

Doctor 1471

Chapter 1471: Han Feng'er

At dusk, in Flaming Sun City at the "Fortune Inn".

Fang Bai and Ren Tianfu sat in a superior guest room at the inn, their brows furrowed, silent without a word.

The atmosphere in the room seemed stifling and oppressive.

"Fang Bai, do you think that disciple of the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion's External Courtyard will come to meet us?"

After a moment, Ren Tianfu finally broke the silence in the room and asked.

"She should come!"

Fang Bai thought for a moment and said, "That disciple of the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion sold Palace Master Li's axe so cheaply to her cousin, perhaps partly due to personal relations, but it also shows she is very lacking in cultivation resources. If she learns her cousin only shared a little bit of news about the axe with us, and exchanged it for more than ten bottles of Spirit Pills, then she might be tempted knowing she could gain more..."

"Hmm... That makes sense..."

Ren Tianfu deeply agreed with Fang Bai's words and nodded, speaking no more.

"Someone's here!"

A few dozen breaths later, Ren Tianfu suddenly stood up.

Fang Bai smiled gently and stood up as well.

In fact, Fang Bai had already sensed the Martial Artist Aura of the errand boy and another woman, and with his outer-released Divine Sense, he had also clearly observed the female Martial Artist's cultivation level and appearance.

"Creak!"

A soft sound came as the errand boy led his cousin to the door; Fang Bai opened the door wide.

"My cousins, my cousin is here!"

The errand boy nodded to Ren Tianfu and Fang Bai, then introduced them to each other.

The female Martial Artist's name was Han Feng'er; she looked about twenty-seven or twenty-eight, with almond-shaped eyes and peach-like cheeks, an exquisite figure, and quite a beautiful appearance, with a few enchanting and seductive charms in her eyebrows, highly damaging to men.

Han Feng'er appeared frail and delicate, worthy of sympathy, but she was a disciple of the External Courtyard of the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion, possessing a mid-level Foundation Establishment realm, comparable to Ren Tianfu.

As for Han Feng'er's cousin, the errand boy, he was named Xiang Tian.

Normally in Flaming Sun City, Han Feng'er took good care of this cousin Xiang Tian, occasionally selling him Spiritual Artifacts or unusual materials she did not really need at a low price, or commissioning him to take them to his master's booth to sell.

Han Feng'er had recently been attempting to break through to the high-level Foundation Establishment realm to enter the Inner Court, but as a disciple of Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion's External Courtyard, the cultivation resources she received each month were far from what she needed, so she had to find ways herself.

Han Feng'er's outstanding appearance, graceful figure, uncommon talent, along with her naturally alluring charm, made her popular among the male disciples of the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion.

And Han Feng'er has used her advantages, employing various methods, even sacrificing her body to obtain many cultivation resources from numerous fellow senior and junior brothers.

A few days ago, after a tryst with Yang Fei, a Core Disciple of Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion, Han Feng'er received several Spiritual Artifacts from Yang Fei, including an axe with specks of blood on it.

Although those Spiritual Artifacts were good, Han Feng'er did not need them at all, so she sold them cheaply to her cousin Xiang Tian. Xiang Tian then took the artifacts to his proprietor's stall and placed them there, unintentionally discovered by Ren Tianfu and Fang Bai.

This afternoon, Xiang Tian found his cousin Han Feng'er, telling her Ren Tianfu and Fang Bai were investigating information about the axe and said they could trade information for cultivation resources. Han Feng'er was quite moved and thus came over to see for herself, led by her cousin Xiang Tian.

As for whether leaking the axe's origin would cause trouble for Core Disciple Yang Fei, Han Feng'er couldn't care less.

Even though she often had trysts with Yang Fei, they were merely using each other, with no feelings involved at all.

Therefore, as long as the other party could offer cultivation resources that moved her, Han Feng'er would betray Yang Fei without hesitation, not caring about Yang Fei's fate.

Besides, Yang Fei, a dignified Core Disciple of Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion, possessing high-level Foundation Establishment power, and son of Elder Yang Dong, who would dare trouble him?

"Please come in and talk!"

Han Feng'er might merely be an External Courtyard disciple, but her cultivation level was not inferior to Ren Tianfu at all, and with the backing of Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion, how would Ren Tianfu dare

disrespect her? After a few polite exchanges, he respectfully invited Han Feng'er and Xiang Tian into the guest room.

"This axe was given to me by a senior brother. As for who that senior brother is... heh, if you can't offer cultivation resources that move me, I won't tell!"

After entering the guest room and seeing Ren Tianfu take out the axe to inquire about its origins, Han Feng'er didn't beat around the bush, directly asking for benefits.

Recently, it was critical for her to break through and advance in rank, and she needed cultivation resources desperately.

Ren Tianfu frowned and asked, "What do you want?"

He knew Han Feng'er would demand exorbitantly and was worried about what to do if he could not offer such cultivation resources.

Han Feng'er thought for a moment and said, "If I could have a bottle of Holy Grade medium Creation Pill, that would be best... Of course, you're from small sects, where could you get such Spirit Pills? I won't hope for it! Alright then, a hundred bottles of Holy Grade lower Gathering Yuan Pill, plus a hundred thousand Holy Grade lower-grade Spirit Stones!"

A Holy Grade medium Creation Pill could greatly increase Han Feng'er's success rate in advancing, which she hoped for the most.

But this grade of Creation Pill, even Elder Yang Dong of the pavilion, would find it extremely difficult to make one. How could these Martial Artists from small sects obtain it?

"That much..."

Although Ren Tianfu knew the other party would demand exorbitantly, he did not expect such a high request and involuntarily gasped.

One hundred bottles of Holy Grade lower Gathering Yuan Pill, ten thousand Holy Grade lower Spirit Stones, might be nothing for the higher-ups of Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion, but for Ren Tianfu, a steward of Lingxu Palace, it was a whole year's worth of cultivation needs.

Moreover, Ren Tianfu's main purpose in coming to Flaming Sun City was to accompany Fang Bai and others to broaden their horizons and gain insights, and he did not bring so many cultivation resources with him.

"Too much?"

Han Feng'er sneered slightly, swishing her sleeve in displeasure, and said coldly, "If you can't provide them, I'll leave! My time is precious; every moment I stay here is a moment wasted!"

"How about half... half less? I really don't have that much!"

Ren Tianfu wiped the sweat from his forehead and almost pleaded.

"If it's not enough, scrape it together! When it's enough, then come find me! Farewell!"

Han Feng'er said, lifting her foot to walk out.

"Isn't it just a bottle of Holy Grade medium Creation Pill? I promise you!"

As Han Feng'er reached the doorway, preparing to step out, a clear voice suddenly sounded from behind.

Han Feng'er's lips curled into a smile; she knew the speaker was the external courtyard disciple of Lingxu Palace who came with Ren Tianfu, a very handsome young Martial Artist.

Chapter 1472: Clever Person

"Little brother, do you have mid-grade Holy Creation Pills?"

Han Feng'er turned around, looked at Fang Bai, and asked with a smile.

Facing Ren Tianfu, the stern middle-aged man, Han Feng'er had no friendly expressions, but towards Fang Bai, the handsome young martial artist, she felt a liking and didn't mind exchanging a few words with him.

However, regarding Fang Bai's previous words, Han Feng'er was dismissive, thinking this young martial artist was boasting.

What a joke, she, a dignified External Courtyard disciple of the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion and a mid-stage Foundation Establishment expert, couldn't come up with a bottle of mid-grade Holy Creation Pills, let alone a mere half-step Foundation Establishment disciple of a small sect?

Meeting Han Feng'er's gaze, Fang Bai said earnestly, "We can give you mid-grade Holy Creation Pills! But on the condition that you provide at least two batches of ingredients needed to refine this pill!"

Han Feng'er was taken aback, then giggled and said, "Little brother, tell me, where did you get the Creation Pills?"

"I can refine them myself!"

Fang Bai pointed to his own nose.

It was only then that Ren Tianfu recalled that back at Lingxu Palace, Fang Bai had once serendipitously refined a mid-grade Holy Marrow Cleansing Pill, healing Sun Lin's injuries, causing quite a stir throughout Lingxu Palace.

Ren Tianfu thought that alchemy should be generally similar, and since Fang Bai could refine a mid-grade Holy Marrow Cleansing Pill, he naturally had hope of refining a Creation Pill of the same grade.

Even if Fang Bai's refining of that mid-grade Holy Marrow Cleansing Pill had a lot of chance, who could say he wouldn't succeed this time?

"Yes, yes, Fang Bai is an alchemist who has refined mid-grade Holy Marrow Cleansing Pills before. I can attest to this!"

Ren Tianfu said excitedly.

"You... truly know how to refine spirit pills?"

Han Feng'er looked at Fang Bai with disbelief.

Alchemists, like artifact refiners, are extremely special entities. To become an alchemist, one usually needs to possess both fire spirit energy and wood spirit qi, even if not having a dual attribute innate spiritual root, at least being able to cultivate two techniques simultaneously.

But from Fang Bai, Han Feng'er only sensed fire spirit energy, not wood spirit qi, and Fang Bai's cultivation level was only half-step Foundation Establishment. If he could refine a mid-grade Holy Spirit Pill, it would indeed be a miracle.

"Whether I can refine a pill, just try and you'll know?"

Fang Bai responded with a smile.

"It's true! It is true! If you don't believe me, you can go to Lingxu Palace and inquire! If I say a single false word, may heaven strike me with lightning, and let me die a horrible death!"

Ren Tianfu was more anxious than Fang Bai. To make Han Feng'er believe that Fang Bai could refine pills, he made a solemn vow on the spot.

Upon hearing Ren Tianfu's oath, Han Feng'er somewhat believed, turning her gaze back to Fang Bai, frowning, and asked, "What is your pill completion rate? I want to hear the truth because this is crucial for me!"

Fang Bai thought for a moment and asked, "What's the maximum number of ingredient batches you can provide?"

Han Feng'er stretched out four fingers, saying, "At most four! I must reserve some as backup! Otherwise, if you fail in pill refining, it would be difficult for me to gather the ingredients again!"

"Hmm, four batches will suffice..."

Fang Bai extended his hand towards Han Feng'er and said, "Give me four batches of ingredients! Come in the early morning tomorrow to get the spirit pill!"

"Early morning?"

Han Feng'er frowned and said, "You can refine the spirit pill overnight?"

In Han Feng'er's knowledge, even the best alchemists would require three to five days to refine a batch of mid-grade Holy Spirit Pills.

Even Elder Yang from their Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion, the most skilled alchemist, could not do that.

Although Han Feng'er had long possessed the ingredients to refine a mid-grade Holy Creation Pill, she never asked Elder Yang to help with the alchemy because she knew how greedy Elder Yang was. Her precious ingredients would likely be claimed by him under the pretext of "alchemy fail".

Therefore, Han Feng'er thought to seek help outside the sect for alchemy.

However, alchemists were rare as they were, and those capable of refining high-grade spirit pills were even rarer, making it extremely difficult for Han Feng'er to seek another alchemist.

Han Feng'er meeting Fang Bai and Ren Tianfu was also with a mindset to give it a try.

Regarding Fang Bai's claim of refining a mid-grade Holy Spirit Pill overnight, Han Feng'er couldn't believe it.

"My pill refining speed has always been faster than others."

Facing Han Feng'er's doubtful gaze, Fang Bai smiled and said, "So whether it succeeds or fails, a result will be apparent within a day."

"Alright then!"

Han Feng'er, straightforward as ever, handed over the four batches of ingredients to Fang Bai, then said solemnly, "I hope you can deliver as you promise. Otherwise..."

Fang Bai interrupted her, grinning, "I know, this is your Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion's territory. If I can't refine the spirit pill, I'll not be walking out of Flaming Sun City, right?"

Han Feng'er giggled and said, "You're a smart person, so I don't need to speak harshly. See you early tomorrow. I hope to hear your good news! As for the origin of that axe, I will tell you once I receive the spirit pill!"

She came and went as she pleased, disappearing quickly from Fang Bai and Ren Tianfu's view, leaving Xiang Tian behind under the pretense of acting as a messenger between both parties.

Fang Bai and Ren Tianfu both understood that Xiang Tian staying as a messenger was a guise while monitoring them was the real intention.

After all, with Han Feng'er's valuable four batches of ingredients at stake, she couldn't fully trust Fang Bai and Ren Tianfu. With Xiang Tian guarding, any incident could be relayed to Han Feng'er immediately.

"Fang Bai, how confident are you?"

Watching Han Feng'er leave, Ren Tianfu turned and asked Fang Bai urgently.

Fang Bai's success in helping Han Feng'er refine the spirit pill not only affected the whereabouts of Palace Master Li Sanfu and the two elders but also concerned the safety of the two of them.

Although Han Feng'er left with a smile, Ren Tianfu knew that if Fang Bai failed in alchemy and wasted the four batches of ingredients, that woman would surely become ruthless, resulting in big trouble for the two of them.

Fang Bai smiled noncommittally and said, "I can't say how confident I am right now; I can only give it my best shot."

Pausing for a moment, he continued, "I'll start refining the pills now. Steward Ren, Brother Xiang, please stand guard outside the door for me. No one is allowed in without my call!"

Ren Tianfu and Xiang Tian knew that an alchemist needed a very quiet environment during alchemy, so they nodded solemnly, exited the room, and closed the door, guarding outside like two guardians.

"With four batches of ingredients, I can refine four bottles of mid-grade Holy Creation Pills. I'll give Han Feng'er one bottle and keep three for myself. Hmm, I'll make a small profit, not bad!"

Once Ren Tianfu and Xiang Tian were outside, Fang Bai placed the four batches of ingredients on the table next to him, a smile blossoming on his lips as he mused that being an alchemist or artifact refiner, providing services for others would yield faster and greater gains in cultivation resources.

Chapter 1473: One Must Not Be Without a Guarded Heart

Actually, with Fang Bai's current cultivation level, refining Holy Grade medium Spirit Pills is simply effortless, and the pill formation rate is certainly one hundred percent.

The reason Fang Bai accepted Han Feng'er's four sets of herbs was merely to take some alchemy compensation.

Overnight, Fang Bai used the Five Elements Origin Qi Cauldron to refine all four sets of herbs into Spirit Pills, which he placed into four jade bottles. He stored three of them in his Space Ring and the remaining one on the table in the room, waiting for Han Feng'er to pick it up the next day.

Ren Tianfu and Xiang Tian guarded the door side by side, holding their breath and staying silent to avoid disturbing Fang Bai's alchemy process.

During this time, Ren Tianfu couldn't resist his curiosity and released his Divine Sense, wanting to investigate Fang Bai's alchemy situation, only to find his observation blocked by an invisible wall, rendering him unable to perceive what was happening in the room.

Ren Tianfu found this strange and pondered that it might be a unique concealment method of an Alchemist to prevent others from peeping into their alchemy techniques.

Seeing this, Ren Tianfu gave up, dutifully guarding the door with Xiang Tian to protect Fang Bai.

In the first half of the night, Fang Bai finished refining the four herb sets. The latter half was spent meditating cross-legged on a Spirit Stone Bed, recovering some spiritual energy lost in refining the Spirit Pills.

The next morning, Fang Bai sensed Han Feng'er's aura approaching from afar, and only then did he emerge from his cultivation state, slowly closing his eyes, exhaling a breath of foul air, as a spark flashed and vanished in his eyes.

"Come in!"

As Han Feng'er reached the door, without waiting to knock, Fang Bai stepped off the Spirit Stone Bed and sat at the table where the Spirit Pill was placed.

The door opened, Han Feng'er entered first, followed by Xiang Tian, with Ren Tianfu bringing up the rear.

"Fang Bai, how is it? Did you refine the Creation Pill?"

Ren Tianfu was the first to speak, with a look of mixed anxiety and anticipation.

The eyes of Han Feng'er and Xiang Tian also fell on Fang Bai, but the next moment, Han Feng'er noticed the jade bottle on the table, her heart moved, and her eyes suddenly brightened.

"The refinement succeeded, but..."

Fang Bai paused here, showing a look of regret.

"What is it but?"

Ren Tianfu's heart skipped a beat, his nerves tense, his first thought being that although Fang Bai had refined a Holy Grade Spirit Pill, the grade might not meet Han Feng'er's requirements.

Such a result would be tantamount to a failure in alchemy, and Han Feng'er wouldn't agree.

Han Feng'er's heart was also racing wildly. Although she appeared more calm than Ren Tianfu, her eyes closely monitored the changes in Fang Bai's facial expressions, attempting to catch any valuable insight.

However, Fang Bai's face was as serene as a still water surface, from which she could discern nothing.

The atmosphere in the room solidified for a few breaths before Fang Bai lightly sighed and slowly said, "But with four sets of herbs, I could only refine one bottle of Holy Grade medium Creation Pill."

"Phew..."

As he spoke, Ren Tianfu, Han Feng'er, and Xiang Tian simultaneously let out a breath.

Ren Tianfu wiped the sweat from his forehead, only then realizing his legs were somewhat weak, and the clothing on his back had been soaked with sweat.

"Is that bottle on the table the Spirit Pill you refined?"

Han Feng'er pointed at the jade bottle on the table, suppressing her inner excitement and thrill, with her eyes flashing.

With this Holy Grade medium Creation Pill, her hope of advancing to Foundation Establishment high rank and becoming an Inner Court disciple of the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion was greatly increased, a long-cherished wish of hers.

Once she became an Inner Court disciple of the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion, the cultivation resources she could obtain would double, and she would occasionally hear higher-level Cultivation Techniques explained by the higher-ups, as well as connect with more Inner Court disciples and build a wider network, gaining more opportunities for experience. The benefits are self-evident.

"Yes."

Fang Bai nodded, holding the bottle of Creation Pill in hand, smiling at Han Feng'er, "Now, can you tell me the origin of that axe? Once you tell me, this bottle of Spirit Pill is yours!"

Han Feng'er blooming with joy, stepped forward a few paces, nearly sticking herself to Fang Bai, and chuckled softly, "Little brother, you have quite a mind! What, do you fear I'll regret after taking your Spirit Pill?"

Fang Bai stepped back, saying, "One must always be cautious of others!"

Han Feng'er rolled her eyes, her finger tapped lightly on Fang Bai's forehead, teasingly saying, "You think this girl is someone who breaks promises? Hmph!"

Her words carried a flirtatious banter, her voice coquettish, her gestures alluring, exuding charm from her eyebrows and eyes, truly a captivating beauty. Even Ren Tianfu beside them felt his throat dry and his body warm.

Yet Fang Bai, through his past and present lives, had seen far too many peerless beauties, and compared to them, Han Feng'er was simply not on the same level. How could Fang Bai be enchanted by her? He merely chuckled, his expression unchanged.

The more Fang Bai acted this way, the more Han Feng'er grew interested in him, thinking: This girl has outstanding aptitude and looks above average, countless men have already succumbed to this girl's charm, yet this kid remains unmoved and doesn't even spare her a proper glance—quite rare.

At this moment, in Han Feng'er's eyes, Fang Bai had already become a coveted treasure.

Although Fang Bai's cultivation level was only half-step Foundation Establishment, he was still young with vast potential, and able to refine Holy Grade medium Spirit Pills, enough to stir Han Feng'er's interest in befriending him.

"Even if I can't become a Martial Dao companion with this kid, being friends is still possible! In the future, if I need Spirit Pills, finding him is more reliable than the Pavilion's Alchemists! The Pavilion's Alchemists are too greedy!"

Han Feng'er thought to herself, her almond eyes almost sparkling as she looked at Fang Bai.

"It seems if I don't first disclose the origin of that axe, you won't hand over the Spirit Pill to me. Alright, I'll tell you..."

Han Feng'er circled Fang Bai once, leaving a trail of fragrance at his nose, and then sat at the table, poured herself a cup of Spirit Fruit wine, sipping lightly before beginning, "That axe was given to me by Yang Fei, Senior Brother Yang. Yang Fei is a Core Disciple of our Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion with a Foundation Establishment perfection cultivation."

"Yang Fei?"

Ren Tianfu muttered to himself, seeming to find the name somewhat familiar.

"Is it him?"

Fang Bai slightly frowned and said to Ren Tianfu, "Steward Ren, have you forgotten? I met a middle-aged Martial Artist at Xiang Tian's master's stall before — he even fought me for that piece of wood..."

"I remember now!"

Before Fang Bai finished speaking, Ren Tianfu exclaimed loudly, "Right, that middle-aged Martial Artist wore the Core Disciple attire of the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion, claiming to be Yang Fei, a Core Disciple of the Pavilion!"

After a pause, he solemnly asked, "Miss Han, why was our Palace Master's axe with Yang Fei? How did he acquire it?"

Chapter 1474: Don't Be Impulsive

"Steward Ren, you should ask my Senior Brother Yang Fei these questions, not me."

In response to Ren Tianfu's inquiry, Han Feng'er answered with an indifferent expression.

Though these were her words, she thought to herself, "This father and son duo, Elder Yang Dong and Senior Brother Yang Fei, are both greedy and ruthless, willing to go to any lengths to obtain cultivation resources. That axe is very likely one of the many spiritual artifacts that Senior Brother forcibly seized, which he then gifted to me."

Thinking of this, Han Feng'er smirked coldly to herself.

Han Feng'er understood that she was nothing more than a tool that Yang Fei could toy with at will. The reason he gave her that axe was not out of affection or to curry favor with her, but as a condescending gesture.

Another possibility was that, in Yang Fei's eyes, the axe wasn't particularly valuable, which is why he gave it away so casually. With his greedy nature, he wouldn't have let go otherwise.

"This..."

Faced with Han Feng'er's indifferent response, Ren Tianfu opened his mouth but didn't know what to say, and instinctively turned his gaze to Fang Bai.

From the tone and attitude with which Han Feng'er spoke to Fang Bai, Ren Tianfu discerned that Han Feng'er seemed to have some affection for Fang Bai.

And it's no wonder — not only is Fang Bai young and handsome, but he can also create mid-grade holy spirit pills. Such a martial artist and alchemist surely easily wins women's hearts.

"I believe Miss Han can certainly inquire from your Senior Brother Yang Fei about the details of that axe, right?"

Fang Bai looked at Han Feng'er with a meaningful smile and said.

Normally, for a martial artist like Fang Bai, who was only at the half-step Foundation Establishment stage, he should have addressed Han Feng'er as 'senior.' However, Fang Bai's status as an alchemist placed him on equal footing with Han Feng'er, even making her seek favor with him.

After all, the gap in cultivation between Fang Bai and Han Feng'er could be bridged with time.

However, becoming an alchemist was almost impossible for Han Feng'er, a feat as difficult as ascending to the heavens.

Being the smart person she was, Han Feng'er detected an underlying meaning in Fang Bai's words and replied with a playful smile, "My Senior Brother Yang is rather aloof and naturally suspicious, so prying information from him would be quite challenging. Of course, if my younger brother offers enough sincerity, I'm willing to give it a try."

Knowing Han Feng'er wouldn't do anything for free, Fang Bai extended a finger and said, "I can make another bottle of spirit pills for you! Any type of spirit pill you want!"

Han Feng'er was secretly pleased and bargained, "I want five bottles!"

"At most, two bottles! You must know how difficult it is to make a bottle of spirit pills!"

"Three bottles! If you agree, I can get you the exact information today!"

"Alright then."

For Fang Bai, whether it was three bottles or five, making spirit pills was a breeze. He didn't want to haggle with Han Feng'er and nodded in agreement.

Han Feng'er left in high spirits to extract the information about the axe from Yang Fei. Before leaving, she left her cousin Xiang Tian behind to "accompany" Fang Bai and Ren Tianfu.

"Things seem to be getting more complicated!"

After Han Feng'er left, Ren Tianfu paced about the room with a worried expression, furrowing his brow.

The issue involving the Lingxu Palace Master and the two elders now implicated the core disciple of the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion, making Ren Tianfu even more anxious and heavy-hearted.

The axe initially fell into Yang Fei's hands, and he gave it to Han Feng'er, who then sold it to her cousin Xiang Tian, eventually showing up at a stall in the Martial Artists Trading Market.

Therefore, the root of the problem must have a connection with Yang Fei.

Ren Tianfu even wondered if Yang Fei had been the one to kill Li Sanfu, the Palace Master, and seize his axe.

But recalling Han Feng'er's words earlier, Ren Tianfu doubted it was Yang Fei who did it. Yang Fei clearly didn't think much of that axe's value, so there was no reason for him to seize it.

Still, if it wasn't done by Yang Fei, then who could it be?

Where were the Palace Master and the two elders now? How did the Palace Master's axe end up with Yang Fei? Why was it stained with blood?

These questions bubbled up one after another in Ren Tianfu's mind. The more he thought about it, the more confused he became, almost losing his composure.

"Don't worry, Steward Ren. The truth will come out eventually."

Fang Bai offered some words of comfort.

"Alas..."

Ren Tianfu let out a long sigh, glanced at Xiang Tian, and then anxiously communicated with Fang Bai using the Thread Condensation Sound Transmission Technique, "The whereabouts of the Palace Master and the two elders are unknown, and their fates are uncertain. How can I not be worried?"

After a pause, he asked, "Fang Bai, I'm at a loss and can't make heads or tails of things. If it truly involves that core disciple of the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion, how should we respond?"

Ren Tianfu was well aware that with the overall strength of Lingxu Palace, they couldn't possibly contend with the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion. Moreover, the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion's upper echelon was notorious for protecting their own. Thus, even if it turned out that the Palace Master and the two elders perished at the hands of that core disciple, they would be filled with impotent rage.

"Let's hope the Palace Master and the two elders are safe. Otherwise... we'll repay eye for an eye, blood for blood!"

Fang Bai didn't use the Voice Transmission Technique for these words, and after speaking, he slammed his fist on the table with a killing qi.

"Ah?"

Both Ren Tianfu and Xiang Tian were taken aback by Fang Bai's intense reaction.

Ren Tianfu smiled wryly, "Fang Bai, in their eyes, we're no different from ants. Don't be rash!"

His implication was to convey to Fang Bai that the strength of Lingxu Palace was no match for the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion and acting rashly could lead to severe consequences.

"Once we get Han Feng'er's information and regroup with Tianlu and the others, we can decide what to do. Until then, we must not act recklessly and bring disaster upon Lingxu Palace!"

Ren Tianfu said at last.

Last night, Ren Tianfu took some time to return to the "Guest Arrival" inn and brought the news to Ren Tianlu and the other disciples of Lingxu Palace. At this moment, they were likely anxiously awaiting further updates.

Han Feng'er was indeed efficient, as she hurried back at noon and met with Ren Tianfu and Fang Bai.

Fang Bai noticed the lingering flush on Han Feng'er's face, suggesting she had just been intimate with someone. He assumed she had used her body as bait to quickly gather the information and decided to keep a polite distance from her in the future.

"I've finally managed to get information about the origins of that axe from Senior Brother Yang's mouth. However..."

Han Feng'er's eyes swept over Ren Tianfu and Fang Bai, hesitant to continue.

"However, what?"

Ren Tianfu asked urgently.

From Han Feng'er's expression, he saw a hint of regret and apprehension, and his heart sank, clenching his fists tightly.

Chapter 1475: A Woman with a Story

"As a friend, I advise you not to think about taking revenge or settling old scores when you hear the news I've brought back, but to calmly consider what to do next! Because this concerns the life and death of your Lingxu Palace!"

Han Feng'er sighed lightly at this point, her expression becoming more solemn.

Ren Tianfu clenched his fists, making a "popping" sound, his body trembling involuntarily.

He wasn't afraid, but rather angry.

Although Han Feng'er hadn't yet detailed what the news she brought was, Ren Tianfu had already guessed most of it.

"Speak, we'll listen."

Fang Bai's face showed no signs of emotion; he said lightly to Han Feng'er.

When Han Feng'er met Fang Bai's gaze, a bone-chilling cold emanated from the soles of her feet, instantly spreading throughout her body, causing her to shiver.

Han Feng'er was startled, for a moment she felt that the person standing before her wasn't Fang Bai, but a furious Golden Core Realm expert.

"Strange, Fang Bai is clearly just a Half-Step Foundation Establishment Martial Artist, why does he give me such a feeling?"

Han Feng'er looked at Fang Bai with a surprised expression, scrutinizing him closely for a moment, but the feeling of facing a Golden Core Realm expert had vanished.

Composing herself, Han Feng'er slowly said, "Several days ago, your Palace Master Li and two Elders requested Elder Yang Dong of our Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion to help in refining pills. However, after the pill refinement failed, several medicinal materials were wasted, and Palace Master Li expressed his dissatisfaction with Elder Yang, which resulted in retaliation from Elder Yang's son, my Senior Brother Yang Fei..."

"Bastard!"

Ren Tianfu roared in a low voice, his eyes bloodshot.

Han Feng'er ignored him and continued, "Yang Fei, along with several fellow disciples, joined forces, changed their attire and appearance, and attacked them while they returned to their residing inn, causing one injured and two dead..."

Ren Tianfu's breathing became more and more heavy, his voice hoarse as he asked, "Who died? And who was injured?"

Han Feng'er said, "Your Palace Master Li was severely wounded. The two Elders unfortunately perished."

"Where is our Palace Master Li now? And the bodies of the two Elders?"

Fang Bai's fists clenched tightly, yet his voice remained calm.

Han Feng'er curled her lips, saying, "These matters seem outside our agreement, so I don't have to answer. Unless..."

"Five more bottles of Spirit Pills!"

Fang Bai knew what Han Feng'er wanted, and said expressionlessly.

"Little brother is straightforward!"

Han Feng'er smiled silently, then continued, "Your Palace Master Li is now imprisoned in Senior Brother Yang's residence, with plans for Lingxu Palace disciples to ransom him using Cultivation Resources. As for the bodies of the two Elders..."

She hesitated for a moment, glanced at Fang Bai's expression, and then softly said, "Yang Fei had someone throw them into the nearby deep mountains."

"Boom!"

As soon as she finished speaking, the solid stone table in the room was smashed to pieces by a palm strike from Ren Tianfu.

"Steward Ren, do you want to drag the entire Lingxu Palace into a bottomless abyss?"

Fang Bai coldly asked, looking at Ren Tianfu's figure as he rushed out the door.

Ren Tianfu paused, slowly turned back to Fang Bai, and said hoarsely, "Such deep enmity, is it not to be avenged?"

Before Fang Bai could speak, Han Feng'er had already interjected, "Revenge? Do you think your strength surpasses your Palace Master's?"

Ren Tianfu froze, his face quickly flushing red, as he roared, "I can't care that much! If I kill one, it's worth it; if I kill two, I gain one! Even if I risk this life, I'll drag a few Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion disciples down with me!"

Han Feng'er shook her head, saying, "Your enemy isn't the entire Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion, but Yang Fei."

Ren Tianfu finally realized that the woman in front of him was also a disciple of Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion. If she spread the news, none of the Lingxu Palace disciples in Flaming Sun City would escape alive.

Ren Tianfu's eyes fixed on Han Feng'er, and a murderous intent arose in his heart.

Ren Tianfu thought that his cultivation was on par with Han Feng'er's, and his combat ability might be slightly stronger. Fang Bai should also be slightly stronger than Xiang Tian, giving him hope of taking down the two.

Xiang Tian seemed to sense the intense killing qi emanating from Ren Tianfu, immediately moving closer to Han Feng'er, adopting a stance of fighting side by side.

Han Feng'er looked at Ren Tianfu with a smile, showing no sign of tension, as if certain he wouldn't make a move.

Fang Bai sighed, "Steward Ren, you're probably confused by anger. Have you forgotten sect disciples have special contact signals? Once we start fighting, help from the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion will likely arrive. Can we win then? Miss Han is right, our enemy is Yang Fei, not the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion."

In fact, if Fang Bai were to act, he could easily deal with Han Feng'er and Xiang Tian, but that's not the outcome he wanted.

Yang Fei had been marked for death by Fang Bai, and Fang Bai wanted the entire Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion to pay a heavy price, otherwise Wu Zhihua and Sun Jing, the Elders' spirits wouldn't be appeased!

Since entering Lingxu Palace, Elders Wu Zhihua and Sun Jing treated Fang Bai well. Before leaving Lingxu Palace, Fang Bai planned to repay their kindness, but he never had the chance.

Learning the Elders fell to Yang Fei, Fang Bai's anger matched Ren Tianfu's.

Fang Bai remained calm because he knew killing Yang Fei wasn't difficult, but shaking the entire Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion and making it pay heavily was not easy.

Fang Bai already had a preliminary plan for revenge, ready to implement it step by step. But before that, he didn't want Ren Tianfu to startle the snake.

Perhaps Fang Bai's unusual calm influenced Ren Tianfu; his emotions gradually stabilized, and the bloodshot in his eyes faded.

"Miss Han, we plan to deal with the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion, yet you don't seem concerned at all!"

Fang Bai faced Han Feng'er, smiling as he asked.

From the first glance at Han Feng'er, Fang Bai felt she had a story, not as simple as she seemed on the surface.

Han Feng'er chuckled and said, "I only care about my own interests; the life and death of Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion disciples is none of my concern. Say you want to kill Yang Fei, even if you also take down his father Yang Dong, I'll pretend I don't know!"

Fang Bai's eyes flickered with a strange light, he said earnestly, "But you're also a disciple of Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion!"

"Yes, I'm a disciple of Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion... but hearing you want to kill Yang Fei really makes me feel delighted... ha... haha..."

Han Feng'er laughed quietly, her laughter full of sorrow, bitterness, and hatred that reached into her bones.

Chapter 1476: You've Hidden It So Well From Us!

"Sister..."

Seeing Han Feng'er's face full of sorrow, Xiang Tian's eyes also reddened. His lips moved as if wanting to say something, but he was glared back by Han Feng'er.

This detail was noticed by Fang Bai, who thought about how Xiang Tian called her "sister" instead of "cousin," and a thought struck his heart.

Fang Bai looked closely at Han Feng'er and Xiang Tian, noticing that their features were surprisingly similar, around sixty to seventy percent alike. With his Divine Sense probing their bloodlines, he found them highly similar as well, and he fully understood.

"You two are clearly siblings. Why claim to be distant cousins? Is there some unspeakable secret?"

Fang Bai suddenly asked.

At these words, Xiang Tian trembled all over, standing there stupefied.

Han Feng'er's gaze was like a sword, staring straight at Fang Bai, with a murderous intent locking onto him tightly.

Ren Tianfu sidestepped, blocking in front of Fang Bai, ready as if facing a formidable enemy.

The atmosphere in the room instantly became extremely tense, with a great battle on the verge of erupting.

Fang Bai smiled, bypassing Ren Tianfu and walking slowly to stand in front of Han Feng'er, saying, "Let me guess: you two siblings have a deep blood feud with Yang Dong and Yang Fei of the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion, and you've been waiting for a chance to take revenge. Only, their strength is too great, and you dare not act rashly..."

Xiang Tian listened to Fang Bai speak eloquently, his mouth agape with disbelief, thinking this guy must be a worm in his sister's and his stomach, knowing things so clearly.

They never told anyone about their blood feud with Yang Dong and Yang Fei, a secret buried deep in their hearts.

But how did Fang Bai find out?

The two siblings exchanged a puzzled look, both shaking their heads to indicate they never revealed it.

"Looks like I guessed right."

The smile on Fang Bai's face grew wider.

Han Feng'er and Xiang Tian, being young and not composed enough, didn't need to answer; their expressions had already confirmed Fang Bai's guess.

Han Feng'er's gaze was complex, with expressions shifting. After hesitating several times, she ultimately chose not to attack Fang Bai.

It's not that she didn't want to, but she didn't dare.

The impression Fang Bai gave her was no longer like the Half-Step Foundation Establishment Martial Artist from their first meeting but rather a profound and inscrutable expert. In fact, when she felt a sudden killing intent, a fleeting pressure from Fang Bai made her heart tremble.

Han Feng'er was smart. Since she wasn't confident in killing Fang Bai and Ren Tianfu, she wisely chose not to act.

Because in a battle between martial artists, it's either life or death. Before avenging her great enmity, she didn't want to risk her and her brother's lives.

"Yes, we are siblings. I entered the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion to seek revenge."

Han Feng'er looked at Fang Bai with disdain, coldly saying, "Now, you can go and inform Yang Dong and Yang Fei! Maybe, because of this, they'll mercifully release your Pavilion Master Li Sanfu."

Han Feng'er's words made Ren Tianfu consider.

Ren Tianfu knew that even with Fang Bai, adding Ren Tianlu, Sun Lin, and others, breaking into the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion to rescue Palace Master Li Sanfu from Yang Fei was an impossible task. But, as Han Feng'er suggested, there might indeed be hope.

However, just as this thought surfaced in Ren Tianfu's mind, Fang Bai immediately quashed it.

"Miss Han, since we have a common enemy, why not cooperate?"

Fang Bai offered an olive branch to Han Feng'er.

"Cooperate?"

Han Feng'er hesitated, frowned, and asked, "Cooperate in what?"

"Killing!"

Fang Bai said sternly, "We'll join forces, inside and outside, to kill Yang Dong and Yang Fei. This way, you siblings can avenge your hatred, and we can seek justice for the fallen Elders."

Han Feng'er laughed again, saying, "Your proposal is tempting but entirely unfeasible! Do you know how strong Yang Fei and Yang Dong are?"

Fang Bai had seen Yang Fei but not his father Yang Dong. However, through the Ren brothers, he had some understanding of the high-ranking members of the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion, nodding, "I know. One is a Core Disciple of the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion, a perfection Foundation Establishment expert; the other is an Elder of the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion, a mid-stage Golden Core expert."

Han Feng'er said, "Since you know, do you think we can kill Yang Dong and Yang Fei by teaming up?"

Ren Tianfu shook his head sadly, sighing, "We can't... we can't... Not to mention Yang Dong is a mid-stage Golden Core expert, even if we teamed up, we can't reach him. His son Yang Fei, with a perfection Foundation Establishment cultivation level, is just as unbeatable for us! This endeavor is impossible... impossible!"

Fang Bai said, "What if I say we can kill Yang Dong and his son? Do you believe it?"

Han Feng'er chuckled, "Little brother, do you think I'd believe that? If you were a Golden Core expert, there might be some hope..."

Before she finished speaking, she felt an overwhelming pressure filling the room, making her feel as if burdened by a tremendous weight, almost kneeling.

This feeling was only experienced when facing the high-level members of the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion.

"How... how is this possible?"

Han Feng'er's eyes widened in shock, looking at Fang Bai standing in front of her with a smile, as if unrecognizable.

Ren Tianfu was even more startled, sitting down on the ground in fear, his lips trembling, muttering, "Golden Core expert... Fang Bai is a Golden Core expert... I must be dreaming... it must be a dream..."

Among those in the room, Xiang Tian was the weakest. Despite using all his effort to circulate his Cultivation Technique to counteract the pressure from Fang Bai, he still couldn't withstand it, trembling like a leaf, his face ashen.

"Do you believe it now?"

Fang Bai withdrew the pressure, returning to his previous state, asking Han Feng'er once more.

Han Feng'er was stunned for several moments before regaining her senses, overjoyed, "I believe! I believe! Senior... Fang, I didn't expect you to be a Golden Core expert? You've hidden it so deeply!"

In her excitement, she almost called him "little brother" again, but thankfully she quickly corrected herself to "Senior Fang."

A dignified Golden Core expert, a Pill Master able to refine mid-grade Holy Grade Spirit Pills, regardless of age, who dares to call him "little brother"?

Even Mu Enze, the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion Master, didn't have that privilege!

Fang Bai offered a mysterious smile, neither confirming nor denying that he was a Golden Core expert.

To Han Feng'er and the others, this was equivalent to tacitly admitting he was a Golden Core expert.

Ren Tianfu looked at Fang Bai, who seemed to have suddenly grown much taller, saying bitterly, "Senior... Senior Fang, you've fooled us dearly..."

Chapter 1477: A Brewing Storm

Ren Tianfu couldn't understand why Fang Bai, a Golden Core Realm expert, would conceal his cultivation level, disguise himself as a Half-Step Foundation Establishment Martial Artist, and hide within a small sect like Lingxu Palace, deceiving tens of thousands of disciples there.

Thinking back to the past, when many high-level individuals, including himself, had loudly commanded Fang Bai and even reprimanded him over cultivation matters, Ren Tianfu couldn't help but feel fearful, wondering if Fang Bai held any resentment.

Fang Bai laughed and said, "Steward Ren, who in this world doesn't have some secrets? Take Miss Han here, for example. Before now, could you have imagined that she, as a disciple of the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion, would want to eliminate the elders and core disciples of the pavilion?"

Ren Tianfu smiled wryly and said, "Senior Fang, you're right. Martial Artists all have secrets, but... the secret you have is indeed quite shocking!"

For someone regarded as a Half-Step Foundation Establishment Martial Artist to suddenly transform into a Golden Core Realm expert, anyone would be astonished, let alone Ren Tianfu and others.

Ren Tianfu didn't know why Fang Bai remained hidden in Lingxu Palace with his powerful cultivation level, but he knew that after this incident, Fang Bai's strength being exposed meant Lingxu Palace was unlikely to be his place for long.

Thinking that Fang Bai would eventually leave Lingxu Palace, Ren Tianfu couldn't help but feel a bit melancholic.

A Golden Core Realm expert who also knew alchemy techniques—if Fang Bai could remain at Lingxu Palace, it would undoubtedly greatly propel the palace's future development.

However, Fang Bai is like a hidden dragon; when he decides to soar high, a shallow place like Lingxu Palace could hardly retain him.

"Steward Ren, let's discuss other matters later. Right now, we need to talk to Miss Han and her brother about partnering to rescue the Palace Master and avenge Elders Wu Zhihua and Sun Jing."

Ren Tianfu knew this was the most urgent matter at hand, and he nodded, his expression becoming more solemn than ever.

"Miss Han, can you tell us your brother's full name?"

Fang Bai pointed at Xiang Tian, who was silent.

"Han Xiangtian."

Han Feng'er formally introduced her brother to Fang Bai and Ren Tianfu.

"Greetings, seniors!"

Han Xiangtian clasped his hands in a respectful gesture towards Fang Bai and Ren Tianfu, adhering to the etiquette for juniors.

Among those in the house, Han Xiangtian wasn't the youngest but was the weakest in strength. In this world where strength dictates status, the weaker one is, the lower one's status becomes. Overstepping these societal rules often leads to rejection by others.

Thus, Han Xiangtian showed utmost respect towards Fang Bai, who is a few years younger but stronger, without any hint of disrespect.

Fang Bai and Ren Tianfu nodded, acknowledging Han Xiangtian.

The stone table in the room, shattered earlier by Ren Tianfu in fury, was compensated with some spirit stones by Han Xiangtian, prompting the inn's servant to bring in another.

The four sat around the table, with Fang Bai erecting a Qi Shield in the room to block out external sound and prevent eavesdropping, then began discussing plans to rescue and seek revenge.

They aimed to rescue Lingxu Palace Master Li Sanfu.

And to kill were the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion's Elder Yang Dong and core disciple Yang Fei, a father-son duo.

From Han Feng'er and the others' perspective, even though Fang Bai was a Golden Core Realm expert, entering the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion to kill Yang Fei and rescue Li Sanfu was no simple task.

Not to mention confronting Yang Dong, a mid-level Golden Core Realm expert.

But Fang Bai remained confident; under the surprised gazes of Han Feng'er and others, he began to whisper his plan.

...

In the vast Flaming Sun City, divided by the Lotus River, lies East City governed by the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion and West City controlled by the Golden Sword Sect.

This state has endured for tens of thousands of years.

On the surface, the two sects maintain a balance, creating a peaceful environment that has led to the city's prosperity.

However, those familiar with the inside know that the two sects engage in several battles each year.

The goal of the battles is simply for one side to overpower the other, even aiming to expel the opponent from Flaming Sun City to gain sole control.

Yet, the overall strength of the two sects is nearly equal, with neither having a significant advantage. It's unrealistic for one to suppress or expel the other from Flaming Sun City in a short time.

Nonetheless, the apparent harmony between the two was disrupted overnight.

That night, several night patrol disciples of the Golden Sword Sect were slain, including a promising core disciple in whom the sect's leaders had high hopes.

Various signs pointed to the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion disciples being involved in the killing of Golden Sword Sect's night patrol disciples.

What most infuriated the Golden Sword Sect disciples was the indignation that their slain fellows' bodies were thrown into the Lotus River, with some bodies inscribed with derogatory phrases.

Although the derogatory phrases weren't signed, anyone could see that they were left there as revenge by disciples of the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion for their comrades lost in past battles.

This incident sparked rage within the Golden Sword Sect, leading Sect Master Tie Han to issue a warning to Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion Master Mu Enze to hand over the perpetrators, or face retaliation.

Mu Enze didn't want to completely break ties with the Golden Sword Sect, knowing it would lead to mutual destruction, benefiting other sects.

Yet Mu Enze couldn't ignore Tie Han's warning. After conducting a thorough investigation, he concluded that none of his pavilion disciples had harmed Golden Sword Sect's disciples that night.

Feeling wronged, Mu Enze responded to Tie Han claiming the culprits were not from his pavilion.

Tie Han was hardly convinced.

Hence, the two engaged in a verbal battle, with intense arguments, and clashes occurred between disciples near the Lotus River, although without further casualties.

Finally, not wanting mutual destruction and to benefit other sects, Mu Enze compromised, agreeing to refine a batch of spirit pills for the Golden Sword Sect and compensate a substantial amount of cultivation resources, settling the matter.

While the other sects and individual cultivation martial artists in Flaming Sun City thought the two major sects had returned to an unstable yet unbroken state and were disappointed for lack of drama, several Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion disciples' deaths brought the city's two strongest sects back to the forefront.

Yet another night saw several Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion night patrol disciples killed, including a core disciple among the deceased, matching the previous night's death toll of the Golden Sword Sect disciples.

The murdered Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion disciples' bodies were similarly thrown into the Lotus River, marked with insulting phrases, blatantly declaring revenge against the pavilion for the Golden Sword Sect disciples slain earlier.

In no time, the two sects were at each other's throats, deploying disciples to confront each other across the Lotus River.

Within Flaming Sun City, a storm seemed imminent as tension mounted.

Chapter 1478: Offering Spiritual Artifact

According to the predictions of many Martial Artists, although the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion and the Golden Sword Sect are at swords' points in a fierce confrontation, the upper echelons of both sides will exercise maximum restraint for the greater good, and eventually, a handshake agreement will be reached.

Indeed, this is the case. The confrontation between the two Sects is merely superficial, a show put on for their disciples to quell the discontent and anger in their hearts.

However, in private, both Sects strictly restrain their disciples, forbidding them from stirring up trouble or escalating the situation, to avoid a final unmanageable outcome.

The leaders of both Sects understand that once a large-scale conflict erupts between them, the entire Flaming Sun City will plunge into chaos, potentially destroying the hard-earned foundation created by predecessors, leading the Sect into decline.

This is something they do not wish to see.

Although among the many Sects within Flaming Sun City, the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion and the Golden Sword Sect hold overwhelming dominance, being the undisputed kings and overlords, if both Sects suffer heavy losses in a conflict, other strong Sects just below them will certainly seize the opportunity to act.

Both Sects have embedded spies in other Sects within Flaming Sun City. Reports indicate that several powerful Sects are itching to move during the confrontation between the two major Sects, subtly

making moves to fuel the fire and incite a major battle between them, enabling them to reap the benefits.

Therefore, neither the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion nor the Golden Sword Sect wishes to escalate the conflict, to avoid gifting these other Sects opportunities to rise.

However, the storm stirred by Fang Bai will not subside easily until Fang Bai's goals are fulfilled.

Fang Bai's plan for revenge against the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion is only known to Fang Bai himself, and the brothers Ren Tianfu and Ren Tianlu, as well as the siblings Han Feng'er and Han Xiangtian.

As for Sun Lin and other Lingxu Palace disciples, they remain oblivious, even unaware of the severe injury to Li Sanfu and the deaths of Elders Wu and Sun.

The information was concealed by Ren Tianfu, as the matter is of great importance; if leaked, not only would the Lingxu Palace disciples residing in Flaming Sun City face extinction, but even the faraway Lingxu Palace would suffer ruthless retaliation from the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion and the Golden Sword Sect.

Therefore, the fewer people know about this matter, the better.

After Fang Bai and Ren Tianfu discussed the revenge plan with Han Feng'er and Han Xiangtian, they returned to the "Guest Arrival" inn to reunite with Ren Tianlu and other Lingxu Palace disciples.

During this period, Fang Bai would occasionally go out to a secret location to meet with Han Feng'er and Han Xiangtian, learning about the recent movements of Yang Dong and Yang Fei, father and son, from Han Feng'er.

In recent days, several Medicine King Mountain disciples would occasionally come over to talk with the Lingxu Palace disciples.

The main purpose of the Medicine King Mountain disciples' visit was to obtain Spirit Pills for Tong Yaoyao to aid her advancement, but due to the busy schedule of several Alchemists at the Alchemy

Cauldron Pavilion, it would be days before they could get their turn, leaving them temporarily residing there and waiting for the opportunity.

The Medicine King Mountain disciples naturally wouldn't know that the two major Sects in Flaming Sun City were on the brink of full-scale conflict and that the mastermind behind it was Fang Bai. They worried that if a conflict broke out between the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion and the Golden Sword Sect, it would disrupt the focus of the Alchemists at the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion, wasting their efforts.

On this day, a young Martial Artist visited the residence of the core disciple Yang Fei of the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion.

This young Martial Artist, possessing only Half-Step Foundation Establishment cultivation level, was introduced by Yang Fei's Martial Dao companion Han Feng'er.

Yang Fei is known for his arrogant nature. If Han Feng'er hadn't mentioned that the young Martial Artist named "Bai Fang" had obtained an important Spiritual Artifact to offer him in exchange for the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion's protection, Yang Fei would not have met with a Martial Artist possessing only Half-Step Foundation Establishment cultivation.

The so-called "Bai Fang" was, of course, Fang Bai.

Fang Bai had a brief encounter with Yang Fei over a piece of wood previously. At that time, Ren Tianfu was worried that Yang Fei might retaliate against Fang Bai, but due to the conflict between the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion and the Golden Sword Sect, Yang Fei seemed to have forgotten about it.

Before seeing Yang Fei, Fang Bai had altered his appearance through muscle and bone manipulation, so Yang Fei couldn't recognize him.

"You're called Bai Fang, right? I heard from Han Feng'er that you have a Spiritual Artifact to offer me? Very well, now you can take out the Spiritual Artifact for me to see! If I like your Spiritual Artifact, then in Flaming Sun City, you'll be under the protection of our Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion, and none would dare bully you!"

Yang Fei said with a haughty expression.

Yang Fei, although greedy, doesn't place ordinary treasures in high regard, like Li Sanfu's axe, which, although a Holy Grade medium Spiritual Artifact, was casually given to Han Feng'er.

Upon learning that Fang Bai's Spiritual Artifact was very mysterious and more powerful than a Holy Grade medium Spiritual Artifact, Yang Fei became interested enough to agree to have Han Feng'er bring Fang Bai to meet him.

"This is a knife-type Spiritual Artifact, please have a look, Yang Senior."

Fang Bai respectfully took out a knife-type Spiritual Artifact emitting a faint blood glow from his own Space Ring and presented it to Yang Fei.

The knife-type Spiritual Artifact was indeed Fang Bai's Blood-Drinking Mad Blade.

"This knife..."

Holding the knife, Yang Fei felt a surge of sinister and vast power emanating from the blade, making him show a look of astonishment.

Yang Fei prided himself on having seen countless Spiritual Artifacts, yet examining the Blood-Drinking Mad Blade closely, he couldn't discern its grade.

But Yang Fei could be sure of one thing: the grade of this knife-type Spiritual Artifact absolutely surpassed the realm of Holy Grade Spiritual Artifacts and was far superior to the Golden Snake Knife he wielded.

"Could it be a King Grade Spiritual Artifact?"

The thought made Yang Fei ecstatic.

The power of King Grade Spiritual Artifacts far exceeds that of Holy Grade Spiritual Artifacts. If the knife-type Spiritual Artifact in his hand was truly a King Grade Spiritual Artifact, Yang Fei thought his combat power would be notably stronger, nearly able to rival a Golden Core Realm expert.

Spiritual Artifacts above Holy Grade all possess Artifact Spirits; only by thoroughly eliminating the Artifact Spirit and nurturing a new one with one's own Divine Sense and blood essence can one truly claim ownership of the Spiritual Artifact and use it for oneself.

However, when Yang Fei attempted to infiltrate the blood-stained long knife with his Divine Sense and eliminate the Artifact Spirit within, he encountered strong resistance.

Despite several attempts, Yang Fei was unsuccessful, yet he was not distressed but pleased.

Yang Fei knew that the greater the resistance, the higher the grade of the Spiritual Artifact. If necessary, he could find a high-level Artifact Refiner to reforge the knife-type Spiritual Artifact and forcefully eliminate its Artifact Spirit.

"Bai Fang, from where did you obtain this knife?"

Yang Fei, enamored with the blood-stained long knife, fondly caressed it without looking at Fang Bai, while asking.

Fang Bai and Han Feng'er exchanged a glance, knowing the fish was about to bite, a trace of delight flashed in their eyes.

Chapter 1479: Slaughter Array

"Senior Yang, some time ago while I was training outside the city, I inadvertently discovered a Martial Artist's abandoned cultivation cave. This Spiritual Artifact was obtained from there."

When Fang Bai spoke of the so-called "Martial Artist's abandoned cultivation cave," his eyes shone brightly, and his expression was excited, as if he had discovered a cultivation treasure.

However, he immediately sighed and said, "Although there are more treasures in that Martial Artist's abandoned cave than just this one, the pressure inside is too intense. I am too weak, so I couldn't stay long and only brought this knife out..."

"Quickly tell me, where is that Martial Artist's abandoned cultivation cave!"

Before Fang Bai could finish, Yang Fei couldn't contain his excitement and shouted out loud.

The knife-like Spiritual Artifact in his hand was at least a King Grade Artifact, and this Bai Fang said there were more treasures like this in that Martial Artist's abandoned cave, which made Yang Fei overjoyed, wishing he could rush there immediately and claim all those treasures for himself.

Yang Fei speculated that the Martial Artist's cultivation cave discovered by Bai Fang was at least a place where a Golden Core Realm expert had once cultivated. If he was lucky, he might be able to use the cultivation resources within to break through to the Golden Core Realm, thereby joining the ranks of the higher-ups in the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion.

"This... this..."

Fang Bai hesitated, looking troubled.

Seeing this, Yang Fei immediately understood. Though he was displeased, he still smiled and said, "You want some benefits, right? No problem, just for offering this Spiritual Artifact, I can grant you one condition. Tell me, what do you want? As long as I can do it, I'll agree to it!"

Fang Bai, "overjoyed," said, "I would like to ask for Elder Yang of your pavilion to help refine a few bottles of Spirit Pills, would that be possible?"

Standing nearby, Han Feng'er chuckled and said, "Bai Fang, do you know that Elder Yang is Senior Brother Yang's father? Asking Elder Yang to refine pills isn't it just a matter of Senior Brother Yang saying a few words? Isn't that right, Senior Brother Yang?"

Yang Fei laughed heartily and said, "Of course! It's a small matter, leave it to me!"

Fang Bai, unable to contain his joy, thanked Yang Fei and then said, "Senior Yang, that Martial Artist's cultivation cave is located in a mountain several hundred Baili outside Flaming Sun City. How about I personally take you there?"

"That would be best!"

With Fang Bai leading the way, Yang Fei was naturally eager.

"Yang Fei, your death is near!"

Watching Fang Bai and Yang Fei leave, Han Feng'er bit her lip, a hint of satisfaction in her eyes, and then she slipped away to make other arrangements according to Fang Bai's previous plan.

After leaving Flaming Sun City, Yang Fei grabbed Fang Bai and, riding his Golden Snake Sword Artifact, flew westward.

A journey of several hundred Baili was nothing to a Foundation Establishment perfection expert like Yang Fei.

In just a matter of moments, the two appeared above the Martial Artist's cultivation cave that Fang Bai had mentioned.

"Is it that cave?"

After landing in a deep valley, Yang Fei looked around and saw a cave entrance one zhang wide on the mountain wall on the northern side of the valley, a hundred meters above the ground, with rich Spiritual Energy emanating from within. His eyes suddenly lit up, and he pointed towards it.

Fang Bai nodded with a smile.

"I'll go take a look!"

Yang Fei said, unable to ignore Fang Bai anymore, he leapt up again like a soaring swallow and landed outside the cave entrance. Sensing no danger within, he strode boldly inside.

"This... this is..."

Inside the cave, Yang Fei found no cultivation resources but saw a large stone standing upright with eight blood-red characters on it:

Where the Yang family father and son meet their end!

The names Han Feng'er and Han Xiangtian were signed beneath.

Yang Fei was shocked, feeling a foreboding premonition, and immediately tried to fly back out.

The moment Yang Fei entered the cave, a cold smile appeared at the corner of Fang Bai's mouth. He flicked a Spirit Stone with his fingers, and it struck a several-foot-high stone pillar at the cave entrance, activating a Slaughter Array he had set up inside beforehand.

Yang Fei was instantly trapped in the array.

As Fang Bai's cultivation level improved, his ability to set up formations became increasingly formidable.

The Slaughter Array he set in the cave was specifically aimed at Yang Dong and Yang Fei. Let alone Foundation Establishment perfection Yang Fei, even Golden Core mid-tier Yang Dong would find it extremely difficult to escape unscathed once trapped.

"Bai Fang, once I get out, I'll tear you to pieces!"

The moment the Slaughter Array was activated inside the cave, Yang Fei's roar echoed forth.

Yang Fei was no fool. The moment he saw the stone with those blood-red characters, he realized he had been tricked.

When Fang Bai activated the Slaughter Array, trapping him inside, he understood it was a meticulously planned trap to kill him in the cave.

Yang Fei, furious, roared thunderously, shaking the entire valley, but to no avail.

Fang Bai's Slaughter Array was far too powerful. In just a few moments, Yang Fei's roars inside the cave ceased abruptly, and his life force gradually faded away.

With Yang Fei's death, the Soul Lamp for him in the Soul Hall of the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion extinguished.

"Who is it? Who killed my son? Ah..."

In Flaming Sun City, inside the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion, Elder Yang Dong, upon discovering his son's Soul Lamp extinguished, was furious and flipped over a Furnace Cauldron in front of him, ruining a batch of Spirit Pills that were about to be successfully refined.

"Elder Yang, something terrible has happened!"

Just as Yang Dong was seething with anger, Han Feng'er suddenly rushed in with a pale face and urgently said to Yang Dong, "Earlier, Senior Brother Yang followed a Martial Artist outside the city, saying he was going to a Martial Artist's abandoned cultivation cave to find treasures. But shortly after he left, the Soul Lamp went out. Senior Brother Yang... he must have encountered an accident while seeking the treasures and unfortunately perished..."

As she spoke, tears welled up in her eyes, and she began to cry.

Yang Dong knew somewhat about the relationship between Han Feng'er and Yang Fei, and hearing her words, he didn't suspect anything. After casually asking a few questions about his son's whereabouts,

his form transformed into a divine rainbow, soaring into the sky, flying towards the mountains outside Flaming Sun City.

Being father and son, Yang Dong and Yang Fei shared the same bloodline. Therefore, as long as Yang Dong knew his son's general location, he could sense his son's presence once he reached the area, thereby locating the place of his son's demise.

"I didn't expect Senior Fang to succeed so quickly! Heh, Yang Fei, Yang Fei, who would have thought you'd meet your end today! Next up is that old devil Yang Dong!"

Han Feng'er looked skyward at the distant divine rainbow, her fists clenched tightly, filled with indescribable excitement.

After leaving the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion, she immediately called her brother, Han Xiangtian, and together they hurried to the valley where Yang Fei met his end, eager to witness the downfall of the Yang family father and son.

Chapter 1480: Twin Dragons Slaying Immortals Array

Yang Dong, filled with grief and indignation, with a strong intent to kill, transformed into a divine rainbow, heading towards the mountain region Han Feng'er mentioned against the vast heavenly wind.

Foundation Establishment Experts need to fly using a Spiritual Artifact, but Golden Core Experts can directly control flight with Qi, with faster speed and longer endurance.

After Yang Dong flew over the mountainous region, he descended in altitude, releasing his Divine Sense to search carefully. Finally, above a deep mountain valley, he sensed a trace of his son's lingering aura.

Yang Dong clung to a sliver of hope that his son had merely faced a great calamity, gravely injured. But upon sensing that trace of aura that only remains after a Martial Artist's fall, he completely despaired.

"My son!"

Yang Dong had only this one son, whom he had spoiled from childhood. Now, his son had suddenly fallen inexplicably, which caused him deep heartache.

He swore inwardly that if he found the culprit, he would torture them to death in the most painful way to avenge his son.

Yang Dong's eyes flashed with fierceness, and he swiftly moved toward the deep mountain valley like a meteor falling.

At this moment, in the valley, Fang Bai sat cross-legged on a high, protruding boulder, with hundreds of stone pillars standing within a radius of several hundred zhang around him.

The hundreds of stone pillars seemed random and without pattern, but if an Array Master were there, they would recognize it as a powerful, complex Great Killing Formation.

On each of the hundreds of stone pillars were embedded dozens of Spirit Stones, forming ancient rune shapes.

The Great Killing Formation Fang Bai set up used Fire Spirit Stones and Water Spirit Stones, and was named the "Twin Dragons Slaying Immortals Array."

This array was a Slaughter Array Fang Bai had created in his past life, specifically to deal with opponents stronger than himself.

Once the array is activated, the Water Spirit Qi and Fire Spirit Qi within dozens of li would be madly absorbed into the formation, forming a fire dragon and a water dragon inside. At that time, with the dual dragon attack of water and fire, even someone as strong as Yang Dong, a mid-Golden Core Expert, would struggle to escape.

Even if Yang Dong eventually breaks the array, his Spiritual Energy would be greatly consumed. Then, Fang Bai would strike with full force and hope to kill him.

This "Twin Dragons Slaying Immortals Array" is the strongest Slaughter Array Fang Bai can currently set up and his greatest reliance for killing Yang Dong.

The boulder Fang Bai is sitting on is at the very center of the Killing Formation. Once the array activates, he would control the water and fire dragons from there to attack.

Hearing the sudden sound of breaking through the air above, Fang Bai knew Yang Dong had arrived, slowly opened his eyes, lazily glanced at the swiftly descending figure in the sky, and a smile appeared at the corner of his mouth.

Through Han Feng'er, Fang Bai knew Yang Dong was a cunning, cautious person. Even if he didn't understand formations, he should sense some threats from the Killing Formation set in this valley.

But Fang Bai was certain Yang Dong would definitely enter the Slaughter Array he set up himself.

Because in front of Fang Bai lay the corpse of Yang Dong's son, Yang Fei.

Given Yang Dong's indulgence towards his son, there was no way he wouldn't do everything to get his son's body back upon seeing it.

Though Yang Fei's corpse was incomplete and mangled, Yang Dong recognized it at a glance.

"Fei'er!"

Seeing his son dead so tragically, Yang Dong felt as if his heart was being sliced by a knife, his eyes turning blood red.

Even so, he did not continue to plummet down but hovered a hundred meters above the ground, crying out painfully as he looked at his son's body.

Golden Core Experts have a keener sense of crisis, and in Yang Dong's eyes, every single stone pillar on the ground seemed to exude a killing intent.

"Elder Yang, is the pain of losing a son unbearable?"

Fang Bai slowly stood up, stood with his hands behind his back, and looked up at Yang Dong hovering in the air, his eyes flashing with cold light.

"Who are you?"

Yang Dong glared down at Fang Bai, questioning harshly.

When he first flew over the valley, he had already seen Fang Bai. Though he suspected his beloved son's death might be related to this young Martial Artist, he didn't connect him as the murderer.

After all, Fang Bai's revealed cultivation level was only High Rank Foundation Establishment, whereas his son Yang Fei's combat prowess could contend with a Half-Step Golden Core Expert.

Between them was a small realm's difference in cultivation, and even greater disparity in combat strength. Not even three or four Martial Artists of Fang Bai's equivalent strength could be his son's opponent.

Therefore, Yang Dong believed there must be someone else responsible for his son's murder.

"Elder Yang, do you remember Li Sanfu, Wu Zhihua, and Sun Jing?"

Fang Bai didn't answer but instead asked in return.

Yang Dong was taken aback, frowned and thought for a while, then said uncertainly, "These three... are they from Lingxu Palace?"

Fang Bai snorted with a sneer and said, "How fortunate you still remember! These three, one is the Lingxu Palace Master and the other two are Elders of Lingxu Palace!"

Only then did Yang Dong recall, saying, "These three came to Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion to ask me to make Creation Pills for them. But they gave me too few materials, causing the alchemy to fail."

Fang Bai sneered, "Too few materials! From what I know, they gave you a total of five portions of materials, even if your pill formation rate was only twenty percent, you could still make a bottle of Creation Pills, right? Yet you ended up telling them the alchemy failed, all five portions of materials destroyed..."

He spoke with an eerie tone, then continued, "You old thief, claiming the alchemy failed and materials destroyed is false. Clearly, it was greed in your heart that made you take those materials for yourself!"

Indeed, Yang Dong had taken those materials for himself out of greed back then, but how could he admit it? Furious in anger, he pointed at Fang Bai and roared murderously, "You impudent brat, speaking nonsense!"

"You know better than anyone whether I'm speaking nonsense!"

Fang Bai mocked, "Elder Yang, you have quite a son! The Lingxu Palace Master merely complained to you, and your son led people to attack them, resulting in the death of two Lingxu Palace Elders on the spot and the Palace Master seriously injured. You should be aware of this, right?"

Yang Dong just snorted coldly without speaking.

"Your silence means acceptance!"

Fang Bai exhaled lightly, eyes falling on the body of Yang Fei beneath him, saying expressionlessly, "Though it was your son who did the killing, this was all because of you. Therefore, you father and son should accompany the two Elders in death!"

Yang Dong's heart trembled, and he blurted out, "Was it you who killed my Fei'er?"

Fang Bai said, "It was I!"

"Impossible!"

Yang Dong's voice was like thunder, shouting sternly, "You, a mere High Rank Foundation Establishment Martial Artist, are not a match for my Fei'er! There must be another who killed him!"

"Heh heh..."

Fang Bai chuckled coldly, "I, a mere High Rank Foundation Establishment Martial Artist, not only killed your son, but I will also kill you!"

With that, he lifted his right leg and kicked Yang Fei's body a few zhang away into a pile of rubble, then looked up at Yang Dong with contemptuous, scornful eyes.