

## **Apocalypse 1961**

### Chapter 1961: Surprise at the auction

"This is a set of medicine, produced by the Changxu Water Race."

The first auction item immediately lifted everyone's spirits.

White Robe opened the box placed on the exquisite metal stand. Inside were four small bottles.

"From one-turn to four-turn, medicines refined by the Changxu Water Race. The treatment range covers from external injuries to internal injuries, from negative statuses to tough ailments, and all can be treated. Twenty one-turn pills, for external injuries. Fifteen two-turn pills, for internal injuries. Ten three-turn pills, effective for both internal and external injuries, and can also remove most recorded toxins. Five four-turn pills, can reattach severed limbs; the time is about five times faster than post-surgical treatment in a medical pod, and recovery is perfect."

After White Robe finished speaking, a wave of slight inhalations immediately came from below.

Actually, among the universe's races, even during the peak of the Changxu Water Race, four-turn medicines they produced were not very common. Now, with their decline, even one-cycle medicines were scarce. What everyone used were medicines produced by other races and pharmacists.

However, the medicines of the Changxu Water Race were still slightly better; after all, they contained the power of the Holy Sigil, which was a fundamental force of the universe. Taking medicines with such power allowed for near-perfect integration with the body, from absorption to efficacy.

A set of medicines, fifty pills in total, covering everything. Just buying this set would guarantee treatment for both major and minor injuries. It could be said that the first auction item of this auction successfully stirred everyone's desire to buy.

"The starting price is five hundred Moonspan Gold."

As White Robe's words fell, the scene... surprisingly, no one made a bid.

White Robe frowned, his gaze sweeping around. Seeing the seemingly mocking smiles on many faces, he roughly understood the situation. But he wasn't flustered and continued, "This starting price is already very low. Let's not even mention the market price. Just the opportunity to obtain so many medicines of different grades and in such quantity at once is rare."

"Five hundred."

As soon as White Robe finished, a voice called out a bid. It just sounded somewhat lazy, and he didn't add a single unit—the starting price was five hundred, so he only bid five hundred.

White Robe looked over. It was the representative of the Paija Race, a major race from Ken City, the neighboring city, probably a high-ranking cabinet member.

He looked left and right, even smiling and waving at many people.

A light flickered in White Robe's eyes.

It was very clear; the Star-Eye Clan was being bullied.

These people must have agreed beforehand not to raise the bids, forcing all of the Star-Eye Clan's auction items today to be sold at the starting price.

Auction bidding—the starting price is usually set slightly below the market price. If everything sold at such prices, the Star-Eye Clan would undoubtedly suffer a great loss.

"One thousand!"

Just as these people who had secretly colluded were waiting to see the Star-Eye Clan become a laughingstock, a voice sounded from a corner of the room.

These people collectively turned to see who this person was. If it was someone from the Star-Eye Clan themselves, then they were breaking the rules, and it needed to be addressed.

But upon seeing the face of the bidder, these people couldn't say anything, because it was a face that was typically, unmistakably from the Bai'e Jie Race.

Upstairs from the auction hall, Ye Zhongming, while watching the live broadcast on the light screen, raised his glass and gestured to the person beside him, saying, "I still have to thank you for your help."

Jie Su picked up his glass and clinked it with Ye Zhongming's, smiling as he said, "Since they can collude, then they must allow us to raise the price. Strictly speaking, they are the ones breaking the rules; we are just using the rules."

"But it still requires the strength and courage to help us." Ye Zhongming sighed with emotion. Watching the medicine on the light screen, whose bid had already reached one thousand two hundred units of Moonspan Gold, he knew that the Bai'e Jie people, because they were under the Su Race, as the saying goes, 'it's easy to do things when you have strong backing,' were not afraid of the Pajia Race, or rather, they weren't afraid of any race except the super major races.

Because the Bai'e Jie people were themselves a powerful medium-sized race with strength infinitely close to that of a major race. The only reason they hadn't been recognized as a major race was that their population was still a bit small.

Jie Su smiled and didn't answer.

"I thought you wouldn't be able to get out for a while."

Jie Su had acted without his clan's approval, deciding on his own to help the Star-Eye Clan win first place in the Novice battlefield, and was taken back by an Elder. Ye Zhongming thought that even if he wasn't stripped of certain rights and his place in the line of succession, he would at least be punished. But he didn't expect Jie Su to appear in Dark Strip City after such a short time.

"Originally, I was prepared for a heavy punishment, but... those words of yours were relayed to the clan by the Elder, so I was symbolically fined ten cosmic years of clan funds."

Hearing this, Ye Zhongming laughed heartily. "I mean, it's not like you have anything to ask of me, do you need to flatter me like this? If a huge race like the Su Race could let such a big matter slide so lightly just because I boasted about myself a little, that would be too frivolous."

Jie Su didn't mind, looked at Ye Zhongming and said, "Naturally, it wouldn't be like that just because of your boasting. But one thing that cannot be denied is that both White Robe and you have such great potential that the clan has become cautious. Plus, we have encountered an era of dramatic change that is unfriendly to the universe's races but friendly to us. Every race is seeking change. So, under the right timing and harmony among people, my problem went from serious to a 'suspected opportunity'."

Actually, Jie Su himself hadn't expected the changes he experienced upon returning to his clan. But with Ye Zhongming sitting right in front of him, he actually felt a sense of unreality.

White Robe indeed had potential; the clan wouldn't have failed to see it before, but they didn't show any indication. Now that Ye Zhongming has appeared, the clan has actually secretly encouraged interaction with this person. Jie Su couldn't help but think that the clan was more optimistic about this record-breaking Novice first-place winner.

The auction continued. With the Bai'e Jie people 'stirring the pot,' the other races knew it was impossible to suppress the auction item prices any further. At worst, the Bai'e Jie could just buy everything and then return it to the Star-Eye Clan. This wasn't a third-party-hosted auction that required commission fees.

Thus, the auction entered a normal state. Each race decided whether to bid based on their own needs, the auction prices, and the situation on the scene.

As transaction amounts continued to rise, the Star-Eye clansmen watching the live stream were excited, while others were moved.

They didn't know how much the Star-Eye Clan had spent to acquire these auction items, so they could only estimate based on market prices. Because many things had a price but no market, the prices were naturally quite high. Based on their calculations, by the time only the last two auction items remained, the Star-Eye Clan, after deducting costs calculated at market prices, had already earned over ten thousand Moonspan Gold!

They really made a small fortune!

If the last two auction items, which were fundamentally unavailable on the market, could fetch high prices, and if the Star-Eye Clan hadn't paid too much to acquire them... then they would make a big fortune.

The bidders present sat up straight, waiting for the auction of the final two items.

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Everyone knew the last two auction items were the eight-turn medicine and a Red Condensation-grade Taros Red Dwarves weapon.

At least more than half of the people here had come specifically for these two items.

"A Red Condensation grade... combat blade."

White Robe lifted the red cloth covering it. This creative idea was suggested by Ye Zhongming, who said it would bring good luck.

"Its sharpness goes without saying. More importantly, this combat blade has excellent toughness. Many people should be able to tell it was made from Geruiyas active metal. Currently, only the Taros Red Dwarves possess this technology."

Holding the combat blade, a look of admiration also flashed across White Robe's face.

When Ye Zhongming took out this combat blade, intending to use it as an auction item, the entire Star-Eye Clan management layer was very surprised.

Everyone knew how important a good weapon was to a warrior—originally, equipped with seven Red Condensation grade pieces, Ye Zhongming's combat power could be conservatively estimated to have increased by the equivalent of one thousand Furelai. No one would easily give up such top-tier equipment.

Moreover, he had earned it by risking his life.

But he was willing to take out one piece to build the shop's reputation. Regarding this point, the Star-Eye Clan leadership knew they had to thank him. Although the operating rights of this shop had been handed over to Ye Zhongming, and the income from auction items he procured himself for this auction would completely belong to him, it was conceivable that with the reputation established, the shop's business would improve greatly. In the future, 20% of net profit would still be given to the clan.

Twenty percent might not seem like much, but one must know that, in essence, the Star-Eye Clan only provided the shop premises and some clan members, while Ye Zhongming himself procured the goods. Giving away 20% of net profit was already very generous.

But no matter how much he admired Ye Zhongming, White Robe felt that if it were him, he really couldn't say for sure if he would be willing to give up such a good piece of equipment.

What he actually didn't know was that Ye Zhongming didn't feel the slightest bit of heartache. These Red Condensation grade pieces, which the Star-Eye Clan considered top-tier equipment, were far from top-tier in his view.

He could manufacture Purple equipment himself. As long as materials were sufficient, his success rate was acceptable. So, the Red Condensation grade, which was only slightly better than Purple equipment, really wasn't highly valued by Ye Zhongming.

If it were Raini grade, then Ye Zhongming would never let go of it no matter what because he suspected that Lie God grade equipment was likely on the same level as seven-colored grade equipment and Ruler equipment. Raini grade should be between Purple and seven-colored grade equipment, much stronger than Purple grade equipment.

"Its abilities, besides being sharp enough to make one's body feel cold, include several others." White Robe swung it and said, "Everyone sees this shimmering light. It's not useless; it causes targets facing the weapon directly to experience visual errors, while the user remains unaffected. It's a great help in combat. Furthermore, the blade body can also prevent other light-based effects that affect the eyes and vision."

"Tremor!" White Robe raised his eyebrows. "When swinging the blade, it causes it to tremble constantly. The more it trembles, the more the blade body can absorb the surrounding energy, gradually increasing the weapon's power until it reaches the limit it can withstand, and maintains it."

"Of course, this limit doesn't mean it's on the verge of breaking. Quite the opposite, because of the properties of Geruiyas active metal, once the combat blade absorbs energy to its maximum capacity, its power doubles, and both its toughness and sharpness reach their peak."

"At that time, this is a completely different weapon!"

Hearing White Robe say this, the audience erupted in an uproar, much louder than when the first auction item was unveiled.

Just this one ability alone had already stirred many people's hearts.

While they acknowledged that this combat blade was truly a good item, they also formed a judgment about the Star-Eye Clan's situation.

They were truly short of money, truly on the verge of life and death. Otherwise, how could they possibly take out such a good item for auction?

"Not finished yet, everyone." White Robe was also getting carried away with the description; he felt these people were less composed than he was when he first heard about these attributes.

"Similarly, because of the Geruiyas active metal, even if this combat blade sustains damage during combat, as long as it is given enough time, it can automatically recover without affecting its original properties. And there's more!"

White Robe raised his voice a little. "This combat blade has excellent compatibility. If the fortunate one who obtains it has the opportunity to have it reforged by a Taros Red Dwarves master smith, then it has the possibility, a great possibility, of becoming Raini grade."

The eyes of everyone who intended to participate in the competition shone brightly. This Red Condensation grade weapon was truly excellent.

It wasn't that they had never seen equipment of this grade, but among such equipment, those that could be said to compare to this combat blade were few and far between.

"What's the starting price?"

Someone couldn't wait and asked.

White Robe smiled and said, "The starting price... is thirty thousand Moonspan Gold."

Not only the live audience, but even the residents of Dark Strip City watching the live stream drew a sharp breath.

Thirty thousand Moonspan Gold!

Although the total transaction amount for the previous auction items was high, the net profit was only ten thousand Moonspan Gold. But now, the base price was thirty thousand Moonspan Gold.

How much would it be when the transaction was complete?

Because of the nature of Red Condensation-grade equipment and the performance differences even among equipment of the same grade, the market price couldn't be measured precisely; only a general baseline could be provided.

Many people, before coming, clearly knew the price range for Red Condensation-grade equipment was roughly between ten thousand and fifty thousand Moonspan Gold.

Was this combat blade worth thirty thousand Moonspan Gold? Naturally, it was. But this was only the base price. With the Bai'e Jie people certain to drive up the price, could it be stopped at fifty thousand?

If it exceeded this price, should they still buy it? If they gave up, it would be a pity, because this combat blade was truly excellent.

"Alright, please start bidding!" White Robe said to the people below with a smile.

"Thirty-one thousand!"

"Thirty-five thousand!"

"Thirty-eight thousand!"

As soon as the words fell, successive bidding sounds arose, instantly raising the price by eight thousand Moonspan Gold. At the same time, it let those watching this scene know the final price definitely wouldn't be low.

The Bai'e Jie person smiled and raised his placard. He bid forty thousand!

This was agreed upon beforehand. This was a line, a bottom line in the hearts of the Star-Eye Clan and Ye Zhongming. Only if the price exceeded this would the combat blade be sold. Now, this person, specifically tasked with driving up the price, had completed his mission and could retire successfully.

But just as everyone was waiting for the bidding to continue, a person suddenly stood up, stopped others from calling out bids, and said to White Robe above, "I have a proposal. Why not listen to it and then continue the auction? It's not too late!"

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White Robe's eyes narrowed.

Today, he had tried his best to hide the combative nature within him, but when he saw this person, he still felt an impulse to smash the weapon in his hand towards this guy.

If one were to ask which race the Star-Eye Clan did not get along with in Dark Strip City, then it was undoubtedly the race this person belonged to—the Huitang Race.

This race had two abilities that allowed them to survive in the universe. One was their keen perception ability, and the other was their body's recovery ability.

Some people had once said that the sensing ability of the Huitang Race was equivalent to a skill of a Grandmaster.

Throughout the history of the universe's races, in every era, those who could be called Grandmasters were basically the leaders of major races, and the leaders and elders of super-major races. Their numbers were certainly not large.

One of their abilities was definitely top-tier.

This showed how terrifying the acuity of their perception was.

It was said that the most outstanding person in their clan in this aspect could perceive many unknown microscopic worlds and even draw energy from them.

It was just that they hadn't produced such a genius for too many years, causing them to regress from almost becoming a supermajor race to now almost declining into a small race. The degree of regression was almost comparable to that of the Star-Eye Clan.

The other was their body's recovery ability, because the muscles, bones, and even internal organs of the Huitang Race had extremely strong regenerative abilities. As long as their body's blood circulation persisted, even the finest blood vessels circulating, they could provide regenerative nutrients to the body.

A well-known situation demonstrated their astounding capability in this regard. It was said that if you beat a Huitang person to near death with severe injuries, their body broken and battered, then cut off their head and sealed the wound, you would surprisingly find after a while that their body had mostly recovered... except for the missing head.

Of course, this statement might be somewhat exaggerated, and no one would be so bored as to kill a Huitang clansman and go to the extra trouble of sealing the wound.

But from this, one could see how strong the Huitang people's recovery ability was!

Possessing these two abilities almost destined them to become the natural enemies of the Star-Eye Clan.

The Star-Eye Clan excelled at ambushes and assassinations; they were assassins and ambushers. But if they were detected in advance, before even launching an attack, what was the point of ambushing?

The keenly perceptive Huitang Race almost naturally countered the Star-Eye Clan.

Even if some experts of the Star-Eye Clan could use various methods, abilities, or equipment to evade the perception of the Huitang people, once the attack was launched, unless it were a one-hit kill, this race would be like unkillable cockroaches, impossible to kill no matter what.

In an attack, achieving a one-hit kill constituted a perfect assault. To accomplish this, too many conditions were required. In most situations, the Star-Eye Clan required to strike surely with the first blow, greatly reducing the target's combat power, then follow with a second or even third blow to complete the kill.

But if the Huitang Race couldn't be killed in one strike, the chance to kill them afterwards became very slim for a Star-Eye assassin.

Faced with a race that almost completely suppressed the Star-Eye Clan's advantages, if they simply didn't offend each other, that would be one thing. Or even if the Star-Eye Clan just admitted bad luck whenever they encountered them normally, that might be acceptable.

But after the Huitang people began to decline, they specifically targeted the Star-Eye Clan!

Because of their natural counter to the Star-Eye Clan, they advertised this ability, sending notification letters to all kinds of people who had received bounties or had offended the Star-Eye Clan, and they urged these people to hire them as bodyguards to defend against possible assassinations by the Star-Eye Clan.

In short, in every occasion where the Star-Eye Clan could exist, in every task the Star-Eye Clan could perform, in every mission the Star-Eye Clan could accept, the Huitang Race would interfere, standing on the opposite side of the Star-Eye Clan.

Because of these two abilities, their business was very good. But this made life difficult for the Star-Eye Clan.

Hunting grounds were snatched away, mission execution was sabotaged, everything they did was targeted...

This situation persisted for many years and continues to this day.

The decline of the Star-Eye Clan naturally had its own reasons, and they were the main reasons. But the Huitang Race, for their own benefit, engaged in years of targeting, almost sucking blood from the Star-Eye Clan's body, which was also an aspect of the Star-Eye Clan's gradual weakening.

As the Star-Eye Clan and the Huitang Race grew weaker, this situation intensified. After White Robe rose to prominence, he had conflicts with the Huitang Race on many occasions, and the hatred deepened.

Today, out of respect for the 'Eight Heads' of Dark Strip City, the Star-Eye Clan also sent an invitation to the Huitang Race. But they didn't expect this person in charge of the third branch of the Huitang Race to stand up and speak at this moment.

White Robe didn't think this person was here to support them kindly. His standing up now undoubtedly meant he was about to cause trouble.

Sure enough, as soon as this person opened his mouth, he almost angered the entire Star-Eye Clan to death.

"We all know where this Red Condensation grade weapon came from. But as far as I know, this is a set! There are seven pieces in total. Your Star-Eye Clan is taking it out to sell now, but only selling one piece? What does this mean?"

Faced with these words, even Ye Zhongming on the second floor almost couldn't resist speaking up to defend. But then his eyes immediately narrowed.

The seven Red Condensation grade pieces were indeed a set to a 'certain extent', but this 'certain extent' referred to the materials used; that is, all seven pieces were made based on Geruiyas active metal. But what this Huitang clansman implied was clearly mixing different concepts; he meant an interconnected matching set.

"Oh, I see!" Without waiting for White Robe to answer, he immediately spoke again, as if to himself. "This time, you only sell one weapon. Next time, you might take out a helmet to sell! The time after that, it might be armor... selling these things off in seven separate times! And we, all of us here, will have to pay for it!"

"Everyone, listen to me!"

This person said, standing directly on his chair.

"The Star-Eye Clan's intentions are malicious! They not only want to drain our Moonspan Gold time and again, but they also want us to fight among ourselves, or at the very least, make us bear grudges against each other! Think about it, can such expensive things possibly be bought by one family? Obviously not. But the equipment is a set; only when combined can they exert their maximum effect. Those who obtain one or more pieces will all consider collecting the full set. If no one yields in the end, what happens? Isn't it a conflict that will occur?"

"This auction is originally deserving of death for its malicious intent!"

Although many people knew this person was quibbling, it was advantageous for them. And those watching the excitement never found trouble too big. They agreed below, accusing the Star-Eye Clan, accusing White Robe, leaving the Silver Order Leader, who only had one mouth, unable to defend himself.

"What do you want?" White Robe's hand gripping the weapon turned white. He stared coldly at this person and asked.

The Huitang clansman wore a triumphant expression and spoke out his purpose.

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"Since it's a set, it naturally should be sold together. Furthermore, a single piece of such a set must have very poor functionality; it only has an effect when combined. Therefore, naturally, we cannot set the price by multiplying the previous price by seven. I think, since your Star-Eye Clan obtained this equipment with difficulty, then... let's set the starting price for the seven pieces of equipment at fifty thousand Moonspan Gold. That would be fair. By the way, this equipment set must remain in Dark Strip City. Races from other places should not participate. Otherwise, we would have serious doubts about the fairness and correctness of this auction. Once that happens, I will unite all the races of Dark Strip City to severely punish your Star-Eye Clan and confiscate all the proceeds from this auction!"

"This shop, I think, should also not be opened anymore!"

This was outright robbery!

When the wall is about to collapse, everyone gives it a push. This holds true anywhere, even in the universe.

If the Star-Eye Clan had the strength of the Reina Star or the Huo'er Star, not only would no one dare to cause trouble, but many races would be eager to come up and kneel in respect. But who was the Star-Eye Clan? Just a small race on the verge of extinction, yet now they possessed seven pieces of Red Condensation-grade equipment. Wasn't this simply 'guilty of possessing a treasure'?

Although these were not troubled times, the seven survivor fortresses of the universe's races had strict rules. Within a certain city, if everyone wanted to do something wrong, the probability of being punished wasn't necessarily very high.

Moreover, now the Eight Heads were united, not necessarily to put the Star-Eye Clan to death, but just to rob them once.

Naturally, if the Star-Eye Clan were sensible and took out all seven pieces of equipment, everyone could symbolically add a price, for example, around seventy thousand Moonspan Gold, then go back and divide them—one family gets the eight-turn medicine, and the other seven families each get one piece of Red Condensation grade equipment. Everyone would be happy.

Even if the Star-Eye Clan went to appeal to higher authorities, they had something to say, since they did pay for it.

Previously, these people hadn't discussed this matter, but none of them were stupid. When something benefited them, they would naturally support it.

The alliance was formed almost instantly.

The other races present, the one or two major races among them, did not speak. Although their racial power was stronger and they had little fear of these medium-sized races, they were, after all, not local forces of Dark Strip City. The united eight families' strength surpassed theirs. If they really stood up to speak for the Star-Eye Clan, there would be too many unknown risks, and it didn't align with their interests.

These few people also figured it out; they would just sit and watch the show. After the show ended, these eight medium-sized races of Dark Strip City would definitely share a certain benefit with them: at least 5,000 Moonspan Gold.

Doing nothing and getting five thousand Moonspan Gold was also a good deal.

As for the small races of Dark Strip City, they didn't speak either, maintaining a completely detached attitude.

They knew before coming that the two best items —the Red Condensation-grade equipment and the eight-cycle medicine —were certainly beyond their reach.

The auction had progressed to this point; what they wanted to obtain or were able to bid on had already been acquired. Everything happening now had little to do with them, and no one would stick their neck out.

"Do you really think the Star-Eye Clan is so easy to bully?"

White Robe seemed to have lost his earlier anger and was very calm. But those who knew him understood this was the precursor to him taking action.

Indeed, the Star-Eye Clan was a small race in poor condition. If possible, they were very willing to keep a low profile.

But that didn't mean they had to endure such unfairness.

For Ye Zhongming, the two Star-Eye Leaders were willing to risk everything. And White Robe, being part of the core lineage, if he wielded his blade against these medium-sized races today, the entire clan would certainly support him just as they supported Ye Zhongming. The Star-Eye Clan would swarm out from underground... even if they couldn't kill all the enemies, they would bite off another piece of flesh from them.

The Star-Eye Clan had never lacked the courage to fight desperately; what they lacked was a powerful body.

Seeing White Robe clearly about to act, the representatives of the Eight Heads were all taken aback.

However, wealth tempts the heart. They certainly wouldn't give up this opportunity to gain a huge advantage. If the Star-Eye Clan really dared to take action, they wouldn't mind erasing this small race from the genealogy of the universe's myriad races ahead of schedule.

"Wait a moment, what is this? You decide to exclude me just like that? Whose rule is this? Not only will I participate in the auction today, but I am determined to win!"

The Bai'e Jie representative stood up, interrupting the two sides on the verge of conflict, and also stating his position.

You can break the rules, but I will abide by them.

The Eight Heads might really let go on other matters. But not on this one.

Seven pieces of Red Condensation grade equipment, at market price, would definitely exceed three hundred and fifty thousand Moonspan Gold. Plus one eight-turn medicine, divided equally among them, each race would get a profit of at least forty thousand Moonspan Gold.

And this was a conservative estimate.

Ye Zhongming fought desperately to get first place in the Novice battlefield, and the cash reward was only ten thousand.

This amount of money might be enough for these medium-sized races to maintain their clan's operations for a long time.

And how could they place the dirty label on the Star-Eye Clan? This Bai'e Jie person was also one of the reasons; they really weren't too afraid of him.

After all, the Bai'e Jie people couldn't possibly mobilize a large army from another survivor fortress; that would certainly not be allowed. So what was there to fear?

"Your words confirm that the Star-Eye Clan's auction has foul play! I propose directly confiscating the proceeds from this event and also punishing the Star-Eye Clan!"

It was still that Huitang clansman speaking, glaring.

"Are you refusing to give face?" The Bai'e Jie person also became angry, retorting sharply.

"You aren't worthy of me giving you face."

"Then am I worthy?"

A voice came, interrupting the two. Everyone looked towards the source and saw two people walking down from upstairs, one after the other. The person behind wore an ancient, exquisite bronze mask, presumably the new Bronze Order Leader Ye Zhongming. The person in front...

"Lord Jie Su!"

The Bai'e Jie person walked a few steps closer, bowed his head, and greeted. Their race had an extremely good relationship with Jie Su; otherwise, they wouldn't have been brought along to help.

Jie Su nodded, then looked at the Huitang clansman and repeated, "Am I worthy?"

Who was Jie Su? He was a direct descendant of the Su Race, famous from one battle in the Novice battlefield!

They could afford to disregard the Bai'e Jie person. Still, they dared not disregard Jie Su representing the Su Race, because the Su Race was originally one of the three major factions, a colossal existence that could logically punish them from top to bottom.

Ye Zhongming sighed behind him, knowing that Jie Su openly standing up so strongly for the Star-Eye Clan like this would bring him great trouble.

The Su Race not punishing him before didn't mean he could now so blatantly offend other forces. That would damage the Su Race's image and cause its members, most of whom gathered together because of the Su Race's peaceful way of handling affairs, to develop a sense of disunity.

By helping today, when Jie Su returned, he would truly be punished by the Su Race, and severely.

Some things cannot be brought into the sunlight.

As a friend, Ye Zhongming didn't want him to suffer because of this.

"Alright then, you said you want the seven Red Condensation grade pieces of equipment, right? Fine, I can take them all out!"

Chapter 1965: Weakness is a sin (2)

The scene fell silent. Not only did the people from the 'Eight Heads' look at Ye Zhongming, but the representatives of the several major races looked at Ye Zhongming, all the representatives of the small races looked at Ye Zhongming, and even White Robe and Jie Su also looked at Ye Zhongming.

Especially Jie Su.

He knew that if he didn't step forward today, what awaited the Star-Eye Clan would be a chaotic situation with a tragically predetermined outcome. White Robe would not tolerate being bullied like this, especially in front of all the residents of Dark Strip City. Conflict was unavoidable.

Ye Zhongming similarly would not tolerate it. If White Robe took action, he would certainly follow suit.

Jie Su knew that all the members of the Assault Camp, personally trained by this guy, were actually on standby around the shop. At the same time, he also knew that, as the most core force of the Star-Eye Clan, Cheng Liujin and his Golden Mask team must also be not far away; they were here to ensure the auction proceeded smoothly personally.

If a fight started, the Star-Eye Clan had the strength to kill everyone here. But afterwards... they would face the siege of the entire Dark Strip City, under the premise of being labeled as rebels!

At that time, the Star-Eye Clan would have only one choice: defend from their underground fortress, relying on its strategic advantages, and then look for an opportunity to break out, saving as many people as possible. In the days that followed, they might occasionally stir up small waves somewhere, until, after some years, they completely vanished, becoming a lightly recorded passage in history books.

Jie Su had to step forward, even though he knew that, with the situation in his own clan not being great, and the other two major factions possibly having ill intentions towards the Su Race, publicly standing on the Star-Eye Clan's side like this would definitely lead to punishment from his clan upon his return. But he really couldn't care that much anymore.

White Robe was his brother, and Ye Zhongming was his friend. He shared a common goal with these two, and he couldn't stand by and let them die like this.

He was the most likely and most qualified person on the Star-Eye Clan's side to take charge of the matter, so he stepped forward.

He just didn't expect Ye Zhongming to seem unappreciative.

Jie Su was intelligent; after a moment's thought, he understood what was going on. The look he gave Ye Zhongming then held a note of gratitude. After a slight hesitation, he stopped speaking and handed the initiative over to Ye Zhongming.

"I can take out all the equipment. Seven pieces. I can satisfy you on this point." Ye Zhongming repeated his words, then said, "But the price will still be set by us."

That Huitang clansman's face showed a disdainful expression, but Ye Zhongming simply ignored him and continued, "You can disagree, but for the last two auction items today, your eight families will be disqualified from bidding. The bidding will be left to the representatives of these major races and the others."

Upon hearing this, the representatives from the several major races showed intrigued expressions.

They didn't involve themselves in the suggestion previously raised by the Huitang clansman because they could gain a few thousand Moonspan Gold for nothing. Now, similarly, they wouldn't do anything, because this way they could participate in the bidding and their gains might far exceed the cost of just one piece of Red Condensation-grade equipment.

In fact, if forced to choose, they would prefer the latter, because their purpose in coming here was to obtain these good items, not a few thousand Moonspan Gold.

"Don't say I'm not qualified, don't say our auction has problems." Ye Zhongming looked at the Huitang clansman. "I won't even mention that the items are originally mine. Given what you're thinking, these arguments are worthless as nonsense to you. But the Bai'e Jie people, the representatives of these major races, and the Su Race... want to participate in the bidding. They are certainly qualified, aren't they?"

"So, either you sit back down and continue participating in the auction, or you still think the auction is rigged, believe everyone else is a fool, and only you are the awake one, and continue causing trouble. Which do you choose?"

Ye Zhongming wore an inexplicable smile on his face as he said to the Huitang clansman, "Think carefully before deciding. Don't leave regrets... for life."

That person's face turned red instantly. He pointed at Ye Zhongming for a long time but couldn't manage to say anything coherent.

He really wanted to persist with his previous idea, but he was also truly afraid of offending the behemoth that was the Su Race.

"Sit down!"

Jie Su said lightly, then sat down in the seat previously belonging to this Huitang clansman.

Ye Zhongming walked back onto the stage, took out the other six pieces of equipment one by one from his spatial equipment, looked at the people below, and said, "I keep my word. All seven pieces of equipment will be auctioned today."

He used his eyes to stop White Robe, who was about to speak, then said, "Actually, everyone understands what's going on. Let me explain again: the only common point of these seven pieces of equipment is the base material used; there are no other connections."

"Of course, some items are better than others. This weapon is about the third best among the seven pieces. The best is the armor, followed by the combat boots, then the combat blade. After that, a pair of arm guards, a pair of leg guards, the helmet, and the belt."

"As for the prices... let's set them at fifty thousand, forty thousand, thirty thousand, twenty-five thousand, twenty-five thousand, twenty thousand, and fifteen thousand."

After speaking, Ye Zhongming signaled for White Robe to continue. He himself went down, found a seat, and sat down, saying no more.

The auction continued in an eerie atmosphere.

Ye Zhongming taking out all seven pieces of equipment was the key to resolving this 'crisis'. He managed to turn Jie Su, who was stepping forward as their friend, into a guest participating in the auction, and made it difficult for others to say anything more.

After all, they had already taken out everything they had obtained to sell, and several major races were participating. If they still tried to seize by trickery or force, it would be just too unsightly.

After the bidding that went from calm to intense, the final total transaction amount for these seven Red Condensation grade pieces of equipment was three hundred and five thousand Moonspan Gold.

The participating races each had their gains, though three Red Condensation grade pieces were won by forces from outside Dark Strip City, which left the residents of Dark Strip City somewhat displeased.

By now, the auction was unlikely to have any more surprises. Only the last auction item remained, and everyone was watching eagerly.

"In our cultivation journey, each of us encounters certain bottlenecks. No matter how hard we try, we feel no progress at all. The fortunate ones solve this problem after a period of time; the unfortunate ones remain stuck there for many years, or even make no further progress for life."

White Robe's words gradually excited everyone.

"This universe has no item that allows lifeforms to rely on external force to break through to the next realm. But some medicines help people comprehend the rules of power. It can help a lifeform, within

one cosmic year, increase their sensitivity to various energies several times over, including sensitivity to the external world and to their own body."

"The final auction item of today's auction, with a starting price of seventy thousand Moonspan Gold, is the Changxu Su Race's eight-turn top-grade medicine—Zhenxu Dew—which allows the user to enter a miraculous state. Please place your bids."