and let him continue, but when she looked at the person next to her, she was stunned.

There was a faint light on him as if merging with sunlight yet appearing as tiny as dust.

In the next moment, he disappeared, and then it seemed like he reappeared around them.

Under the sunlight, he seemed to be everywhere and nowhere.

'Is that really the Light and Dust?

For a moment, she was rooted to the spot. She forgot to even compete.

Her gaze was locked on Jiang Hao. In just a few blinks, he had already reached the front.

He stood on the same line as the leading two.

At the high seat, the powerful seniors were stunned when they saw Jiang Hao use the Light and Dust Technique. Some felt that he was intentionally trying to lose. It was even more humiliating for the Astronomical Academy.

But when Jiang Hao's figure was covered by the light and seemed to be everywhere, they were all stunned, especially Chang Zizai.

He looked at Jiang Hao with excitement without saying a word. He knew what technique that was.

Light and Dust Technique. The real deal.

"I understand now," Chang Zizai said excitedly. "This senior might be an elder from our academy. He recently returned from seclusion, comprehended the Light and Dust Technique, and encouraged us to continue our morning readings. He must be from our academy. Who else would use that technique? Maybe he saw that our academy was being insulted by all of you, so he personally chose to compete to let you all witness the glory of the Light and

Dust Technique."

Everyone felt that it made sense.

"Don't praise yourselves too much. It's obvious that this senior has comprehended the Light and Dust Technique and is kindly demonstrating it to your academy, which is in such a sorry state," Qingshan said.

“It’s definitely our academy’s senior! ” Chang Zizai insisted.

At this moment, Jiang Hao was still chasing behind someone.

He observed the man whose blood was burning strangely.

The man exuded a hostile aura as if he wanted to surpass the Golden Core Realm cultivator ahead of him.

That wasn’t easy. Jiang Hao could clearly feel that the Golden Core Realm cultivator’s movement technique was flawless.

“Your movement technique makes me feel like I’ve seen it somewhere before, yet it also feels unfamiliar. But it doesn’t matter,” the young man from the Clear Sky School said as he moved on.

Jiang Hao paid no attention to him and continued to observe the man with the blood aura.

The man noticed someone overtaking him and his gaze turned hostile.

‘Something’s strange.’

Jiang Hao used his Daily Appraisal ability.

[Chi Tian: An inner disciple of the Blood Shadow Sect, with a peak of Golden Core Realm cultivation. A member of The End of All Things organization. Due to the slaughter of his parents, wife, and children by elders of his sect, he became extremely vengeful and wanted the whole world to be buried with him. This time, he aims to gain an advantage using the Earth Extreme Heart

Devouring Pearl to disrupt the Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment..]

Chapter 436: Are You Really Here for Clues?

Upon seeing the feedback, Jiang Hao was quite surprised.

It turned out that he was indeed a member of The End of All Things, and he even knew about another thing, the Earth Extreme Heart Devouring Pearl.

‘A Golden Core Realm cultivator carrying the Earth Extreme Heart devouring Pearl?’

Jiang Hao found it highly unlikely.

In a place like this, a Golden Core Realm cultivator was too common, and they might be easily defeated and restrained when necessary.

It would be a waste to carry the Earth Extreme Heart Devouring Pearl for nothing.

However, he guessed that The End of All Things member likely intended to use the pearl to disrupt the Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment.

Given the goal of The End of All Things, they would indeed do such a thing.

After thinking it through, Jiang Hao didn’t take any further action and instead followed the woman in front.

A short while later, he sensed Chi Tian’s gaze, which was filled with anger and resentment.

Ignoring this gaze, he took a step forward and surpassed the woman.

However, he only surpassed her by a small margin.

The one who had already left everyone behind was still ahead.

The speed of that person shocked Jiang Hao.

It seemed that the people here were indeed quite extraordinary.

However, Jiang Hao didn't want to attract too much attention. He simply stayed ahead of the Golden Core Realm cultivator.

At this moment, the Golden Core Realm woman felt the pressure. She couldn't believe that she had been overtaken by two people.

No matter how hard she tried, she couldn't surpass the person next to her.

It was an insurmountable gap.

She couldn't catch up no matter what she did.

Jiang Hao let out a sigh of relief. His victory wasn't just due to his mastery of the technique but also because of the influence of his mental state on his agility.

Otherwise, winning would have been extremely difficult.

But...

"What about the one who won first place?" the Golden Core Realm woman asked in confusion.

"It seems like he flew away and disappeared. There were too many of us," someone said.

The Golden Core Realm woman was speechless.

Jiang Hao was also surprised. It seemed that this person had participated in the competition just for the sake of it and not for rewards.

Jiang Hao obtained the seed.

He didn't know exactly what it was, but he would find out tomorrow. When he went back to Hong Yuye, she teased him. "Is that the clue you mentioned?"

Putting away the seed, Jiang Hao shook his head. "Senior must be joking. The clue is that person."

Jiang Hao pointed at the furious Chi Tian.

"What's wrong with him?" Hong Yuye asked.

"I think he might be a member of The End of All Things. We just need to keep an eye on him," Jiang Hao said solemnly.

Hong Yuye looked at Jiang Hao in surprise.

He hadn't lied this time.

'Is he really here to find clues?' Hong Yuye wondered.

"What's wrong, Senior?" Jiang Hao asked.

"You are really doing your best to complete the task I gave you," Hong Yuye said.

"I dare not slack off when doing tasks for you, Senior," Jiang Hao said respectfully.

Hong Yuye chuckled.

That's how it should be.

After that, Jiang Hao didn't participate in any more competitions and simply observed Chi Tian from a distance.

Chi Tian seemed to want to find a major competition that he could win, but he lacked any particularly outstanding qualities, so it was unlikely that he would attract any attention.

While observing Chi Tian, Jiang Hao also paid attention to Xiao Li and the others.

At this moment, Xiao Li was sitting on the side and talking with the spirit beast.

Chu Chuan was facing the people from before.

Jiang Hao was quite interested to see what he would do.

As he watched Chu Chuan, he suddenly felt that many people around him were also paying close attention, even Chi Tian.

It seemed that it was because of Chu Jie.

"I didn't look for you on the first day because I didn't want to add pressure to Junior Sister Chu Jie. Now that Junior Sister is preparing for advancement, it won't be affected by you. The arena is right there. Dare you go up?" Yu Sha looked down at Chu Chuan.

"What's there to fear?" Chu Chuan glared at him.

"Wait a moment!" Tao Yun suddenly said. "According to the rules, we need three disciples from the same sect to participate together and take turns fighting."

“You can choose someone. After all, everyone’s cultivation is suppressed to the early stage of the Foundation Establishment Realm,” Yu Sha said.

Chu Chuan looked at Xiao Li.

Xiao Li was called over.

Soon, they had all three participants.

From Heavenly Note Sect, Chu Chuan, Xiao Li, and the spirit beast participated.

From the Bright Moon Sect, Yu Sha, Tao Yun, and Hui Jian participated.

At the arena, Chu Chuan was the first to jump onto the platform. He stared at Yu Sha and said, “Come on.”

Yu Sha sneered, but just as he was about to step up, Tao Yun jumped onto the platform.

The formation activated, and the competition began.

Yu Sha was speechless.

He frowned but didn’t say anything.

In any case, he wanted to make it clear to the other person how insignificant an early stage of the Foundation Establishment Realm was. It was nothing at all.

“I’ll fight you,” Tao Yun said to Chu Chuan.

Chu Chuan knew that Tao Yun had rushed ahead of Yu Sha intentionally. Even if he wasn't a match for her, he still had to try.

"You may not be aware of the difference between us, but the speed of your progress has made you a bit overconfident," Tao Yun said softly. "Fighting me is better than fighting Yu Sha."

'At least I don't have to endure too much humiliation.' He didn't say that out loud, thought.

In Tao Yun's view, Chu Chuan was already quite formidable, especially considering that he had accumulated six hundred spirit stones before reaching the Foundation Establishment Realm.

However, compared to Chu Jie, the gap was still too vast.

Even if there was nothing between them, people would judge him harshly.

He would definitely have a hard time at the Bright Moon Sect.

As for what Tao Yun just said, Chu Chuan didn't believe it.

Both were in the early stage of the Foundation Establishment Realm and no matter how talented the other person was, they couldn't be that powerful.

"Sorry for this. "

Chu Chuan dashed out with a whoosh.

Tao Yun shifted slightly to avoid his attack. In that small fraction of time, she struck Chu Chuan's arm with her palm.

With a thunderous sound, Chu Chuan was pushed back.

Jiang Hao watched and knew that Chu Chuan had already lost.

The gap in strength was just too wide.

Even if Chu Chuan used all his strength, he couldn't win against this young woman.

Their gap wasn't in experience but in control of power. That was a gap that was difficult to bridge.

At that moment, Jiang Hao saw Fang Jin walking over with a middle-aged man.

It was the senior, Han Xiao, who had made a deal with him before. He looked up at Chu Chuan on the platform and was surprised.

"Did I make a mistake back then?"

"I think so." Fang Jin nodded. "I heard that he didn't have any special encounters. He just cultivated daily. At most, he had the resources given to him by you. He didn't have any famous teachers guiding him either." Han Xiao looked at Chu Chuan. "Did you invite him to join the sect?"

"I did, but he refused," Fang Jin said.

"He's got some backbone, but he's going to take quite a blow this time," Han Xiao said.

Fang Jin looked at Chu Chuan without saying anything.

At this moment, Chu Chuan attacked again. He was extremely fast. His techniques were seamlessly integrated with his fists and feet as if he wanted to break through his opponent's defenses in one go.

However, no matter how he attacked, he couldn't hit his opponent. Sometimes, he was repelled by a single strike from his opponent.

Boom!

After exhausting all his attacks, Chu Chuan was pushed back by Tao Yun.

"Surrender. You're not my match," Tao Yun said.

Chu Chuan gritted his teeth and attacked again. This time, his blood burned, and his aura surged.

He still couldn't keep up with Tao Yun's speed. However, as the flames burned in his body, his speed increased.

Tao Yun was just dodging his attacks before, but now, she was actively defending herself.

Jiang Hao watched and sighed inwardly.

His unyielding personality would make him suffer.

But this was his path, and stopping here would mean weakness..

Chapter 437: Defeating The Opponent With One Punch

"Chu Chuan is going to lose, but he's quite formidable. It's just that he seems a bit impulsive," said Bai Qiong beside Fang Jin.

Jiang Hao heard this but didn't think it was untrue.

Chu Chuan had to accept defeat with dignity if he wanted to become stronger. Only setbacks could teach him how to become a stronger individual.

In the brutal world of cultivation, it was the best way for him to become stronger. As long as he didn't stray from the path, he would definitely shine in the future.

In the arena, Tao Yun felt a bit uneasy.

"Are you crazy?" She struck with her palm and injured Chu Chuan. She hoped it would make him lose before any more damage.

Continuing the fight like this wouldn't be good.

However, Chu Chuan stood up once again from the ground.

His lifeblood continued to burn. He attacked once more.

Tao Yun tiptoed lightly and then kicked.

With a loud thud, Chu Chuan fell to the ground again.

Tao Yun thought he wouldn't be able to get up this time.

However, Chu Chuan stood up again. Once again, he started his assault.

Tao Yun was uncertain and finally decided to fight alongside Chu Chuan.

Their fists and feet clashed. They seemed evenly matched.

Then, she found an opening. She struck Chu Chuan with her palm, but she was hit in the shoulder. It made her take a few steps back.

‘Would this be enough?’ Tao Yun thought.

Even though he had already suffered many injuries, Chu Chuan still stood up.

Tao Yun frowned and attacked again.

Chu Chuan fell to the ground yet again.

This time, some bones in his body were broken from the impact.

‘Surely, he can’t get up now...’ Tao Yun thought.

However, Chu Chuan struggled to get up. He looked at Tao Yun with an indomitable spirit.

Then, he roared in anger, and his strength began to surge.

He had made a slight advancement in his cultivation.

Using this momentum, he launched another attack.

However, Tao Yun’s attack severely injured Chu Chuan, and he fell to the ground once again.

“This time I didn’t hold back. You... surprised me,” Tao Yun said.

If he had the same time and resources as her, he would have defeated her.

Chu Chuan looked at Tao Yun from the ground. His eyes burned with shame.

He was still too weak.

He felt like a mad, powerless beast going on a rampage.

The gap in strength was too wide. Senior Brother Jiang had told him as much, but he wasn't willing to believe it.

"Well done," said the spirit beast as it landed beside Chu Chuan with Xiao Li. "A friend once told me that all difficulties you face in life are there to help you hone your skills to reach your potential. You should thank them for being the stepping stones to your success. I make friends with sincerity. But these little children don't show me any respect at all, even when they know you're my friend. Xiao Li, let's teach them a lesson."

Xiao Li looked at Tao Yun and her group. "You all should fight me together. Only we can beat up our junior brother. No one else is allowed to do that."

Chu Chuan looked at the spirit beast with excitement. He was grateful that Xiao Li had said those words.

Jiang Hao watched from a distance. He felt helpless.

'Who taught Xiao Li to be so brazen?'

"The people from the Heavenly Note Sect are really arrogant," Yu Sha said as he arrived at the arena. "I'll take you on alone. If you can defeat me, you win. I'll even give you all the spirit stones I have. If you lose, I won't take your spirit stones, but the next time you see me, you better lower your head and bow. Also, I'll be suppressing my cultivation to match yours. If you're unwilling, just take back your words. There's no shame in acknowledging your weakness. Do you still take pride in the fact that you achieved the Foundation Establishment Realm at a young age? Are you still proud?"

Xiao Li puffed up her cheeks. "Who's talking big now? If you keep provoking me, I'll get angry and hit you."

“Then you better give it your all. I’m not Tao Yun. I won’t hold back. I’ll make you see how big the gap between us is with just one strike.” Yu Sha sneered.

The spirit beast and Chu Chuan stepped back.

Tao Yun also stepped back.

In the arena, only Xiao Li and Yu Sha remained.

Fang Jin looked at Xiao Li and frowned. “How... who’s that little girl?” “She’s a bit strange,” Han Xiao said.

But he was more concerned about Chu Chuan. His recent burst of power had caught his attention.

It seemed like he had really missed a promising talent.

But there were so many talents out there and missing one shouldn’t matter much.

It was just that he had misjudged this particular child. It bothered him.

Maybe his surge in power was just for a fleeting moment. He might not amount to much in the future.

Boom!

Suddenly, a loud noise rang out.

Bai Qiong exclaimed, “How is this possible?!”

Han Xiao was puzzled and looked over in astonishment.

What he saw left him shocked. Yu Sha lay on the ground. His teeth had been knocked out.

He couldn't even get up.

The girl who had struck him seemed a bit flustered.

"I... I didn't know he was so fragile." Xiao Li turned to the spirit beast for help.

She was anxious.

Fighting outside with such abandon would get them in trouble.

Her mother had scolded her before. She knew Senior Brother Jiang would scold her this time.

Tao Yun and the others were stunned. They wondered if Yu Sha had let his guard down, after all.

Yu Sha, on the other hand, was astonished. He didn't even know what had happened.

'This is the early stage of the Foundation Establishment Realm?'

It was impossible! That punch had beat someone in the late stage of the Foundation Establishment Realm.

But there was no change in the formation. It meant that the attack was truly of the early stage of the Foundation Establishment Realm.

Yu Sha lowered his head in shame. He didn't even want to get up from the ground.

Jiang Hao watched Yu Sha and shook his head. In truth, Xiao Li had not fought fairly.

But there was no fairness in the world.

However, when he saw Xiao Li receiving many spirit stones, he was stunned.

That child had kept his word and handed over all the spirit stones he had.

‘So, you can earn spirit stones like this?’ Jiang Hao was somewhat tempted, but he held a senior’s status here.

If he were to engage in combat with the Golden Core and Foundation Establishment Realm cultivators, he would undoubtedly be mocked.

It was better to keep a low profile.

At night, Jiang Hao and Hong Yuye followed Chi Tian.

They wanted to see if they could find more people from The End of All Things.

But the more they followed, the more familiar Jiang Hao felt with his surroundings.

They had followed him to the area where the team from the Heavenly Note Sect was staying.

“What does he want to do here?” Jiang Hao was puzzled until he saw the other person entering Chu Chuan’s room. Then, he understood.

“It seems that The End of All Things has targeted your junior brother,” Hong Yuye said with a soft laugh.

Jiang Hao hadn't expected The End of All Things to come looking for Chu Chuan. He had expected them to find Lin Zhi instead.

However, in the Bright Moon Sect, Chu Chuan's status was somewhat infamous. Besides, he had been pinned down today, so it was indeed worth trying to win him over.

The question was how he intended to win him over.

A moment later, Hong Yuye and Jiang Hao silently entered Chu Chuan's room too.

Chi Tian was dressed in a black robe, and his face was not properly visible.

When he entered, the formation began to cover the room. It was apparently done to prevent any accidents.

"Who are you?" Chu Chuan, who was sitting at the table, looked toward the door.

Chi Tian stood there and gazed at Chu Chuan, but he didn't speak.

Chu Chuan struggled to get up, but he remained alert. He seemed ready to flee at any moment.

"Don't worry. I am not your enemy," Chi Tian said.

"Not my enemy?" Chu Chuan stared at the person who had suddenly appeared..

"Then, are you a friend?"

Chapter 438: I Want to Surpass Her On Her Pedestal

Four people stood in what looked like an ordinary guestroom.

By the window, there was a man in a black robe. At the table in the middle were several young people wrapped in gauze. A man and a woman were watching them from the shadows.

However, no one noticed them.

Jiang Hao was quite surprised. This was Hong Yuye's doing. Even when they stood in the room in front of everyone, no one could see them.

He wondered if Hong Yuye used the same method to visit him.

But his perception was not bad, and they both had the Heaven Extinction Gu Poison. When they got close to each other, they were able to sense it.

"We're not friends yet, but we can be," said Chi Tian said.

"What do you want to talk about, then?" Chu Chuan asked as he took a step back.

Jiang Hao saw that he was trying to get closer to the window. He was attempting to escape.

"Is it true that Chu Jie from the Bright Moon Sect is your childhood friend?" Chi Tian asked.

"Childhood friend?" Chu Chuan looked puzzled and then shook his head.

"Senior, are you mistaken? At most, we're just from the same hometown."

"I see... but I heard that you have a very close relationship with her. You even spent all your spirit stones to buy her a gift," said Chi Tian. His tone suddenly turned hostile. "But they insulted you. They called you a country bumpkin and took your hard-earned spirit stones. Even Chu Jie didn't speak up for you, did she? Doesn't she know your situation? Doesn't she know that in your sect, you're just an ordinary

disciple? Doesn't she know you only earn a few spirit stones a month? Does such a young woman deserve the gift that you bought her with all your spirit stones?"

Chu Chuan lowered his head. The words stung him.

"She is the Bright Moon Sect's prodigy. She's different from you. She no longer cares about you. Perhaps, in her heart, you're no longer worthy of her," Chi Tian said.

"So?" Chu Chuan asked.

"I can help you bring her down from her pedestal. I can help you make her suffer, and then you can go and comfort her. Women are at their most vulnerable when they're down, and that's the best time to win their hearts," Chi Tian said.

Chu Chuan fell silent for a long time. "What if I refuse?"

"Then we can't be friends, but we won't be enemies either. I'll just turn around and leave. But you should think carefully. This is your only chance. If you don't seize it, there won't be anyone in this world who will lift a finger to help you. No one will understand you," Chi Tian said.

"Why are you trying to help me?" Chu Chuan asked. "Because we want to, that's all," Chi Tian said.

"We?" Chu Chuan was puzzled.

"Yes. You can trust our strength," Chi Tian said.

Chu Chuan looked at him. He was at the window now. He was searching for an opening to flee.

"If I agree, what would I need to do?" he asked.

"It's very simple. You just have to carry something with you and wait for our instructions..." Chi Tian hadn't finished speaking when Chu Chuan moved. He used his strongest force to hit the window.

With a bang, Chu Chuan bounced back.

Looking at Chu Chuan on the ground, Chi Tian sighed. "It seems you don't trust me."

"Why should I trust you? Who even are you?" Since he couldn't escape, Chu Chuan did away with the pretense.

"Does it really matter who I am? When you were insulted and pushed around, didn't you wish for someone to come to your aid? Do you really need to know who I am to accept my help?" Chi Tian asked.

"Help me with what?" Chu Chuan looked at him.

"Would Chu Jie have taken you to buy something you couldn't afford if it wasn't just to humiliate you and show you your place?" Chi Tian asked.

"That's true... Chu Jie did take me to a shop where I couldn't afford anything. I couldn't even lift my head because of embarrassment," said Chu Chuan.

"Isn't that just it?" Chi Tian said.

Chu Chuan shook his head. "I understand that everyone pities me, but I don't want pity. My senior brother did warn me. He explained everything to me so that I would be prepared before coming here. So, I understand that... things change. It might not be as you would imagine them to be. And you can only truly understand it after you experience it. The answer is clear to me now, more than it is to you, it seems."

"What about the humiliation in that arena? Was that fake too?" Chi Tian asked.

Jiang Hao saw that he was trying to get closer to the window. He was attempting to escape.

"It was real, and I remember it. Many people mocked me. I remember all of it very clearly. But I won't be discouraged by it. I will fight for it, and one day, I will take back my dignity from them. I will surpass them and make them understand that today's humiliation will fall on them as well. No one should bully the poor or the weak." Chu Chuan's eyes burned with determination.

"And why would I bring down Chu Jie from her pedestal? I want to surpass her on her pedestal," he said.

Chi Tian was stunned. He felt that this child was ignorant and foolish, even arrogant.

But he was deeply moved by Chu Chuan's determination.

It seemed to remind him of his past. In the end, he didn't say anything and turned to leave.

Jiang Hao glanced at Chu Chuan and felt it was time to let him go.

Chu Chuan had stirred his Immortal Heart. In the future, he would definitely attract the attention of many powerful people.

The Cliff of Broken Hearts shouldn't hold him back.

After that, he left and caught up with Chi Tian.

"Are you going to just give up?" Jiang Hao caught up to him.

"Who are you?" Chi Tian stepped back.

He stared at the person in front of him. 'Late stage of the Foundation Establishment Realm?'

The person seemed dangerous.

“You don’t need to concern yourself with who I am. I’m just curious why you gave up on Chu Chuan just like that. I don’t think The End of All Things would look down on him so much,” Jiang Hao said.

When he heard the name of the organization he belonged to, Chi Tian was stunned.

He thought of fleeing from there.

Once the information was leaked, he would undoubtedly face death. The Bright Moon Sect was currently trying to eliminate them everywhere they went. Getting close to the Bright Moon Sect was extremely dangerous.

“No need to run. With your Golden Core Realm cultivation, you can’t escape anyway,” Jiang Hao calmly said.

He had already mobilized all his power to prevent the person in front of him from fleeing or ending himself.

People from The End of All Things were capable of anything, so he couldn’t be careless.

“What do you want?” Chi Tian asked.

“I just want to know why you spared Chu Chuan,” Jiang Hao said.

He was genuinely curious. He could have been used to harm Chu Jie.

“There’s no reason for it. Foolish and ignorant people like him have no value,” Chi Tian said.

“It seems like you don’t really like talking about this. Well then, I’ll change the topic. Is the Earth Extreme Heart devouring Pearl on you?” Jiang Hao stared at him.

“I don’t understand what you’re talking about. What pearl?” Chi Tian appeared completely bewildered.

Jiang Hao whispered, “Let’s make a deal. If you cooperate, I can let you go..”

Chapter 439: Let Me First Tell You What I Can Offer, And Then You Can Decide

“Deal?”

Chi Tian looked at the man in front of him.

“If I don’t want to, can I leave?”

Jiang Hao nodded. There really was no need to force the issue.

“Then, I refuse,” Chi Tian said.

Jiang Hao sighed. “I suggest you listen to the whole thing first.’

“I don’t think you’ll give me anything in return, and with your strength, I have no choice at all. Even if I complete your request, you’ll still use me. When I’m not useful anymore, you’ll kill me and find someone else,” Chi Tian said.

Jiang Hao was surprised because this person saw through things quite clearly.

However, he wasn’t that kind of person. He usually killed people only if they were a threat to him.

Jiang Hao waved his hand. “Let me first tell you what I can offer, and then you can decide.”

Chi Tian was puzzled. He was on guard against any sudden moves from this person.

But what surprised him was that as soon as he got closer, a force suppressed him.

He couldn't move.

For a moment, he was worried because he didn't want to die here uselessly.

But soon, he realized he was overthinking. It seemed that this person just wanted to talk.

When Jiang Hao offered him the deal, he was stunned.

"My reward is that I can help you kill an elder of the Blood Shadow Sect."

Those words pricked his heart. Chi Tian felt that he could do anything for that one goal.

"Any elder?" he asked.

"Of course." Jiang Hao nodded.

"You help me first, and I'll work for you," Chi Tian said.

Jiang Hao shook his head, "That's not possible. I don't need you to serve me, and your life is worthless to me. I only want to make a trade. You get what I want, and I can provide you with what you want."

The elders of the sect must be powerful. Jiang Hao didn't know if he could kill an elder, but Xing still owed him a favor.

If he couldn't do it, maybe others could.

But everything had to wait until after the Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment succeeded.

With Hong Yuye around, the area he was responsible for should have no problem.

After that, he could let Xing take action.

The only thing to consider was that there would definitely be people at the gathering who would be suspicious of why Xing was making a move instead of Jiang Hao. It didn't matter.

If Xing felt it was important enough, he could make a move.

"What do you want? And why should I trust you?" Chi Tian asked.

"Why should you trust me?" Jiang Hao chuckled. "Why do you trust The End of All Things? Why do you want everyone to end? Can the death of the entire world compare to the death of one elder? You could kill those elders by yourself."

Chi Tian looked at the man in front of him and finally lowered his head.

"Just tell me what you want, and I'll do it," he said.

Jiang Hao smiled. "Do you have the Earth Extreme Heart Devouring Pearl on you?"

"Yes, but..." Chi Tian took out a small, sealed fragment.

It was green and looked like a shard.

Jiang Hao could tell at a glance that it was indeed a fragment of the Earth Extreme Heart Devouring Pearl.

He took the fragment and knew that this thing couldn't affect him much.

But if used well, it might have miraculous effects on other things.

The best way to make use of it would probably be to place it on Chu Chuan and make him get closer to Chu Jie.

“How much do you know about The End of All Things?” Jiang Hao asked.

“Not much, but I know they are powerful,” Chi Tian said. “Who brought you into The End of All Things?”

“One of my seniors.”

“Does he know what The End of All Things intends to do?” “He might know something. He often goes out.”

“What else do you know besides that?”

“They are targeting Chu Jie. It’s said that Chu Jie is going to complete the Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment. Once successful, the balance will tilt.”

“Is that all?”

“Isn’t that enough?”

Jiang Hao shook his head. This information was far from enough.

Now, it seemed that the only way to find out more was to find this senior.

“What do you want to know? I can ask around for you,” Chi Tian said anxiously.

"I want to know the secrets of The End of All Things, especially those related to the southern region. Do you know anything about that?" Jiang Hao asked.

"I can ask around. I heard from my senior that as long as I succeed this time, he will take me to meet an expert. I can inquire for you, I swear. My senior is not as easy to control as I am," Chi Tian said. Jiang Hao thought for a moment. "Which elder do you want gone?"

Chi Tian was overjoyed. "Chen Ye. He's here too."

Jiang Hao nodded. "Wait for my message. If I make a move, you'll have to ask around and find out more about your organization. Wait for me to make contact."

After that, Jiang Hao disappeared in the moonlight.

In the woods, Jiang Hao appeared beside Hong Yuye. "You're not going to kill him?" Hong Yuye asked.

"Not yet," Jiang Hao said.

There really was no need to kill Chi Tian. However, once Jiang Hao helped him get his revenge, it would be difficult to control him.

Jiang Hao didn't have a plan. He just wanted to plant a pawn. Even then, it would be difficult to succeed.

The human heart was unpredictable. If the other person's revenge was put on hold, he would work hard.

If the revenge was done, Chi Tian might refuse to fulfill his side of the bargain.

Everything needed careful consideration.

Right now, the thing of importance was the fragment of the Earth Extreme Heart devouring Pearl.

“There should be quite a few fragments here. All to destroy the Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment,” Jiang Hao said.

“Just that won’t be enough. The Bright Moon Sect is not weak. They are far stronger than these ragtag masses. Even if the Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment is fragile right now, it is still something that an immortal sect has put all its effort into promoting. It won’t be so easy to disrupt the attainment of the Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment,” Hong Yuye said.

Jiang Hao nodded.

The next day, they returned to the inn.

Jiang Hao sat at the table and took out the Holy Medicine seed. The seed was reddish-brown and surged with a powerful aura.

Other than that, there was nothing strange about it.

Jiang Hao appraised it.

[Sweet Leaf Cold Grass Seed: Sacred medicinal herb. After germination, it can improve the soil and environment by absorbing spiritual energy. Eating it has a certain chance to enhance one’s cultivation aptitude. After planting, water it every seven days, jade spirit liquid every three days, and spirit liquid every day.

When watered seven times, it can take root and sprout.]

Jiang Hao frowned. There were just so many conditions for the growth of this seed. It was the first time he had seen such a complicated seed.

Plants like the Heavenly Fragrance Dao Flower only needed watering once a day.

High -grade spirit herbs needed both spirit liquid and spirit stones.

But Sweet Leaf Cold Grass Seed required so many things. He wondered how many spirit stones it would cost.

However, once it took root and sprouted, he might get purple bubbles.

Of course, the effect of the Sweet Leaf Cold Grass was also extraordinary. It enhanced one's cultivation aptitude. Unfortunately, he didn't need any improvement on that front.

Cultivation aptitude was the speed at which one absorbed spiritual energy.

He didn't really need to enhance that. If it were about enhancing comprehension, it would have been much better.

Watering it seven times meant it would take almost a month and a half to germinate.

He could only wait until he got back.

After that, he had to wait for other's reactions to the new findings and keep an eye on Chi Tian.

Half a month later, around mid-June, the Dao Conference was in full swing. During this time, Chu Jie appeared twice.

One time, she used the Star-Moon Healing Technique and allowed everyone to recover their peak physical condition. The other time, she bestowed blessings and helped with everyone's comprehension.

Chu Jie's influence began to grow.

In the evening, Jiang Hao received a message from Wan Xiu.

‘Meet me outside the city, at the Star-Moon Temple.’

Jiang Hao was surprised.. What did these people want with him?

Chapter 440: No Longer Daring To Show Off

The Star-Moon Temple was located on a mountain outside the Star-Moon City.

It was said to be a place of worship for a celestial lord.

Most visitors there were ordinary non-cultivators.

Jiang Hao found it to be a small temple.

“Here.” Wan Xiu stood on the rooftop.

These two were relentless. Jiang Hao had no intention of getting too involved with them.

Powerful individuals were often unpredictable. Once they discovered that he was using Hong Yuye’s power, who knew what might happen?

Powerful people were capricious toward the weak but were polite to other strong individuals.

“Senior, why did you suddenly contact me?” Jiang Hao asked.

“We’ve captured someone and learned some information. We wanted to ask for your opinion.” Wan Xiu smiled.

“What happened?” Jiang Hao was puzzled.

The matters that even these seniors couldn’t handle were beyond his capabilities.

However, he had Hong Yuye behind him. If it was related to the Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment, he could try asking her.

“Come.” Wan Xiu jumped down from the roof and entered the temple.

The temple was neatly kept.

As Jiang Hao passed by a table, he reached out to wipe it and found that there was not even a speck of dust on it.

It seemed like this small temple was maintained very meticulously.

Inside the temple, there was an idol of a celestial lord that was surrounded by stars. But the name of this lord was unclear.

Beneath the statue, a woman was tied up and lying on the ground.

Si Cheng leaned against the statue as he drank his wine.

“Fellow Disciple Jiang?” he mumbled. “Did your beloved not come here with you?”

Jiang Hao was speechless.

It was a good thing she hadn’t come with him.

Jiang Hao looked at the woman on the ground and noticed that her waist and legs were a little exposed. For a moment, he thought these seniors were being a little improper in capturing her like this.

The woman had long hair. She was gagged with a white cloth, and she looked furious.

"This is a member of the Fallen Immortal Clan. Her cultivation isn't bad. Based on the information you provided earlier, we tracked her down," Wan Xiu said.

Jiang Hao was surprised that they had been busy with this for the past half month.

"What are they planning?" Jiang Hao asked.

"The Fallen Immortal Clan has collaborated with The End of All Things, as well as a special group called the Saint Bandits," Wan Xiu said with a smile. "Now, the most obvious thing is that these three parties are teaming up, and they have clear divisions of labor. The End of All Things wants to disrupt the

Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment by using certain things, such as the Earth Extreme Heart Devouring Pearl.

"The Fallen Immortal Clan has powerful individuals who are taking action and want to undermine the reputation of the Bright Moon Sect by spreading rumors about us. This will make the others doubt us and some might choose to willingly withdraw. The Saint Bandits are the strangest of them all. They wait for an opportunity and will only strike when the Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment is about to be completed. At that time, if the seniors of the Bright Moon Sect are held back, things could get quite fatal."

"Can't the Bright Moon Sect handle these three forces?" Jiang Hao asked.

"They can." Si Cheng stood up. "Dealing with them is not difficult, but the Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment will take the strength and focus of all the powerful individuals. The whole of the Bright Moon Sect's strength and power will be focused on the Heavenly Dao at that time."

Jiang Hao nodded.

It seems attaining the Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment was much more difficult than he had imagined. The Bright Moon Sect had to use all its strength and power, and the other forces were simply taking advantage of this vulnerability.

“Now, we plan to find the Fallen Immortal Clan and deal with them first. However, this person isn’t talking” Wan Xiu looked at Jiang Hao. “We want to ask for your help to find their hideout. Trying to spy on them proved... difficult. They aren’t weak and have acquired treasures and methods to help them. If we try anything, they might notice and move elsewhere.” Jiang Hao felt helpless. He didn’t have any intelligence to offer.

‘Should I use the Daily Appraisal?’

After some thought, Jiang Hao decided against it.

He had already made use of this method in the Lawless Tower. Now, with these two seniors watching, it was better to keep a low profile.

After observing the woman for a moment, Jiang Hao shook his head. “I was just lucky before to come across the information. I can’t do anything right now.”

“In that case, would you like to compose a poem to express your regret in this situation?” Wan Xiu quickly asked. Jiang Hao was speechless. ‘Why are you so obsessed with poems?’ Jiang Hao didn’t say anything.

If these two people continued watching him, he might get into trouble.

Fortunately, this was the eastern region and he belonged to the south. If they were in the South, it would prove to be risky for him.

“Disciple Jiang, no poem at all?” Wan Xiu pressed him.

“I really can’t remember anything right now,” Jiang Hao said.

“Just one line? Then, we’ll never ask for it again,” Wan Xiu said earnestly.

Jiang Hao was at a loss.

In the end, he bid farewell to the two. He didn’t recite any poems, but he did promise to do his best to help.

He also learned one thing from Si Cheng: early July was the most suitable time for the advancement of the Heavenly Dao.

Just half a month remained till then.

Back at the inn, Jiang Hao informed Hong Yuye of the situation.

“Three forces?” Hong Yuye was silent for a while. Then, she said, “If the Earth’s Extreme Heart Devouring Pearl falls into the hands of The End of All Things, the Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment this time will most likely fail.” “Do they have it?” Jiang Hao asked.

Hong Yuye smiled. The disdain was clear in her eyes. It seemed they didn’t have any more fragments.

But why was Hong Yuye so confident that they wouldn’t be able to get more of the fragments?

The day before July, Jiang Hao received another message for a gathering.

“Tomorrow is the day for achieving the Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment ”

Jiang Hao looked at the stone tablet.

The gathering was scheduled for midnight.

When it was time, Jiang Hao entered the gathering.

Senior Dan Yuan was also present this time.

After greeting the senior, they all sat cross-legged on the ground.

“You should all have guessed the purpose of this gathering,” Dan Yuan said.

“Friend Xing, please go on.”

With a nod of thanks, Xing said, “If nothing unexpected happens, tomorrow will be the best time for the Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment. Borrowing of the power can happen at any time. I hope Gui and Jing can assist me when the time comes.”

“No problem,” Gui said with a smile. “I’ve obtained quite a few good things this time, but competing with the strong for the top spot is too difficult.”

“I’m fine with it too,” Jiang Hao said in a low voice.

He was also curious about what would happen tomorrow.

He hoped everything would go smoothly. If anything went wrong, a small fry like him couldn’t handle things. Unfortunately, Xiao Li and the others would be present too.

He had been keeping an eye on them for the past month. Han Ming was the most active participant. He constantly challenged people. Sometimes he won, and sometimes he lost, but his insights were improving, and his experience was growing.

After obtaining a pill, he quickly reached the peak of the Foundation Establishment Realm. He was full of confidence and went around telling people that he was lucky to have advanced.

Han Ming's performance attracted the attention of the seniors in high positions. They openly acknowledged his blessings and his ability to use his blessings to propel himself to the top.

"The location is not a problem. Now, let me tell you about some information that I found out recently, so you can be prepared," Xing said. "I've heard that members of the Fallen Immortal Clan will launch an attack at the crucial moment. They might hide themselves in the most prominent locations, so you are still safe. But please be careful. If there is a problem, the people from the Bright Moon Sect will rush over to you immediately.."