

Doctor 1481

Chapter 1481: Burial Ground

"You little thief, I'll kill you!"

Yang Dong was already heartbroken by the death of his beloved son, and upon seeing Fang Bai kick his son's corpse away, he flew into a rage. With a thunderous roar, he struck down at the space where Fang Bai stood.

A gigantic hand formed from Wood Spirit Qi descended with a rumbling sound, like a small mountain pressing down on Fang Bai's head. The surrounding space trembled, and its momentum was terrifying.

At the same time, Yang Dong's body swooped down like an eagle hunting a rabbit, attempting to snatch his son's body.

Fang Bai's lips curled slightly. This was precisely the outcome he wanted to see. He hoped Yang Dong would try to seize his son's body. As soon as Yang Dong entered the "Twin Dragons Slaying Immortals Array" he had set up, he would activate the Slaughter Array, trapping Yang Dong like a fish in a barrel, subject to its attacks.

Just as the gigantic hand of Wood Spirit Qi reached within five zhang of Fang Bai's head, Yang Dong's body landed first. He grabbed his son Yang Fei's corpse and was about to leap into the sky.

"Seal!"

Fang Bai had set the Slaughter Array specifically to deal with Yang Dong, and there was no way he would let him leave easily. He immediately activated the grand array.

Hundreds of stone pillars emitted beams of light almost simultaneously, shooting straight into the sky and interweaving into a massive net of light that enveloped Yang Dong.

As the light net interwove, Yang Dong felt a strong threat emanating from it. He sensed that things were not going well and tried multiple times, but even with all his strength and waving his Spiritual Artifact, he could not tear the light net apart to escape from it.

"I've been tricked!"

Yang Dong shouted in his heart, filled with regret.

In truth, he had sensed the danger earlier, but he still rushed down, thinking that Fang Bai, a mere High Rank Foundation Establishment Martial Artist, couldn't have any means impressive enough to pose a real threat.

But what Yang Dong hadn't anticipated was that the grand Slaughter Array Fang Bai set up was so formidable that no matter how many methods he employed, he could not break free.

"This deep and quiet valley would have been a fine resting place! But..."

Fang Bai stood atop a large rock with a mocking smirk, watching Yang Dong rushing left and right within the array. He sneered, "After your son killed our two Elders of Lingxu Palace, he discarded their bodies in the deep mountains, leaving them for vicious beasts to feast on their flesh and bones. So when you two die, I will give you the same treatment. How about it? Do you like it? Are you happy?"

"You... you... shameless brat, today I won't rest until I kill you!"

In a frenzy, Yang Dong pointed at Fang Bai, his roar like thunder.

Fang Bai shrugged, sneering, "Talk about killing me after you break out of my 'Twin Dragons Slaying Immortals Array'!"

As soon as he finished speaking, the light from the interwoven net intensified. Yang Dong felt an abrupt increase in pressure around him, forcing him to circulate his cultivation technique to counter it.

Fang Bai continuously urged the "Twin Dragons Slaying Immortals Array," drawing the Water Spirit Qi and Fire Spirit Energy from the surrounding dozens of miles into the array at a speed visible to the naked eye, then condensing them into a Fire Dragon and a Water Dragon.

The fire dragon was a blazing red, while the water dragon resembled ink. One water, one fire; one red, one black. Both were spirit energy dragons ten zhang long, circling Yang Dong at high speed, constantly spewing Water Spirit Qi or Fire Spirit Energy from their mouths to attack Yang Dong.

The attack power of the two spirit energy dragons was comparable to two Golden Core initial stage experts, and with the power of the array aiding them, although they could not slay Yang Dong, they forced him to scramble with all his effort, making him focus entirely on dealing with the attack.

Moreover, the spirit energy spewed by the dragons came from the surrounding dozens of miles of nature's spiritual energy. Whenever the energy within this range was depleted, the spiritual energy from even further away would rush in to replenish it.

As a result, the spirit energy spewed by the two dragons was virtually endless, causing their attacks to be relentless.

Yang Dong quickly noticed this and couldn't help but groan inwardly. When he glanced at Fang Bai, he was gritting his teeth in hatred, thinking this guy was extremely detestable for setting up such a sinister formation that securely trapped him.

Yang Dong knew that if he couldn't escape the array for an extended period, his spiritual energy would eventually be exhausted, and the consequences would be unimaginable.

"That damn brat said that if I died, my fate would be like the two Elders of Lingxu Palace, thrown into the deep mountains to be fed to fierce beasts. If it came to that, my reputation would be ruined, and I wouldn't rest in peace!"

Thinking this, Yang Dong became more anxious.

However, Yang Dong understood that anxiety would not solve the current problem. Only by finding a flaw in the array could he hope to escape his predicament.

Forcing himself to calm down, Yang Dong dealt with the attacks from the fire and water spirit energy dragons while carefully observing the formation.

But Fang Bai's "Twin Dragons Slaying Immortals Array" was exquisitely ingenious. Yang Dong wasn't an Array Master, and even an Array Master wouldn't discern its flaws or find a way to break it.

"Sigh..."

After observing for a while, Yang Dong became more confused and frustrated, finally giving up with a sigh.

At that moment, two figures appeared on a mountain ridge a thousand meters from the scene.

Those two were Han Feng'er and Han Xiangtian, siblings who had just arrived from Flaming Sun City.

The siblings were there to see how the Yang father and son would meet their end.

"He's dead! Yang Fei that scoundrel is finally dead! Yang Dong the old thief is also trapped by Senior Fang's array! Haha... Senior Fang is mighty!"

Standing on the ridge, Han Xiangtian looked far into the distance, and seeing the scene unfolded here, he couldn't restrain his excitement, dancing and gesturing wildly.

If Han Xiangtian could see it, then naturally the stronger Han Feng'er could see it as well. Her face was full of emotion, her eyes reddened, and suddenly she knelt on the ground, tears falling like rain. She cried sadly, "Father! Mother! The Yang Fei who murdered you has been executed, and now you two can rest in peace! When Yang Dong, the old thief, is dead, Xiangtian and I will carry their heads back home and pay our respects at your graves!"

Seeing his sister kneel, Han Xiangtian immediately followed suit. Hearing his sister's sorrowful words, sadness welled up in him, and tears streamed down uncontrollably.

When they were still children, their parents, who were Foundation Establishment Experts, were killed by Yang Fei for possessing a valuable cultivation treasure. From that time, a seed of hatred was sown in their hearts.

Afterward, the siblings sought revenge by participating in the selection of disciples for the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion. Han Feng'er succeeded in joining, but Han Xiangtian was denied entry due to insufficient aptitude and had to work as a menial servant in Flaming Sun City, earning meager resources for cultivation.

Thus, the siblings spent ten years apart, one in the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion and the other in Flaming Sun City.

Over the decade, Han Feng'er became a mid-stage Foundation Establishment expert, rising from a menial servant disciple to an external courtyard disciple of the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion.

Han Xiangtian, on the other hand, due to the lack of cultivation resources, made little progress.

Han Feng'er occasionally sneaked him some cultivation resources to help him, among which was an axe given by Yang Fei.

Nevertheless, neither Han Feng'er nor Han Xiangtian foresaw that the axe would unveil grievances between Lingxu Palace and the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion, leading them to leverage Fang Bai's hand to fulfill their revenge prematurely.

Chapter 1482: Spiritual Fire Reappears

The resounding booms continuously emanated from within the mountain valley, shaking everyone to their core.

The duel between Fang Bai and Yang Dong had been going on for nearly two hours, yet the stalemate persisted.

Yang Dong was determined to tear apart the formation set by Fang Bai and break free from it.

Meanwhile, Fang Bai was making every effort to maintain the stability of the formation, intending to trap Yang Dong within.

Initially, Fang Bai had complete confidence that he could exhaust Yang Dong's spiritual energy with the Slaughter Array, and then eliminate him in one fell swoop, but now he was somewhat lacking in confidence.

Fang Bai hadn't anticipated that Yang Dong possessed a secret technique to rapidly absorb spiritual energy. Despite being in his own "Twin Dragons Slaying Immortals Array" and facing relentless attacks from the water and fire dragons, Yang Dong's spiritual energy had not been depleted significantly.

Though Yang Dong's rate of absorbing spiritual energy couldn't match the rate of consumption, and it would be exhausted in at most two more hours, the problem was that Fang Bai was also consuming.

Fang Bai was depleting his Divine Sense rather than spiritual energy.

Once the "Twin Dragons Slaying Immortals Array" began operating, it could automatically attack the martial artist within; however, to deal with a Golden Core mid-stage expert like Yang Dong, Fang Bai had to control the water and fire dragons within the array with his Divine Sense to multiply their attack power, in hopes of killing Yang Dong.

But by doing so, the consumption of Divine Sense was excessive, and once it reached the limit of what Fang Bai could bear, if he still could not kill Yang Dong, he would have to withdraw his Divine Sense to avoid harming himself.

By then, the "Twin Dragons Slaying Immortals Array" set by Fang Bai could possibly collapse under Yang Dong's frenzied bombardment.

Thus, the next half an hour would be critical in deciding the victor.

Within this half an hour, unless Fang Bai could kill Yang Dong, he would have to confront Yang Dong face-to-face.

Without the aid of the Slaughter Array, it would be doubly difficult for Fang Bai to kill Yang Dong.

Yang Dong seemed to realize this too, a vicious smile appeared on his face, and his fists and feet grew more powerful, making the light net forming the formation tremble more intensely under his continuous blows.

On the distant mountain ridge, Han Feng'er and Han Xiangtian watched anxiously as Fang Bai dealt with Yang Dong using the great formation but showed no sign of prevailing, their brows tightly furrowed.

"The old villain's power is too strong, and Senior Fang's formation seems unable to trap and kill him!"

"Ah, then... what should we do? Should we go and help?"

Though the brother and sister, Han Feng'er and Han Xiangtian, were far inferior in cultivation level compared to Yang Dong and Fang Bai, they had basic discernment, observing that Fang Bai's control over the great killing formation was gradually waning, while Yang Dong's offensive grew more ferocious, causing worry in their hearts.

At this moment, Yang Dong seemed like a fierce beast trapped in a cage. If he broke out, perhaps Fang Bai would still have some hope of escaping, but the brother and sister themselves would find it hard to avoid death.

After all, the mountain ridge was merely a kilometer away from the valley, and with Yang Dong's mid-stage Golden Core cultivation, he must have already sensed their presence.

Knowing Yang Dong's cunning, upon seeing Han Feng'er here, he would surely deduce that his son Yang Fei's death had something to do with her, and in his rage, he would not spare the brother and sister.

"Xiangtian, I'll go help Senior Fang, you take the opportunity to escape! Remember, flee as far from Flaming Sun City as possible! Then find a secluded place to hide and practice diligently, and do not walk the world unless you succeed in Foundation Establishment!"

Han Feng'er turned her head to look at her brother, Han Xiangtian, and solemnly said.

"I won't go!"

Han Xiangtian stiffened his neck, saying, "I will go with you to help Senior Fang!"

Han Feng'er widened her phoenix eyes and angrily said, "Fool! You, a Half-Step Foundation Establishment Martial Artist, going there would only be a hindrance, not help! Moreover, if both of us siblings die here, who will kill the old villain Yang in the future?"

Han Xiangtian retorted, "Two Golden Core experts are battling, and you, a Foundation Establishment Martial Artist, going to help, aren't you also a hindrance?"

"You..."

Han Feng'er stomped her foot in anger, yelling, "Han Xiangtian! I am your sister, you must listen to me! If I tell you to leave, you must leave! If you don't go... you must not call me sister anymore in the future!"

Han Xiangtian's attitude was also firm, saying loudly, "I can listen to you on other matters, but not on this!"

Han Feng'er knew her brother actually couldn't bear to leave her, and that's why he didn't want to leave alone, but how could her heart truly bear to be angry with him?

However, if her brother left now, there was still a sliver of hope to escape. If they delayed any longer, both siblings might fall here.

"Xiangtian, please leave! Consider it as your sister begging you..."

Han Feng'er said mournfully, tears blurring her vision.

At that moment, the area where the brother and sister were, as if the air was ignited, the temperature suddenly rose, reaching the limit their bodies could endure, giving them the feeling of being in a fiery hell.

"What happened?"

Han Feng'er was utterly terrified and immediately formed a Defense Qi Shield around herself and her brother Han Xiangtian.

Though the Defense Qi Shield isolated the scorching air outside, they could still feel a burning sting on their skin, but that pain they could tolerate.

"That is..."

Han Feng'er wiped away her tears and focused on the two dueling in the valley, only to see a tiny flame had appeared in Fang Bai's palm at some point.

The flame, only as big as an adult's finger, seemed to contain an extremely terrifying heat within its orange hues.

The scorching heat spanning several miles emanated from that small cluster of orange flames.

Han Feng'er had a feeling that if the terrifying heat contained within that flame were entirely unleashed, she and her brother would instantly turn into two wisps of smoke, and all the vegetation within several miles would vanish without a trace.

Han Feng'er had this feeling, and Yang Dong, trapped in the "Twin Dragons Slaying Immortals Array," had it as well.

When the orange flame appeared in Fang Bai's hand, Yang Dong, closest to Fang Bai, immediately sensed an unprecedented deadly threat.

As an Alchemist, Yang Dong's body possessed both Wood Spirit Qi and Fire Spirit Energy, but under the heat wave unleashed by the orange flame in Fang Bai's hand, the two layers of Defense Qi Shield he formed with Wood Spirit Qi and Fire Spirit Energy were no more than two pieces of thin paper, providing no protection whatsoever, and were instantly destroyed.

"Ugh..."

As the rolling heat waves enveloped Yang Dong, he only felt as if his skin was being pierced by thousands of needles, the intense pain causing him to grunt.

The next moment, his hair, beard, and clothing erupted into flames and were reduced to nothing in an instant.

Yang Dong was greatly shocked, never having imagined that the small cluster of flames in Fang Bai's hand could wield such astonishing power. Compared to it, the Fire Spirit Energy within his body was utterly insignificant.

Chapter 1483: Spiritual Fire Burns Strong Enemies

The flame in Fang Bai's palm was precisely the Red Silkworm Spirit Fire he had subdued in the "Eternal Death Zone" of the Minor World.

The Red Silkworm Spirit Fire had incredible power and destructive capability. It had once turned a thousand miles of land into barren grounds in the Minor World, creating an underground Fire Spirit Stone vein that incited countless battles and disputes among martial artists.

If it weren't for Yang Dong being a Golden Core realm expert with overwhelming strength, Fang Bai would not have unleashed the Red Silkworm Spirit Fire to defeat the enemy.

Among all the abilities and methods Fang Bai could currently employ, the Red Silkworm Spirit Fire was the most powerful.

This was because only with the Red Silkworm Spirit Fire could Fang Bai fully unleash its power. Although the Blood-Drinking Mad Blade, Houyi Bow, and Five Elements Origin Qi Cauldron were mysterious spiritual artifacts that potentially could outmatch the Red Silkworm Spirit Fire in raw power, at least until Fang Bai could trigger their greater might, the Red Silkworm Spirit Fire remained his strongest ace.

From a kilometer away, Han Feng'er and Han Xiangtian could only sense the residual heat of the Red Silkworm Spirit Fire, while Yang Dong, only a hundred meters from Fang Bai, was almost at the fire's core, feeling its intense heat.

The Red Silkworm Spirit Fire is one of the Heaven and Earth Strange Fires, its power second only to the Immortal Fire Fang Bai controlled in his previous life. While it may not reach the terrifying level of burning the sky and extinguishing the earth, it could instantly envelop and devastate everything within a thousand miles.

Of course, with Fang Bai's current cultivation level, he was still far from capable of unleashing the full might of the Red Silkworm Spirit Fire.

But it was more than enough to deal with Yang Dong, a mid-rank Golden Core expert.

Once the Red Silkworm Spirit Fire was unleashed, the heat waves swept through the "Twin Dragons Slaying Immortals Array," flames soared, and the Fire Dragon imbibed the heat emanating from the Red Silkworm Spirit Fire, causing its size to expand numerous feet, its brilliance growing increasingly dazzling, ejecting mass after mass of Fire Primordial Qi.

The heat contained within this wave of Fire Primordial Qi was ten times that of before, making it unbearable even for Yang Dong's body of steel.

"Ah..."

Yang Dong felt his entire being seemingly engulfed by the fire waves, an indescribable pain seeping through his muscles, bones, and flesh, causing him to howl in agony, desiring to vent this pain that penetrated to his very marrow and soul.

He frantically waved the spiritual artifact in his hands, enclosing his body within it, striving to keep the fire waves at bay.

Yet it was all in vain; the fire waves quickly enveloped and submerged his entire being.

Amidst the light, horrifying sizzling sounds, Yang Dong's skin began to burn, followed by his muscles and bones, with a charred scent wafting out, filling the entire valley.

At this moment, even if Yang Dong wished to trigger his Golden Core's self-detonation to perish alongside Fang Bai, it was too late.

On the ridge a kilometer away, Han Feng'er and Han Xiangtian witnessed Yang Dong, now a fireman, scream in agony, a chill rising from their feet.

Yang Dong, one of the four Great Elders of Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion, possessed a mid-rank Golden Core cultivation, revered by most disciples of Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion.

Yet such a formidable figure, making Han Feng'er and Han Xiangtian despair at the thought of avenging their family's death, seemed about to fall to a mere flicker of flame in Fang Bai's palm, making them feel as if they were dreaming.

The small flame in Senior Fang's palm, possessing such terrifying power, what kind of treasure was it?

After a moment of shock, the siblings felt a rush of pleasure.

Yang Fei and Yang Dong, father and son, had consecutively fallen; their great vengeance achieved, leaving no regrets in this life.

"Just moments ago, we feared Senior Fang would lose, but then the tide turned with such a formidable artifact unveiled, decisively securing victory!"

At this point, Han Xiangtian, thoroughly impressed by Fang Bai, looked distantly at Fang Bai wielding the spiritual fire, his face alight with excitement, saying, "Since Senior Fang defeated Yang Dong, surely he wouldn't fear the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion Master Mu Enze, right? Sister, do you think we should urge Senior Fang to take out Mu Enze and destroy Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion?"

"What nonsense are you saying?"

Han Feng'er lightly tapped Han Xiangtian's head, then rolled her eyes and said, "Only defeating Yang Dong took Senior Fang quite an effort, didn't he? Do you think the Pavilion Master Mu Enze, a high-rank Golden Core expert, is comparable to Yang Dong? Additionally, the three Great Elders are not easy to

deal with, nor are the eight Golden Core realm Stewards and tens of thousands of internal and external courtyard disciples. Facing such strength, Senior Fang, along with us two, might not make much of a splash!"

Han Xiangtian scratched his head and said, "There's no way the three of us could simultaneously deal with tens of thousands of Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion disciples, but we could defeat them one by one like now!"

Han Feng'er sneered, "You little brat, always spouting nonsense! Senior Fang would have to be insane to accompany you in such mad endeavors!"

Han Xiangtian grumbled, "Well, you never know... Senior Fang is younger than me, might even be crazier than I am!"

The siblings murmured quietly, while across the valley, Yang Dong's cries gradually softened, weakened, and finally ceased altogether, marking the end of his life as he fell to the ground.

With the fire extinguished, Yang Dong's once strong as steel Golden Core expert's body had turned charcoal-like, looking frightfully grim.

Fang Bai stepped forward, placing his hand on Yang Dong's Qi Sea, a strong pulling force emanating from his palm.

Moments later, a fist-sized Golden Core, condensed from Wood Spirit Qi and Fire Spirit Qi, emerged from Yang Dong's Qi Sea, hovering in Fang Bai's palm.

Yang Dong, a mid-rank Golden Core expert, had a Golden Core imbued with spiritual energy far more abundant and profound than the one Fang Bai previously obtained from the Green Tail Wolf.

Other martial artists, upon acquiring a Golden Core condensed within a spirit beast or martial artist's Qi Sea, dared not directly devour it, requiring lengthy refinement to slowly absorb the spiritual energy within.

Yet Fang Bai's physicality was so robust he could directly devour the Golden Core of stronger martial artists or spirit beasts and rapidly refine it in his Qi Sea.

Nonetheless, for all martial artists, Fang Bai included, the effects of refining a Golden Core are most paramount the first time; subsequent refinements yield diminishing effects.

Fang Bai's initial consumption and refinement of the Green Tail Wolf's Golden Core led to several small realm advances, a scenario unlikely to recur.

Even so, for Fang Bai now, a martial artist's or spirit beast's Golden Core equates to the cultivation efficacy of nearly a million Spirit Stones, not something to be easily disregarded.

Fang Bai's high-rank Foundation Establishment realm had long been solidified. He knew that once a Golden Core departs the martial artist's body, each passing moment outside reduces its benefit.

Thus, upon claiming Yang Dong's Golden Core, he hesitated not a moment, placing it within his own Qi Sea, activating the colorful Lotus Platform within at high speed, generating a powerful suction force to swiftly absorb the spiritual energy of the Golden Core.

With the Golden Core vanished, the spiritual energy within Fang Bai's Qi Sea surged, brimming abundantly.

Chapter 1484: Majestic and Dominant

After absorbing the Red Silkworm Spirit Fire into his Qi Sea and assimilating the Golden Core's Spiritual Energy, Fang Bai casually stored the charred, unrecognizable bodies of Yang Fei and Yang Dong into his Space Ring.

This time, Fang Bai stirred up a storm in Flaming Sun City, not simply to kill Yang Fei and Yang Dong and avenge the deaths of Elders Wu Zhihua and Sun Jing.

His target was the entire Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion.

In the past few days, Fang Bai had circled around inside and outside the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion, discovering that this enormous sect's foundation was extraordinarily rich, such that even a hundred Lingxu Palaces couldn't compare.

If it weren't for the incident of the two Lingxu Palace elders being harmed, Fang Bai might not have ever set his sights on the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion,

but once Fang Bai made up his mind, the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion was doomed to suffer.

Fang Bai's interest wasn't only in the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion; there was also another major sect in Flaming Sun City, the Golden Sword Sect.

Over the past few days, Fang Bai collected a lot of top-secret information about these two sects, realizing that though they appeared righteous and just, they were in fact vicious and extremely dark.

The rise of the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion and the Golden Sword Sect was built on the blood, tears, and even the bones of countless martial artists passing through.

For thousands of years, countless martial artists traveling north and south had been secretly harmed by the strong members of the two sects, and vast amounts of cultivation resources had fallen into their hands.

However, these dark and evil acts were done with such secrecy that they went undiscovered, and it was by exploiting these dark methods that the two sects rapidly grew strong, becoming the most powerful sects in Flaming Sun City.

The two sects were fully aware of each other's dark paths to power, but neither would expose the other. If they did, no martial artist would dare to come again, and those in the city would live in constant fear, potentially leading to the decline of a once-flourishing metropolis.

Flaming Sun City was the stronghold of these two sects, and they would never want such a thing to happen.

What Fang Bai intended to do was to ruthlessly unveil this darkness, thoroughly exposing the vile deeds of the two sects to the world.

Fang Bai knew that once this darkness was revealed, it would inevitably provoke a bloody storm, possibly leading to the deaths of thousands of martial artists, with rivers of blood flowing in Flaming Sun City.

But if the fall of thousands of martial artists could save hundreds of thousands of others, Fang Bai had no reason not to do it.

And the bodies of Yang Fei and Yang Dong were the fuse to uncover this darkness.

Fang Bai turned his head towards the ridge where Han Feng'er and Han Xiangtian were, noticing that they were looking in this direction but dared not come over, knowing they were intimidated by the power of the Red Silkworm Spirit Fire he had just unleashed.

Fang Bai smiled, and with a flicker of his body, appeared in front of Han Feng'er and Han Xiangtian, saying, "I have great use for the bodies of Yang Dong and his father; I cannot give them to you!"

"Ah? Oh..."

Han Feng'er snapped out of her daze, looked at Fang Bai with some trepidation, and instinctively nodded.

Although she couldn't take the heads of the Yang family father and son to honor her long-deceased parents, which made Han Feng'er somewhat disappointed, she felt no resentment in her heart.

After all, Fang Bai had killed the Yang family father and son for them and avenged their great grudge. They were only grateful to him, how could they harbor resentment?

Leaving aside everything else, just the display of super strength when Fang Bai killed Yang Dong left them with no room to negotiate.

"Senior Fang, you were truly mighty and domineering just now! That Yang Dong was even an elder of the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion, yet before you, he was utterly defeated!"

Han Xiangtian grinned and flattered Fang Bai.

Upon hearing Han Xiangtian's comment that "Yang Dong was utterly defeated," Fang Bai shook his head, smiled, and sighed, "In truth, there was a lot of luck involved in my ability to kill Yang Dong! His cultivation level was much higher than mine. His mistake was being overconfident and underestimating me, leading him to fall into the Great Killing Formation I had set up in advance. Otherwise, it wouldn't have been easy for me to put him to death!"

Han Xiangtian thought of the small flame that decided Yang Dong's fate, finally unable to suppress his curiosity and asked, "Senior Fang, what exactly is that little flame of yours? Once it appeared, its heat spread everywhere; my sister and I almost couldn't withstand it!"

Han Feng'er was also deeply impressed by the flame Fang Bai revealed, thinking it must be an unparalleled treasure; otherwise, how could it shift the battle in an instant and bring about Yang Dong's demise?

Fang Bai had no reason to hide from the two siblings and said, "That's Spirit Fire, a variant of Heaven and Earth Strange Fire. Don't underestimate it because it's just a small wisp; the heat it releases is ten or even a hundred times greater than ordinary Fire Primordial Qi, and ordinary martial artists cannot withstand it!"

Han Feng'er and Han Xiangtian, with relatively low cultivation and little experience in distant trials, had never even heard of "Spirit Fire" or "Heaven and Earth Strange Fire," only sensing its formidable might.

"Han Xiangtian, didn't you just say you wanted to go crazy with me, head to Flaming Sun City to take down Mu Enze, and destroy the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion? I'm ready to act now, do you dare join me?"

Fang Bai looked at Han Xiangtian with a smile and asked.

Upon hearing Fang Bai's words, Han Feng'er was first taken aback, her initial reaction being that Fang Bai might have been blinded by his previous victory.

Although Fang Bai had successfully slain Yang Dong and Yang Fei, proving his immense strength, Yang Dong and Yang Fei were just the tip of the iceberg of the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion's overall power.

In Han Feng'er's view, Fang Bai challenging the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion was akin to using a sledgehammer to strike a stone, enormously overestimating himself.

"Senior Fang, this... this can't be done!"

Han Feng'er, not wanting Fang Bai to seek his doom nor her brother to follow him to die, instinctively protested.

"Sister, why can't it be done?"

Han Xiangtian's clenched fists were brimming with enthusiasm, his face flushed with excitement, nearly jumping up on the spot, laughing, "Haha, I never thought Senior Fang would have such an idea; we're perfectly in sync! Senior Fang, I'll accompany you back to Flaming Sun City, and we'll turn the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion upside down together!"

Han Feng'er stomped her foot and urgently advised Fang Bai, "Senior Fang, you just arrived and don't know how powerful the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion truly is. I..."

"Miss Han, although you've been infiltrated in the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion for many years, speaking of understanding it, you know it less than I do!"

Han Feng'er widened her eyes in disbelief.

Fang Bai smiled and said, "What you understand about the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion is just appearances; what I know is its internal secrets. I dare bet that if you knew the secrets of the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion, you would think of leaving immediately! And if you were strong enough, you would want to utterly destroy it!"

Chapter 1485: Three People Promote Together

Fang Bai casually revealed some dark secrets he had learned about Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion to Han Feng'er, which instantly made her face turn pale with fear and break into a cold sweat.

Beside her, Han Xiangtian was even more terrified, his legs went limp, and he sat on the ground muttering something quietly.

Han Feng'er originally thought that among the tens of thousands of disciples in Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion, those as sinister and malicious as Yang Dong and Yang Fei were very few. However, after listening to Fang Bai, she realized what kind of sect she was actually in.

Han Feng'er also understood that the reason she has not yet become one of the many black-hearted, evil martial artists of Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion, executing some cruel and bloody tasks, is because her strength is insufficient, and she has not yet drawn the attention of the higher-ups in the pavilion.

Unless one day her cultivation level could reach the high rank of Foundation Establishment, enter the inner court from the external courtyard, and become one of the inner court disciples.

Thinking about how she has painstakingly accumulated cultivation resources over the years, striving tirelessly to enter the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion's inner court, Han Feng'er felt a burst of fear.

Becoming an inner court disciple of Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion would certainly allocate more cultivation resources and provide stronger power, but by then, it would also be the beginning of her downfall and even destruction.

What Fang Bai revealed was logical and compelling, leaving Han Feng'er with no room for doubt.

Even if Han Feng'er was unsure about certain things, a brief investigation upon returning to Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion would reveal the truth or falsehood.

"Senior Fang, is there anything we siblings need to do?"

From the moment she learned about Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion's dark secrets, Han Feng'er no longer regarded herself as a disciple of the pavilion and resolved to follow Fang Bai and completely overthrow this giant.

Han Feng'er did not know that Fang Bai wanted to overthrow not just Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion, but also the equally powerful Golden Sword Sect.

Just now when Fang Bai expressed his intention to annihilate Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion, it almost scared Han Feng'er to the point of collapse. If she knew Fang Bai's target also included Golden Sword Sect, she wouldn't know if she still had the courage to follow Fang Bai back to Flaming Sun City.

"There are quite a few things you need to do..."

Fang Bai gave some detailed instructions, which made Han Feng'er and Han Xiangtian's eyes shine, and their spirits were aroused, longing to return to Flaming Sun City to stir things up.

"Your strengths are too weak, and it would be dangerous if discovered while working out there. So, here's what we'll do..."

Fang Bai thought for a moment and then said, "I will teach each of you a set of martial arts techniques now. You should comprehend them right here. If you can break through your cultivation level, that would be best; even if not, your power will be much improved than before. Additionally, I will craft two spiritual artifacts for you to wear, which will ensure your safety in case you face danger!"

"Thank you, Senior Fang!"

Han Feng'er and Han Xiangtian were overwhelmed with joy and hurriedly knelt down to express their gratitude.

Fang Bai, who has slain mid-level Golden Core experts, if one can receive his teachings and guidance, it would be a great opportunity and fortune, a rare and treasured chance.

The two knelt down in a formal manner to express their gratitude for Fang Bai's kindness in teaching them.

In their eyes, although Fang Bai was not their master, the gratitude and sentiment were equivalent to having a master.

Fang Bai reached out a hand to lift them up, then walked to a large rock under a nearby tree, sat cross-legged, and gestured to the two large rocks beside him, indicating the siblings to sit down and listen.

Han Feng'er practiced Wood System Martial Arts, while Han Xiangtian practiced Earth Element Techniques; Fang Bai thus taught them Wood Spirit Art, Earth Spirit Art techniques, and Bipartite Blossoms Technique, Profound Armor Shield martial arts.

Bipartite Blossoms Technique is a wood system offensive martial arts, just suited to a female martial artist like Han Feng'er.

Profound Armor Shield, on the other hand, is an earth system defensive martial arts. Han Xiangtian's cultivation level is much weaker than Han Feng'er, and it's unlikely for his strength to vastly improve in a short period; this defensive martial arts suits him perfectly as it gives him strong self-protection power.

Han Feng'er and Han Xiangtian were of average talent and not considered good students.

But Fang Bai was undoubtedly a good teacher. After imparting the martial arts techniques to Han Feng'er and Han Xiangtian, he carefully and plainly explained them to them.

Fang Bai's explanation was almost word-for-word, making it easy for Han Feng'er and Han Xiangtian to comprehend, with nothing obscure or difficult to understand.

The three stayed on the ridge for several hours, until the moon was high in the sky, when Fang Bai finally ended his explanation, letting the siblings ponder on their own.

Fang Bai's explanation opened a window to a new world for Han Feng'er and Han Xiangtian, leading them to a profound realization as if undergoing Ambrosia Baptism, simultaneously feeling that the martial arts techniques they had previously learned were as useless as garbage.

At this time, the siblings' worship of Fang Bai had reached a new height, regarding Fang Bai as a god-like figure.

Seeing Fang Bai closing his eyes to cultivate, the siblings also calmed their excited hearts and gradually entered an incomparably mystical cultivation state.

An entire night passed as the three engaged in closed-eyed cultivation.

As the morning sun rose the next day, when the first ray of sunlight fell upon the three of them, Han Xiangtian's body trembled slightly, and he opened his eyes.

A hundred breaths later, Han Feng'er had the same reaction.

The siblings' gaze simultaneously landed on Fang Bai, who was meditating under a tree not far away.

When the siblings exited the cultivation state, they both advanced in rank, causing their aura to ripple outward, stirring dust and stones in a radius of several dozen meters, yet, such commotion didn't affect Fang Bai in the slightest.

Fang Bai sat cross-legged, like an old monk in deep meditation, unmoving; the sunlight on him seemed to gild him with a golden sacred light.

Han Feng'er and Han Xiangtian revered Fang Bai as if he were a deity, not daring to breathe loudly for fear of disturbing his cultivation.

"Quickly retreat a kilometer away!"

Several hundred breaths later, the siblings heard Fang Bai's booming voice.

This voice, akin to thunder, startled the siblings, causing them to instinctively retreat at speed, until creating a distance of over a kilometer from Fang Bai, where they paused to watch him.

"Sister, is Senior Fang about to advance in rank?"

Han Xiangtian remotely felt a surging mighty aura from Fang Bai, like facing an erupting volcano.

"Perhaps..."

Han Feng'er murmured, her gaze fixed on Fang Bai, eyes shining with brilliance.

Suddenly, a vast and majestic aura burst from Fang Bai, transforming into an extremely powerful shockwave expanding outward, sweeping clear everything within a thousand meters radius, including several large trees and thousands of large stones.

Chapter 1486: Congratulations

"My heavens... this is terrifying! What realm has Senior Fang advanced to now?"

Han Xiangtian had never seen a Martial Artist cause such a commotion when advancing in rank, and was momentarily speechless.

Han Feng'er exclaimed, "Previously, Senior Fang could defeat a mid-rank Golden Core expert like Yang Dong. This time, if he advances again... even if it's just a small realm, wouldn't he be able to defeat the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion Master?"

"I was saying, if Senior Fang wasn't completely confident, why would he go to destroy the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion?"

Han Xiangtian rubbed his palms together and excitedly said, "Sister, you've worked so hard over the years to accumulate cultivation resources, diligently trained in Martial Dao, and aimed to advance to a high-rank Foundation Establishment realm. Have you achieved your long-cherished wish this time?"

Han Feng'er's face lit up when this was mentioned, and she nodded, "Yes! I never thought I would achieve my long-held dream in just one night! This is all thanks to Senior Fang's guidance and instruction; otherwise, who knows how many more years it would've taken!"

After a pause, her gaze shifted over to Han Xiangtian in surprise, "Ah! Brother, you've actually... reached mid-rank Foundation Establishment?"

Han Xiangtian laughed, "Yes! I thought I would never succeed in Foundation Establishment in this lifetime!"

Both siblings had advanced, fulfilling their long-held desires and realizing that it would have been impossible without Fang Bai's guidance. Their gratitude towards Fang Bai was indescribable.

Han Xiangtian looked in Fang Bai's direction and scratched his head, "Sister, do you think if we ask Senior Fang to be our master, would he accept us?"

What Han Xiangtian said, Han Feng'er had also thought about. However, knowing their circumstances, she sighed softly and shook her head, "Let's not. Our aptitudes are average at best; I'm afraid we won't catch Senior Fang's interest."

Han Xiangtian's expression dimmed, "Is there really no hope?"

Han Feng'er smiled bitterly and shook her head.

"We could try, maybe Senior Fang will agree?"

Han Xiangtian mumbled under his breath.

Han Feng'er said, "Actually, meeting Senior Fang and receiving his guidance is already a great stroke of destiny. Why force more? Besides, whether we become his disciples or not, we should respect and honor him as we would a master."

Han Xiangtian straightened his expression, "Sister is right."

At that moment, the terrifying aura released from Fang Bai's body dissipated. Fang Bai slowly opened his eyes and stood up.

On the mountain ridge, the wind was fierce. Fang Bai's white robe, like snow, fluttered as spiritual energy surrounded him. His demeanor was ethereal, like an immortal about to ride the wind.

Although Han Feng'er and Han Xiangtian couldn't discern Fang Bai's cultivation level, they sensed a more intense pressure emanating from him, understanding that his strength must have made a significant leap forward with this advancement.

The siblings ran over to Fang Bai, bowed in unison, and said, "Congratulations, Senior Fang!"

Fang Bai glanced over them and said with a smile, "Congratulations to you both as well!"

They were naturally congratulating each other on their respective advancements in cultivation level.

Han Feng'er, with a look of gratitude, respectfully said, "We will be eternally grateful for your teachings, Senior Fang!"

Han Xiangtian patted his chest, "Thanks to Senior Fang for helping me succeed in Foundation Establishment. From now on, my life belongs to Senior Fang!"

Previously, Han Xiangtian's level was only Half-Step Foundation Establishment, considered the lowest among Martial Artists in Flaming Sun City, where Foundation Establishment experts were everywhere. He could only run errands for a vendor at the Martial Artists Trading Market, earning a meager cultivation resource.

But now, Han Xiangtian not only successfully reached Foundation Establishment but also achieved mid-rank Foundation Establishment, making him equal in cultivation level to the vendor he worked for.

For Han Xiangtian, this was like a phoenix rising from the ashes, enough to make him feel proud.

He could even imagine the surprise on the vendor's face if he returned to Flaming Sun City now.

Fang Bai waved his hand, "No need for gratitude. If you handle the tasks I mentioned earlier, that would be the greatest repayment to me!"

With that, he casually retrieved a Spiritual Artifact from his Space Ring and tossed it to Han Xiangtian, "How can a Foundation Establishment Martial Artist be without a Spiritual Artifact? Here, this is my gift to you!"

The Spiritual Artifact Fang Bai gave Han Xiangtian was a yellow ruler, two feet long, made from earth attribute material called Yellow Core Stone, named "Boulder Shatter Ruler", symbolizing its ability to shatter even the most solid rock.

This "Boulder Shatter Ruler" was acquired by Fang Bai during the great battle when the Soul Summoning Hall attacked Lingxu Palace, from a fallen high-level member of the Soul Summoning Hall. At that time, Fang Bai had casually thrown it into his Space Ring. Giving it to Han Xiangtian now could be considered a fortunate encounter.

Though the "Boulder Shatter Ruler" was only a low-grade Holy Spiritual Artifact, it was perfect for the newly advanced, unstable Han Xiangtian. Later, when Han Xiangtian's cultivation level increased, Fang Bai could help upgrade the ruler into a more powerful mid-grade Holy Spiritual Artifact.

Han Xiangtian took the Boulder Shatter Ruler, examined it closely, then swung it with all his might. It felt perfectly balanced as if tailor-made for him, and he couldn't help but express his immense gratitude to Fang Bai.

Afterward, Han Xiangtian infused the ruler with a strand of his Divine Sense-bound blood, officially marking it as his own.

Standing beside him, Han Feng'er watched as her brother played delightedly with the ruler, secretly feeling happy for him.

For a Foundation Establishment expert, possessing a satisfactory Spiritual Artifact was critical, as it could enhance combat abilities and enable Flight Imperial Instruments.

"Let's go, back to Flaming Sun City!"

Fang Bai looked at the morning sun on the eastern horizon, took a deep breath, and said aloud.

He summoned the Blood-Drinking Mad Blade, jumped onto the blade, and with a slight thought movement, there was a "swish" sound. The Blood-Drinking Mad Blade trailed a long red light, flying towards Flaming Sun City.

Han Feng'er and Han Xiangtian also each maneuvered their Spiritual Artifacts, following Fang Bai.

The battle that occurred in the mountains hundreds of miles outside Flaming Sun City did not disturb any Martial Artists within the city. Even the tens of thousands of disciples of the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion were unaware that one of their Elders and one Core Disciple had already fallen.

When Fang Bai and the others returned to Flaming Sun City, the city was still bustling and prosperous. The standoff between the two major sects within the city wasn't as intense as before, possibly because the upper echelon on both sides realized that continued confrontation was not the solution and had quietly reached a resolution.

After entering the city, Fang Bai returned to the "Guest Arrival" inn to reunite with Ren Tianfu and other disciples of Lingxu Palace.

Han Feng'er returned to the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion to carry out Fang Bai's plans.

After resigning from his errand-running job at the Martial Artists Trading Market, Han Xiangtian rented a stall at the largest Martial Artists Trading Market in Flaming Sun City.

The stall was rented for Fang Bai. Early the next morning, Fang Bai would come here, change his appearance, and refine Spirit Pills and Spiritual Artifacts for others, preparing to make a name for himself in Flaming Sun City.

Chapter 1487: Rest in Peace

Gaining fame in Flaming Sun City is the first step in Fang Bai's plan to destroy the two major sects in the city: the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion and the Golden Sword Sect.

Fang Bai intends to use this as a spark to ignite a larger conflict between the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion and the Golden Sword Sect, thoroughly intensifying their enmity to the point where they would not hesitate to go to war.

"Fang... Senior Fang, you've finally returned!"

When Fang Bai returned to "Guest Arrival" and appeared before the disciples of Lingxu Palace, Ren Tianfu and others looked at him with eyes full of reverence.

Sun Lin, Shi Ming, Zheng Hong, and Huang Zhong, these junior disciples of Lingxu Palace, had only recently learned from Steward Ren Tianfu about Fang Bai's hidden depths.

They never would have guessed that this fellow disciple, who had lived alongside them for several months, had been concealing his capabilities so deeply.

Especially Shi Ming, who had not only been addressing Fang Bai as a brother but also engaging in frequent camaraderie without any hint of reverence for a senior in the Golden Core realm, couldn't help but feel a chill at his feet and sweat on his forehead.

No wonder Shi Ming felt afraid; the anger of a Golden Core realm expert could release a pressure unbearable for him. If such an expert wished to end his life, it would be no different from swatting a fly.

It's not just these junior disciples of Lingxu Palace; even the two stewards, Ren Tianfu and Ren Tianlu, had to bend their backs a bit in Fang Bai's presence.

A Golden Core realm expert could hold a high position in a major sect like the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion, and even Palace Master Li Sanfu of Lingxu Palace would address Fang Bai as a junior.

In front of these Lingxu Palace disciples, who he had spent many days with, Fang Bai naturally did not put on any airs. Facing their reverent greetings, he smiled and nodded, speaking kindly, "Everyone, don't be nervous, and please don't be constrained! I know, after my true strength was revealed, you would instinctively distance yourselves from me..."

He sighed lightly and said with a wry smile, "To be honest, I really hope you all would treat me as before, calling me by the same names... But I also know that's not very possible! In the future, whether you call me 'Senior Fang', 'Fang Bai', or 'Brother Fang', I'm happy to respond! Of course, the ones I like to hear most are the latter two!"

Hearing this, Ren Tianfu and the others smiled knowingly, all thinking, "From now on we'll call you 'Senior Fang'. Calling you by name? Being brotherly with you? That's a joke, even if you're willing, we wouldn't dare!"

Among them, Shi Ming had known Fang Bai the longest and was bolder than the others. He chuckled and said, "Fang... cough... Senior Fang, now that you are a Golden Core realm expert, could you guide us a bit on the Martial Dao in the future?"

For martial artists like Shi Ming, who had not yet achieved Foundation Establishment, receiving guidance from a Golden Core realm expert could be more beneficial than years of cultivation. Perhaps an insight or enlightenment from Fang Bai could help them break through to the next level.

Dozens of middle-stage Foundation Establishment martial artists like Ren Tianfu and Ren Tianlu, who were far from the Golden Core realm, also hoped for Fang Bai's guidance to advance their own cultivation levels.

Therefore, Shi Ming's words resonated with the disciples of Lingxu Palace, and they all looked at Fang Bai with anticipation.

"Once we rescue Palace Master Li, and avenge Elder Wu and Elder Sun, I will set aside time specifically to explain the Martial Dao to you all."

Facing the hopeful gazes of the Lingxu Palace disciples, Fang Bai did not refuse, but rescuing and avenging were urgent matters that had to be prioritized first.

When Fang Bai mentioned Palace Master Li, Elder Wu, and Elder Sun, all the Lingxu Palace disciples showed signs of grief.

Sun Lin, having lost her grandmother, had red-rimmed eyes, tears glistening.

Sun Lin had only recently learned from Ren Tianfu about her grandmother's demise. Initially, driven by grief and anger, she wanted to go to the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion to find Yang Fei for revenge. Later, she was persuaded by Ren Tianfu, who informed her that Fang Bai would avenge the two elders, which finally calmed her down.

After leaving the city for a day and a night, who knows what news Fang Bai would bring back?

"Senior Fang, was your journey smooth?"

Ren Tianfu asked in a lowered voice.

He was one of the few who knew about Fang Bai's plan, aware that Fang Bai had left Flaming Sun City to lure Yang Dong and Yang Fei out of the city, intending to kill them outside and then make use of their bodies.

However, Ren Tianfu and Ren Tianlu only knew of Fang Bai's plan to kill Yang Dong and Yang Fei. As for destroying the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion and Golden Sword Sect, Fang Bai hadn't disclosed this to them, so they naturally were unaware.

For Ren Tianfu and Ren Tianlu, Fang Bai's mission to kill the Yang father-son duo was already a formidable undertaking, involving certain risks and uncertain success.

Had they known Fang Bai's ultimate goal was to destroy the two major sects of Flaming Sun City, they would probably have been so frightened that their souls would leave their bodies, trembling all over.

"Everything went smoothly!"

Fang Bai said with a smile, "Yang Fei and Yang Dong are both dead."

"Really?"

Ren Tianfu couldn't believe it for a moment and urgently asked.

Seeing Fang Bai nod, the Ren brothers looked at each other, both thrilled.

"Great! The Yang father and son have been executed, Elder Wu and Elder Sun's grievances avenged! They can rest in peace now!"

Ren Tianlu said with deep emotion.

Sun Lin, with tears streaming down her face, murmured, "Grandmother, did you hear that? The villain who killed you has been executed by Senior Fang!"

With a faint smile on his face, Fang Bai quietly watched the Lingxu Palace disciples express their emotions, whether it was reflection, sadness, excitement, or exhilaration, without interrupting.

"With the Yang father and son punished, the next step is the rescue of Palace Master Li. Senior Fang, we are weak and cannot be of much help; hence, we rely entirely on you! If you succeed in rescuing Palace Master Li, all disciples of Lingxu Palace, tens of thousands strong, will be eternally grateful to you!"

Ren Tianfu told Fang Bai.

Fang Bai had earlier mentioned to the Ren brothers during a chat that he intended to leave Lingxu Palace once these matters were resolved. The Ren brothers knew that Lingxu Palace, being a small temple, cannot retain such a hidden dragon as Fang Bai. Although they felt regret, they were also helpless.

However, Fang Bai also promised to give Lingxu Palace a great fortune before leaving, which might help Lingxu Palace rise to become a powerful sect like the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion or the Golden Sword Sect within ten years.

To ascend to the level of a powerful sect like the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion or the Golden Sword Sect was something the disciples of Lingxu Palace, tens of thousands strong, never dared to imagine. Yet, Fang Bai's words kindled a spark of hope in Ren Tianfu and others' hearts.

Fang Bai, who could kill a mid-stage Golden Core expert like Yang Dong and could refine mid-tier Holy Grade spirit pills, with such a remarkable person offering a fortune, who could say there's no hope for Lingxu Palace to stand on par with powerful sects like the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion and Golden Sword Sect in the future?

Chapter 1488: Setting up a stall for business

On this morning, at the largest Martial Artists Trading Market in Flaming Sun City, some regular martial artist patrons discovered a new stall quietly appeared in the area where the alchemists and artifact refiners gathered.

In front of the new stall stood a freshly erected stone sign etched with the words "Alchemy and Artifact Refining".

Unlike the other old alchemists and artifact refiners at surrounding stalls, who were mostly elderly, the two owners of this new stall appeared to be only young martial artists in their twenties.

The two young martial artists—one clad in white, the other in black—were both handsome and graceful youths.

"These two young guys who haven't even fully grown up, understand alchemy and artifact refining? Ridiculous!"

"They actually came here to set up a stall and compete, how audacious!"

"Perhaps they've learned a little about alchemy and artifact refining somewhere and think they are the best in the world, daring to compete with us old folks!"

"Would you dare to request them for alchemy or artifact refining if you were a martial artist?"

"Of course not! Alchemy ingredients and artifact refining materials are not easy to come by. If they ruin them, what can be done, even if they are killed thereafter, it's no use!"

"Haha... I bet these youngsters won't last more than two days before they leave in disgrace!"

...

In this area, dozens of alchemists and artifact refiners gathered. They cast disdainful glances at the new stall run by the young martial artists, with tones full of ridicule.

In their eyes, these naive youngsters dared to come here and compete for business, utterly laughable, and destined for failure.

The alchemy and artifact refining market within Flaming Sun City are mostly monopolized by the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion and the Golden Sword Sect. However, due to over ten million martial artists in the city demanding vast amounts of spirit pills and spiritual artifacts, the sects alone can't handle all the business.

Therefore, the two sects tacitly allowed some unaffiliated loose cultivator alchemists and artifact refiners to rent stalls in the city's trading market to assist martial artists. They regularly took a cut of the profits.

Yet, those loose cultivator alchemists and artifact refiners generally had low ranks and could only refine low-grade holy spirit pills and spiritual medicines. Nevertheless, due to the thriving business, each could amass great profit.

Regarding the newly arrived young "colleagues", the surrounding dozen alchemists and artifact refiners held a dismissive attitude, not considering them a threat to their business at all.

The two new young martial artists quickly tidied their stall, idly chatting while waiting for business to come.

"Senior Fang, the alchemists and artifact refiners here don't seem to welcome us!"

The black-clad man glanced around, meeting unfriendly gazes, with a slightly tense demeanor.

"We're here to steal their business, it's normal they're not welcoming! Just watch, soon enough they might deeply hate us!"

The man in white smiled as he replied.

The man in white and the man in black were Fang Bai and Han Xiangtian.

Fang Bai's plan to destroy the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion and the Golden Sword Sect began here.

As the surrounding dozen alchemists and artifact refiners predicted, no one approached Fang Bai's stall the entire day after its opening. Every martial artist passing by thought Fang Bai was too young and unfamiliar, unwilling to trust him with their hard-earned alchemy ingredients or artifact refining materials.

In the eyes of passing martial artists, although the other alchemists or artifact refiners didn't have high success rates, entrusting them held some hope, much more reassuring than giving it to an unknown newcomer alchemist or artifact refiner.

During this time, a few alchemists and artifact refiners approached Fang Bai and Han Xiangtian for a chat, soon discovering that the white-clad youth named Fang Bai was the stall owner, single-handedly handling both alchemy and artifact refining while the slightly older black-clad martial artist Han Xiangtian was merely his assistant.

"This Fang Bai, single-handedly an alchemist and artifact refiner?"

"How is that possible at such a young age!"

"An alchemist must simultaneously control fire and wood spiritual energy, and an artifact refiner must simultaneously control fire and metal spiritual energy... Meaning that to be both an alchemist and artifact refiner, one must be able to control at least three types of spiritual energy. Can he do that?"

"I suspect he is bragging!"

"Whether he is bragging, a test will reveal! Someone should offer some ingredients and materials to see if he can really refine spirit pills and spiritual artifacts!"

"You offer them then! I don't want to waste cultivation resources in vain!"

"Me? I'd rather not... It's not easy to earn cultivation resources!"

"Watch your words! That Fang Bai, at such a young age, is already a Foundation Establishment perfection expert, that's impressive!"

"This person might be a disciple of a major sect outside!"

"Such people have limitless potential; although we don't welcome him, it's best not to offend him either!"

"Makes sense! I'll just watch quietly!"

...

The dozen alchemists and artifact refiners, initially mocking him, waiting for his embarrassment, refrained from openly insulting Fang Bai once realizing his cultivation level.

In Flaming Sun City, to swiftly establish a name, one must display genuine talent; thus, Fang Bai did not hide his strength nor altered his appearance.

After all, few in Flaming Sun City recognized him, and his adversaries Yang Fei and Yang Dong, father and son, were already defeated.

Moreover, given his current cultivation level, no martial artist in Flaming Sun City posed a threat to him at the moment, so there was no need to hide.

After a breakthrough in the mountain areas outside the city, Fang Bai, who absorbed Yang Dong's Golden Core spiritual energy, advanced by one minor realm to Foundation Establishment perfection.

This minor realm advancement enabled Fang Bai to contend with the leaders of the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion and the Golden Sword Sect.

In fact, among the surrounding dozen alchemists and artifact refiners, many were also Foundation Establishment perfection experts, but the issue was, all were several times older than Fang Bai. Comparing martial dao prospects, they fell short of Fang Bai, which discouraged them from offending such a promising young martial artist.

With no business coming, Fang Bai remained undisturbed, sitting cross-legged upon a mat behind the stall, eyes closed resting, seemingly indifferent to whether business came or not.

In contrast, Han Xiangtian couldn't sit still, loudly advertising, actively soliciting passing martial artists, his face showing disappointment seeing no inquiries regarding alchemy or artifact refining.

As dusk approached and the trading market was about to close, Fang Bai finally stood up, beckoning Han Xiangtian to leave together.

The next morning, Fang Bai and Han Xiangtian appeared punctually at the stall again, just as they did the day before, erecting the stone sign engraved with "Alchemy and Artifact Refining", then waiting for business.

Chapter 1489: Business Comes Knocking

The alchemists and artifact refiners at the Martial Artists Trading Market were no longer interested in paying attention to Fang Bai and Han Xiangtian. They all thought that if there continued to be no business, these two young martial artists would likely leave disheartened after a few days.

Near noon, several youthful and attractive young female martial artists appeared in the Martial Artists Trading Market, drawing much attention.

These young female martial artists wore green shirts and skirts with small furnace cauldrons embroidered on their hearts, with cultivation levels ranging from mid-level Foundation Establishment to high-level Foundation Establishment.

Martial artists residing permanently in Flaming Sun City recognized these young female martial artists as the female disciples of the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion's external courtyard, wondering if they had come here to refine Spirit Pills or to perform artifact refining.

Though the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion had several alchemists stationed there, and disciples could receive some Spirit Pills monthly for cultivation, the alchemists at the pavilion were still too few and the disciples too many. Many disciples found the Spirit Pills they received insufficient for their cultivation needs.

Therefore, some disciples of the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion would come to the Martial Artists Trading Market in Flaming Sun City to find other alchemists to help them refine elixirs.

Additionally, if the disciples of the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion wanted to forge Spiritual Artifacts, they would come to the Martial Artists Trading Market to find artifact refiners.

Originally, Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion excelled in alchemy while the Golden Sword Sect excelled in artifact refining, and both could cooperate and complement each other. However, neither sect wanted to see the other grow even stronger, hence they strictly prohibited their alchemists and artifact refiners from refining elixirs and artifacts for the other's disciples.

As a result, one could frequently see the disciples of both sects in some of the large Martial Artists Trading Markets inside Flaming Sun City.

The disciples of Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion and the Golden Sword Sect liked to come to the Martial Artists Trading Market to refine elixirs and artifacts in groups and were generous spenders, which made them very popular among alchemists and artifact refiners.

Thus, upon seeing those young female martial artists from the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion, the dozen or so alchemists and artifact refiners in Fang Bai's area became eager, hoping those female martial artists would come to their stalls.

But the statuses of alchemists and artifact refiners were noble and revered, of course, they wouldn't get up to solicit business. They just sat upright solemnly, adopting a stern and dignified posture, and waited quietly for business to come.

"Senior Fang, business has arrived!"

Han Xiangtian's eyes suddenly lit up upon seeing several female disciples from the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion, displaying a look of joy, and whispered to Fang Bai.

Fang Bai did not open his eyes, merely gave a light "Mm" sound, remaining seated motionless.

Even the finest wine is afraid of a deep alley.

To make a name for himself and shock Flaming Sun City, Fang Bai had to employ some methods.

And Han Feng'er leading several young female disciples from the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion to seek him for alchemy and artifact refining was to cooperate with him in performance, one of his methods.

Under the gaze of a dozen alchemists and artifact refiners, Han Feng'er led several female disciples from the internal and external courtyards of the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion straight to Fang Bai's stall.

"Junior Sister Han, you said Senior Fang's stall is right here?"

A tall female disciple with high-level Foundation Establishment, slightly older than Han Feng'er, turned to her and asked with a smile.

Han Feng'er nodded and replied, "Yes, Senior Sister Liu, this is Senior Fang's stall."

"Why don't we see Senior Fang?"

Senior Sister Liu's gaze swept over Fang Bai and Han Xiangtian, then looked at the stone house behind them dedicated to alchemy and artifact refining, not seeing anyone else present, and frowned.

In Senior Sister Liu's mind, the Senior Fang that Han Feng'er mentioned should be able to refine mid-tier Holy Grade Spirit Pills and Spiritual Artifacts, and should be both an alchemist and artifact refiner. Thus, she reckoned his age should be similar to Yang Dong from the pavilion, Elder Yang's age.

However, there were only two young martial artists in their twenties sitting in front of the stall, certainly not the one they were looking for. Senior Sister Liu guessed that these young martial artists should be errand boys for Senior Fang.

Senior Sister Liu's gaze lingered on Fang Bai for a moment, finding she couldn't see through this young martial artist's cultivation level at all, realizing he was stronger than herself, she felt slightly surprised and also developed a bit of respect for this unseen Senior Fang.

An errand boy with such powerful strength, it can be deduced that Senior Fang must be a Golden Core Realm powerhouse. When meeting Senior Fang, they should act respectfully and not offend him.

These thoughts were shared by Senior Sister Liu and other female disciples from the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion.

These female disciples either were at a critical moment in advancing their ranks and urgently needed Spirit Pills as an aid, or wanted to upgrade their Spiritual Artifacts to enhance their combat power. After hearing from Han Feng'er that a newly arrived alchemist and artifact refiner in this Martial Artists Trading Market can refine mid-tier Holy Grade Spirit Pills and Spiritual Artifacts with high success rates, and that Han Feng'er had previously sought his help to refine Spirit Pills, they came full of hope with Han Feng'er.

Han Feng'er pointed to Fang Bai, who was sitting cross-legged like an old monk, with his eyes closed and silent, and softly said, "Senior Sister Liu, this is Senior Fang."

"Ah?"

Senior Sister Liu and the accompanying female disciples of the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion were shocked.

They had envisioned various appearances of Senior Fang in their heads but never expected Senior Fang to be such a young and handsome man.

"Junior Sister Han, are you kidding me?"

Senior Sister Liu's gaze scanned Fang Bai up and down, nervously asking.

Just then, Fang Bai slowly opened his eyes, and when Senior Sister Liu's gaze met his, she felt as if two dazzling electric beams pierced her heart, shocking her into looking away immediately, thinking to herself, "This person's eyes beam with brilliance, sharp like a sword, similar to when I face several elders from the pavilion. It seems what Junior Sister Han said is true; this person must be Senior Fang."

"Senior Fang, I am Han Feng'er, and I previously sought your help to refine a bottle of Creation Pill. Do you still remember?"

Han Feng'er stepped forward and saluted Fang Bai, pretending to be familiar with him.

Fang Bai squinted and observed her for a few moments, nodded, and said, "Oh, I recognize you. What are you here for?"

Han Feng'er replied respectfully, "I have several senior and junior sisters who seek Senior Fang's expertise to refine Spirit Pills and upgrade Spiritual Artifacts. Please would Senior Fang assist us?"

Fang Bai grunted, "Mm," and said, "Refining Spirit Pills and upgrading Spiritual Artifacts is certainly possible, but my fees are quite high. Did you inform them?"

Han Feng'er exchanged glances with Senior Sister Liu and several other senior and junior sisters before nodding, "I have told them, and they have no objections!"

"Excellent!"

Fang Bai then turned to look at Senior Sister Liu and several female disciples of the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion, smiling, "I'm new here, and many martial artists in Flaming Sun City are still unaware of my stall. How about this: I'll reduce my fee by half for refining Spirit Pills and upgrading Spiritual Artifacts for you now, but you must spread my name widely once you return! How about that?"

Promoting Senior Fang's reputation could reduce their fee by half and gain his favor, so Senior Sister Liu and the other disciples of Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion naturally agreed wholeheartedly.

Chapter 1490: Fame Achieved in One Fell Swoop

The dozen or so alchemists and artifact refiners nearby were dumbfounded upon hearing the conversation between the female disciples of the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion, such as Han Feng'er, and Fang Bai.

They never expected that from the beginning, these female disciples of the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion had specifically come for Fang Bai, leaving them feeling pleased for no reason.

Moreover, from the conversation between Fang Bai and the female disciple of the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion, they learned that Fang Bai had successfully refined spirit pills for the disciple, who then brought business over to him in return.

It seemed that this person named Fang Bai indeed had some real skills and shouldn't be underestimated!

"Hope that guy fails at both alchemy and artifact refining, tarnishes his reputation, and leaves in shame!"

The dozen or so alchemists and artifact refiners looked towards Fang Bai's stall, secretly cursing in their hearts.

They knew that if Fang Bai succeeded in alchemy and artifact refining this time, the female disciples of the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion would spread the word about him, and more disciples would come to seek him out.

If martial artists in Flaming Sun City were to learn that many Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion disciples sought Fang Bai's services in alchemy and artifact refining, they would surely flock to him, causing a sensational effect.

By then, Fang Bai would rise to fame, and it would be difficult for his business not to thrive.

Consequently, they, the veteran alchemists and artifact refiners, would be overshadowed by Fang Bai, and their business would inevitably be affected.

"Whatever spirit pills you need refined or spiritual artifacts upgraded, just hand over the alchemy ingredients and artifact materials to him and let him know. He will also tell you how many sets of ingredients and materials are needed for refining a furnace of spirit pills or upgrading a spiritual artifact!"

Fang Bai pointed to Han Xiangtian, who stood with his back straight, then turned and headed towards the stone house designated for alchemy and artifact refining.

"Senior Fang, may I ask a presumptuous question: Han Feng'er said that whether it's alchemy or artifact refining, you can complete it in just two hours. Is that true?"

Senior Sister Liu watched Fang Bai's retreating figure and asked without thinking.

Typically, whether an alchemist or an artifact refiner, it would take at least three to five days to refine a furnace of spirit pills or a spiritual artifact. Yet, Han Feng'er told them that this Senior Fang could complete alchemy and artifact refining in an extremely short time, just two hours.

This greatly overturned Senior Sister Liu and the others' understanding of alchemists and artifact refiners, making them think Han Feng'er's words seemed exaggerated and impossible.

The reason Senior Sister Liu wanted to inquire with Fang Bai was that if Senior Fang required several days for alchemy or artifact refining, they would leave the ingredients and materials there, find a fellow disciple to watch over them, and others would leave first. They would return to collect them when the refining was almost done.

But if it only needed a few hours, they could wait there with peace of mind.

"Whether I succeed or not in alchemy and artifact refining, there will be results within two hours! Just wait patiently!"

Fang Bai entered the stone room without turning back, and the door closed by itself. His voice, however, clearly reached the ears of Senior Sister Liu and the others.

"In that case, I shall wait here."

Senior Sister Liu received a clear response from Fang Bai. Knowing Fang Bai wouldn't lie, she was delighted, walked over to Han Xiangtian, and whispered, "I am Liu Yinghong, seeking Senior Fang's service to refine a bottle of Holy Grade middle-tier Creation Pills. How much material do you need?"

"Please wait a moment."

Facing the direction of the stone room, Han Xiangtian's ears twitched, seemingly listening for something. After several breaths, he turned to Liu Yinghong and said, "Senior Fang said that two sets of materials will suffice!"

Upon hearing this, Liu Yinghong's heart leaped, and she became excited.

To refine a bottle of spirit pills with just two sets of materials implied that Fang Bai's pill refining success rate was at least fifty percent.

Liu Yinghong had heard that, although there were many alchemists in the Spirit Martial Realm, those who could achieve a fifty percent success rate were few and far between. Only the top-tier alchemists could do it.

In the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion, although Elder Yang Dong claimed to be the number one alchemist, he had at most a thirty percent success rate, typically just over twenty percent.

Therefore, others looking to Elder Yang for alchemy would at least need to prepare at least four sets of materials.

Liu Yinghong originally wanted to ask Elder Yang from her pavilion to help her refine spirit pills, but recently, Elder Yang's Soul Lamp suddenly went out, causing Pavilion Master Mu Enze to be extremely furious. The tens of thousands of disciples in the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion were in a state of panic, and the other alchemists had no heart for refining pills.

Liu Yinghong was at a crucial point in breaking through her barrier for promotion and urgently needed Creation Pills for assistance. So, under Han Feng'er's "encouragement," she came to Fang Bai seeking help.

Liu Yinghong had prepared four sets of materials, hoping to trade them for a bottle of Holy Grade middle-tier Creation Pills, but she hadn't expected Fang Bai to only need two sets.

Liu Yinghong had already decided that if Fang Bai could refine a bottle of Creation Pills with two sets of materials, she would hand over the other two sets to him to continue refining spirit pills and then go back to the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion to promote him greatly, to attract business for him.

Not just Liu Yinghong, but several other female disciples from the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion also had similar thoughts.

Who wouldn't want to form a good relationship with such a young and handsome powerhouse with bright prospects in Martial Dao, who is both an alchemist and an artifact refiner?

Han Xiangtian delivered Liu Yinghong's two sets of materials into the stone room where Fang Bai was and then stood guard outside like a guardian deity.

Liu Yinghong stood in front of the stall, hands clasped, lips moving slightly as if praying for something, occasionally glancing at the stone room with a few traces of nervousness and expectation in her eyes.

Although alchemists and artifact refiners would isolate the stone room with spiritual energy to prevent disturbances from the outside during refining, the few female disciples from the Alchemy Cauldron Pavilion present still dared not make a sound.

For them, whether Liu Yinghong's spirit pill was successfully refined was a test of Fang Bai's alchemical ability.

If Fang Bai could refine a bottle of Creation Pills with those two sets of materials within two hours, then they could completely trust him with their own alchemy ingredients or artifact materials.

"Senior Fang, I have created this opportunity for you. It's up to you now! Whether you become famous depends on this!"

Han Feng'er silently watched the stone room, thinking to herself.

Two hours later, Han Xiangtian, standing guard outside the stone room, twitched his ears slightly; his face revealed surprise and joy. He turned around, carefully opened the door to the stone room, and walked in.

"He really only took two hours. I wonder if Senior Fang was successful."

Liu Yinghong became excited as she watched Han Xiangtian enter the stone room, her heart pounding.

Several breaths later, Han Xiangtian came out of the stone room with a jade bottle, offered it to Liu Yinghong with a smile, and said, "Congratulations, Miss Liu. Senior Fang refined a Holy Grade middle-tier Creation Pill with one set of materials for you, leaving the other set as his alchemical refining fee. Please inspect them on-site to see if there are any errors."