

## Alchemy 1301

### Chapter 1301: Murder

The 3 Saints couldn't believe their eyes and senses at all. Seeing 30 Saint spirit veins when the entirety of Crimson Empire had no more than 6 was simply too shocking to them.

"I am not giving it to you so you can use it for yourself," Alex said. "This was taken from the Western Continent many thousand years ago and I'm just returning it to you."

"Make sure to put it to good use, spread it throughout the empire. That way, the empire can grow. If your level reaches that of the Luminance empire, you can even start a trade between the two empires."

"Although I wouldn't suggest doing that so soon. You would easily be taken advantage of because of your weakness."

The three aimlessly nodded to themselves when they heard Alex.

"So, was there anything else you wanted from me?" Alex asked.

"N-no, nothing," the Emperor quickly said. "Actually, how long do you plan on staying here?"

"I'll leave along with the players. I hope you are giving it your all to gather all the players from every nook and corner of the continent," Alex said. "If I find you slacking, I will come back and take those away."

The emperor gulped and shook his head. "We're doing everything to the best of our ability," he quickly said. "Thank you."

Alex nodded. "Where's Princess Wuying? I wanted to meet her now that I'm here," he said.

"Wuying already got married to the Feng family's young master. She now lives in Burgundy City in the east," the emperor quickly said.

There was a time when he had wondered if he could marry off his daughter to Alex but had decided not to. He wondered where she could be if that had happened so many years ago.

"Oh, good for her," Alex said. "Then... I guess I'll just meet senior Lai Qing and return back to the sect then."

As Alex stood up to leave, the emperor's eyes widened a little while his body posture slumped a bit.

Alex noticed that and turned around. "What is going on?" he asked.

"Have you not heard?" the emperor asked.

"Heard what?" Alex asked.

"The Royal Alchemist passed away 8 years ago," the emperor said.

"What?" Alex's eyes narrowed. "Senior Lai Qing passed away? How? He was so healthy when I last saw him."

"He was never healthy," the Emperor said. "He was an old man that used pills to appear young. Due to how many pills he consumed, his body was filled with alchemy waste we assume."

Alex remembered when he had first left the Crimson Empire. He had met with the Royal alchemist back then who had told him about his life.

He was a young man without talent who had acquired an alchemy book and had spent centuries trying to learn everything. He had become the best at Alchemy in the empire, but at the same time, he had also become very old.

The man wanted his youth back, so he constantly used Face Changing pills to look young. It seemed that all those pills that weren't of high quality got to the old man.

"That... sucks," he said. His master had died, then his grandmaster. Now, even the one senior that he used to know had died too.

"How did he die? I hope he passed away peacefully in his sleep," Alex said.

"I... wouldn't say he died peacefully," the emperor said. "As far as we know, it was a murder. Someone killed him, but as for who, we don't know."

"It was murder?" Alex's eyes narrowed as he felt slight anger bubble inside his heart. "Tell me what you know about the murdered. Anything."

"We don't know anything aside from the fact that he was someone unique," the emperor said. "Not only did he have a unique power, but he was also strong enough to be in the Saint realm and also most likely close to the man."

Alex frowned a bit. "Who falls under these conditions?" he asked.

"That's the thing. No one does," the emperor said. "There is no one in the saint realm that unique, especially when regarding someone that was even in the empire that day."

"Are you sure this murderer was close to the senior?" Alex asked.

"He had to be. That or he just found the opportunity and killed the royal alchemist when he was finally going to break through to the Saint realm," the emperor said. "Poor guy. He had failed once before, so we had hoped he would pass this time around. Instead, some bastard came out of nowhere and killed him."

Alex frowned a bit. "You said something was unique about this person that killed him, right? What was so unique?" he asked.

"Well, he's unique in the way that no Saint in the Crimson Empire can use the attacks he did," the Emperor said. "I mean, if there was someone that could use such strong lightning attacks, we would've known by now."

Alex only nodded once when he stopped. "Wait, lightning attacks?" he asked. "Are you saying senior Lai Qing died from lightning strikes?"

"Yes," the emperor said.

"I see," Alex said with a sigh of relief. The bit of anger in his heart dissipated, replaced by the bitter-sweet feeling of knowing that the Royal Alchemist had managed to learn a dao.

However, that had backfired on the poor old man, killing him when he tried to enter the Saint realm.

"He wasn't murdered," Alex said. "It was just... an unfortunate event."

"He wasn't murdered?" the three saints were curious about what happened, so Alex explained it in simple terms.

"Dao? I see," Fu Qiong said. "The elders in our clan always talked about that thing. I was too young when I left to know what that is exactly."

"We should tell the royal alchemist this," the emperor said. "He will be at peace after hearing it."

"The Royal Alchemist? You already have another one?" Alex asked.

"It has been 8 years," the emperor said. "We had to choose a new one at some point."

"I see," Alex said. "Are they a good one?"

"They're one of the best we've got," the emperor said. "Actually, you might know him too. It's Alchemist Huang Fu."

"Huang Fu? Ah! Senior Lai Qing's disciple?" Alex remembered. "So he is the Royal Alchemist now, huh? Good for him."

"So, we should tell him about this right?" the Emperor asked.

"No need," Alex said. "I will go tell him. I wish to meet him before I leave too."

"Sure, I'll have someone call for—"

"No, I'll visit him myself and then leave. Where is he?" Alex asked.

After getting the location, he made his way to the Alchemy guild at the center of the town where Huang Fu was apparently giving lessons to the alchemists.

Alex waited until he was done and met up with him. It had been a long time since they had met, and with them not being close to each other initially, there wasn't much for Alex to talk to him about.

He gave his condolences and explained what had happened to his master most likely. Learning what had happened for his master to die that day gave the man a cathartic relief that he so desperately needed.

"If you ever need anything, or wish to learn about some pill recipes that I have left behind, you can go to the Hong Wu sect and ask for it, Brother Huang," Alex said. "I will tell them to give it to you under the condition that you don't spread it around."

"Thank you," Huang Fu said with a small smile on his face.

"It's nothing. I wanted to pay my debt to your master," Alex said while touching his left arm. "Without him, it would have taken me practically forever to have gained back my left arm. Without it, who knows what sort of troubles I would've gotten into."

"Anyway, I should be leaving now. It was great to see you, brother Huang," Alex said and left the guild.

He walked through the city for a few minutes, looking at everything to gauge just what had changed in the city.

After reaching some distance away, he quickly took flight and left the city. After a few hours, he arrived at the Scarlet City.

Alex smiled when he finally saw it after so many weeks.

"I can finally get started with what I've been wanting to do for so long."

#### Chapter 1302: A Surprise in the Making

Alex met up with his family and friends after returning to Scarlet City.

His mother had returned a week ago, so she was spending time with his father and the rest.

Liz had stayed in the Scarlet City for a bit before leaving to see the rest of the Crimson Empire, along with Hao Ya, who wanted to make sure the news was traveling as quickly as possible.

Ronron had fun being in the sect and was slowly working her way up the sect's ranking even though she was only a new disciple there.

She had tried her hands at Alchemy while in the sect, only to quickly realized that her Wood Qi was very bad for performing alchemy as it empowered Fire Qi in the cauldron, destabilizing most of the energy in it.

Whisker had suggested letting him make the pills instead of her, but Ronron didn't want to cheat, so she was stuck with being unable to make any pills.

As such, she had focused on just the rest of the sect, which focused on combat and cultivation.

The old Alex had been to the Rubyroad city and had returned after meeting and letting Luo Mei and Du Yuhan say their goodbyes to them.

As such, they were ready to leave.

Wen Cheng and Cai Ping were ready to leave as well. Cai Ping had sold almost everything she owned that she didn't need, including the auction house.

As for Wen Cheng, he had already mostly retired from the sect, so all he had to do was tell the other elders what he was planning to do.

Those elders were more than happy to see Wen Cheng go on to better lands with his disciple.

Unfortunately, Liu Xun did not wish to leave at all. Despite the Southern Continent providing much better opportunities, he was happy in the Crimson Empire.

He had no big dreams of becoming one of the best or needing the power for revenge. He was just a simple man on a simple cultivation journey, and he was happy staying behind with his family and his fiancée who he was planning on marrying soon.

On the side of the Hong Wu sect, no one but his Martial Uncle was ready to leave. Everyone else was still hesitant about leaving their family and going overseas on a whim.

After all, despite being friends with Alex, he was nothing more than a person they spent some time with over 40 years ago.

"Martial Nephew, everyone is already leaving for the capital. Should we not leave as well?" Lang Shun asked Alex. He was worried that he was going to miss the timing to go to the other continent.

"Don't worry, Martial uncle," Alex said. "We're not in any hurry. I still need to wait for everyone to make their decisions."

"You should ask them to make a decision as soon as they can then. Have you even talked to them after returning?" Lang Shun asked. "As far as I know, you've been holed up in your room for the past 3 days since you came back."

"That's because I'm working on something," Alex said. "I need it to persuade the others after all."

"What are you working on?" Lang Shun asked curiously.

"Hehe, do you want to know?" Alex asked. "Then why don't you help me with it?"

The man could only get more curious. "Alright, I will help. What do you need me to do?" he asked.

"Let's go to the desert."

Alex took Lang Shun and flew to the north. A journey that took him over 2 days on foot when he couldn't use Qi all those years ago, took him no more than 2 hours to arrive now.

After arriving, Alex quickly searched for a good place to start working.

"What are we doing exactly?" Lang Shun asked.

"Well, first of all, we're giving this place its own Qi," Alex said. "You should fly high, Martial Uncle," Alex said as he flew too.

Lang Shun was only wondering what was going to happen when an explosion sent a massive amount of sand flying into the sky.

Lang Shun had to use his spiritual sense to see through the cloud of sand and saw Alex bringing out a storage bag.

When he was only wondering what was in the storage bag, a massive spirit vein flew out from within it, that very clearly was the same rank as the one he had placed beyond the river back in the sect.

"Saint spirit vein?" Lang Shun asked with a surprised look. "What are you doing with this spirit vein? Don't place it so far north. No one visits here."

"I know," Alex said. "That's exactly why I'm placing it here. Because no one will come here."

He quickly started placing the spirit vein in the hole he had just created. Without anything to worry about when placing the spirit vein, he was able to quickly complete the task in a matter of minutes.

He covered up the sand that was no longer flying in the air, disrupting his vision.

"Are you going to tell me what you are planning?" Lang Shun asked.

"Martial uncle, don't you know it's much more fun to not know what's going to happen than be aware of it the entire time?" Alex asked.

"I suppose, but that depends on whether what's going to happen is good or not. I don't want to spend the entire time being curious for you to just plant some trees or something in the sand," Lang Shun said.

'Plant some trees on top of the Spirit vein, huh?' Alex thought and thought about the 2 spirit vein he still had with him. He had been planning to give them back, but... maybe he should take them away with him.

After all, he had helped the continent quite a lot already.

"Don't worry," Alex said. "It will be worth the wait."

Lang Shun watched as Alex brought out a bunch of formation rods and started planting them around a large area. The formations activated a few minutes later.

"What sort of formation is this?" Lang Shun asked.

"Concealing and Barrier formations," Alex said. "No one without the authority should be able to get inside."

After saying that, Alex went inside.

Lang Shun wanted to go in too, but the formation blocked him. Apparently, he wasn't authorized to go in.

He called for Alex, but Alex simply told him to wait.

So, he waited. He waited for hours.

Night fell and the moon shined its bright silver light onto the bright sand. Still, Alex showed no signs of showing up.

Only when the sun rose did Alex fly out of the formation barrier.

"Phew, that was so much tougher than I thought it would be," he said. "Oh, you're still here. Good. I thought I would have to go back and get you."

"Of course, I'm still here," Lang Shun said. "You told me to wait."

"Still," Alex gave a sheepish smile. "Anyway, take this." He tossed a small metal token to Lang Shun. "It will allow you to walk in through the barrier. Come, see what I've been doing."

Lang Shun nodded and walked in through the barrier.

### Chapter 1303: Lang Shun's First Time

As soon as he walked through the barrier, Lang Shun arrived inside where there was nothing but a simple circular stone slab on the sand below.

He looked at the stone slab with something carved on top of them, which wasn't formation lines. "What are they?" Lang Shun asked as the many carvings on top of the stone slab.

"Those are runes," Alex explained. "The ones you usually write on the talisman. You can write them on objects too and have them work not very differently from formations."

"Is... that so?" he asked. "So what does this do?"

"Come, I'll show you," Alex said and landed on top of the stone slab. He waited for his martial uncle to land too before starting.

"Does this work?" Lang Shun asked as he looked around.

Alex paused for a moment and looked at his uncle. "Actually... I don't know," he said. "This is my first time using this, so I suppose we will find out together if it works or not."

"What? You don't know—"

Alex activated the script before Lang Shun could finish complaining. The stone slab shined bright for a moment, almost blinding Lang Shun.

Then, at the next moment, the light vanished.

Lang Shun was crouched next to Alex with his head in his arms. He was too scared to look out at all.

"A-are we okay? Did it work?" he asked.

"Yes, it worked. You can open your eyes now," Alex said.

Lang Shun slowly opened his eyes to see what was going on. He didn't know what the scripts were going to do. Was it going to form a fire barrier? Or sprout a fountain of water in the desert.

Maybe it was a training ground or some sort. He had absolutely no idea.

When he did finally see what was happening. His confusion increased even more.

He was standing on top of the stone slab still, but the things around him were different. The sand had somehow turned into a large patch of grass, or so he thought.

However, the massive building that was a small distance away from them made him feel his first assessment was incorrect.

There were trees around him, and for some reason, there was a small shed full of pill swines.

Alex walked away from the stone slab while Lang Shun could only look around in wonder. When he slowly turned around while looking at everything, his eyes finally fell on something that was behind him this entire time.

There was a massive metal wall that seemed to go high up before disappearing somewhere.

"Martial Nephew, d-did we teleport somewhere?" Lang Shun asked.

"Yes," Alex said. "And we were successful. Had the script been a little worse and we had some problems while teleporting, you wouldn't stop vomiting at all."

"I teleported..." The man gulped when he heard that. This was the first time in his entire life that he had ever teleported. He had been anxiously looking forward to the day when he would finally get to teleport. However, it had happened without him even knowing about it.

Lang Shun took a few deep breaths before looking around once more. "Where are we exactly?" he asked. "This is not the Beast realm, is it? Or is this the Luminance Empire?"

"Oh no. This isn't—"

"Your Majesty!" a girl ran in his direction the moment she saw him and arrived in front of him in a moment.

"Your majesty? Is that really you? Did you come back already? Why did you come back so soon?" the girl asked.

"Hey, Linlin. How've you been?" Alex asked.

"Didn't you say you were going for a year, your majesty? Is there something wrong? How did you even return?" she asked.

"I'll explain later," Alex said. "I'm not really back, so don't tell the others."

"Ah! They already know," Linlin said. "I notified them as soon as I saw you."

"Your Majesty?" Old Lady Yao was the first to arrive, followed by the 7 others in the palace.

"Your majesty!" they all bowed toward Alex as soon as they saw him.

Lang Shun saw what was happening in front of him and was beyond shocked. He could feel the people in front of him, each one stronger than anyone he had seen before. And yet, they were all bowing in front of Alex.

'Majesty?' he thought. 'Can it be?'

"Martial Nephew," he called out to Alex. "Are we... in the Southern Continent?"

The group of people looked surprised when they heard the person behind Alex call him 'Martial Nephew'.

"Yes, Martial Uncle. We are in the Southern Continent," Alex said. "More accurately, we're in my palace."

Lang Shun was truly shocked when he heard that. He could only look around the place in awe while trying to understand the reality of the situation.

"Oh right, nearly forgot."

Alex waved his hand and Scarlet flew out of her beast space.

"Hmm?" she quickly realized where she was and changed back to her regular size again. "We're back? How?"

She looked around at the people.

"Your Majesty!" the group of people bowed even deeper this time.

"What's going on? How are we back already?" Scarlet asked.

"I made a teleportation script connecting our palace to the northern desert of the Western Continent," Alex explained.

"You did?" Scarlet was surprised. "Is that what you were planning on doing for so long?"

"Yes," Alex said. "I didn't have the material for it though, so I had to wait for Brother Shen to find it."

Scarlet was slightly dumbfounded. "I can't believe you made a teleportation formation joining two continents. I had thought only people with extensive knowledge of formations could do that. Doesn't that put the Intercontinental formations out of commission then?"

"First of all, as I said, Teleportation script, not a formation. I'm using runes here," Alex explained. "Second of all, the way they work is completely different too."

"What do you mean?" Scarlet asked.

"The script is far from optimized and with my limited knowledge it will take me ages to do so," Alex said. "Unlike the Teleportation formations, which can be used multiple times without worry, if we use this teleportation script in short succession, it will draw out so much energy from the spirit vein it is connected to that we will end up with a spirit stone mine."

"How many times can we use it then?" Scarlet asked.

"I would say 3 times a day," Alex said. "Any more and it would definitely destroy the spirit vein it is attached to. We also shouldn't use it more than 10 times a year either, so there's that."

"That's... not bad," Scarlet said. "Where did you even learn to make this stuff? After all, we had to bring people to make a teleportation formation here."

"I took the script design from the teleportation platform in senior Luhei's place. As for how I made it work, I had learned that over 3 decades ago when I had first arrived in the northern continent."

"I see," Scarlet said. "So, you must be going back then."

"Yes," Alex said. "What about you? I don't think you have a reason to go back."

"No, I'm going back. I don't want to waste my chance to converse with the senior. I'm going to make every moment count," Scarlet said.

"Very well then, let's go back."

#### Chapter 1304: Goodbye

"Your Majesty, are you leaving already?" Old lady Yao asked.

"Yes," Alex said. "Why? Is there something important you need to tell me?"

"Yes," the old lady said. "The Scale Legion's commander, Long Jianyu came over again. He said he wanted to make sure our promises were being kept."

"About the Alchemy exchange? Of course, it's being kept. Why would he have to ask that," Alex said. "Besides, why is he even here? Did he not leave yet?"

"He has left a few times, but the army itself hasn't. They just haven't done anything that would be worth mentioning so we haven't reported it to you," the old lady said.

"Hmm, we'll talk about it in detail when I come back in a few days," Alex said. "Oh yeah, I will be bringing a lot of my friends, including my master, so make the best preparations you can."

"As you say, your Majesty," the group nodded.

"Let's go," Alex said and walked on top of the stone slab. Lang Shun hadn't left the slab at all, so he was ready to leave.

Once Scarlet landed on it too, the three of them teleported away, arriving back on the Western continent a moment later.

Lang Shun made sure to not blink this time around, but with all the bright light, he couldn't even tell when the teleportation happened. He was in one place in one moment, and in the next moment, he was in another place.

'So quick,' he thought.

"Since I've made the teleportation platform, I think it's time we make sure who's coming and who's not," Alex said.

Alex wasn't going to give the opportunity to everyone. Only 5 people were given this opportunity.

Wan Li, Zhou Mei, Fan Ruogang, Zhou Mi and Kong Yuhan. Kong Yumin would also come if they accepted as well.

After returning to the sect, he immediately asked them for their opinions. He didn't tell anyone about the teleportation platform just yet and instead made them think they would be going with the rest.

Kong Yuhan and Zhou Mi decided to go on the spot. They had been thinking for a while, and they decided it was the best thing for their daughter.

Wan Li had nothing to do in the Hong Wu sect, so he was ready to leave. However, because Fan Ruogang was still hesitant to just up and leave, they couldn't immediately make any decision.

It was only after a long night of argument and decision-making that they finally decided to leave.

Zhou Mei on the other hand refused to leave. Ever since she was an orphan, it was this sect that had taken her in and raised her.

Her sister had a family and had to do the best for her family, but she herself had no such obligations. The only obligation she had was to the sect.

Also, after one of her masters had killed the other one, she had been a wreck at that time too. It was the sect that had helped her get through that time in her life.

As such, she always knew that her fate would be tied to the sect. So, she decided to stay behind.

Alex respected her decision and did not coerce her with any hopes or dreams. With the saint spirit veins, the Western Continent would also soon reach the same status as any of the other continents.

Alex had thought of extending the invitation to Luo Xing as well, but Luo Mei's parents needed at least one daughter to remain in the empire with them.

Once the final group was selected, everyone was ready to leave. Alex had them say their goodbyes to their respective sects.

It wasn't just them. Helen and Ronron were going to leave as well.

Since they were leaving for good, Alex returned back to her master's grave for one last goodbye.

Everyone that wanted to come here had already come here, so it was just him remaining.

"I sometimes think that you're still looking after us from the afterlife, Master, but I hope more than anything that you've already left it and have been reborn again," Alex said.

"I'm leaving, master. I no longer have any connections remaining in this empire, so I most likely won't be returning any time soon. So I hope that in our absence, you aren't alone either."

Alex knew that with nothing keeping him tied to the sect and the people here, even if he did return, he wouldn't care to visit them anymore.

The Hong Wu sect and the Tiger sect he knew were no longer around, so there was no longer any reason for him to remain here.

Alex bowed toward his master's grave one last time and left the alchemy valley. Once he was outside, he left the sect and arrived outside the Scarlet City with everyone.

"Sister Hao, you have a boat right?" he asked.

"Yes," Hao Ya said. "Are we using my boat?"

"Please take my family to the Beast Realm. I'm going to take the rest to the Southern Continent," Alex said.

"Huh? How?" Hao Ya asked.

"Hehe, I made a teleportation script that connects to the Southern Continent," Alex said. "Anyway, I'll see you guys later then."

Alex brought out his own boat and placed all 10 people on it before flying away. He directly flew to the edge of the continent where the ocean met the sand.

Some of these people hadn't known such a place existed at all. To them, the unending ocean in front of them was something they had never seen before.

Most of them gasped in surprise when they saw it.

"Everyone, grab these," Alex said and handed over a bunch of tokens that were required to get in through the barrier. None of the people aside from Lang Shun even realized that there was a formation there because of how well it was concealed.

The platform inside was quite small but just big enough that all of them managed to fit inside of it.

"Everyone ready?" Alex asked.

A few heads nodded while the rest were too nervous to give any sort of answer right away.

"Here we go," Alex said and activated the formation. A blinding light covered them all and in the next moment, they teleported away.

They arrived on the other side, the Southern Continent in the blink of an eye. Shock and surprise filled the faces of everyone that had teleported for the first time.

Soon enough, Linlin and a few other elders arrived very soon after their arrival and brought them into the palace.

The 10 people were like villagers, finally seeing a big city for the first time. Everywhere they walked, they stared at the things for at least a few seconds before moving on to the next amazing thing they saw.

Alex introduced everyone to the elders. "Linlin bring some refreshments please."

"Yes, your majesty," Linlin said and walked away.

"I thought I understood how it was when you said you were a King, but this..." Wen Cheng looked around in awe. "This is beyond anything I could've ever imagined."

Alex smiled. "You haven't seen anything yet, master. Come, there is so much more for you all to see."

Chapter 1305: Return

"So, what's the deal with Long Jianyu anyway?" Alex asked.

After his master and friends were settled in, Alex had come to the throne room where he learned what was happening in the period he was gone.

It hadn't been long, not even two months, but due to the massive change that had happened, he needed to listen to the reports.

"I think he's worried because so many people left the continent at once," One of the elders said. "That was why he came to confirm that the Alchemy Exchange is still happening."

Alex nodded when he heard about it. It was a normal suspicion to have with so many people missing in such a small amount of time.

"They should know what's happening, so there's nothing to worry about. Besides, we have plenty of alchemists remaining for the exchange to happen," Alex said. "Anything else happens in the time?"

"Hmm, the Sundering Sanctum is about to open soon. Would you be interested in that?" another elder asked.

"Ah, the sanctum," Alex thought. "I need to go there, but it will have to wait for now. What about the Forbidden Orchard? When is that opening?"

"We... are not aware of that," the elders said. "The last time it opened was 2 years ago, so it should be soon."

"Hmm, I wonder if I can make it back in time to go there," Alex thought. "Probably not. Have the people gather as much as they can. Tell the alchemy association that they must make sure to grab the Divine Devil's fruit that might have reached maturity. I've left them a list of their ages, so it shouldn't be a difficult task."

"What else have you got for me?"

The elders gave some detailed information on the things that were happening. Because so many people had left, the continent was in a bit of a shamble when it came to being productive.

That was to be expected after all.

"It will only be a year. Most will return, maybe even more. Have them deal with it for the time being," Alex said. "If that is all, I'll let the rest for you to deal with."

Alex left the elders to deal with whatever else problem there was and went to meet up with his master and the rest.

"How are you guys doing? Are you fitting in well?" Alex asked.

"Fitting in... I'm not sure that applies just yet," Luo Mei said. "Just the Qi alone is so thick in this place that I don't think we can fit here for another few months at least."

"Everyone in the palace is so strong," Wen Cheng said. "I just saw a couple of servants and each one of them was in the True Emperor realm. Hell, a few might have even been saints."

Alex smiled. "It will definitely take some time to get used to it all then, I suppose. I'll have Linlin gather some cultivation books for every one of you so you can get started with better techniques. You can also ask for some weapons, but I'm not sure what you can get."

"As for a place to stay in, I don't know if it's right to keep you all in the palace but do stay here as a guest until I return. I'll ask the others to help you get settled in," Alex said.

"Until you return? How long will that be?" Kong Yuhuan asked.

"Hmm, probably a year from now," Alex said. "I'll make the most I can back in my homeland and return."

"A year huh?" Wan Li thought. "I doubt we can get used to everything before you return."

"I'm sure you can," Alex said. "You all have quite the talents, so it shouldn't take that long. Go around the city and see what you like. I'm sure you'll find things to do soon enough, and that should get you to become familiar with this place."

Alex spoke with them for a while longer, while trying to explain the most important things to care about in this place.

It took them a day to get settled in the palace. The next day, Alex took them through the city under disguise, letting them get a feel of the people that lived there.

Seeing strong people at every turn made them feel like ants, but Alex assured them that they would reach great heights soon as well.

After returning, he handed them various pills to cultivate while he was gone. He didn't tell him anything about how good the pills exactly were, other than the fact that they shouldn't try to sell it.

"I'll have Martial Uncle, Brother Wan, and sister Fan join the Royal Alchemy guild. Little Yumin should remain here and learn what she can for now."

"I'll have the elders search for some small auction house to accept senior Cai to become an auctioneer there. You'll need a lot of knowledge for that though."

"The rest of you, I suggest you don't try to do anything and just cultivate for now. I'll have some of the elders help you train. Linlin should be able to help in regards to that as well."

The group nodded.

"Alright, that's it for now. I'll be leaving soon. Ask the elders for anything you want, they should give it to you," Alex said.

He said his goodbyes again and went back to the Western Continent through the teleportation platform.

After arriving back, he directly flew toward the beast realm.

Arriving near the beast realm, Alex watched in surprise as he saw people being escorted onto the teleportation formation before being sent inside.

Most of the people were scared of the beasts surrounding them, so none of them acted out or was defiant at all. They all followed the orders of the beasts and were sent in one by one.

'So it's already started,' he thought.

He went in after a group was sent and arrived inside the palace. He quickly sensed everyone and went up to them.

Most of them were in the upper garden, talking to each other with nothing else to do.

"It sure took you some time to come back," Bai Jingshen said as Alex walked into the garden.

"I had to help settle in master and the rest in the palace," Alex said. "Scarlet must've told you about the platform then."

"She did," Bai Jingshen said. "And I'm surprised you could even do that."

"If those saint demons from so long ago could do it, then surely I can as well," Alex said. "Is Pearl not out yet?"

"Doesn't seem like he'll be doing that anytime soon," Bai Jingshen said. "But I'm not worried. I'm sure he'll be able to do it."

Alex nodded. "I've faith in him," he said. "He can take all the time he needs."

"I hope he does it soon," Bai Jingshen said. "At least, before this Alchemy Exchange of yours that I hear about."

Alex said nothing. If possible, he wouldn't want to take Pearl to the Eastern Continent. After all, his mother had been attacked and nearly killed by possibly someone from the Royal family. Who knew what danger lurked for Pearl there?

However, he wouldn't stop him if he wanted to go. That was his decision to make after all.

"When are we leaving, sister Hao?" Alex asked.

"Once everyone has been brought in, we will leave," she said.

The next few days passed by in a blur as they did nothing but wait. None of them, not even Hao Ya had anything to do, so they simply just relaxed.

After enough time passed, every player from both empires was in the beast realm.

To Alex's surprise, there were only about 40 thousand people here, a far cry from the hundreds of thousands that were on the other continents. And this was with most people wanting to return.

It only went on to prove just how much the Western Continent was ignored when the senior was teleporting people around when he first made the game.

Hao Ya went on to do her work. She flew into the sky and started explaining everything they would need to hear before going back, just as she had on the other continents.

"You'll be returning to the Southern Continent in a year's time, right?" Bai Jingshen asked.

"Yes," Alex said.

"Hmm, come here once you return and settle things there," he said. "You can take the sword that's there at that time. You will most likely need it to find out what happened in that continent that led to my granddaughter's death."

Alex nodded. "I'll make sure to find out the truth no matter what."

Bai Jingshen nodded. "Thank you," he said. "See you later then."

He turned around and walked away to be with his wives. Alex bid his farewell and walked to the top of the teleportation platform with his family.

They, along with many other people, were the first ones to be teleported. The formation activated and in the next moment, the entire group vanished.

They arrived back in the field where they always arrived. Hao Ya quickly told everyone to move away to make room for the other people that would be teleporting soon.

Helen looked around at the familiar buildings that she only remembered in her memories of memories. "Finally," she said softly. "I'm finally back."

The cities were ready for them all to return, so when they did, everyone started finding ways to go back to where they belonged.

"Should we visit the senior first?" Alex asked. "We can return home after we meet him."

#### Chapter 1306: Few Days of Normal Life

The very first thing someone did after returning to Senior Yang's mansion was Ronron telling him about what she did as a disciple in the sect for a month.

She laid out her entire month-long story for her master to hear. Senior Yang seemed slightly worried that she was left alone, but mostly he was happy to see her happy.

Alex introduced his mother to the senior, who gave him an earful of scolding for separating her from her family in the first place.

Alex was definitely surprised to see his mother ignore their age difference and scold the man.

Senior Yang took the words without getting angry or feeling insulted. He knew what he had done wrong from the start, but that was the only way he could have done things from the start. If given the chance, he would do it all over again.

"I brought back this stone sword full of intent back," Alex said. He didn't pull it out immediately as that would cause problems for the ones that could read. He also didn't name the stone as that would bring up questions as to why he knew the name.

"Oh, that's not bad," the man said. "In terms of importance, that's one of the 5 important things I was missing from that ring."

"What are the other 4?" Alex asked.

"Well, there's the World Tree's seed, the Nine Yang Divine tree, the Frigid Yin bead, and... " the senior paused. "Wait no, only 3. The last one was destroyed too, wasn't it?"

"Let's see, you took away the Blood God's manual, the white tiger took away the Ocean God's teardrop, and the only other important thing there was the nightmarish sword spirit which the white tiger told me you destroyed long ago."

'Godslayer?' Alex thought.

"So, yeah, I suppose it's 4, not 5," the man said. "Of course, there are various other important things, but none are important enough that they would kill me for losing them, although I surely will have to compensate them for it once I return somehow."

"Speaking of returning, have you decided when you'll return everyone?" Alex asked.

"After exactly a year of everyone returning," the senior said. "That should be enough time right? Actually, no I should do it based on where people want to go. Since the cultivation world has been revealed, the normal people who are not happy with their life won't want to live here anymore."

"As such, they will be trying to leave as well. I will have to aid with that too," the senior said.

There would definitely be a lot more left than the ones that came with them.

"There is something you can do," Alex said. He suggested an idea that the senior could choose to use or not.

"A worldwide poll huh? I don't see how that wouldn't work," the senior said. "Although, we can't do it right now. Doing it 8 months later should be fine. We can give a 1 month period where they vote where they want to go. Using that information, we can decide which continent would be the first to leave."

After a bit more talk, the group decided to go back home for now.

The old Emily had been waiting for everyone to come back for over a month now. Even with people working in the farm, she was feeling lonely.

However, with so many people returning, she wasn't going to be lonely anymore. She knew it was going the day of their arrival, so she had prepared a feast for everyone.

Helen hit it off immediately with Emily, and the two Mother-in-law and Daughter-in-law became close friends. Emily had been quite close to the other Helen that had died of cancer, so she couldn't be happier to meet this one.

A lot had changed about the house for Helen, but in some ways, everything was still the same.

If anything had truly changed, it was the people.

She remembered cooking food for no more than 3 people every day. It was only on rare occasions when Liz came to visit with her family that she had to cook more than usual.

However, even without extra guests, she and Emily had to cook for 9 people in total, of which 2 were actual beasts. Of course, she was more than happy to have so many people in the house.

After all, the more there were the merrier it was.

After spending a few days back at home, the family decided to go on a vacation around their small world.

Alex also wanted to use the time to see what was happening with the people of this world.

They went to resorts, amusement parks, operas, museums, and whatnot. They visited any place with any importance or popularity.

Alex met Ma Tianxin one of the times and saw that he was enjoying his vacations with his wife.

He met Harry too, who was spending quality time with what Alex could only guess were his families, one that had grown old without him.

He thought he would meet Jai Heiyun too, but the girl was nowhere to be found.

After their vacation was done, Alex spent some time looking for Fan Yanshi with Ronron.

It was becoming more and more clear that after the year passed, Ronron would be leaving for the Southern Continent with everyone. So, while she could, she wanted to be with her half-sister.

Fan Yanshi wasn't doing the best. It had turned out that he had a clone here, who had already grown old and had children. They had welcomed him and his daughter into the house, but after a few months, he had decided to leave.

He was a hardworking man, so finding labor wasn't that difficult. For his daughter, he had to start earning money after all.

Alex pitied the man, but there wasn't anything he could do for him. At least, not right now. He did give the two father and daughter a pill each.

He told Fan Yanshi to eat it right away. As for the other pill, he was to keep it until his daughter was at least 16 years old.

It would be many years before the man found out that what he had eaten was actually a True Rejuvenating pill that had effectively improved their lifespan by over 500 years, maybe even a thousand years.

After giving away the pill, Alex now only had 1 such pill remaining, and he wondered to who he should give it.

There wasn't anyone he had in mind that he could give it to, so he decided to think about it later.

The world was surprisingly civil, despite so many cultivators coming back to this world. There were a few skirmishes here and there, but since almost everyone lost their Qi because they were reckless with it or just because the Intent stripped it away from them over time, they were no different than normal humans.

In fact, the only people that were any special here were the body cultivators, who did not need much to live and were generally happy with anything.

After enough time passed, the worldwide poll was finally put up. This poll would decide the date and the order in which the people would be sent back to the other continents.

The few days of what seemed like a normal life for many people was finally coming to an end.

## Chapter 1307: End of a Saga

Liz came back crying from one of her trips where she had gone to meet someone she had found on the Internet.

As it had turned out, the person she was meeting had been good friends with her husband Rob, who had died during a sect invasion.

People had created a site where one could put up pictures of their loved ones and see if someone else recognized them. Liz had put Rob's picture up on a whim, and someone had recognized him.

The family mourned for a full week before things slowly became normal again. However, it still took Liz quite some time to get over her husband's death.

Alex spent some time with senior Yang, learning about a few more things from him. He even acquired a technique that would allow him to convert low-grade spirit stones into a higher-grade ones simply by using the technique.

Alex wasn't sure how useful the technique would be just yet, but he was sure he could make some use of it in the future. The technique had no name as it was apparently something the senior had read from a nameless book. Still, he called it the 'Qi Grade Upgrade technique' which was more than enough to explain what the technique did, despite being a rather mediocre name.

Sometime later, the results of the poll that was created were finally out. It was somewhat surprising to see how easily the Southern Continent won on the poll.

Only those that had a family or close relations with people in the Western Continent decided to return back there.

Of the people from the Northern Continent, only half of them decided to return back to that continent as well.

The majority of the people, even ones that weren't originally from any of the three continents decided to go to the Southern Continent.

It was a combination of reasons that led to this decision for most people. For one, Southern Continent was the safest continent from what the people could tell. It was also the most advanced with many strong people. It wasn't forever cold either, like the Northern continent.

Most importantly, the quality of pills found in the Southern Continent was many times better than any of the other continents. Also, given that their King was a person like them, they didn't have to worry about being mistreated either.

Once it was clear that the people going to the Southern Continent would be sent first, people started making preparations. 2 months later, they all found out where they had to go to find the Teleportation formation.

Unlike when they arrived, while going back they had to go through the main formation, which was in Senior Yang's mansion. So, Hao Ya and Liz had already returned to the mansion to help out the senior with preparing for the massive number of people entering the building.

Back at home, Alex and the rest prepared to leave as well.

"I still can't believe this," Fan Yanshi said, looking at the massive farm and mansion. "Are you really giving this all to me?"

Just 3 days ago, Alex had gone and brought him back along with his daughter after making him fully quit his current laborious job.

He had no idea why he was made to do that, but now that he was here, he was finally understanding it all. He was being given everything that Alex and his family owned.

"There's no point in us keeping it anymore," Emily said. "Now that we've all decided to leave this place, we will likely never return at all. So, we need someone to take care of this place."

"We have no other family members alive that aren't leaving with us. The closest ones we could think of was you, so we chose you," the older Alex said.

"I... I don't know how to thank you." The man started crying while his little daughter tugged on his clothes to stop him from crying.

Ronron crouched in front of the little girl. "Lilin, I'll be leaving now. Don't forget about your older sister, okay?" she asked with a little smile.

The girl nodded.

Emily talked to the little girl as well. In a way, this was her child too. So, when it came to leaving her, she found it difficult, but in the end, she had to leave her with her father.

"We'll be leaving now, take care," Alex said. Then, everyone got into the small van they had reserved and left.

Emily and Ronron wiped their tears a bit. Some of it was for little Lilin, while some of it was for the house they would be leaving.

Helen and Graham looked back as well with a bittersweet look in their eyes. They were sad they were leaving, but they were happy where they would be leaving to.

Of the two Alex, one teared up a bit, while the other one was simply happy that he was taking all of his family with him.

"I wish we could bring along little Lilin," Ronron said.

"Her father doesn't want to leave this place, so we can't help it," Alex said. "Without any spiritual roots, her life wouldn't be all that better in the other continent either. She would instead be one of the many mortals that had to look up to so many cultivators."

"But still..." Ronron had no argument to make. She simply didn't like the fact that she had to leave her sister behind. "At least she will grow up in the same house I did."

The group took the train, and half a day later they were outside of senior Yang's mansion.

The number of people that were streaming into his house was perhaps enough to fill an entire city. With nearly a million people wanting to go to the Southern Continent, it was going to take quite a lot of time to transfer them over.

Alex and his family were allowed entry through a different path, all because of what was happening inside the mansion.

As soon as one entered the mansion grounds, they immediately fell into a trance that made them follow the simple path to the teleportation formation inside.

"In a day or two, I'll start teleporting the people away. I will need you to go there first and prepare your people to handle the influx of newcomers," the senior said.

Alex nodded. "I'll do that," he said. "Will sister Hao be coming with us?"

The man shook his head. "She'll have to stay behind and do the same in the other two continents. I'll send her once everything is ready."

"We have 2 years before we go to the Eastern Continent, so it is better the sooner she comes so we can prepare," Alex said.

The senior nodded. "What if the emperor doesn't accept?" the senior asked. "I'm worried he really won't accept."

"I don't think we need to worry about that right now," Alex said. "That's something we can figure out after the emperor rejects. I might have a few things to bribe him, but time will tell if he accepts or not."

The senior nodded. "If only I or the others could go there," he said softly.

Alex went on to talk with senior Luhei before leaving while Ronron came to her master.

"Master, you aren't angry that I'm leaving, right?" she asked.

"Haha, of course not," the man said while stroking her hair. "You've grown up, and I can't keep you confined for long. I need to let you spread your wings and experience the outside life if I want you to fly and grow."

After a small goodbye, Ronron walked away from him. Liz also talked to the senior for a bit, thanking him for the book she was given.

They all gathered over the teleportation foundation, ready to leave.

Alex looked around him at his family, all of whom he was taking with him back to his continent. After so many years, everyone was back together.

Almost everyone.

There were still two more people missing. Pearl and Hannah.

'I found him, but I still can't take him back just yet,' he thought. Still, he knew Pearl was doing his best. It would only be a matter of time before he came back to him as well.

"Are you all ready?" the senior asked.

Everyone nodded.

"Alright, here I go," the senior said and started activating the formation.

Alex and the rest felt the aura of teleportation take over them.

"Good luck."

That was the last thing they heard before they were teleported away.

They arrived in the Southern Continent on the other side of the teleportation formation. The moment the soldiers and staff around the teleportation formation saw Scarlet and Alex, they immediately bowed.

"Welcome back, your Majesty!" the entire group spoke at once.

Alex looked at the place that had been waiting for him, for his family. He turned around to the rest of his family with a big smile on his face.

"Welcome to my Kingdom!"

Thus ended a saga of Alex's life, one where he was finally freed from his ties from both the Western Continent and the Central Continent.

His new life in the Southern Continent with his friends and families would signal the beginning of a whole new saga.

As for what this saga would bring to his life, only fate could answer that question.

[End of Book 4: Fire and Crown]

\* \* \* \* \*

[Extras]

The blood burned on Pearl's body, both on the outside and inside. How many days had it been since it had started? 10? 20?

He didn't remember.

His mind had gone blank for so long that he no longer perceived time at all. All he could tell was that he was hurting.

He was hurting and he wanted it to stop.

He had forgotten where he was, where he had come from, and where he was going. Why was he here? Why was he in pain?

All conscious thoughts seemed foreign to him at this point. Even screaming in pain was not something he could do.

His fur was no longer white as he had been bathing in the fountain and his own blood for nearly a year. In fact, it looked more black than red with how thick the blood was.

'Why am I here?' a thought finally came to his head. A conscious one.

'I'll wait for you!' a small memory flashed from deep in his mind. 'Good Luck, Pearl.'

'Brother?' he thought. He remembered the last words that Alex had spoken to him, right before he had come to this room.

'I love you, my son.' He heard the whispers of a dying beast that licked him with love even as she died. A memory that was hidden so far in his mind that he was surprised he even remembered it at all.

'Mother?' he thought with pain building up in his heart.

'You must survive, Shouchuang.' Another memory floated in his head, one spoken by a beast whose voice was loud like that of a thousand lightning strikes.

'...who?' Pearl did not remember this beast at all. "Who?" he asked, out loud.

'Survive and Live!'

His eyes opened wide, shining bright yellow in the darkness of the room.

"I will survive," he shouted with gritting teeth. "I will live."

\* \* \* \* \*

A young man and woman stood on the beach of an island. In front of them was a cave, the insides of which shined with some light, purple and silver to be exact.

"Are you ready?" the young man wrote on the palm of the young woman standing next to him.

Unlike the young man's simple attire, the young woman wore a pink robe with a white veil that covered her face. Through the white veil, one could see an orange mask that had no openings for any orifices.

The girl nodded in response to the question.

The young man took her palm with his left hand. With his right, he brought out a sword that was Ivory white in color and had an indent near its handle.

He pulled her into the cave and arrived in front of the thing that was glowing inside.

A Voidgate.

The Voidgate was small, barely large enough to fit a child. Through it, the young man could see a world that was an amalgamation of purple and silver lights.

Trying to squeeze through this Voidgate would mean certain death. However, the young man had no such fear.

He activated the sword in his hand and put it into the Voidgate. From there, he simply pushed it downward.

As if a searing hot knife on a stick of butter, the boundary of the Void Gate simply melted and became larger. Large enough to fit two people.

"Time to return," he spoke to himself. He took a deep breath before pulling the woman close to him. He grabbed her by the waist and then walked ahead with her.

Then, the two of them disappeared into the Voidgate, gone to a land far away.

\* \* \* \* \*

A man sat in a bright room, working in front of a cauldron full of ingredients, surrounded by formations all around him aiding him in his task.

He wore a deep blue robe, accentuating the long blue hair on his head that fell straight behind him like a waterfall.

He silently worked on the pill he was making, giving nothing about his emotions away through his face at all times.

The pill came out a second later, which he placed on the formation next to him.

97%.

Finally, the man frowned, the only emotion he had shown since the beginning. He had worked with the best ingredients, using the best recipe and the best technique, aided by some of the best formations this world had seen.

Even then, he could never reach 100%.

He walked out of the room and saw a woman who had been bowing in front of the room for who knew how long.

"What is it?" the blue-haired man asked.

"Commander Jianyu has sent us a message," the woman said. "The people that left the Southern Continent have started returning. In fact, more have returned than the ones that left."

"Is that so?" the man asked. "So there really is a civilization hidden beyond those walls of violent Qi, huh?"

"It would appear so," the woman said.

"Tell the commander to keep me updated," the man said and walked away.

The woman continued bowing toward the man as he left.

"As you say, your Majesty."

#### Chapter 1308: First Three Tasks

A few months had passed since Alex returned to the Southern Continent with his family.

When the many elders and servants in the palace realized that Alex had returned with his family, they were all surprised and ecstatic about it.

When the elders realized that he had a daughter too, they were even more ecstatic. They were all worried about heirs and bloodlines, so knowing there was one, they were very happy.

However, when they learned that she would be leaving for the Immortal lands just the same as Alex without ever getting married or producing an heir, they were saddened again.

Alex thought of proposing the idea of having his clone produce an heir for the throne. However, because their children would end up not being able to cultivate, he couldn't make that decision.

In the end, the elders were once again forced to accept the truth that their king might leave no heir.

Alex's master and the rest were still in the palace when he returned. So, after he was back, he prepared places for them all to stay.

They themselves didn't feel it right to stay there forever either and were ready to move away. They could have stayed there forever, but they would've forever been a guest and they didn't like that.

It took them a bit of getting into after moving away into homes that were in the city close to the palace.

Alex's family also needed some time to settle into the palace.

Most of them couldn't believe just how extravagant the palace was. They had been to the White Tiger's underground palace, but that palace wasn't any good compared to this place.

The upper palace might have been comparable, but they were never let inside there. Ronron was perhaps the most excited of all to see the palace.

She kept asking the elders what this was and what that was. The elders were surprisingly not annoyed by her behavior either.

To them, she was just a naive young child and they were more than happy to teach her everything.

"Your Highness, why don't we have a teacher come and teach you about everything?" one of the elders suggested. "That way you will quickly learn everything important from history to geography to just normal etiquette."

"Oh! Let's do that," Ronron said excitedly. "Can my parents join in on that too? And my grandma too, and grandaunt."

"Yes, everyone can join," the elder said. "I would teach it to you myself, but I am a little busy, unfortunately."

"It's understandable," Ronron said. "We did come with over a million people. Your elders must have your hand full with dealing with them."

The elders nodded.

While his family was being taught various things, Alex moved on to do his own things.

The very first thing he did was listen to every report on what had happened in the time he was gone.

He and Scarlet listened to everything and made decisions that the elders could not. They also made decisions on what to do with the many people that had just arrived.

A million different mouths were suddenly created, so they needed food and resources too.

Alex and Scarlet decided to turn the mountain range to the north, which separated the mainland continent from the wasteland, into a farming range that not only grew mortal foods but also many resources itself.

The land where the 56 spirit veins were dug out still didn't have many things growing, so Alex chose that area.

Once that whole thing was taken care of on his end, Alex went on to check his military and the royal guilds.

The army had once again increased in number from the last time he was around. It grew over the year as each year more and more joined, but this time around there was a significant increase.

Perhaps because so many people had left this time around, the elders had decided to add an extra few, bringing the total number of people in the military to above 10 thousand, of which 1400 were Saint realm cultivators.

The Alchemy, Formation, and Talisman halls were similar too. Many people had joined them as well to match the increment in the army. After all, their primary purpose was to craft pills, formations, and talismans for the people in the army.

Jai Heiyun was back in the alchemy guild and was working her damn hardest for the time she had missed while she was away.

Apparently, she had spent most of the time with her clone's children who were old enough to have their own children as well. She didn't bother going around, looking at different places, and spent all the time she had in her old house.

She had treated that as a vacation, so now that she was back, she needed to work her damn hardest.

Seeing her enthusiasm, Alex finally decided to work on his own problems as well.

Due to the sudden arrival of Hao Ya, he stopped many things that he was supposed to do after he made the Dao pill and learned the Dao of Techniques.

Due to the nature of the central continent, he couldn't practice anything there either, so he was finally getting the time to.

There were quite a few things he had to do, but for now, he focused on 3 different ones.

First, he would use the Dao of Techniques for their intended purpose. He was going to change a technique to fit him better.

And the technique he was going to change was none other than the Pill Splitting Qi. That was the technique that allowed him to split the powder in a cauldron into two halves, and then pour all the energy into it to form 2 perfect pills.

The thing he wanted to do was to change the technique so that he would instead of having to use 2 sets of ingredients, he could only use 1.

He would have to change what he called this technique afterward as there would no longer be any splitting involved in the process. That he could delay until after he had changed the technique.

The next thing he wanted to do was make a new pill recipe.

Jai Heiyun had brought him an interesting pill when she had first joined them. The Saint Spirit Immunity pill gave someone immunity against all forms of spiritual attacks for a small period of time.

Then, there was the nameless pill he bought in the auction in the Northern continent. The pill was a True rank pill that one took in advance to protect themselves against most poisons out there.

What Alex wanted to do was to either downgrade the ingredients of the Saint Spirit Immunity pill to create a True Spirit Immunity pill for his many True realm cultivators in his army. Or, he wanted to upgrade the True realm pre-eaten antidote pill.

Given the importance, Alex decided to go with the Antidote pill first.

Finally, there was the matter of Demon Eyes. He had gathered the ingredients for the paste thanks to Bai Jinghsen, so he was going to have to make those and give them to his family as well.

Once he was done with these 3 things, only then could he move on to the many other things he needed to do.

#### Chapter 1309: Saint Poison Neutralizing Pill

The easiest thing for Alex to do was make the pastes. All he had to do was take the ingredients and crush them together until they were fine and slightly runny.

Alex prepared the paste inside Memory at its largest size, so there was more than enough paste for most of the people in his family.

He also wrote down the Demon Eyes technique and handed it over to all 4 of his family members that could currently cultivate it.

Alex would have loved to give the technique to Whisker, but as a beast, he could not learn that technique even if he wanted to. Not that he would need to, given that he was a Seeking mouse and had one of the best senses in the entire world.

Their species were so good at finding things in their surroundings and understanding the environment they were in that the heavens had made it impossible for them to cultivate instead.

After finishing the paste, Alex handed it over to his family. That included his Mother, Father, his aunt Liz, and Ronron. The two clones couldn't cultivate, so they were excluded.

He explained to them how they would have to be blind for a long time after they started using this.

In Alex's case, he had been blind for a little over 2 years. And that was with his having the Undying Physique where he healed far faster than the regular person.

In his family's case, it would most likely take them many more years than that. Alex was hopeful that Scarlet's fire would help them quite a bit, but he couldn't rely on it as well.

After understanding what they were going to go through, Helen was the first to accept.

"We can still use our Spiritual sense, can't we? We should be able to see around us then," she asked.

"You can," Alex said. "I will also have elders find you all a seeking mouse so you can use its eyes to see instead. Although, you most likely won't need that unless there is something you really need your eyes for."

After hearing the explanation, all 4 of them decided to do it.

Alex helped everyone put the paste in their eyes. He was surprised by their scream when their eyes were destroyed by the paste in order to reform them.

He had forgotten how painful it was. Or rather, he never knew how painful it was. His pain tolerance had always been at an inhuman level ever since he started body cultivating along with Pearl.

Not only that, he had only recently been killed over a hundred times by being drowned in lava when he had used the paste for the first time.

As a result, the pain he had felt at the time was what he had described to his family members in passing as mild. It was not mild at all.

Even Graham grunted in pain as the paste destroyed his eyes. It was only after their eyes were completely destroyed that they stopped hurting.

Alex quickly pulled out some blindfolds he had prepared and helped tie them around their heads, covering their eyes and keeping the paste stuck to their eyes.

"You have to do it once a month from now on until this paste ends," Alex explained. Everyone nodded as they were using their spiritual sense to look at everything.

"Good," Alex said. "You can do it on your own from now on then."

Once he had helped his family, he moved on to his other 2 tasks.

The pill splitting Qi and the antidote pill itself were something that he could only understand while making those pills.

In a way, he could do two things at once. However, when it came to changing them, he had to do it separately.

Alex focused on the ingredients first.

He only had the pill itself, so it took him a while to figure out the ingredients that were used to make the pills. Thankfully, it wasn't so complicated as Alex knew how to reverse engineer a pill recipe out of a pill.

It was one of the knowledge he had gained alongside the Supreme Elemental Accord when he first reached the Saint realm. Using the smell, the taste, the color, the elements, and even the effect of the pill, he could narrow down the list of ingredients that made those pills.

Once he was down to just a few ingredients, he could just try to make them and figure out what the recipe was.

The shape of the powder and the elemental energy of the pill helped quite a lot in understanding what the recipe might be.

The energy resulted was based on the strength of the two energy before it mixed together. Learning the strength of the energy helped Alex determine just what sort of temperature the ingredient must have been used under.

The shape helped determine the speed and rotation the ingredient must have gone through. Using these two pieces of information, one could with some level of certainty figure out just what the recipe was.

Once the recipe was ready, everything became even easier.

Alex had a habit of upgrading ingredients for the next tier of pills, he was certain he could do it quickly. Once he had the recipe and ingredients figured out, it didn't take him long at all.

There was one main thing that Alex needed to learn about the recipe. That was how the ingredients affected each other each time they were put into the cauldron while following the recipe.

The knowledge about the energy interaction was what he had already learned about.

Once he learned that, he could do some mental simulations with Saint rank ingredients and see if they followed the same pattern.

From there, it was just a bunch of trial and error for him to get to the ingredients he needed. He also knew a bunch of ingredients that could be substituted just because they were very commonly used in antidote pills.

As such, it became even easier for him to complete it all.

A month after he started, Alex had prepared the first Saint-ranked version of that pills. It was only a 62% harmony pill, but that was only a start.

As long as he had the recipe, it didn't even take him a few days to improve it. Once the final product was ready, the heavens announced its arrival by banging the lightning gong 8 times in a row.

Alex ate the pill and felt the energy flow into his body and disappear. The energy from the pill had become dormant while waiting for any type of poison or toxin to enter his body.

Alex's knowledge ate a poison and the energy immediately fought against it. After a few experimentations, he figured out that the energy of the pill lasted inside one's body for no more than 2 weeks.

Even an 8-veined antidote pill didn't last longer than that, although it did stop way more poison than the normal ones did.

"It's a very good pill," Alex thought. "Certainly I can't leave it be nameless."

He thought for a bit and came up with a simple name for the pill.

"The Saint Poison Neutralizing Pill."

## Chapter 1310: Splitting the Splitting technique

After Alex prepared the Saint Poison Neutralizing pill, he finally moved on to the Pill Splitting Qi. He hadn't left it for the last or anything. He had been consciously observing how it worked while making the pill.

So, now that the pill was done with, he could just sit back and use what he learned to improve it.

The pill-splitting Qi did exactly 3 things one after another.

First, it split the powder in the cauldron into two equal halves.

Second, they then took each pile of powder and turned them into a spherical shape. It didn't just make a spherical shape at all but also made sure to have the Structure and Composition of the pill be as best as it could.

Third, they pulled the energy in the cauldron into the pills using some sort of vortex created by his Qi.

The second thing the technique did was the most important part that Alex could not mess up, followed by the vortex. As for the first one, he did not need it. For now.

It was a complex problem that Alex was trying to solve and even as he started, he could already tell that it was going to take him months to complete this.

Even with the Dao of technique, making a completely new technique out of an existing one was not something he was sure he was capable of.

To start off, Alex had memorized the route the Qi took while coming out of his body. He knew how to use the technique, so there wasn't much to it. The only thing about this route was just how many minor meridians the Qi had to go through before coming out.

The Qi started at the neutral spiritual root as the Qi had no elemental affinity to it. It then went through one of the four major meridians that each spiritual root had, the one that made the Qi control physical stuff with it.

Since the Pill Splitting Qi did not create something, help cultivate, or reinforce something that already exists, it could only go through that major meridian.

Since forming the pill from the powder and pouring energy into did not require any of the other 3 major meridians, Alex could be sure from the start that just which one he was supposed to start with.

There were two directions Alex could go from here.

The first method could take anywhere between a few days or a few years to get the result Alex wanted.

The second method would take a few months for sure, but it would definitely not take a year at all, even with how complex the technique was.

The first method included him brute forcing his way into finding the technique. Of course, it wouldn't just be brute forcing as he knew thanks to his experiments and the Dao to which Meridian did that.

Unfortunately, given that the pill splitting Qi was a complex technique that combined 3 separate similarly complex techniques into one, even just separating the 2 techniques was difficult.

Even with what knowledge he had about the meridians and pathways, he still needed to go through the millions of possible combinations of pathways to test it all out.

Fortunately, his Dao would help him a lot here. His Qi would never have to make the complete route for him to know whether or not the technique would do what he intended to do based on the pathway it was on.

Meaning, he wouldn't have to wait for the Qi to release out of his body and waste his time. He could instead immediately move on to the next series of pathways.

It also helped a ton since he could reuse the same Qi over and over without having to waste it. It sped up the process a lot.

With this method, Alex could cut down the time required to find the technique.

Without the dao, Alex could maybe do a thousand different tries in a single day, which would take him nearly 3 years to go through the million different possibilities.

With the dao, Alex could certainly do over ten thousand, if not more tests, that too without using much Qi. The only Qi he would use would be a few bits of Qi that the heavens would take away as a cost for using the Dao.

Every Dao had its cost, so Alex didn't care much for it.

Going through this direction, Alex had millions of possibilities to try. He could find the technique in just a few thousand tries if he was lucky, or it could take millions if he was not.

As a result, this method of finding the technique was a gamble.

The second method was far less of a gamble.

Since the pill splitting Qi started with separating the powder into two halves, Alex could just try and figure out that part of the technique.

Given how simple the technique was, it would take Alex no more than a week, if even that to figure out the technique behind splitting the powder.

Once he had that technique, he could compare it against the actual Pill-splitting Qi, and contrast the two to figure out what sort of pathways would work the best for the second and third part of the technique.

This would most definitely take Alex some time to figure out exactly how to remove the First part of the technique without removing the second and the third, giving him an understanding of the possible pathways to achieve what he wanted.

The possible pathways there would amount to no more than a tenth of that of the first method, giving Alex an advantage. There was also an element of gambling here, but it was so small that it couldn't even be called that.

Alex thought for a bit as to exactly what he wanted to do.

If he were in some sort of a hurry or a deadline, Alex would definitely choose to gamble. However, given that he had ample time, he decided to go with the 2nd method.

There was another reason why he wanted to go for the 2nd method, but that was way too advanced for him to just try out without first learning more about the Dao of techniques.

Once he figured out more, he would then decide whether to try his hand at what he had planned as well.

After his preparations were made, Alex began his task.

He spent the majority of the time of the day figuring out the first half of the problem. Removing the splitting part of the technique from the whole technique turned out more difficult than he imagined.

He had improved some techniques before, so he knew it wasn't supposed to be this difficult, so the only reason he could give was that the technique he was trying to change was just that complex.

Alex had a suspicion that he was trying to change a Divine grade technique, if not a Celestial grade. He wouldn't even be surprised if it was actually a God-grade technique given how incredible it was.

After finally figuring out what remained after removing the first part of the technique, Alex now only had to test about a million or 2 different possibilities.

Around a million possibilities and 7 months in total later, Alex finally got the technique he wanted so badly.

From now on, he could make pills with pill veins with just a single set of ingredients.