

# I Have A Cultivation World

## Chapter 51 - 51: 51: The First Day of Setting up a

[ 1,369 words ]

### Chapter 51 - 51: 51: The First Day of Setting up a

Stall—1

After leaving school, Chen Mobai headed for Evergreen Pharmacy.

His original intention was to lend a helping hand, but Qing Nu wanted to perform the final step of Water Method Alchemy by herself -undisturbed and focused, which ensured high efficiency.

With no other option, Chen Mobai could only wish her good luck before taking his leave.

Since he was not needed here, he decided to go and make some money in the Tianhe Realm instead.

Upon returning home, he unboxed the package delivered to him. As he anticipated, it contained the Spirit Talismans he had purchased from the Wood Spiritual Talisman store. The shopkeeper had sorted them neatly by type and placed them in an exquisite wooden box.

Chen Mobai drew one talisman from each type to sense them, confirming their quality before happily acknowledging receipt on his phone.

With a click, he was transported to the Water Mansion.

It had been a while since he last cultivated here and he curiously noticed the Spiritual Energy seemed to have become denser.

Yet now that he had mastered Divine Sense, he could concentrate on his Five Elements Cultivation. He had also brought with him the unopened vial of Qi-replenishing Spirit Water that he had purchased.

However, upon checking the time, he decided to visit Southstream Market first.

As the market closed at night when cultivators preferred to meditate and cultivate, no one squandered this golden time on business.

Once again at the market, Chen Mobai bumped into Qi Er at the entrance. Seeing him, Qi Er came over to greet him and ask about his plans to set up a stall.

-If senior wants to set up a stall, you need to apply to the market manager first, pay a Spirit Stone processing fee, receive a blanket, then find your spot according to the blanket's number, and then you can start your business," he explained.

After listening to Qi Er's explanation, Chen Mobai understood that setting up a stall wasn't as free and easy as he had thought, and was still under the market's administration.

Moreover, one Spirit Stone only navigates the administration for one month. After a month, if you wish to continue, you must pay another Spirit Stone.

The only positive, however, was that no deposit was required. After all, most of the people in Southstream Market were Loose Cultivators with limited resources. Having acquired some goods from various undisclosed sources, they set up their stalls to sell their items. Usually, in just a month, most of the goods would be sold out.

After earning Spirit Stones, they would retreat to their rented cave dwellings to cultivate until their Spirit Stones were used up, upon which they would return to the market to restock and set up their stall again.

Hearing Qi Er describe the cultivators' way of life, Chen Mobai couldn't help but marvel at the live-for-the-moment mentality of cultivators in the Tianhe

Realm.

Market stall management was overseen by Wu Hong, a cultivator with Qi Cultivation's ninth stage from the Wu family, one of the four major Cultivating families in the local area.

To someone of his stature, running stalls was an insignificant matter. Therefore, after Chen Mobai paid one Spirit Stone, he was immediately handed a blanket.

"Senior Wu is the least fond of troublemakers among the six managers of Southstream Market. However, if things get out of hand on a vendor's stall, he is known to be cold and ruthless. He would directly expel the troublemakers from the market. Moreover, those without a strong background, typically disappear without a trace after being expelled from the market," said Qi Er, seemingly oblivious to Chen Mobai's silent shock.

[This Tianhe Realm really is in disarray.]

Having grown up in a place full of order like Dili Elementary School, Chen Mobai always felt out of place in the cultivation environment of Tianhe Realm.

However, he could only reassure himself by minding his own business, honestly doing business here, without making trouble or meddling where it is not wanted.

“Senior, I have one more question. Are the Spirit Talismans you’re selling made by yourself or did you purchase them from somewhere else?”

As Qi Er led Chen Mobai towards the Talisman sales stalls, he asked this question while they were walking.

“They are for sale on behalf of a friend.”

“I see. Each line of business in the market has a stall owner. The owner of the Spirit Talisman business is named Jia Sui. He himself is a remarkable Talisman Maker. If you want to sell a Rank-1 high-grade Spirit Talisman, it’s best to notify him first.”

Although Qi Er didn’t make it explicit, Chen Mobai understood the implications after some contemplation.

Rank-1 high-grade talismans are always traded in Spirit Stones. The market for them was clearly dominated by someone. If Chen Mobai wanted a slice of the pie, it was better to make his intentions clear upfront to avoid any confusion.

“Do we know anything about the background of this Jia Sui?”

“He used to be an assistant in the Divine Wood Sect’s Talisman Paper Shop. After his master returned to the sect, he started his own stall. Owing to his past relations, he gets talisman paper, talisman skins, and spiritual ink at cost price. Any cultivator in the market who makes their talismans usually buys from him. It is said that he gives kickbacks to each successive shopkeeper of the Talisman Paper Shop, so we treat him as a representative of the Divine

Wood Sect.”

After hearing this, Chen Mobai fell silent.

Should kickback arrangements be talked about in public?

“Senior, we’ve arrived, here it is.”

At this moment, Qi Er pointed to a corner on the eastern side street of the market.

The edge of the cobblestone-paved pathway had a rectangular outline drawn in white. In the middle was written "East 19".

Chen Mobai spread out the blanket he had rented for a Spirit Stone on the white rectangle. It fit in perfectly within the lines, not a millimeter out of place.

Next to him, three other vendors were also selling Spirit Talismans. The two men and one woman, all cultivators, focused their attention on him.

"Ahem, my name is Chen Guixian, a newcomer trying to make a living. I look forward to your guidance in the future," Chen Mobai introduced himself using a name he had thought of earlier. He raised his hand in greeting to the surrounding sellers of Spirit Talismans, eliciting three rolled eyes.

"Senior, I'll take my leave now. If you need anything, you can find me at the market's entrance," said Qi Er after completing his task of guiding Chen Mobai. Seeing this, Chen Mobai immediately handed him to taels worth of gold. Money from selling the Hand Crossbow was exchanged for banknotes worth 400 taels, with 50 taels in ready cash left for daily expenses. He had spent 30 taels on books yesterday, leaving 20 taels remaining.

Qi Er made no further courtesies and happily accepted the offering.

Chen Mobai stood on the street and displayed two each of the five different types of Rank-1 lower-grade Spirit Talismans he had purchased from the Wood Spiritual Talisman shop, before placing a Rank-1 intermediate-grade Green Arrow Talisman on top.

He had initially wanted to put up the Wood Armor Talisman too, but after a second thought, decided to hold off on it. He would unlock those talismans once business picked up.

Moreover, that was a life-saving talisman. He reckoned it was best not to reveal it just yet.

However, it turned out he had worried for nothing.

By sunset, the three vendors next to him had packed up for the day, but he had not sold a single talisman.

On his first day of setting up shop, Chen Mobai made nothing, swept up his talismans in dejection, and rolled up his blanket. With his head hung low, he left the market.

But upon returning to the Water Mansion, his spirits lifted.

After taking the Qi-replenishing Spirit Water, he began the long-awaited meditation for Qi cultivation.

Under his control, the multi-colored adaptive Spiritual Power corrected minute deviations and pathways. Following the tips provided by Qing Ping's teaching material, his Spiritual Energy followed the Grand Circulation cycle. The pale blue Spiritual Energy, resembling water mist, wafted around the center of the grand hall in the Water Mansion, surrounding Chen Mobai. It gave him the appearance of being an immortal bathing in the glow of dawn..

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## **Chapter 52 - 52: 52 Failure of Foundation**

[ 1,335 words ]

### **Chapter 52 - 52: 52 Failure of Foundation**

Establishment—1

“Here!”

Early in the morning, Qing Nu called Chen Mobai over and handed him sixteen vials of Qi-replenishing Spirit Water.

“It's my first time and I'm inexperienced. I only managed to create so much.”

As Qing Nu spoke, a slight blush crept onto her face, clearly a bit embarrassed.

“You've already done very well. Rest well. I will bring you the next batch of medicinal ingredients in a few days.”

From the result, it seemed like a loss of more than two thousand Good Deed Points, but Chen Mobai still comforted her with a smile. After all, his Good Deed Points came easily, and he didn't feel distressed.

“Thank you.”

Listening to the gentle words of the boy in front of her, Qing Nu lifted her slightly lowered head and couldn't help but wipe her reddened eyes.

Chen Mobai comforted her a few more times and asked for leave from his head teacher.

!!..

He planned to go to Red Dawn Institution to deliver the Qi-replenishing Spirit Water to his father, who was in retreat, and a copy of his understanding of the Foundation Establishment, which ranked relatively high on the auxiliary software.

Taking the bus, it took Chen Mobai nearly an hour and a half to arrive at the Red Dawn Institution.

Luckily, this place is also one of Red Sandstone City's tourist attractions. So, there's no need for any procedures to enter, otherwise, he would have to ask Chen Xinglan to come out and meet him.

At the foot of the Azure Spiritual Peak, Chen Mobai again met Yan Xiang, who had once delivered the Green Paulownia Seedling.

"Waiting for Old Chen, right? He usually comes out at noon."

Yan Xiang had a pleasant expression, holding a roster in his hand, as if he was checking something.

"Mr. Yan, are you busy? Is there anything I can help with?"

Chen Mobai asked politely. The latter immediately waved his hand, indicating he could handle it.

"Daily meals have to be prepared for the representatives of the Daoist Academy and the colleges who are living on the Spiritual Peak. Some have dietary restrictions. I just need to check the ingredients."

After Yan Xiang spoke, Chen Mobai suddenly realized, unconsciously, half of the semester had already passed.

In about forty-five days, it will be the university entrance exam.

"How are you doing? Are you confident in getting into the Daoist Academy?"

"I'll do my best."

Chen Mobai was not arrogant. His face had an expression of modesty. Mainly because lately, he had been busy exploring the Tianhe Realm and had not done his homework for a long time. He didn't have much confidence in his knowledge reserves.

However, he had already cultivated the Divine Sense, which greatly increased his learning efficiency. He just needed to work hard during this period to catch up with the progress.

But the entrance exam cutoff is easy. The real challenge is the entrance exams for the various Daoist Academies.

Especially the entrance exams for the four major Daoist Academies. The difficulty can be described as hellish every year. Many years, because there were no qualified candidates, none were admitted from Red Sandstone City.

But it was exactly this policy of preferring to have a gap than admitting inferior candidates that made getting into the four major Daoist Academies the lifelong dream of every student in the cultivation world.

Squeak!

At this moment, the wooden door of Chen Xinglan's Cave Dwelling opened, and he came out.

"Didn't I ask you to focus on your exams? Why are you wasting time here?"

At first, Chen Xinglan greeted Yan Xiang. After Yan Xiang left, he frowned and reprimanded his son.

"I rushed to buy some Qi-replenishing Spirit Water and brought it for you. There's also some Foundation Establishment knowledge I collected online. You can take a look when you have time."

Chen Mobai handed over ten well-packaged vials of Qi-replenishing Spirit Water to Chen Xinglan, along with a notebook he had printed at a print shop.

"Son, I understand your intentions. But I hope you understand that seeing you achieve something makes me happier and prouder than successfully establishing my foundation."

Chen Xinglan said to Chen Mobai sternly. The latter stared back into his father's eyes for a long while before lowering his head.

"I understand, Dad."

“This Qi-replenishing Spirit Water is intermediate grade at best. Its effects aren’t significant for me, but since it’s your intention, I’ll accept half of it. As for the Foundation Establishment knowledge, the library of the Red Dawn Institution has at least a thousand books, all with similar knowledge relating to my ‘Melting Fire Technique’. Don’t waste time on this in the future. Work hard. If you can enter one of the top ten colleges, your mother and I will be proud of you for the rest of our lives.”

After their father-son talk, Chen Mobai understood Chen Xinglan’s feelings.

For a father, his son’s success is even more gratifying than his own.

Chen Mobai couldn’t understand. Perhaps because he didn’t have a son yet.

But he didn’t confront his father. He just nodded silently.

After having lunch together, father and son parted ways. Chen Xinglan returned to his cave dwelling, continuing his retreat.

Chen Mobai stood at the bus stop, waiting for public transportation.

“Young man, I didn’t expect to see you again here.”

Just then, a familiar voice rang out.

When Chen Mobai turned his head, he saw the young man in the blue and white long robe standing there, offering a friendly greeting.

“Hello, are you a student here?”

Chen Mobai nodded in response and asked.

“I just came to visit an older student who’s teaching here. I haven’t learned your name yet. I’ve only been in this blessed land of Danxia for a few days, and encountering you twice shows that we are deeply connected.”

“My name is Chen Mobai, I am a student at the Fifth High School of Xianmen!”

On Tianhe star, Chen Mobai would certainly not dare to reveal his identity. However, here on Digua Star, as a disciple of Xianmen, he did not hide it.

“I am Lan Haitian.”

As soon as Lan Haitian gave his name, Chen Mobai remembered the business card Qing Nu had held in her hand. It said the owner was a classmate of the owner of the Evergreen Pharmacy. It could indeed be a real cultivator in the Foundation Establishment stage.

While Chen Mobai mulled over this, he kept his expression neutral.

Just then, the bus to Red Sandstone City arrived. Chen Mobai said something and said goodbye to Lan Haitian.

“My bus is here. I’m leaving now.”

If it weren’t for his business today, Chen Mobai would have liked to chat more with Lan Haitian.

“We meet again when destiny leads us.”

After saying goodbye, Lan Haitian walked towards the highest Spiritual Peak of the Red Dawn Institution.

“You’re late. We’ve been waiting for you.”

Under the canopy of the Azure Paulownia Tree, several people were already sitting. Seeing Lan Haitian approaching, a young man in a white suit frowned and spoke.

“I apologize. I was having a late-night conversation with a senior brother I haven’t seen for a long time yesterday. I lost track of time in the excitement.”

Lan Haitian’s face showed regret.

“Okay, now that everyone is here, let’s take a look at this year’s test paper.”

The man in red sitting in the main seat nodded and signaled the man in green next to him to hand out the copied exam papers to the representatives of the four major Daoist Academies and a few colleges.

“Isn’t Shi Qing supposed to be in charge?”

“She made a breakthrough a few days ago, and closed herself off. She sent a message to hand over the work to me.”

As he spoke, the man in red robe showed a look of annoyance.

In Red Sandstone City, Chen Mobai, with a large bag of exchanged gold, arrived at Wu’s Gold Shop, where he had done business before.

“Cough, cough. It’s you...”

However, the condition of Wu Wan was indeed shocking for Chen Mobai.

The once plump and elegant young figure was now thin with white hair, looking as if he had aged from a teenager to middle-aged man overnight.

“Failed to form my foundation, lost vitality and my Qi Cultivation Realm has fallen from Perfection, making me a laughingstock..”

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## **Chapter 53 - 53: 53 Expelled from the Master's Door\_1**

[ 1,421 words ]

### **Chapter 53 - 53: 53 Expelled from the Master's Door\_1**

Even though he knew the success rate of Foundation Establishment was very low, witnessing failure first-hand still gave Chen Mobai a tremendous shock.

He still remembered the first time he saw Wu Wan, holding a book, exuding an air of gentle elegance and treating others with the warmth of a spring breeze.

If it were not for the later attempt to orchestrate a trade to generate points, Chen Mobai would have had a very good first impression of him.

“Are you here to sell gold?”

“Yes, look at these, how much can they be sold for?”

Chen Mobai didn't ask about Wu Wan's failure in Foundation Establishment. As soon as the latter spoke, he immediately placed the forty gold bars he had exchanged from the Five Elements Silver Shop at the Southstream Market onto the table.

“Wait a moment, I need to get a scale.”

Wu Wan lightly coughed and took down a Magic Artifact scale from a shelf, specifically designed to measure gold weight and purity.

Because the gold used for trade among cultivators in the Tianhe Realm was all refined with spiritual power, there were absolutely no issues in terms of purity.

“The price of gold has risen a bit recently, these are valued at 4300 Good Deed Points, is that acceptable?”

!!..

“No problem, let’s go with this price.

Chen Mobai nodded, and the two quickly completed the trade.

“Do you sell the needle box?”

After Wu Wan had made the account, he suddenly asked another question.

“No, I’m using it myself.”

“If there are future Magic Artifact appraisals, you can come to me again, I’ll give you a discount.”

“Alright.”

After agreeing, Chen Mobai bid his farewell and left Wu’s Gold Shop.

He wondered if Wu Wan could cultivate to the state of Qi Cultivation Perfection again before he turned 60. If he could, there’s no doubt that Wu Wan wouldn’t give up the chance to attempt Foundation Establishment again.

Many cultivators of the immortal sects do not consider marriage before the age of 60, all for the sake of achieving Foundation Establishment.

Take Chen Mobai’s grandparents for example, both of them attempted Foundation Establishment twice before they turned 60, and only after passing the prime of their life did they start considering the continuity of family lineage, forming a family. For this reason, after they had given birth to Chen Xinglan and his two siblings, these two elders who had depleted their life essence prematurely passed away when Chen Mobai was still very young.

This forms one of the two mainstream factions within the sect of immortality. One believes that being trapped by sentiment will undoubtedly lead to a failed path of immortality. The other side advocates that only by caring for the world can one achieve the Way of God Transformation, transcending the mundane

world.

Chen Mobai has seen debates between cultivators of both factions on numerous forums and has pondered over this questioning on his own.

If it's possible, he would naturally wish to focus on cultivation, indifferent to the mundane issues of the world. But if he has to abandon family and friends and leave behind feelings to achieve Foundation Establishment, he will

definitely refuse.

At this moment, how he wished he had a mentor to help dispel the doubts in his heart.

Unknowingly, he had already returned home.

Upon looking up, he saw the Evergreen Pharmacy.

He couldn't help but give a wry smile. After selling the gold, he now has a balance of over 6,000 Good Deed Points in his card, which is just enough to buy another batch of medicine ingredients for Qi-replenishing Spirit Water.

But to avoid drawing attention from the monitoring department of the immortal sect by trading too much gold, he has been planning to investigate the medicinal material market in the Tianhe Realm to see if he can purchase the three main medicinal materials there.

The four supplementary medicines are all industrial raw materials that can only be produced here in Di Yuan Star. Fortunately, the prices are cheap, and they are not just needed for concocting medicine, so buying a bit more should not be an issue.

Suppressing the distracting thoughts in his mind, Chen Mobai didn't afford further thought to the matter.

The only reality is the improvement of his own cultivation level. As long as there is an ample supply of Qi-Replenishing Spirit Water refined by Qing Nu, he, who has already cultivated a divine sense, can advance to the seventh stage of Qi Cultivation before the entrance exam of the four major Daoist Academies.

He walked into the Evergreen Pharmacy and waited for a while.

But Qing Nu hadn't shown up.

Huh?

Has the small formation that notifies them in the back yard malfunctioned? Having waited for a while longer and still seeing no sign of her, Chen Mobai couldn't help but call out.

"Is anyone there!"

After calling out three times, a tall, high-nosed, deep eyed, old man in a purple robe walked out just as Chen Mobai was about to call Qing Nu. The old man gave him an annoyed look.

■ ■ Why are you making such a fuss? Won't you let a person take a midday nap!"

"Um, may I ask if you are Elder Gu? I'm a friend of Qing Nu.

Qing Nu had once mentioned her teacher's name to Chen Mobai. Out of respect for the Foundation Establishment senior, he remembered it clearly and asked after a polite greeting.

"From now on, don't come here looking for her. I've already cast her out of my tutelage!"

"What!"

Chen Mobai's eyes widened, he couldn't believe it.

"Elder Gu, what do you mean by this? What has happened to Qing Nu?"

"From the sound of your voice, it seems I do remember. You are the young boss who provides for my unworthy apprentice to concoct her pills. Hmph, it is one thing for that wretch to make you a scapegoat, but she shouldn't be practicing on my medicine pool. Having committed such a taboo, being cast out of my tutelage is nothing! If this had happened in the past, I would have destroyed her cultivation level!"

"just because of that, you have such a feudalists and stubborn way of thinking!"

Hearing Gu Changfeng's words, Chen Mobai's voice instinctively rose in defense of Qing Nu.

-What audacity for a young man, daring to speak to me in that manner." Gu Changfeng was furious. As a Foundation Establishment cultivator, his powerful spiritual power burst out, causing Chen Mobai difficulty in breathing, his legs weakened, nearly bringing him to his knees.

Under the invisible heavy pressure, the anger in Chen Mobai's heart gradually faded and clarity emerged in his mind. He couldn't help but speak.

"Elder Gu, Qing Nu used your medicine pool to concoct pills simply because she was commissioned by me. If you are angry, I can compensate you for your losses, even help you rebuild a brand new medicine pool. Qing Nu is innocent, casting her out of your tutelage, I will live in guilt for the rest of my life." "Quite the bold statement, do you know how many Good Deed Points the smallest of medicine pools cost?"

“I don’t know, please instruct, I may not have that many Good Deed Points for the time being, but I certainly won’t deny the debt.”

“The medicine pool in my store, rank-2 lower-grade, eight hundred thousand Good Deed Points.”

“I don’t have that much now, but the moment I gather enough, I will definitely give it to you, asking only for you to change your decision.”

Hearing these words, Gu Changfeng narrowed his eyes. Unbeknownst to Chen Mobai, he had already retracted his spiritual pressure, Chen Mobai was able to breathe freely again.

“It’s too late, I’ve already cancelled her apprentice registration at the Ministry of Education’s Hall of Heritage, she is no longer my apprentice.”

Having said that, he waved his sleeve and a strong burst of spiritual power pushed Chen Mobai out of the pharmacy.

“Don’t come back again, you’re not welcome here.

“Then can you tell me where I can find Qing Nu?”

Bang!

He was answered with a heavy slamming of the door.

Chen Mobai naturally couldn’t break open a door sealed by a Foundation Establishment cultivator, so he could only turn around and head to the place where he remembered Qing Nu lived.

He remembered where Qing Nu got off the bus when they went to see the Jade Phoenix Theater Troupe. It was two stops away from here, and which he was too impatient to wait for the bus for, so he directly used the Propulsion Technique to hurry along.

Inside the pharmacy, Gu Changfeng watched Chen Mobai’s rushing figure leave, his face filled with silence. He turned his head and looked at a sapphire black-lettered jade card placed on the counter.

[Lan Haitian]..

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Chen Mobai tried calling Qing Nu, but she didn't pick up.

Searching for her at the stop where she got off was like looking for a needle in a haystack, yielding no results.

At that moment, he resented himself for not getting off the bus with her and accompanying her home.

It wasn't until his spiritual power was depleted and he could no longer maintain the Propulsion Technique that Chen Mobai, panting heavily, sat down on a roadside stone, thinking of all the information he had about Qing

Nu.

"That's right, she's a student at the First High School of the Immortal Sect. She should be at school right now."

Chen Mobai had taken leave today. He checked the time and found that it was supposed to be the free usage time of the school's Cultivation Room. If that was the case, Qing Nu's phone must have been on do-not-disturb mode.

Once his spiritual power had somewhat recovered, he got on a bus heading towards the First High School of the Immortal Sect.

"If none of you have any issues, let's go with this year's examination paper." At the top of the Spiritual Peak, True Man in Red Robe made the final decision after coordinating everyone's opinions on site.

"Yuan He, you take these comments and make the necessary amendments." Yuan He, who was in charge of preparing the questions, immediately stood up and nodded upon hearing the words of the True Man. He then collected the papers that representatives from the four major Daoist Academies and several instructional academies had amended.

!!..

"Then, I'll take my leave."

"Sure."

After Yuan He left, the True Man in Red Robe began to discuss the main topic of the day.

“What special tricks are you planning for the entrance exams for your Daoist academies and instructional academies this year?”

The academic ability reflected by the college entrance examination results was used to filter out those without wisdom roots. Once the college entrance examination scores meet the standard, they could apply to the Four Major Daoist Academies and the Ten Learning Palaces according to the scoreline.

Only after these fourteen selections were completed, then it would be the turn for places like Red Mist Crimson Bead.

The Four Major Daoist Academies and Ten Learning Palaces conducted either joint or separate entrance exams every year.

However, to save public resources, the exams were usually held jointly. During one single assessment, various checkpoints were set up, and scores were assigned according to everyone’s performance. If there was a student the Four Major Daoist Academies found impressive, naturally, they were given priority to choose. If there were two academies interested in the same student, it would then be up to the student to decide.

However, such situations had never happened in Red Sandstone City. Only the top-ranking major planetary realms would have spiritual seeds that made the Four Major Daoist Academies vie for them.

“This year, we received instructions from above, so there’s no need for me to rack my brain. Have a look, True Man. This is the response from the dean.” Lan Haitian was the first to speak up. He handed a letter to the True Man in Red Robe with a smile, who took it and remarked in surprise after reading it.

“That’s strange. How did the old fogey come up with this?”

A young man in a white suit furrowed his brow, but he also took out a letter. His teacher had given it to him when he left the Daoist Academy, specifying this year’s entrance exam content.

“True Man, this is from our department head.

The True Man in Red Robe took it, and his eyes widened in disbelief. He then looked up at the other representatives of the Daoist Academies.

The rest hesitated for a moment before all taking out their letters. With a flick, all the letters fell into the hands of the True Man in Red Robe, who already finished reading the contents with his Divine Consciousness Leaving Body, his face betraying his disbelief.

“This is truly a rare kind of entrance exam.

After reading all the similar content on the letters, the expression of the True Man in Red Robe finally settled. As a Gold Core True Man, he also noticed some implications from this entrance exam.

“I see. Let’s arrange it this way. Let’s choose my Cinnabarite Institute as the venue.”

After the True Man in Red Robe finished speaking, the representatives of several instructional academies first rose to bid their leave, followed by the Four Major Daoist Academies.

After everyone had left the mountain, a woman’s voice echoed from the wooden house at the top of the Spiritual Peak.

“Thank you, True Man Yu.”

“I now understand why you’re hiding. Did you know this all along?”

“I guess so. But I really am at a critical stage in my cultivation and can’t move at all, so I can only trouble you.”

“Fine, I’ll take over the matters regarding the college entrance examination, but as for the Legal Department involved, you should handle it yourself, senior.”

After the True Man in Red Robe finished speaking, one of the people who had gone down the mountain returned.

“Legal Department’s Lan Haitian pays his respects to both True Men.”

Lan Haitian, who had met Chen Mobai twice, respectfully greeted the True Man in Red Robe and True Man Shi Qing in the wooden house, his expression serious.

“I was wondering why the Kunpeng Daoist Academy would let you, a Gold Core cultivator, come to Red Sandstone City to handle the matter of an entrance exam. Speak, is it the order from the Daoist Academy or from the Hall Master?” The True Man in Red Robe, as a Gold Core Cultivator, had also heard of Lan Haitian’s infamous reputation. He was renowned as one of the next generation geniuses most likely to form a Core Formation alongside Qiongzhi Fairy from the Nature Studies Academy.

Because Lan Haitian was also a Legal official of one of the three major temples of the Immortal Sect, his reputation even ranked higher than that of the hardworking Ice Spirit Root talent from the Nature Studies Academy.

“It’s the Hall Master’s order.”

In front of the two Gold Core True Men, Lan Haitian answered truthfully, without any concealment.

“What is the matter?”

The True Man in Red Robe asked again.

-We discovered that there is a cultivator practicing Forbidden Techniques and he needs to be arrested immediately.”

“Well, then I’ll take off.”

Upon hearing the words ‘Forbidden Techniques,’ the True Man in Red Robe immediately shook his head. Being a person fully devoted to cultivation, he didn’t want to get involved in the affairs of the Legal Department. Adjusting his Escaping Light, he vanished from the top of the Spiritual Peak.

“Since it’s the Hall Master’s order, feel free to proceed. I’ll also send a message to the local department for their cooperation.”

“Thank you, True Man.”

LHaitian delivered a document into the wooden house, and after True Man Shi Qing had checked the handwriting and the stamps, he agreed to his mission in Red Sandstone City.

“Try not to disturb the citizens. Arrest and try him quickly.”

“Understood.”

Evergreen Pharmacy.

After Gu Changfeng closed the door, he was refining medicine when the alarm formation set up by Qing Nu at the entrance rang, notifying him of someone’s arrival.

“Breaking into private residences is a crime.”

Gu Changfeng spoke coldly to the visitor.

“Rest assured. I have all the necessary documents. It’s not a crime.”

The sound of Lan Haitian’s voice startled Gu Changfeng, his actions frozen. He slowly turned around, seeing the arrest warrant in the latter’s hand, and his demeanor slumped.

“How did you find me?”

“As they say, if you want to avoid criticism, don’t act. You hid pretty well, but given time, some of those who entered the Purple Cloud Palace back then would inevitably try

Forbidden Techniques. As soon as someone exposes a flaw, doesn't that prove that your testimonies back then were all false?" Upon hearing those words, Gu Changfeng couldn't help but curse angrily, "A group of useless people! We should have never trusted them in the first place." With a bang, a group of about ten Law Enforcement Cultivators in blue-black uniforms stormed in. The lead cultivator, once seeing Lan Haitian, respectfully reported.

"Mr. Lan, we've set up arrays around the vicinity and have also evacuated the surrounding residents."

"Good, leave the rest to me."

Lan Haitian nodded. A dark silver chain flicked out from his sleeve and landed in his palm. But to his surprise, Gu Changfeng simply surrendered without a fight.

"Why aren't you resisting?"

"I understand law. Practicing Forbidden Techniques at most results in 60 years of imprisonment. If I resist and you kill me, I won't even be able to claim injustice."

Gu Changfeng allowed Lan Haitian to cuff him..

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At the entrance of Immortal Sect First High School.

Chen Mobai found a bubble tea shop and slowly sipped a drink of fresh lychee juice. He was using his cellphone while watching the entrance of the high

school.

Just a while ago, Qing Nu finally texted him back.

As he had guessed, she had been in the Cultivation Room, her phone on Auxiliary Cultivation mode, and all sounds muted.

Once her Cultivation Room time was over, she saw his message and promptly replied.

"Don't contact me anymore!"

Upon seeing this message, Chen Mobai hesitated, then composed a reply.

“I’m right at the entrance of your school.”

“What do you want?”

!!..

As soon as Qing Nu received his text, she replied, leaving Chen Mobai confused. He just wanted to apologize for her dismissal from the master’s door. Why did it feel like she was thinking of something unpleasant?

“What do you want to drink? I’ll order it for you.

Fairly long after, approximately two to three minutes later, Qing Nu finally responded.

“Wait!”

Inside the school.

Qing Nu packed her bag and was about to leave when a sunny-faced boy in uniform approached her.

“Let me walk you home.”

“No need, I’m meeting a friend.”

Qing Nu shook her head and turned to leave.

The sunny boy didn’t mind; after all, he had been rejected more than once or twice before.

Leaving the school gate, Qing Nu wore a mask and a small round hat. If Chen Mobai wasn’t familiar with how she looked in a mask, and she hadn’t walked so close, he might not have identified her.

“I’m sorry about your dismissal from the master’s door.”

As he handed Qing Nu the juice in his hand, Chen Mobai began with a sincere apology. After all, not everyone has the privilege to be a disciple of a Foundation Establishment Cultivator. Being expelled would leave a permanent stain on Qing Nu’s life record.

“Let’s talk somewhere else.”

After receiving the juice, Qing Nu looked around to confirm that no one recognized her. She signaled Chen Mobai, and they boarded a public bus together.

“What’s wrong?”

Because it was dismissal time, the bus was crowded. Chen Mobai and Qing Nu could only stand close to each other. She just shook her head and remained silent, seemingly in low spirits.

Finally, they reached Qing Nu’s favorite grilled fish restaurant.

“There are too many people in school that know me. If my classmates see me with you, an outsider, they’re sure to gossip.”

It was only now that Qing Nu spoke, saying something that Chen Mobai found rather strange.

“Are you famous at school?”

“More or less, perhaps one of the most well-known students?”

“Oh.”

Having heard this, Chen Mobai looked at Qing Nu’s beautiful face, which was more visible without her hat and mask, and nodded lightly in response. He supposes that due to Qing Nu’s beauty and the fact that she was under the guidance of a Foundation Establishment Cultivator, her Qi Cultivating Realm might be substantial, and hence her fame.

“I went to the Evergreen Pharmacy today to find you, and Senior Gu said that because you inappropriately used his medicine pool, you’ve violated a taboo of Alchemists. Because of this, he dismissed you from being his disciple. Is this true?”

At this point, having calmed down from his initial upheaval of emotions, Chen Mobai verified the information he knew with Qing Nu.

He was thinking it might just be a joke played by Gu Changfeng since their teacher-student bond seemed deep.

“Yes, it’s true that it is taboo for Alchemists to use other’s medicine furnace and pool. However, there is one exception – between a master and his disciple.” “Usually, a master would give his used medicine furnace and pool to the disciple upon the latter’s graduation, signifying that the disciple was qualified. My master had previously said that when I graduated, he would give me the alchemy equipment used in the pharmacy.”

“He knew I was using his medicine pool to blend medicine liquids the day before yesterday. He didn’t say anything then, but today he suddenly exploded with anger and kicked me out...”

As she spoke, Qing Nu's eyes turned red, and her lips trembled slightly.

"I'm sorry, it might be because of me."

After hearing this, Chen Mobai could only apologize again.

"It'S not about you. It's probably because I haven't been working hard enough lately. The accumulation of teacher's dissatisfactions exploded, leading to today's situation." Qing Nu shook her head, blaming herself. "After finishing the meal, I'll go back to the pharmacy and apologize to my teacher, hoping that he can forgive me."

"Well..."

After hesitating for a while, Chen Mobai ultimately did not tell her that Gu Changfeng had already removed her disciple status from the Heritage Hall of the Ministry of Education.

"What is it?"

"Nothing, let's eat."

The owner obviously recognized the two, but facing the customers, he could only greet them with a smile.

After finishing the meal, they took the bus to the stop nearby the Evergreen Pharmacy.

However, as soon as they alighted, they could feel that something was off.

"This is a police operation, bystanders are not allowed to enter."

They found that the street to the entrance of the Evergreen Pharmacy had been blocked off. Law Enforcement Cultivators, dressed in black and blue uniforms, were roaming around. When they approached, a person immediately stopped them.

"What happened? This is my master's pharmacy."

With a worried look on her face, Qing Nu saw the pharmacy cordoned off. She wanted to rush past but managed to restrain herself in the end.

"Oh, if that is the case, please follow me, I will consult my leader."

After listening to Qing Nu, the Law Enforcement Cultivator nodded and let them through the cordon.

Chen Mobai followed suit, albeit hesitantly. Given that he was in the vicinity, the Law Enforcement Cultivator assumed he was a disciple of Gu Changfeng as well and didn't stop him.

As soon as they stepped inside, they saw Gu Changfeng, handcuffed, being led out.

“Master!”

“Shut up, you're not my disciple anymore.”

Upon seeing Qing Nu, who wanted to rush towards him but was stopped, Gu Changfeng glared at her.

“Are you Gu ChangFeng's disciples?”

At this moment, the leading Law Enforcement Cultivator approached them. He was a middle-aged man with a serious expression. Midsentence, a female Law Enforcement Cultivator with a bob cut handed him a document.

“According to the response from the Heritage Hall of the Education Department, she has indeed been dismissed as a disciple by Gu Changfeng.” After reading the document, the middle-aged man furrowed his brows and looked at Qing Nu, who had widened her eyes in disbelief.

“Take them too. Considering their past master-disciple relationship, she might have been taught the forbidden technique.”

After saying this, he looked at Chen Mobai again, confirmed with his colleagues that he was just a local resident, and his expression instantly softened.

“Leave me your phone number. We might need your assistance later..”

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Chen Mobai hesitated briefly, but eventually decided to accompany Qing Nu to the Law Enforcement Department.

He was just briefly questioned about his relationship with Qing Nu and about what medicine he usually buys from the Evergreen Pharmacy, before being politely invited to the waiting room.

However, Qing Nu's interrogation took much longer. Chen Mobai had been waiting for an hour and she still hadn't come out.

So, he reflected on the words that the Law Enforcement Cultivator had earlier revealed.

Forbidden Technique?

He immediately looked it up online.

Among the gentians, there are some cultivation techniques that are massively powerful, but the aftereffects of cultivating them are extremely severe. These are called Forbidden Techniques, as they are, quite literally, forbidden to practice.

The most recent news about this online was about an incident three years ago. A True Cultivator at the Foundation Establishment stage had tried to break through his bottleneck by using a Forbidden Technique. This had driven him mad, and his out of control spiritual power had attacked the people around him, causing massive casualties among the ordinary cultivators.

Just as he was about to read further, Qing Nu was released.

"Make sure your phone line is open these next few days. You might be contacted at any time to confirm the facts."

!!..

As Qing Nu was leaving, the short-haired female Law Enforcement Cultivator who was in charge of her case reminded her one last time.

"What exactly happened? Did your Master practice a forbidden technique?"

As Chen Mobai left the police department with Qing Nu, he couldn't suppress his curiosity and asked.

"I also do not know, Master only taught me knowledge about alchemy, and never mentioned a word about cultivation."

As Qing Nu said this, her eyes were red, seemingly heavily impacted emotionally. After all, the news that her long-time teacher was a criminal was too heavy for anyone to take.

"I'll escort you home. Try not to overthink it, and get a good rest."

All Chen Mobai could do was to comfort her in this way.

Inside an office on the third floor of the police department, Lan Haitian was looking out the window at Chen Mobai and Qing Nu leaving. He put down the files of both Chen Mobai and Qing Nu, and turned his head to ask Gu Changfeng, who was sitting down under pressure, "You should know the dreadful nature of the Devour God Technique. Everyone among you who has cultivated this Forbidden Technique hasn't met a good end."

"The decision to conceal the Devour God Technique wasn't mine. I was just dragged into it."

Gu Changfeng spoke out.

"I am not asking you about this. I just think that both these young people are good, and I hope they have no connection with the Devour God Technique."

"Don't worry, Qing Nu doesn't know anything about it. Plus, I've already expelled her from my tutelage."

Lan Haitian shook his head and handed Chen Mobai's file to the Law Enforcement Cultivator next to him. Then he scanned Qing Nu's file with his own phone and sent it to a friend for further investigation.

"That's not for you to decide. After all, she was once your disciple, so we still need to supervise her for a period of time."

"You are an enforcer of the law; you should stick to the evidence. Qing Nu has not committed any crime."

"It's precisely because I stick to the evidence that she has been released now. If she were still your disciple, I would have justifiedly arrested both of you."

Upon hearing these words, Gu Changfeng huffed in anger but didn't argue any further.

"Elder Brother Gu, why didn't you choose to flee?"

"You gave your business card to Qing Nu, who forwarded it to me. You wanted to force me to flee, so you would have an excuse to interrogate me with your methods."

Gu Changfeng looked coldly at Lan Haitian and revealed his thoughts. But the latter only responded with a slight smile.

"With your talent, Elder Brother, you would not have reached your current realm if you had been practicing normally. It seems like Forbidden Techniques really do affect the mind."

But at this moment, Gu Changfeng closed his eyes and said no more.

Lan Haitian queried him for a while, but seeing that he would not speak again, gave up on further questioning.

As he left the interrogation room, he removed a “Mind-reading Talisman” pasted on the door to ascertain which parts of Gu Changfeng’s words were true and which were false.

“Mr. Lan, what should we do next?”

Inside the office of the police department, after compiling both Gu Changfeng and Qing Nu’s data, the office worker handed it to Lan Haitian, then waited for his next instruction.

“Just keep him locked up for now. When I leave later, I’ll take him away.”

“Alright, what about his female disciple and that student? Do we need to send people to watch them?”

“I’ll arrange for people.”

“Yes.”

Chen Mobai escorted Qing Nu back home, where she asked him to stay for a while.

This was a single apartment in Red Sandstone City. After asking, Chen Mobai learned that Qing Nu had been orphaned from a young age and had grown up in an orphanage.

When she was fifteen, due to her outstanding abilities, Gu Changfeng had taken her as his disciple when he came to give a lecture at school. She then started working at the Evergreen Pharmacy, and with the help of her master, she had rented this apartment and begun to live alone.

Chen Mobai checked and found that because the house was public rental housing, the facilities were quite basic, with only the minimum supply of Rank-1 lower-grade spiritual energy.

“To me, Master is like a father. But they say my Master practiced Forbidden Techniques and is a bad person.”

As Qing Nu spoke, her eyes turned red again. Perhaps due to the hardships she had experienced from a young age, she was resilient enough to control her emotions, no longer as agitated as at first.

Chen Mobai comforted her some more, and seeing that it was getting late, he made his leave.

Qing Nu got up and sent him out, then she squatted down alone in the empty room, back against the door. After hearing the sound of footsteps outside grow distant, she hugged her knees and buried her head, then started weeping softly.

“Master, this is the report on Gu Changfeng’s case.”

At the top of the Spiritual Peak, in front of the wooden cabin, Lan Haitian respectfully lifted the report he had prepared above his head.

A formidable Divine Sense swept out from within the cabin and instantly read through all the contents of the report.

“The five people who obtained Forbidden Techniques from the Purple Cloud Palace all those years ago have all been captured, right?”

“Yes, Gu Changfeng is the last one. However, I suspect that there are some unseen factors in this matter. Because of the limitations in the means available, I couldn’t extract any useful information.”

After years of investigating cases, Lan Haitian developed an intuition that if a case was completely resolved, he would feel exhilarated and his thoughts would be unimpeded. If not, his mind would be clouded.

“Well, just leave it like this. After all, you have them in your hands. Even if there are hidden facts, you can press them for answers slowly.”

The voice from inside the cabin, Master Shi Qing’s, was calm. It seemed like he didn’t pay much attention to the result of Lan Haitian’s investigation.

“May I ask, Master, how should we deal with Gu Changfeng’s disciple?”

“Hmm? On this kind of matter, do you still need to ask me?”

Upon hearing Master Shi Qing’s slightly displeased voice, Lan Haitian could only smile bitterly. He took out his phone and forwarded some confidential information from the Daoist Academy he had obtained through illegal means to the Master inside the cabin. “This is Qing Nu’s file. Please review it, Master.” “Oh, didn’t expect it to be her.”

After Master Shi Qing finished reading, he expressed surprise..

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“Exactly, that’s why we need your help in adjusting the matter.”

After Lan Haitian finished speaking, the top of the Spiritual Peak fell into silence.

After a while, Shi Qing’s voice responded.

“The students designated for the Jumang Daoist Academy, I can’t intervene. Shang Qing should know about this matter, you go and discuss it with her.”

“I’ve discussed it with her, but her attitude is very firm. I’m afraid we need you to personally speak to her.”

“Understood, summon her in my name.”

After getting approval from Master Shi Qing, Lan Haitian immediately made a phone call to the representative of the Jumang Daoist Academy who was visiting Red Sandstone City.

The call was directly hung up. He awkwardly sent a text message.

In a short while, an ordinary-looking woman with a rustic appearance arrived. She initially gave Lan Haitian a disgusted glance, then respectfully saluted Master Shi Qing inside the hut.

“Shang Qing pays her respects to the Master.”

!!..

“Qing Nu is possibly related to the Forbidden Technique of the Purple Cloud Palace and may have been implanted with a God Seed. Lan Haitian wants to bring her into the Kunpeng Daoist Institute for personal protection. What do you think?”

At Shi Qing’s level of cultivation and status, there was no need to beat around the bush. He went straight to the point.

“It’s only a possibility after all. If there was definite evidence, I would have no objections. Moreover, even if she was really implanted with a God Seed, wouldn’t it be better to send her to the Imperial Medical Academy?”

Shang Qing did not directly object but tactfully expressed her refusal.

“Well, I understand. Let it be then.”

Shi Qing didn’t exert his authority either. After all, what Shang Qing said made sense as things were just a possibility.

Left with no other option, Lan Haitian could only sigh regretfully. He felt that Gu Changfeng had stepped onto a promising path and had secured a good future for his disciple in advance.

However, this leads didn't necessarily have to stop here.

With such thoughts, Lan Haitian and Shang Qing took their leave from the Spiritual Peak.

After dinner, Chen Mobai was planning to search online for more information about the Forbidden Technique when he received a call from an unknown number.

"Hello, this is Lan Haitian."

"How did you get my number?"

Chen Mobai was surprised. He barely knew this man.

"Didn't you leave your number at the police station? I asked them for it."

"Are you a Law Enforcement Cultivator?"

Chen Mobai was startled, thinking that his secret was discovered. However, he soon composed himself, realizing that it must be about Gu Changfeng.

"There's something I might need your help with. I'm at the Evergreen Pharmacy waiting for you. You can come in through the back door. I have already opened it."

After saying that, Lan Haitian hung up. Chen Mobai was taken aback but soon realized that he didn't have any options given Lan Haitian was a Foundation Establishment cultivator and possibly a cultivator from the Law Enforcement Division.

Eventually, he took a deep breath, changed into a black sweatshirt, and told his mom that he was going to take a walk.

Evergreen Pharmacy.

Chen Mobai made his way to the back door according to the instructions. The seal tape had been removed, and the door was slightly ajar.

"Come in."

Lan Haitian's voice sounded from inside. Chen Mobai hesitated for a moment before he pushed open the door and entered.

The familiar yard, the medicine vats placed around, but all the medicinal liquid inside them had been drained out, leaving them empty.

Lan Haitian was sitting on the edge of the vat in the center, swinging his legs and looking up at the gradually darkening sky.

“What matter does the senior want to discuss with me?”

“If Gu Changfeng has cultivated a Forbidden Technique, your little girlfriend might be the intended furnace. Do you want to save her?”

As expected, it wasn't about the secret of the turtle shell he had been called for. As his suspicions were confirmed, Chen Mobai breathed a sigh of relief. However, he didn't want Lan Haitian to know that he was relieved. Luckily he had been wearing a hat ever since he entered. The light was dim, and half of his face was hidden by the hoodie.

“She and I are just ordinary friends. Still, I would definitely want to save her if I could.”

He proceeded according to what Lan Haitian had said.

“Almost all Foundation Establishment Cultivators can't resist the temptation of a Forbidden Technique. Although Gu Changfeng has not demonstrated it yet, when I tested his Divine Consciousness Intensity at the police station, I found that it far exceeded his actual realm. It can be confirmed that he has cultivated the Devour God Technique.”

“And a thing like a Forbidden Technique, once one starts cultivating it, it's very hard to stop. In the end, they will inevitably tread the evil path of preparing a furnace and implanting a God Seed.”

“The final fate of the Furnace is pretty much worse than death.”

Having said that, Lan Haitian, who was sitting on the edge of the medicine vat, lowered his head. Chen Mobai, who was standing at the door, looked at him, suppressing various emotions in his heart and pretending to be reluctant.

“If you were a Law Enforcement Cultivator, I would definitely cooperate. But you're too suspicious, and I don't trust you.”

“I'm not a Law Enforcement Cultivator.” Lan Haitian replied. He jumped off the medicine vat and walked towards Chen Mobai. Just when Chen Mobai's heart was pounding and thought he was about to be threatened, Lan Haitian suddenly spoke again, “I'm from the Regular Law Hall.”

The three Great Halls of the Daoist Academy!

The Xianwu Hall, Regular Law Hall, and Kaiyuan Hall!

Among them, the Regular Law Hall holds all the military power of the Daoist Academy. When necessary, even the Law Enforcement Department falls under their jurisdiction.

“This... do you have a way to prove it?”

Chen Mobai was still pretending to be doubtful. Lan Haitian actually unlocked his phone and showed him his credentials.

“This is my Jurist number in the Regular Law Hall. If you say that I got it made in a fake ID shop, then I really can’t prove it.”

After glancing at it, Chen Mobai pretended to reluctantly concede and nodded.

“Alright, tell me what I should do.”

“You can keep an eye on your friend’s mental state. If she suddenly becomes absent-minded or loses her sanity one day, you can inform me.”

“I observed that Master Qing Nu expelled her from the teacher’s door in advance. She seemed to want to protect her; she doesn’t seem like a bad person.”

“You simply don’t know the temptation of a Forbidden Technique. It can turn a sheep into a wolf.”

Chen Mobai swallowed, and at this moment, Lan Haitian had passed him and was heading towards the back door.

“How should I contact you?”

“Didn’t I call you already? That’s my number, make sure you save it.” Lan Haitian’s voice came from behind. Chen Mobai turned around but he had already disappeared. The final words being, “When you leave, remember to put the seal tape back..”

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Once back home, Chen Mobai pondered over the whole situation.

He then searched for “Devour God Technique” online, but indeed, he found no useful information, as if it was controlled by immortal sects.

He looked up Gu Changfeng only to find out from the police department's announcement that he was suspected of tax evasion and was under administrative detention for investigation.

This seemed to be the universal excuse used by the celestial police department whenever they arrested someone.

Unconvinced, Chen Mobai visited the Water Mansion again and entered "Devour God Technique" in the Auxiliary Cultivation application. As expected, thanks to his Rank-5 user privileges, he saw an intriguing post.

The poster was anonymous.

The title was: "On the Possibility of Refining the Forbidden Technique, Devour God."

Chen Mobai glanced through the post. The writer had not maintained a high standard in her writing. It seemed like the readers were assumed to know the Devour God Technique as the author directly put her conjectures and solutions to refine it.

The post mentioned that the most challenging part after cultivating the Devour God Technique was controlling the suddenly surging Divine Sense, which, if exceeded the limit of the Sea of Knowledge at the Purple Mansion, would lead to mental confusion and even the possibility of exploding and dying.

Chen Mobai thought for a while, then opened the National Library software again and entered the keyword: Devour God.

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Surprisingly, a Cultivation Technique did appear.

"Devour God Technique: Fragment" stated: "A secret technique from the ancient evil path. The practitioner transforms his own Divine Sense into a 'God Seed' and injects it into the Qi Sea of a cultivator. When the cultivator matures, the God Seed follows the Qi, refining itself and returning to the practitioner's Sea of Knowledge, thus eventually attaining Dao."

After reading up to this point, Chen Mobai found it very intriguing and wanted to read more. However, a prompt popped up saying: Insufficient authority, insufficient points, cannot redeem.

Even though his pseudonym, Turtle Hermit, became a Rank-3 user of the National Library after the agent's intervention – equivalent to a Gold Core cultivator, he even had insufficient privileges?

Looking at a footnote in small fonts at the bottom of “Devour God Technique”, as Chen Mobai suspected, it was written that a Rank-4 user could use points to view the complete article.

This Foreign Technique indeed had a high threshold.

Chen Mobai had no choice but to give up.

However, it wasn't a complete loss. He now knew that if he wanted to cultivate the “Devour God Technique”, a cultivator would indeed need a Pill Furnace to plant a God Seed. If Gu Changfeng had cultivated this forbidden technique, then Qing Nu would indeed be the only choice for a Pill Furnace.

In that case, Lan Haitian had indeed given him a kind reminder.

Thinking of the worst possible scenario, Chen Mobai frowned slightly, feeling that he needed to find a way to verify whether Qing Nu's Sea of Knowledge had been implanted with the so-called “God Seed”.

But even if he did verify it, he would not know what to do.

Gu Changfeng was a Foundation Establishment cultivator. If he had truly made some moves on Qing Nu, what could he, a junior cultivator at the Sixth Layer of Qi Cultivation, do?

A sense of powerlessness surged in his heart. This was the first time he had felt a desperate need for power.

If in the past he cultivated merely to fulfil his parents' expectations, and his own satisfaction derived from breaking through, now Chen Mobai had one more reason: to escape from his feelings of powerlessness in the face of Lan Haitian.

He sat straight on a cushion in the Water Mansion, took out a tube of Qi-replenishing Spirit Water that Qing Nu had prepared, stared at it for a while, and with a firm look in his eyes, uncorked the bottle and drank it all at once.

For seven consecutive days, Chen Mobai attended school, caught up with his previous coursework using his newly cultivated Divine Sense, cultivated his mind in the school's cultivation room, chatted and confided with Qing Nu after school, and cultivated in the Water Mansion after returning home. In between, he read the books he had bought from Southstream Market.

His knowledge, Cultivation Level, and even Divine Sense were all steadily improving.

The Water Mansion...

After Chen Mobai completed his cultivation for the day, sensing the increasingly round and three-dimensional vortex of spiritual power in his Dantian Qi Sea, he nodded slightly in satisfaction.

However, when he checked the unopened Qi-replenishing Spirit Water in his bag, he found that only one bottle was left, which made him frown in distress.

During this period, Qing Nu had come out of her depression thanks to his companionship and comfort, and she had become even more hardworking than before.

She believed that her master was wronged, and that he expelled her from the sect to protect her.

So, she wanted to become stronger, in order to clear the false charges against her imprisoned master.

She took the initiative to offer help to Chen Mobai in alchemy, to earn tuition fees.

According to her ideas, she sought to enter the Great Dao Academy, improve herself, and make it easier to clear her master's name. Chen Mobai naturally encouraged Qing Nu's ideas, but also tactfully mentioned that failing to get into the four major Daoist academies was not a big deal, as the top ten colleges were also good.

To this, Qing Nu simply smiled.

Then they both returned to the topic of producing Qi-replenishing Spirit Water.

Before Gu Changfeng went in, he annulled Qing Nu's master-apprentice status at the Education Department's Inheritance Hall, so she could not inherit the things from the Evergreen Pharmacy. Things like medicine pots were fine because they were not expensive. Buying a small cold brewing machine, with a slower efficiency in producing Rank-1 elixirs, was just adequate.

But only the medicine pond and Pill Furnace were indispensable, and pricey key tools.

Usually, alchemists would find a spiritual spring for the Medicine Pond, then spend a long time nurturing it with the Water Method Alchemy, to slowly raise its grade.

The medicine pond of the Evergreen Pharmacy was fed by the Spiritual Spring from the Immortal Gate Water Bureau, and the cost of the Spiritual Spring alone required tens of thousands of Good Deed Points a year.

There was even less need to mention the Pill Furnace, many alchemists would find an Artifact Refiner to custom-make one according to their own habits.

Qing Nu had an intermediate grade Rank-1 Pill Furnace, which was a gift from Gu Changfeng when she refined her first kind of elixir. It was just enough to produce Qi-replenishing Spirit Water.

The problem now was to find a medicine pond.

Qing Nu had been exploring various pharmacies in Red Sandstone City after school these days, hoping to rent a spare one that hadn't been used for a long time.

Chen Mobai had become accustomed to the rapid progress of cultivation after taking Qi-replenishing Spirit Water. If this type of spiritual medicine were to run out, and he had to revert back to the slow pace of refining Spirit Qi he was used to, the contrast would be too great, and he would not be able to accept it.

As he was preparing to return to the city, Chen Mobai noticed a thick pile of spirit talismans in his bag.

These were the talismans he had initially prepared to get rich in the Southstream Market. Sadly, reality was cruel, and he was a bit thin-skinned. After not making any business for a few days, he felt disheartened. And with Gu Changfeng's incident, he had too many other things on his hands, so he didn't bother to go anymore.

"It's been a while, let's go check it out tomorrow."

With the idea of gaining experience, the next day Chen Mobai once again dressed in traditional clothes with a cloth bag hanging from his waist, heading to the Southstream Market which he hadn't visited for almost half a month.

He didn't see Qi Er at the entrance. Maybe he had business today.

Thinking so, Chen Mobai first strolled around the market place, found no change from before, and then walked to his own stall.

The three people who used to have stalls nearby were now missing one. Only a bearded youth and a woman in a yellow dress remained. The other one might have made enough money and rented a cave dwelling for cultivation.

Chen Mobai greeted the two stall neighbours without noticing their weird expressions, laid out his blanket elegantly, then proficiently laid out the spirit talismans one by one.

"Fellow Daoist, how much are you selling this Green Arrow Talisman for?"

The woman in the yellow dress came over and asked after he finished setting up..

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“One thousand taels of gold.”

Chen Mobai has done a survey in the Fang Market, the average price of a Rank-1 Lower-grade talisman is 100 taels of gold, the average price of a Rank-1 Intermediate-grade talisman is 1,000 taels of gold, and the average price of a Rank-1 High-grade talisman is one Spirit Stone.

So he instinctively shouted an average price.

After saying this, he realized why he hadn't had any business before, this price didn't set out, let others come to ask, business naturally will not be good.

“How many do you have, I'll buy them all.

The woman in the yellow shirt brightened her eyes after hearing this, pointing to the “Green Arrow Talisman” that Chen Mobai had laid out on the stall.

Chen Mobai had six left, but her words made him suspect, dare not sell all of them.

“Only two left.”

“Here, this is the gold ticket.”

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The woman in the yellow shirt took out two large tickets from her satchet. Chen Mobai hesitated for a moment, but since he had already spoken and set up his stall here, he naturally could not break his word.

He took another one from his bag which was hidden along with the one on the carpet and gave them both to her.

■“My name is Zhuo Ming, I'm a Talisman Maker, we can exchange more in the future.”

After saying this, the woman in the yellow shirt took two Green Arrow Talismans, then packed up her stall, carrying her belongings, and left.

Chen Mobai was in a fog.

At this time, another thin man with a long beard also came up, he squatted on Chen Mobai's stall and picked over the remaining Rank-1 Lower-grade Spirit

Talismans.

“Those Green Arrow Talismans of yours, she could sell it for two to three thousand taels per piece.”

The long-bearded youth suddenly said something, Chen Mobai touched his chin, completely unaware of what had happened.

“A few days ago, that guy Qi Er followed a team of Loose cultivators to hunt a snow rhino in Yun Meng Ze, he used a Rank-1 Intermediate-grade talisman, which broke the legs of this magical beast and made a great contribution.”

After he finished, Chen Mobai finally understood what was going on.

It turns out it was because of the Green Arrow Talisman that he gave to Qi Er. So when she saw him finally coming to set up a stall, Zhuo Ming couldn't bear to make the first move and picked up a loss.

“How many do you have left, pack them all for me.

The long-bearded youth kindly explained it to Chen Mobai first, then smilingly pointed to the five Rank-1 Lower-grade talismans on the carpet.

Chen Mobai hesitated for a moment. Originally according to his pricing, it should be 100 taels per piece, but now it seems that his talismans have made a name for themselves through Qi Er, should he raise the price?

“May I ask for your name, fellow Daoist?”

“Lu Shu.”

The long-bearded youth waved his hand and reported his name.

“To be honest, I have no idea what price should I set for my talismans in the Fang Market. Could you please give me some advice? These five are for consultation fees.”

Lu Shu obviously did not expect Chen Mobai to have this idea, he was stunned for a moment and then exclaimed in admiration.

“Where do you come from as a Loose cultivator, looking at your cultivation level is not bad, as a Rank-6 Qi Cultivator, you should be well versed in all these.”

‘When I was young, I accidentally saw a Cultivation Technique carved on the rock wall in a cave, and I accidentally cultivated to the present. I just found this Southstream Market recently. Regrettably, I didn’t even know about the existence of Spirit Stones before.’

Chen Mobai’s words prompted Lu Shu to nod slightly, then he was not polite, picked up the five Rank-1 Lower-grade talismans on the carpet, asked one by one about their effects and power, and started to set the price.

“This one is a Coiling Talisman...”

The two were asking questions and answering them, and it took nearly half an hour.

■I made a profit after all. if these five talismans were sold on the island of Yun Meng Ze, at least it would be a thousand taels of gold. I’ll give you this book, consider it as my return gift.”

Lu Shu took out a book from his carpet and threw it to Chen Mobai. It was called “Insights into Talisman Making by Divine Wood Sect”.

“Judging by the style of your talismans, you should have a Wood Spirit Root. This Divine Wood Sect is a premier Talisman Making sect in the Eastern Wilderness. They recruit a group of disciples every ten years. As you have reached the sixth level of Qi Cultivation at such a young age, if you familiarize yourself with these Insights into Talisman Making in advance, you might be able to become a disciple of Divine Wood Sect, and acquire the Foundation Building Pill.”

At first, Chen Mobai thought this book would be of no use to him. Even if he wanted to learn Talisman Making, he would focus on the skills of the Earth Element Star. But after hearing Lu Shu’s words, he was astonished and couldn’t believe it.

“Foundation Building Pill? Does Divine Wood Sect give Foundation Building Pills to their disciples?”

“Of course, otherwise how could they be a major sect in the Eastern Wilderness? It’s not just because they have a Gold Core elder in the sect who can allow the Rank-3 Alchemy Master from the Back to Sky Valley to share the Foundation Building Pills they make with them, right!

Lu Shu misunderstood Chen Mobai’s meaning. His point was, isn’t the main medicine of this Foundation Building Pill better for refining Golden Elixir Spiritual Medicines? Why would they waste it by refining Foundation Building Pills?

But soon, Chen Mobai came around, isn’t this even better!

This Tianhe Realm is not the Earth Element Star, perhaps this place is rich in resources and spiritual medicines, maybe they just want to waste it!

He immediately picked up the book "Insights into Talisman Making by Divine Wood Sect" and asked Lu Shu when they would recruit disciples next time.

"If it's ten years a period, it should be next year.

Lu Shu is not sure, after all, he plans to learn the Puppetry Technique at Liu Jia Mountain. The reason why he sells talismans is just for livelihood.

"Thank you."

Chen Mobai stood up and thanked Lu Shu. The latter was a bit puzzled about why he was so formal, but he just nodded, accepting the gratitude.

After earning five talismans with a second-hand book, Lu Shu packed up his stall, saying that he would go to Yun Meng Ze to try his luck, and see if he could hunt some magical beasts.

Compared to setting up a stall in the Fang Market, hunting magical beasts is the legitimate way for Tianhe Realm Cultivators to earn resources.

A Rank-1 Lower-grade spirit beast, selling it to Sky Meal Building, as long as the meat is preserved perfectly, at least it's worth a Spirit Stone.

It's because of this, with a Green Arrow Talisman, Qi Er followed the team to hunt a snow rhino, got 2 Spirit Stones as the share, it can be said to be a windfall, a huge profit.

After Zhuo Ming and Lu Shu left, Chen Mobai set up his stall for a while. Not long later, Fang market Cultivators who heard the news rushed over and bought all of his nearly hundred Rank-1 Lower-grade talismans. After getting the tips from Lu Shu, Chen Mobai raised the price of each talisman to 200 taels of gold.

After selling out, together with the gold tickets given by Zhuo Ming, he went to the Five Elements Sect's silver shop, converted it into two Spirit Stones.

With full harvest, he left the Fang Market and returned to Water Mansion. He took out the "introduction to the Major Sects of the Eastern Wilderness" he had purchased earlier, and carefully read the chapter about Divine Wood Sect. Divine Wood Sect, the Wood branch of the Five Elements Sect, branched out from the Five Elements Sect fifty years ago when the Hun Yuan Elder passed away. The sect is based in Giant Tree Ridge, with a Rank-4 High-grade Spirit Vein. The exclusive Cultivation Technique is "Everlasting Longevity Scripture". After cultivation, every breakthrough in a major realm can extend one's life by one Jiazi.

This Cultivation Technique is good for longevity..

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## **Chapter 60 - 60: 60 Ren Water Thunder Method 1**

[ 1,431 words ]

### **Chapter 60 - 60: 60 Ren Water Thunder Method 1**

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The Eastern Wilderness has nineteen nations.

In total, there are seven major sects of Immortal Cultivation, namely Back to Sky Valley, Five Elements Sect, Golden Cliff, Divine Wood Sect, Liu Jia Mountain, Mountain Shaker Peak, and Snow-Blowing Palace.

Among them, the Five Elements Sect was once the overlord of the whole Eastern Wilderness. However, after the only Nascent Soul elder 'sat into dissolution' fifty years ago, a split occurred in the lineage of the five veins. As a result, Golden Cliff and Divine Wood Sect broke away.

But even a skinny camel is still bigger than a horse, the Five Elements Sect remains the strongest force in the Eastern Wilderness.

In the entire Eastern Wilderness, these seven major sects monopolize the supply of Foundation Building Pills. To get these pills, all the remaining Loose Cultivators, Cultivation families, or even heirs of minor schools have to ask the seven major sects.

Most Loose Cultivators tend to join these sects directly, becoming disciples. Once their contributions within the sect are sufficient, they can exchange for a Foundation Building Pill.

On the other hand, heirs of Cultivation families and minor sects can exchange precious resources like Spirit Stones and Spiritual Medicine for the pills.

Every once in a while, the seven major sects release a batch of Foundation Building Pills for the lower Cultivation powers.

In addition to this, there are also markets set up by major foreign commercial associations. From time to time, these markets leak some Foundation Building Pills into the market with the intention of opening up the market in the Eastern Wilderness.

The Yun Country where Southstream Market is located was once a subsidiary power of the Five Elements Sect. After the Divine Wood Sect split off, it became a border area between the two sects. After several clashes, the two sects each raised two Cultivation families. While controlling secular forces, they also slowly harvested the Cultivation resources of Yun Country.

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In this process, the two major sects come to Yun Country every ten years to enroll into their ranks any Cultivation seedlings who possess spiritual roots, ensuring their absolute position.

The Five Elements Sect was originally the supreme emperor of Yun Country, thus it has deep roots among the common folk. Therefore, whenever a child' with Spiritual Roots is found, their parents generally send them to the Five Elements Sect instead of the Divine Wood Sect.

In contrast, the Divine Wood Sect's leader cleverly realized they couldn't compete with the Five Elements Sect in secular competition. Therefore, they shifted their attention to Loose Cultivators. Not only do the recruited disciples have some foundation which saves a part of the spirit stones during training, but it also saves time otherwise wasted in searching among the common people.

The only disadvantage is that the characters of Loose Cultivators are inconsistent, unlike the disciples of the Five Elements Sect who are brought in and trained from childhood, making them more reliable.

Of course, this doesn't mean the Five Elements Sect doesn't recruit Loose Cultivators. They do, albeit strictly. Furthermore, it is rumored that joining as a Loose Cultivator involves a heart-questioning and soul-examining process to ensure that those who join do not have ulterior motives.

After reading the introduction to the Divine Wood Sect, Chen Mobai then read the one for the Five Element Sect. Comparing the notes in the Water Mansion, he vaguely realized why Liu Yanpei had disappeared fifty years ago and never' returned.

Fifty years ago, the only Nascent Soul senior in the Eastern Wilderness, the elder Hun Yuan of the Five Elements sect 'sat into dissolution', after which two major factions of the gold and wood veins split. Undoubtedly, it must have been a chaotic time filled with bloody strife.

It is likely that Liu Yanpei was called back to the Five Elements Sect due to the disorder and possibly fell victim to an internal struggle.

For the next twenty years, the Five Elements Sect intensely battled with the split-off Golden Cliff and Divine Wood Sect. During the war, this Rank-2 Spirit Vein Water Mansion with no value was naturally forgotten.

If explained in this way, things basically make sense.”

Sitting in the Water Mansion, Chen Mobai consolidated the information he had read over the past few days from the ‘Introduction to the Major Sects of the Eastern Wilderness’, ‘Distribution Map of Cultivation Powers in Yun Country’, ‘Biography of Donghuang Cultivators’ and so forth, by forming a timeline in his mind. Through this, he was able to analyze the reason why this Water Mansion was now vacant.

“But over the past twenty years, the Five Element Sect acknowledges the split of Golden Cliff and Divine Wood Sect, forming the current power structure of the seven major sects in the Eastern Wilderness. The Water Mansion must be recorded in the internal documents of the Five Element Sect. Would they come to reclaim it?”

Chen Mobai realized a loophole: the reason why Liu Yanpei had been here to farm fish and grow bamboo was mainly to meet the dietary preferences of a Gold Core elder in the upper echelons.

The Five Elements Sect might overlook this small Rank-2 Spiritual Land, but what if this Gold Core elder suddenly got the munchies and remembered it?

Chen Mobai now hopes that this Gold Core elder either died in the internal strife of the Five Elements Sect fifty years ago, or was seriously injured and needed recuperation, thus forgetting about this fish-growing, bamboo-growing Water Mansion.

However, with this thought in his mind, Chen Mobai started to feel uneasy in what he had initially considered a safe Water Mansion.

“After all, this is the Spirit Vein of the Five Elements Sect. If they see me, an outsider, occupying it, they definitely won’t be pleased. Maybe, I should try to join the Five Elements Sect!”

Chen Mobai had already developed some affection for the secret base in the Water Mansion and was somewhat reluctant to leave.

However, joining the Five Elements Sect is not easy, being subject to the heart-questioning process could reveal the existence of the Ground Origin Star and might even lead to a war between the two worlds.

When he thought of the significant casualty numbers in the wars of previous eras recorded in the Immortal Sect's history books, Chen Mobai felt it best to be careful. For the sake of avoiding a war which could cause widespread death and destruction, resulting in rivers of blood, he decided to join the Divine Wood Sect which is known for lenient recruitment of Loose Cultivators.

"However, before leaving, I should try to open these two auxiliary temples to see what's inside."

Having clarified his short-term goal in the Tianhe Realm – to join the Divine Wood Sect, and his long-term goal – to obtain the Foundation Building Pills, Chen Mobai rose to his feet, turning to look at the two auxiliary temples sealed by thunder prohibitions.

The power of these two prohibitions has reached Rank-i top-grade, representing the strongest measures of Liu Yanpei who was at the ninth level of Qi Cultivation.

This method is called "Ren Water Thunder Method."

This is also the supplementary technique of Blackwater Cultivation, which Chen Mobai found out from the cultivation notes left by Liu Yanpei in the study hall.

The old man who died in the Water Mansion might really be a disciple of Liu Yanpei, because his complete Blackwater Cultivation matched the descriptions in Liu Yanpei's notes for the most part, except for this powerful "Ren Water Thunder Method," which requires reaching the ninth level of Qi Cultivation and had not been passed down.

The notes Liu Yanpei left behind about his practice of the Blackwater Cultivation also mentioned that he once saved a young man from drowning nearby and seeing he had spiritual roots, took him in as his nominal disciple to alleviate his tiresome duties of raising fish and growing bamboo.

This "Ren Water Thunder Method" is a prohibition formed by drawing spiritual energy from the Water Vein. It's not connected to the large formation so one only needs a persistent attack with Spirit Talismans to wear down the power of the prohibition until it disappears.

Originally, Chen Mobai thought that since everything in the Water Mansion would eventually belong to him, he didn't have to hurry. He planned to cultivate a powerful technique when he reached the late stages of Qi Cultivation and then slowly break the prohibition.

However, it now seems that he may have to spend some money to buy some powerful Spirit Talismans or Magic Artifacts.

Chen Mobai knew that in these auxiliary halls, one must definitely be growing Jade Bamboo. But he didn't know whether it had died or grown more luxuriant after being unattended for fifty years..

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