

Doctor 1731

Chapter 1731 Issuing Another Bounty Order

The cultivation resources Yun Yan won were all some lower-grade Royal Grade ones, and the quantity was not considerable, naturally failing to catch Fang Bai's interest.

"The cultivation resources you won are naturally yours!"

Fang Bai waved his hand and said.

Yun Yan offered several times, but seeing Fang Bai resolutely refuse, she accepted them with thanks and no longer hesitated.

After Fang Bai and He Polang, another pair of powerful figures with similar cultivation levels entered the arena for a life-and-death duel.

Lei Zheng continued to oversee the betting, determined to win back the cultivation resources he lost to Yun Yan from others.

The cultivation resources he had left were not much, so he borrowed some from a few friends, thinking that as long as he didn't encounter someone monstrous like Fang Bai again, he had confidence to win them back quickly.

"Go bet on the person in the black robe to win!"

Fang Bai casually said to Yun Yan.

Yun Yan was taken aback for a moment, then she realized Fang Bai was guiding her, wanting her to win more cultivation resources.

By this time, she had complete trust in Fang Bai, and decided to place all her cultivation resources on the black-robed strongman.

Her bet this time was twice as much as before, while Lei Zheng, overseeing the gamble, bet on the black-robed strongman's opponent to win.

If the black-robed one defeated his opponent, Lei Zheng would lose more than he had earlier.

Although Lei Zheng was sure he wouldn't misjudge this time, he was still inwardly uncertain, gave a glance at the calm Fang Bai not far away, and with a wry smile, said to Yun Yan, "You're betting so much, and if you lose..."

Yun Yan said, "Then I lose! But what if I win? What, your betting house isn't going to reject me, is it?"

Lei Zheng wiped his cold sweat and laughed, "Heh, no... of course not... I just don't believe my luck could be so poor..."

The duel between the black-robed strongman and his opponent concluded in less than a hundred breaths.

When the scarred black-robed strongman walked out of the arena, Lei Zheng was dumbfounded, repeatedly exclaiming that it was bizarre, but had to painfully hand over the cultivation resources Yun Yan had won.

With nothing better to do, Fang Bai stayed on the edge of the arena, giving casual pointers to Yun Yan in the following duels and letting her place bets with Lei Zheng.

Having experienced two lifetimes, Fang Bai's insight was unrivaled.

If two strong figures with similar cultivation levels were dueling, other onlookers would rely on experience to guess the outcome, but Fang Bai could discern it at a glance.

"No more betting... no more betting..."

After several duels, although Lei Zheng won some cultivation resources from other strong figures, what he lost to Yun Yan was considerably more, causing him much pain, and he dared not continue his role as banker.

He began to pack up and prepare to leave, but Fang Bai waved to him, saying, "Brother Lei, please come over for a talk."

In terms of cultivation, Lei Zheng was at the second layer of the Heavenly Tribulation, and Fang Bai was at the first layer. However, Fang Bai had just killed the third-layered He Polang in a battle that established his prowess, making Lei Zheng highly respectful and wary, not daring to be arrogant in front of him.

Seeing Fang Bai calling, Lei Zheng hurriedly ran up to him with a smile, saying, "Brother Fang, what would you like to instruct?"

He initially wanted to address Fang Bai as "Senior Fang," but upon reconsidering that Fang Bai addressed him as "Brother Lei," it obviously meant he wanted to consider them peers, so why should he humble himself and call himself a junior?

Fang Bai smiled lightly, casually saying, "I see Brother Lei is quite well-connected here, seemingly knowing many people, and I'd like to ask Brother Lei for help on something!"

Lei Zheng straightened his back, pounded his chest proudly, and said, "I, Lei Zheng, have traveled the three thousand great worlds, visited every continent, and can say I have friends around the world. Even here in Red Maple City, I've mingled for over ten years and have many acquaintances. If Brother Fang needs help with something, please do say. If it's within my power, I will certainly spare no effort!"

He thought since Fang Bai could kill a third-layered strongman of the Heavenly Tribulation, he was definitely worth befriending.

Fang Bai smiled indifferently and said, "I have some friends who came via the teleportation array from a Minor World but got lost across the three thousand worlds. Some might be here on the Eastern Desolate Continent, and I'd like to ask Brother Lei to leverage your connections to help find them..."

Here, his expression turned solemn, and he continued, "To be honest with Brother Lei, I am both an Alchemist and an Artifact Refiner, capable of refining any Royal Grade lower and middle-grade Spirit Pills and Spiritual Artifacts. As long as Brother Lei or your friends find any of them, I will reward you generously! I will not go back on my word!"

Lei Zheng's eyes widened as he looked at Fang Bai in disbelief, excitedly exclaiming, "To think Fang Bai is both an Alchemist and an Artifact Refiner? Royal Grade middle-grade Spirit Pills and Spiritual Artifacts... Brother Fang can refine them?"

Fang Bai nodded, "Exactly."

"This is wonderful... simply wonderful..."

Lei Zheng knew that someone at Fang Bai's cultivation realm had no need to lie or deceive, and he rubbed his ears and scratched his head in excitement, hands continuously rubbing together.

In the three thousand great worlds, both Alchemists and Artifact Refiners were highly respected, with few daring to provoke them, let alone a strongman with both titles?

Lei Zheng knew that with Fang Bai's strength and status as an Alchemist and Artifact Refiner, a single rally from him in Red Maple City would attract thousands of strong figures willing to help. Now that he came to him for assistance, it was his honor; how could he not give it his all?

"The names and descriptions of my friends are all here, Brother Lei can use this to search..."

Fang Bai had already prepared detailed lists about his close friends, including Dongfang Rushi and Dongfang Ruhua, handed a copy to Lei Zheng, and continued, "Additionally, I'll trouble Brother Lei to issue a bounty order throughout Red Maple City. There's strength in numbers, and I hope to leverage as many strong figures as possible to quickly trace news of my friends."

Lei Zheng cupped his fists and said respectfully, "Please rest assured, Brother Fang, I know how to proceed!"

Fang Bai said, "I will await news at the Royal Grade Inn recently. Should you need anything, you can find me there. Oh, by the way, I may also be refining pills and artifacts in the largest Martial Artists Trading Market in Red Maple City to earn some cultivation resources. Should Brother Lei have any friends, you may introduce them to me there."

Lei Zheng's heart leapt with joy, he nodded and hurriedly turned and left.

Yun Yan, having heard the dialogue between Fang Bai and Lei Zheng, looked eager to try.

After Lei Zheng had gone far, she said, "Senior Fang, I've also been in Red Maple City for several years and have many friends who can help seek out information about your friends..."

This was a great opportunity to befriend Fang Bai, so how could Yun Yan pass it up?

Thus, Fang Bai also handed a detailed list of close friends to Yun Yan. After looking it over, she happily left.

In less than a day, Red Maple City, a city with millions of inhabitants, was stirred up by Lei Zheng and Yun Yan.

Many strong figures learned of a powerful figure named Fang Bai, who was both an Alchemist and an Artifact Refiner, issuing a bounty order to find his closest friends and confidantes. Anyone who provided accurate information could expect a generous reward from Fang Bai.

Chapter 1732 Fame Spreads Far and Wide

Lei Zheng's efficiency was very high; by early the next morning, he had already found a very conspicuous stall for Fang Bai in the largest Martial Artists Trading Market of Red Maple City.

Of course, the rent for a good stall was not cheap, but Lei Zheng, in order to please and curry favor with Fang Bai, paid the rent in advance on Fang Bai's behalf without asking him for reimbursement.

Additionally, Lei Zheng distributed the Bounty Order entrusted to him by Fang Bai throughout the city, so that within a short time, millions of powerful fighters knew about it.

Fang Bai was both an Alchemist and an Artifact Refiner, capable of producing Royal Grade medium Spirit Pills and Spiritual Artifacts, which gave him an extremely high status in the hearts of the tens of thousands of powerful fighters in Red Maple City.

Therefore, the generous Bounty Order he issued immediately ignited the enthusiasm of millions of powerful fighters in Red Maple City.

Thousands of powerful fighters immediately took action, probing various channels for news about Fang Bai's relatives and friends, hoping to be the first to seize Fang Bai's bounty.

In the Bounty Order, Fang Bai had already stated that anyone who could find a relative or friend or provide accurate information would receive a free Royal Grade medium Spirit Pill or Spiritual Artifact crafted by him, or ten bottles of Royal Grade medium Spirit Pills as gifts.

Once the stall and Bounty Order matters were settled, Fang Bai gave Lei Zheng a bottle of Royal Grade medium Gathering Yuan Pills to express his gratitude.

Lei Zheng, upon receiving the Spirit Pills from Fang Bai, was overjoyed, believing himself to have made a connection with Fang Bai, and proudly flaunted it among friends in Red Maple City.

The night before, Fang Bai had snuck alone into the Arena to battle He Polang, leaving Baili Mingyue behind, which caused her to complain profusely. Hence, today while Fang Bai was busy with alchemy and crafting artifacts for others, Baili Mingyue stayed closely by his side, inseparable.

Alchemy and artifact refining naturally required fees, prompting Baili Mingyue to volunteer as Fang Bai's "housekeeper," handling these matters for him.

Due to Lei Zheng and Yun Yan making a name for Fang Bai in Red Maple City, his stall attracted a large number of powerful fighters, forming long queues on its first day.

The majority of those queuing up were Martial Artists of Heavenly Tribulation Stage One and Two, bringing with them various cultivation resources to ask Fang Bai to refine Spirit Pills and craft Spiritual Artifacts for them.

Although other stalls in Red Maple City's Martial Artists Trading Market also offered pill and artifact refining, before Fang Bai, the only stall capable of producing Royal Grade medium Spirit Pills and Spiritual Artifacts charged too high fees, deterring many powerful fighters.

However, when Fang Bai's stall opened, the prices were clearly marked, being thirty percent lower than other stalls, with a success rate twice as high.

As a result, it naturally attracted many powerful fighters.

Yet, being new to the scene, Fang Bai had not yet proven his capabilities, leading many powerful fighters to adopt a wait-and-see attitude.

If Fang Bai's success rate in alchemy and artifact refining truly was as high as he promised, even if his fees were as much as other stalls, powerful fighters would still flock to him.

Of course, if Fang Bai's success rate was high and his fees were low, his business would undoubtedly boom, leaving the other stalls with little to share.

As the first two people Fang Bai met in Red Maple City, Yun Yan and Lei Zheng received special treatment; they only needed to pay half the usual fee to have their Spiritual Artifacts upgraded by Fang Bai.

Yun Yan and Lei Zheng's Spiritual Artifacts were originally Royal Grade lower, and if Fang Bai could upgrade them to Royal Grade medium, they would be more than delighted.

The two handed over the necessary fees and their Spiritual Artifacts to Baili Mingyue, who, after receiving the payment, took the artifacts into the back room of the stall where the Alchemy Room was.

Since in the world of alchemy and artifact refining, the success rates weren't high, powerful fighters were expected to prepare several copies of the same cultivation resources.

Take Yun Yan, for instance, she had prepared three sets of Royal Grade medium Water Ice Crystal and auxiliary materials for Fang Bai to upgrade her water system flying dagger Spiritual Artifact.

If Fang Bai succeeded in one attempt, she would use one set of resources, pay Fang Bai with the second, and a third would remain with her.

If Fang Bai made an error and needed two complete sets of resources to upgrade her Spiritual Artifact successfully, the remaining set would serve as his compensation.

If all three sets were exhausted without a successful upgrade, Fang Bai would not charge her a fee, and Yun Yan could only blame bad luck.

Under normal circumstances, Alchemists or Artifact Refiners wouldn't deliberately waste or hoard the resources entrusted to them by Martial Artists, or their reputation would be ruined, and no one would dare seek their services again.

Half an hour later, under Yun Yan's expectant gaze and amidst the attention of many powerful fighters in front of the stall, Baili Mingyue joyfully emerged from the Alchemy Room, handing the upgraded artifacts along with the leftover resources to Yun Yan and Lei Zheng.

"You two are lucky; Fang Bai upgraded your artifacts with just one attempt. You only need to fuse your blood essence and Divine Sense into the artifacts to control them freely!"

Baili Mingyue cheerfully told Yun Yan and Lei Zheng.

Excited, Yun Yan and Lei Zheng took their respective artifacts in hand, infused them with blood essence, unleashed their Divine Sense, and merged them with the artifacts.

Instinctively, the artifacts in their hands emitted brilliance, dazzling beyond belief, with the pressure they exuded drastically increased, and the miraculous connection with their artifacts exhilarated them.

They swung their artifacts lightly, and the fierce momentum forced many powerful fighters backward.

“Sure enough, the artifacts have been upgraded from Royal Grade lower to Royal Grade medium!”

“Yun Yan, who was on par with me, now surpasses me with this artifact. No way, I must upgrade my artifact too.”

“Lei Zheng, a Heavenly Tribulation Stage Two expert, with his artifact upgraded to Royal Grade medium, is even more formidable now!”

“Senior Fang Bai is truly remarkable!”

“A master’s prowess is evident at a glance! With such a high success rate and speed in artifact upgrade, Senior Fang Bai’s skill in refining Spirit Pills and crafting Spiritual Artifacts is certainly extraordinary!”

“Hey, stop pushing! Get in line at the back!”

“I was here first; it’s my turn!”

Many powerful fighters personally witnessed Fang Bai upgrade the artifacts for Lei Zheng and Yun Yan, realizing that Fang Bai indeed had true capability, and immediately became enthusiastic, roaring and forming queues, with the powerful ones in the front and the weaker ones pushed to the back.

Fang Bai intended to demonstrate his skills, expanding his reputation and building relationships, hoping many powerful fighters would help find his relatives and beloved ones.

On this first day, Fang Bai hardly paused, continuously refining Spirit Pills and upgrading Spiritual Artifacts for others.

To avoid being perceived as too much of a phenomenon, Fang Bai intentionally maintained a fifty percent success rate, yet it still far exceeded other stalls.

For a time, countless powerful fighters spread the word, and the name of Fang Bai resounded throughout Red Maple City, spreading in all directions.

Chapter 1733: Zheng Family Village

"Furious Flame Fist!"

In a primeval forest thousands of miles west of Red Maple City, a woman in green, who appeared to be in her twenties, gave a crisp shout and struck out with a Furious Flame Fist from mid-air.

Her target was a spirit beast fleeing at high speed.

The spirit beast was comparable to a human at the lower Soul Severing stage, matching the woman in green.

The battle between the woman and beast raged on for a considerable time, but the woman, possessing an innate Fire Spirit Root and capable of challenging beyond her level, eventually gained the upper hand.

Seeing the unfavorable situation, the spirit beast turned to flee, but the woman in green, intent on obtaining its beast core, was not willing to let it escape.

With a giant fist of flame formed from Fire Spirit Energy, accompanied by the sizzling sound of scorching air, she smashed down, striking the running spirit beast's back.

Though the spirit beast had thick skin and muscular build like an ox, the woman's punch was so strong that it flipped over the spirit beast with a single blow.

The spirit beast's long fur caught fire when hit by the Flame Fist, instantly igniting, filling the air with a charred scent.

The spirit beast, unable to bear the pain, rolled and writhed on the ground, letting out a series of heart-rending screams.

"Die, you pig, see if you still won't die!"

As the woman in green descended, her right hand formed a tight palm and slashed out with a fire blade, severing the spirit beast's head from its neck.

The spirit beast, known as the Purple Pupil Pig, was fierce and bloodthirsty, possessing formidable strength, capable of easily toppling giant trees embraced by two men, yet it was slain by the woman in green.

With its head chopped off, the Purple Pupil Pig did not die immediately, its body convulsed violently on the ground, sweeping down the surrounding trees.

Moments later, with all its blood drained, life ebbed away, and it lay motionless.

The woman in green walked up to the Purple Pupil Pig's carcass, extracted the beast core from its skull, and tossed both the core and the carcass into her Space Ring.

"Today's harvest is not bad! Let's return to the village and distribute the slain spirit beast among the villagers first."

Standing effortlessly in the air, the woman in green parted her lips and issued a clear whistle.

Hearing her signal, beams of light shot up from the primeval forest within a radius of several dozen miles, and a dozen strong men and women of the same cultivation level converged around her.

"Fang Yun, you took down that Purple Pupil Pig?"

A man in his forties, noticing the bloodstains in the forest below, asked excitedly.

The woman in green named "Fang Yun" laughed and said, "That Purple Pupil Pig was very fierce, I spent considerable effort to kill it! Uncle Zheng, we've been out for a month now, it's time to return to the village!"

The middle-aged man addressed as "Uncle Zheng" by Fang Yun, with a happy expression, said, "Yes, this time's harvest is bountiful, once we reach Red Maple City, we can exchange for a substantial amount of cultivation resources!"

After a pause, he continued, "Fang Yun, during this beast hunt, you contributed the most effort, once we exchange for cultivation resources, you should take the largest share!"

Fang Yun smiled lightly, shook her head, and said, "Years ago, when I and my parents stumbled upon Zheng Family Village, the villagers took us in and cared for us, this gratitude and affection cannot be repaid, the least I can do is hunt more spirit beasts and share with the villagers... Uncle Zheng, no need to say more, let's follow the old rules, and share equally with the village's Martial Artists!"

Uncle Zheng shook his head helplessly, a wry smile on his face, and said, "Without your help in hunting spirit beasts, how could the villagers exchange for a large amount of cultivation resources? Without you explaining the Martial Dao, how could it be that Zheng Family Village now boasts over a dozen Soul Severing Realm experts? Fang Yun, what your family has brought to Zheng Family Village is already immense. Now, it's not that you owe Zheng Family Village, but that Zheng Family Village owes you."

Fang Yun replied, "Uncle Zheng, please don't say that! We are one family now, let's not talk about debts, it's too formal."

Uncle Zheng laughed heartily and nodded repeatedly, saying, "Right! Right! One family... all of us in the village are one family! Let's not talk about this anymore..."

He glanced around the surrounding dozen or so strong individuals from Zheng Family Village, then raised his arm and called out vigorously, "Let's go, back to Zheng Family Village!"

He flew ahead using a Spiritual Artifact, followed by more than a dozen Zheng Family Village experts, flying together out of the primeval forest.

Uncle Zheng, whose real name was Zheng Yi, is the current village chief of Zheng Family Village. A month ago, he led Fang Yun and more than a dozen Zheng Family Village experts into the primeval forest to hunt spirit beasts, reaping a bountiful harvest. As they return, everyone is filled with joy, feeling greatly uplifted.

Zheng Family Village is located beside a small river outside the primeval forest, nestled against a mountain and bordered by water, with picturesque scenery and a peaceful, idyllic atmosphere, like a paradise removed from the world.

The villagers of Zheng Family Village, numbering a few hundred, are all simple and kind-hearted. Years ago, when Fang Yun's family of three first arrived in the vast world, without a place to go, they were kindly taken in by the villagers when passing by Zheng Family Village.

The villagers of Zheng Family Village built houses for Fang Yun's family of three, allocated food and cultivation resources to them, quickly stabilizing their lives and helping them integrate well into the world.

As a result, Fang Yun's family of three is deeply grateful to Zheng Family Village.

After settling down, Fang Yun went out with the strong individuals of Zheng Family Village, seeking cultivation resources and hunting spirit beasts.

When Fang Yun's family of three arrived at the vast world, their cultivation level was only at the Foundation Establishment stage, not even comparable to an ordinary villager of Zheng Family Village.

However, with the Martial Arts Techniques taught by Fang Bai, and taking advantage of the dense spiritual energy and cultivation resources in this world, their cultivation level soared rapidly.

In just a few years, Fang Gang and Yang Mei progressed from Foundation Establishment to Golden Core, then from Golden Core to Nascent Soul, advancing two major realms.

With an innate Fire Spirit Root, Fang Yun's progress was even more remarkable, reaching the early Soul Severing stage and becoming the strongest in Zheng Family Village.

Fang Yun's cultivation was the result of Fang Bai's instruction and insight, her comprehension and understanding of the Martial Dao far surpassed those of the villagers of Zheng Family Village.

In gratitude to the villagers of Zheng Family Village for their help to her family, after advancing to the Soul Severing Realm, Fang Yun assembled the village's Martial Artists, demonstrating Cultivation Techniques and explaining the Martial Dao. This led to an overall rise in the strength of the villagers, with more than ten people advancing from the Nascent Soul Realm to the Soul Severing Realm as a result.

With the significant progress in the strength of Zheng Family Village's villagers, they hunted more spirit beasts and acquired even more cultivation resources, which in turn further assisted their cultivation, thus creating a beneficial cycle of cultivation.

Zheng Yi, Fang Yun, and the other dozen or so Zheng Family Village experts, flew swiftly over the primeval forest using their Spiritual Artifacts, and after a day's time, they emerged from the forest, arriving over Zheng Family Village.

"Something's happened in Zheng Family Village..."

As Zheng Yi and the others surveyed Zheng Family Village, they saw dozens of foreign Martial Artists standing in the village square, confronting hundreds of Zheng Family Village's villagers, with both sides in a tense standoff, appearing ready to fight at any moment.

Zheng Yi and the others couldn't sense the aura of the dozens of outsiders, confirming that each of them was more powerful in cultivation compared to their own.

"Zheng Family Village has enjoyed peace for hundreds of years, why have such formidable foes appeared today?"

With a shock in their hearts, Zheng Yi and the rest exchanged glances, all wearing solemn expressions.

Chapter 1734 Bullying

"The village chief and others are back!"

At the entrance square of Zheng Family Village, hundreds of villagers noticed Zheng Yi and the others flying overhead, and couldn't help but cheer with renewed spirits.

To them, Zheng Yi and the dozen or so villagers were the strongest in the village and their pillars of support.

Originally, the hundreds of villagers were in a standoff with dozens of powerful outsiders. The overwhelming Martial Artist aura released by them made the villagers feel pressured and panic-stricken. However, upon seeing the return of their pillars like Zheng Yi, their hearts settled.

In their eyes, Zheng Yi, Fang Yun, and others were omnipotent beings who would shield them from the storms and protect them from being bullied.

Zheng Yi and the dozen or so strong individuals of Zheng Family Village landed on the ground, put away their Spiritual Artifacts, and stood together with the hundreds of villagers, facing dozens of powerful outsiders with heightened vigilance.

“Zheng Quan, what’s going on?”

Zheng Yi’s gaze swept over the dozens of powerhouses opposite, a shadow clouding his heart. He quickly turned his head to ask a Zheng Family Village villager behind him.

The villager named Zheng Quan, a Nascent Soul Perfection expert, whispered to Zheng Yi in response, “Villager, these powerful people say they’re from the Wind Blade Sect, and they want us to move out of the village.”

“Wind Blade Sect? We’ve never offended them; why have they come here?”

Zheng Yi furrowed his brows, pondering this secretly in his heart.

Every few months, Zheng Yi would go to Red Maple City to exchange cultivation resources, thus knowing that the Wind Blade Sect is a powerful sect near Red Maple City, with a Thunder Tribulation rank five expert guarding it.

However, Zheng Family Village is far from Red Maple City, an almost isolated small village with no relation to the Wind Blade Sect. Yet, their dozens of disciples suddenly appeared here and demanded the villagers move out; what could their motive be?

“We’ll give you half a day. If you haven’t moved by then, we’ll forcibly evict you!”

At this moment, a disciple of the Wind Blade Sect stepped forward two steps and said sinisterly.

Hearing someone in Zheng Family Village address Zheng Yi as village chief, he directed those words at Zheng Yi. Simultaneously, a powerful aura surged toward Zheng Yi.

He was a Thunder Tribulation rank one expert, while Zheng Yi was merely at the initial stage of the Soul Severing realm. The disparity of a major realm made their strength vastly different.

Zheng Yi couldn’t withstand the opponent’s pressure and retreated several steps, a sweetness in his throat, almost spitting out blood.

Seeing this, Fang Yun hurriedly stepped forward, stood shoulder to shoulder with Zheng Yi, and withstood the pressure exerted by the Wind Blade Sect disciple alongside him. She asked softly, “Uncle Zheng, are you alright?”

Though Fang Yun was at the initial stage of the Soul Severing realm, she had the ability to challenge beyond her level. She bore most of the pressure exerted by the Wind Blade Sect disciple, and Zheng Yi immediately felt much relieved, his whole body lightening considerably.

“I’m fine...”

Zheng Yi shook his head, but his expression showed deep dread and worry.

“Our villagers in Zheng Family Village have lived here for generations. On what grounds do you make us leave?”

Zheng Yi asked loudly.

“Yes, on what grounds?”

Hundreds of Zheng Family Village villagers echoed loudly.

Their ancestors migrated here generations ago. This place is their home, their roots. Now a group of strangers suddenly barges in, demanding they leave their home. How could they agree?

“On what grounds?”

The speaking Wind Blade Sect disciple laughed skyward, then his gaze, as sharp as a knife, stared at Zheng Yi and other villagers, snickering, “Just because our Wind Blade Sect is the number one sect outside Red Maple City! Just because I alone could sweep all of you ants away!”

He was a Thunder Tribulation rank one expert. If he struck with full force, although Zheng Family Village had hundreds of villagers, they couldn’t possibly contend with him.

This fact was naturally clear to Zheng Yi. His expression fluctuated, and he asked sullenly, “The Wind Blade Sect wants us to move; shouldn’t you at least give a reason?”

The Wind Blade Sect disciple cackled, “Don’t be afraid to tell you: in the mountain region adjacent to your village, we discovered spirit stone veins!”

At the words “spirit stone veins,” Zheng Yi’s eyes widened. His brows raised as he turned to look toward the mountain range behind the village, fists clenched involuntarily trembling.

“According to the elder in our sect who discovered these spirit stone veins, this mountain region holds millions of various spirit stones. Haha, with so many spirit stones, you bunch of Nascent Soul and Soul Severing realm martial artists have no fortune to enjoy them; only our Wind Blade Sect can exploit them!”

The Wind Blade Sect disciple spoke with exuberance and arrogance.

Hundreds of Zheng Family Village villagers were stunned at that moment. Even though their strength wasn't strong, they understood what millions of spirit stones meant.

If they could obtain millions of spirit stones to exchange for the cultivation resources they needed, as time passed, their overall strength would surely have a massive leap. Perhaps many Thunder Tribulation experts would emerge in the future.

By that time, Zheng Family Village would be much stronger than it is now, and outsiders wouldn't dare to bully villagers so easily as they did today.

"The spirit stone veins discovered near our village should belong to all our villagers!"

"That's right!"

"We won't move!"

"No one can drive us away!"

"If you want us to move, you'll have to walk over our dead bodies!"

Many Zheng Family Village villagers' eyes turned red as they angrily shouted.

"A bunch of ants, no matter how you scream, it's useless! Giving you half a day to move is already merciful! Even if I forcibly evict you at this moment, what can you do against me?"

The faint smile of disdain and ridicule appeared on the Wind Blade Sect disciple's lips.

Fang Gang, Yang Mei, and Fang Yun stood together as a family of three, infuriated by his words.

Though they weren't Zheng Family Village villagers, they'd lived here for several years, already considering this place their home. Now that the Wind Blade Sect wanted to drive the entire village away, they too couldn't accept it.

"Your actions are no different from robbers and bandits!"

Fang Gang, though only a Nascent Soul expert, was straightforward. Unable to restrain the fury in his heart, he walked over to Zheng Yi's side and sternly rebuked the opposing Wind Blade Sect disciple.

"Get lost!"

As soon as his voice fell, a fierce wind suddenly arose, and it was indeed the Wind Blade Sect disciple attacking him.

The consequence of a Thunder Tribulation rank one expert attacking a Nascent Soul expert was predictable.

Fang Gang's body flew high into the air, landing more than ten feet away. Upon touching the ground, blood trickled from his mouth and nose, his face ashen, eyes closed, sustaining severe injuries, and he fainted.

"Fang Gang!"

"Dad!"

Yang Mei and Fang Yun cried out in unison, rushing toward the fallen Fang Gang, helping him up.

Seeing her husband uncertain of life or death, Yang Mei burst into tears, her eyes full of overflowing tears.

Fang Yun clenched her fists tightly, her delicate face icy, standing up abruptly to avenge her father.

"Fang Yun, calm down!"

Zheng Yi extended his arm to stop Fang Yun, saying mournfully, "Your father is severely injured; without timely treatment, his life may be in jeopardy. If you rush forward now, what will happen to your father?"

Chapter 1735 Fire Cloud Sect

Fang Yun's raging fury was extinguished by a single sentence from Zheng Yi. She understood that what Uncle Zheng said was reasonable; if she were to risk her life now, who would treat her father? Who would avenge today's humiliation?

"When my strength grows, or after I find my little brother, I will take revenge!"

With this thought, Fang Yun quickly calmed down.

She cast a resentful glance at the opposing Wind Blade Sect disciple, then crouched down with reddened eyes and fed a Healing Pill to her father, Fang Gang.

"Mother, let's go to Red Maple City!"

Fang Yun said in a low voice to Yang Mei.

Yang Mei was taken aback and said, "Go to Red Maple City? But your father's injuries..."

Fang Yun replied, "Father is seriously injured, and there are many Alchemists in Red Maple City. We should go there to exchange for some Spirit Pills to heal his wounds."

Upon hearing this, Yang Mei nodded repeatedly and said, "Yes! Yes! I heard that Red Maple City is filled with powerful people, many Alchemists. Let's go there! Let's go!"

Presently, Yang Mei picked up Fang Gang, prepared to leave with Fang Yun, riding on a Spiritual Artifact.

Fang Gang, Yang Mei, and Fang Yun, the three of them were ordinary people back in the Secular World. Because of Fang Bai, they embarked on the path of Martial Dao Cultivation, arriving at this Three Thousand Great World.

Currently, their Cultivation Level, even at the lowest, is at the Nascent Soul Realm, capable of crushing boulders with their fists, cracking steel with their palms, flying through the air, and their lifespans have extended to an unimaginable extent compared to ordinary people in the secular world, something they never dared to imagine before.

For bringing them into the path of Martial Dao Cultivation, they never regretted Fang Bai's decision, only holding endless longing and aspiration for higher Cultivation Levels, greater strength, and longer lifespans.

To them, the Three Thousand Great World is a magical and magnificent world, a world where danger and opportunity coexist. They believe that as long as they are diligent enough, work hard enough, and have some fortunate encounters, their future achievements in Martial Dao could hope to reach the Thunder Tribulation Realm or even higher.

But now, foreign powerful cultivators are bullying them, trying to expel them from their homeland. They are outmatched and powerless to resist, and must temporarily endure this humiliation, swallow this bitter pill.

"Uncle Zheng, discretion is the better part of valor. Let's leave here for now!"

Fang Yun walked up to Zheng Yi and said quietly.

Zheng Yi was not someone who would act recklessly without consideration. He glanced at the dozens of Wind Blade Sect disciples opposite and knew the enemy was strong while they were weak. If he led a resistance, the hundreds of villagers in Zheng Family Village could all perish. He could only sigh deeply and nod gloomily.

"I believe that one day, we will return!"

Fang Yun clenched her fists tightly, filled with determination.

"I believe it too!"

Zheng Yi nodded vigorously.

His gaze fell on Fang Gang, who was in Yang Mei's arms. Seeing Fang Gang's face pale as paper, his breath weak, knowing his life would be endangered without timely treatment, he made a heart-wrenching decision, waved his hand grandly, and shouted to the hundreds of villagers of Zheng Family Village, "Let's go!"

Zheng Yi was the strongest Martial Artist in Zheng Family Village, having served as the village chief for decades, respected and trusted by all.

As soon as he spoke, the hundreds of villagers in Zheng Family Village, despite their thousand reluctances and ten thousand unwillingness, could only return home, pack up their belongings simply, and leave with him.

Seeing the hundreds of men, women, and children of Zheng Family Village dare not resist, obediently abandoning their land and leaving, the dozens of disciples from the Wind Blade Sect laughed triumphantly.

Their laughter reached the ears of Zheng Yi and the others. Zheng Yi's face twisted, heart wrenched with pain, his fists clenching so tightly they made a "crackle" sound.

A few days later, the hundreds of villagers from Zheng Family Village moved to a mountain outside Red Maple City, hastily constructing some wooden houses near a water source to temporarily settle down.

Zheng Yi, Fang Yun, and Yang Mei, carrying the gravely injured and still unconscious Fang Gang, entered Red Maple City, hoping to find a way to heal Fang Gang's injuries.

Zheng Yi had visited Red Maple City most frequently and knew where the most skilled Alchemists were. So after entering the city, he led Yang Gang and Fang Yun to the Fire Cloud Sect in the north of the city.

Fire Cloud Sect was one of Red Maple City's administrators and the top Alchemist Sect in the city, monopolizing over eighty percent of the alchemy trade and business within Red Maple City.

The loose cultivator Alchemists in the various Martial Artists Trading Markets within Red Maple City accounted for the remaining twenty percent of the business.

Zheng Yi knew that Fang Gang's injuries were too severe; although a King Grade Spirit Pill might heal his wounds, for a full recovery and not affecting his future Martial Dao cultivation, only a Royal Grade Spirit Pill would suffice.

Zheng Yi had brought all the cultivation resources of the hundreds of villagers from Zheng Family Village this time, hoping to exchange them at Fire Cloud Sect for a bottle of Royal Grade inferior Healing Pill, or ask the sect's Alchemists to help create one.

However, Zheng Yi was unsure if the cultivation resources he brought would be enough to exchange for a bottle of Royal Grade inferior Spirit Pill.

After all, these lower-tier Martial Artists usually cultivate using King Grade resources, and Royal Grade Spirit Pills are expensive treasures for cultivation, something they can only dream of.

Their trip to Red Maple City this time was actually with not much hope, just to try their luck. If they couldn't obtain a Royal Grade Spirit Pill, they would first exchange for a King Grade Spirit Pill and heal Fang Gang's injuries before anything else.

Fire Cloud Sect is located north of Red Maple City, similar to the other major sects within the city; it is a large inner city, isolated from the outside by walls or rivers.

At the entrance of the sect, Fire Cloud Sect has set up a store staffed with Alchemists and inner disciples, not only engaging in alchemy trade with the martial artists within Red Maple City but also selling various Spirit Pills crafted by the sect's Alchemists.

The Spirit Pills crafted or sold by Fire Cloud Sect range from the lowest being Holy Grade to the best being Royal Grade medium, almost fulfilling all the needs of martial artists in Red Maple City.

As for Royal Grade superior Spirit Pills, they are used for the cultivation of Thunder Tribulation Realm level seven and above powerhouses. Fire Cloud Sect's Alchemists cannot craft them at all, and even if they could, the price would be extremely high, unaffordable to most powerhouses.

When Zheng Yi, Fang Yun, and Yang Mei arrived at the Spirit Pill store of Fire Cloud Sect, they found it different from usual.

Every time Zheng Yi passed by here before, he saw the Spirit Pill store of Fire Cloud Sect bustling with business, powerhouses coming and going, buying, exchanging, or crafting Spirit Pills.

But today's Fire Cloud Sect Spirit Pill store seemed somewhat deserted, with only a few powerhouses present.

A few Fire Cloud Sect disciples who were guarding behind the store counter all had a cultivation level of Thunder Tribulation level one.

At this moment, they were listlessly chatting in low voices, and upon seeing Zheng Yi and the three Soul Severing stage powerhouses enter the store, they cast contemptuous and disdainful glances, too lazy to engage with the trio.

"Royal Grade inferior Spirit Pill requires the exchange of equivalent value Royal Grade cultivation resources for a bottle; crafting a bottle of Royal Grade inferior Spirit Pill requires at least four portions of main and auxiliary materials..."

Zheng Yi, Fang Yun, and Yang Mei moved slowly in front of the counters displaying various Spirit Pills, and upon seeing the price requirements for exchanging or crafting Royal Grade Spirit Pills, they looked at each other with helplessness and bitter smiles in their eyes.

Chapter 1736: Where Is My Son?

"Hurry up! Hurry up! All the patrons here are Thunder Tribulation Experts. What are you few Soul Severing cultivators doing here? Do you think you can afford Royal Grade Spirit Pills? Can you produce the materials to refine Royal Grade Spirit Pills?"

A Fire Cloud Sect disciple, seeing Zheng Yi and the others lingering in front of the Royal Grade Spirit Pill counter, looked impatient and issued an eviction order to them.

If Zheng Yi and the others were Thunder Tribulation Experts, that Fire Cloud Sect disciple would have been very enthusiastic. However, to him, Soul Severing Martial Artists were mere ants, so he had no reason to be polite and directly drove them away.

"We're here to exchange for King Grade Spirit Pills..."

Zheng Yi said with a forced smile.

The Royal Grade Spirit Pills were beyond their reach both financially and in material terms, so they had to settle for less.

Though the Fire Cloud Sect disciple was only a Core Disciple, his cultivation level was in the Thunder Tribulation Realm, giving him the confidence to look down on Zheng Yi. Zheng Yi did not dare to offend him.

Yang Mei and Fang Yun both darkened in expression, knowing that their trip to Red Maple City would not yield any Royal Grade Spirit Pills.

Zheng Yi, using up all his cultivation resources, exchanged for a few bottles of mid-grade King Pill and handed them to Fang Yun, smiling bitterly, "Let's treat Brother Fang's injuries first, and worry about other matters later!"

Yang Mei sighed, "That's all we can do. Let's head back!"

As the three of them were about to leave, a few Thunder Tribulation Experts hurriedly came in from outside the shop, the leader being a burly, bearded man with a second-level Thunder Tribulation Realm.

"Lei Zheng, why are you here?"

A Fire Cloud Sect disciple, seeing the bearded man, quickly stood up and asked with a smile.

The man called Lei Zheng replied, "I'm here on some business, just happened to pass by and thought I'd come in for a look... Hehe, Brother Li, your Fire Cloud Sect's business hasn't been very good lately, has it?"

Lei Zheng and the Fire Cloud Sect disciple had known each other for years and were close friends. He came here this time to see if there was anything noteworthy.

This Lei Zheng was the Thunder Tribulation Expert Fang Bai had met at the Arena in Red Maple City.

Recently, Lei Zheng had done quite a few things for Fang Bai and had received many benefits from Fang Bai.

After Fang Bai entrusted Lei Zheng and Yun Yan to issue a bounty order for searching relatives, Lei Zheng was energized, running around the city every day with a gang of friends, inquiring about relevant information.

If he could find one or two of Fang Bai's relatives or friends listed in the bounty, he could not only gain benefits from Fang Bai but also earn his gratitude. It was a win-win situation, so Lei Zheng was full of enthusiasm, using his connections to help.

In fact, it wasn't just Lei Zheng. Many powerful individuals with connections in Red Maple City had already started moving, all wanting to be the first to find Fang Bai's relatives or friends, fearing they'd fall behind.

Even some disciples of the Fire Cloud Sect, tempted by the generous bounty promised by Fang Bai, secretly contacted external powerhouses, using the vast network of the Fire Cloud Sect to search around, hoping to get a share of the rewards.

The Fire Cloud Sect disciple Lei Zheng called "Brother Li" was named Li Mao. He had kept in touch with Lei Zheng, and they were currently working together to find Fang Bai's relatives and friends.

"You three, aren't you leaving quickly? Don't stand here getting in the way!"

Seeing that Zheng Yi and the others had not yet left, Li Mao said with a stern face.

Zheng Yi and the others did not dare to stay and turned to leave immediately.

As Lei Zheng entered the shop earlier, he glanced at Yang Mei and Fang Yun, thinking they looked somewhat familiar. It wasn't until they turned to leave that a light bulb went off in his head. He remembered the description of the facial features of Fang Bai's relatives and friends from the bounty order; these two perfectly matched.

In excitement, his heart raced, and he called out, "Wait, you three!"

Zheng Yi, Yang Mei, and Fang Yun stopped in their tracks and turned around, looking at Lei Zheng approaching with some confusion, feeling a bit tense.

Lei Zheng, being at the second level of the Thunder Tribulation Realm, was like an insurmountable mountain in their eyes, a power that could easily crush them. Now that such a powerhouse called out to them, they wondered what his intentions were.

"I am Lei Zheng. May I ask your names?"

Lei Zheng stopped in front of Yang Mei and Fang Yun, clasped his hands in a fist-salute, slightly bowed, and asked with a smile.

A dignified second-level Thunder Tribulation Expert speaking so humbly to them, even with a smile, left Yang Mei and Fang Yun somewhat at a loss.

Even Lei Zheng's friend Li Mao was bewildered, not understanding what had gotten into Lei Zheng.

"Junior Yang Mei."

"Junior Fang Yun."

Seeing that Lei Zheng seemed to have no hostility but rather a friendly demeanor, Yang Mei and Fang Yun quickly responded.

Although Lei Zheng was about the same age as Yang Mei, his cultivation was far superior, so it was only natural for Yang Mei to address herself as a junior.

As for Fang Yun, being much younger than Lei Zheng and having a significantly lower cultivation level, she also naturally addressed herself as a junior.

Upon hearing the names "Yang Mei" and "Fang Yun," Lei Zheng's mind buzzed, and he was instantly enveloped in happiness, feeling ecstatic.

Lei Zheng clearly remembered that the bounty order issued by the Senior Fang, Fang Bai, mentioned that his mother and sister were named Yang Mei and Fang Yun.

Moreover, the facial features of these two women in front of him closely matched those described in the bounty. If they were indeed the ones he was looking for, he could claim two rewards and gain a significant favor from Senior Fang.

"I don't deserve such addresses!"

Eager to please and ingratiate himself with Fang Bai, Lei Zheng was convinced these two were Fang Bai's mother and sister and quickly said, "Please, just call me by my name! You can even call me Little Lei!"

Yang Mei and Fang Yun exchanged puzzled glances, not knowing why this powerhouse had transformed from initially dismissive to now overwhelmingly enthusiastic.

"Do you know Fang Bai, Senior Fang?"

To finally confirm Yang Mei and Fang Yun's identities and avoid any mistakes, Lei Zheng asked softly.

Upon hearing the words "Fang Bai," Yang Mei was stunned.

However, Fang Yun cried out, "You... Brother Lei Zheng, do you know my younger brother?"

Hearing Fang Yun's words, Lei Zheng was overwhelmed with excitement, looked up, and laughed heartily, saying, "Know him! Of course, I know him! Senior Fang and I... are very good friends!"

"Fang Bai... my son, where is he right now?"

Yang Mei snapped out of her daze when she heard news about her son, and her eyes immediately turned red. If she hadn't been holding her unconscious husband, Fang Gang, she might have already rushed forward to grab Lei Zheng's shoulders and loudly demanded answers.

Zheng Yi previously thought Fang Gang and his wife only had a daughter, Fang Yun. Now he learned they also had a son named Fang Bai. And judging by Lei Zheng's tone, their son seemed to be quite extraordinary. While surprised, Zheng Yi also thought it was a good thing.

Chapter 1737 Senior Fang's Family Is Here!

In Zheng Yi's mind, for Lei Zheng to respectfully address someone as "Senior Fang," it suggested that Fang Bai's cultivation level might be even greater than Lei Zheng, the Thunder Tribulation Expert.

Ever since being expelled from Zheng Family Village by the disciples of the Wind Blade Sect, Zheng Yi had been haunted by it, unable to find peace. He wondered, if Fang Gang and his wife truly had such a powerful son, perhaps there was hope for their return to Zheng Family Village?

"Senior Fang is here in Red Maple City; let me take you to see him right away!"

Lei Zheng, anticipating that Fang Bai would be grateful to him for reuniting him with his family, rubbed his palms together with excitement and said eagerly.

Seeing Yang Mei holding the severely injured and unconscious Martial Artist, he furrowed his brow and asked, "Who is this...?"

"This is my father."

Fang Yun, thinking of her younger brother Fang Bai's legendary capabilities, felt certain he could heal their father. She urged, "Brother Lei Zheng, please take us to find Fang Bai!"

Hearing that the injured person was Fang Bai's father, Lei Zheng dared not delay. He led Yang Mei, Fang Yun, and Zheng Yi towards the largest Martial Artists Trading Market in Red Maple City.

"Sister Fang Yun, which heartless bastard dared to hurt Senior Fang's family? Tell me, and I'll take care of him for you!"

Along the way, Lei Zheng and Fang Yun walked side by side, and he asked with righteous indignation.

He saw this as a great opportunity to curry favor with Fang Bai. If he resolved this matter, not only would Fang Bai view him more favorably, but he could also gain their family's goodwill, so why not?

"It was someone from the Wind Blade Sect!"

Zheng Yi, harboring resentment, interjected.

"..."

Lei Zheng looked embarrassed and then said with a bitter smile, "How did you get into a conflict with the Wind Blade Sect?"

In Red Maple City, the Fire Cloud Sect was the dominant force, but the Wind Blade Sect held that status outside the city. Lei Zheng was just a Loose Cultivator; even with many friends and a wide network, he couldn't afford to provoke the Wind Blade Sect with its many disciples and a Thunder Tribulation Expert of the fifth level.

Zheng Yi said, "The Wind Blade Sect disciples claimed they found a Spirit Stone Vein near our village. Using that as an excuse, they drove all hundreds of villagers out. We were no match for them and could only swallow our anger and leave! Fang Gang spoke out in injustice and was injured by the Wind Blade Sect disciples..."

Lei Zheng realized after hearing this that he couldn't intervene in this matter, lacking the strength to do so. So he said, "Let's find Senior Fang first, and discuss other matters later."

The Fire Cloud Sect was only a few dozen miles away from the Martial Artists Trading Market where Fang Bai was located. Lei Zheng and his group swiftly traveled and arrived shortly.

"Boss Lei, long time no see!"

"Lei Zheng, why the rush? Come over and chat with the brothers!"

"Did you hear some good news and are eager to share it with Senior Fang?"

"If you gain some benefits from Senior Fang, remember to share a bit with the brothers!"

.....

Having spent years in the Martial Artists Trading Market, Lei Zheng was acquainted with many powerful figures there. Seeing him charge in with a few others, several friends cheerfully greeted him.

Lei Zheng, keen on quickly meeting Fang Bai and claiming the credit for finding his family, ignored their greetings and led Yang Mei, Fang Yun, and Zheng Yi through the crowd, heading straight for Fang Bai's stall.

Recently, Fang Bai's stall had become the most successful in all of Red Maple City.

It was said Fang Bai could craft Royal Grade mid-tier Spirit Pills and Spiritual Artifacts with high success rates. Thousands of experts flocked to him, lining up and waiting in turn. Consequently, other Alchemists and Artifact Refiners in the major Martial Artists Trading Markets witnessed a sharp decline in business, though helpless to change it.

Even some old patrons of the Fire Cloud Sect had been drawn to Fang Bai, resulting in a significant slump in the Fire Cloud Sect's business.

Some Alchemists and Artifact Refiners, unwilling to accept this, visited Fang Bai's stall to see if he was as formidable as rumored.

Their observations left them convinced, as Fang Bai's skills in both alchemy and artifact refining surpassed theirs in every aspect, leaving them in an overwhelming inferior position and with no room for envy or jealousy.

A few Alchemists and Artifact Refiners, harboring grudges against Fang Bai, had conspired to drive him out of Red Maple City. However, upon discovering that Fang Bai had once slain a Thunder Tribulation Expert of the third level, they recoiled in shock and abandoned their plans.

In just a few days, Fang Bai's name echoed throughout Red Maple City and quickly spread beyond.

The Fire Cloud Sect, always proud, could no longer sit by and watch as much of their business was taken.

Qin Ming, the Sect Leader of the Fire Cloud Sect with a Thunder Tribulation Level Four cultivation, personally approached Fang Bai for negotiations. He hoped Fang Bai would serve as an Honorary Elder for their sect. In return, they would provide Fang Bai with various conveniences, while assisting in selling a portion of his crafted Spirit Pills and Spiritual Artifacts, sharing profits together.

Furthermore, upon learning that Fang Bai was searching for people, Qin Ming offered to use the Fire Cloud Sect's network to help him gather information across the Three Thousand Great Worlds.

Understanding the Fire Cloud Sect's strength was beyond his current means to challenge, and after hearing from Lei Zheng and others that the sect had no notorious reputation, Fang Bai agreed to collaborate with Qin Ming.

Fang Bai recognized the benefits of aligning with the strong—a partnership with the Fire Cloud Sect served as a protective shield. It made life much easier in Red Maple City, as no one would dare provoke him.

News of Fang Bai's alliance with the Fire Cloud Sect quickly spread, so even powerful figures seeking his alchemy and artifact crafting services had to queue up and wait patiently.

Because everyone knew that offending Fang Bai meant offending the Fire Cloud Sect, which meant offending tens of thousands of powerful cultivators. Unless someone wished to abandon Red Maple City entirely, no one would be foolish enough to take such a risk.

"Make way! Make way!"

Seeing the crowd of experts queueing up, blocking Fang Bai's stall entirely, Lei Zheng became anxious and shouted loudly.

"What are you shouting for? Get at the back of the line!"

"Senior Fang is in the middle of refining a pill for me—your shouting might disturb him, what then?"

"Can you bear the wrath of Senior Fang?"

"Do you dare offend Senior Fang, with the Fire Cloud Sect backing him?"

"Yeah, you better stay quiet!"

.....

Hearing Lei Zheng's loud cries, some strong figures turned to glare at him.

Lei Zheng hesitated for a moment, but upon seeing Yang Gang, Fang Yun, and the injured and unconscious Fang Gang, he suddenly found his confidence again.

“Senior Fang’s family is here! Wouldn’t you all prefer to move aside quickly? Can you endure Senior Fang’s anger if you block his family?”

Lei Zheng mentioned Fang Bai’s family with pride and swagger.

Upon hearing that Fang Bai’s family had arrived, those in line quickly made way amidst a flurry of movement, opening a path.

Chapter 1738 Family Reunion

Although Fang Bai was reborn through soul seizure, because he occupied the current body, he formed a blood relation with Fang Gang, Yang Mei, and Fang Yun. Among their family, there was a telepathic connection.

When Fang Yun came to Fang Bai’s stall, she immediately sensed the extremely familiar aura inside the Alchemy Room, and her eyes instantly grew moist.

“It’s Little Brother... Little Brother is inside...”

Fang Yun gazed at the Alchemy Room and murmured.

Yang Mei naturally also sensed Fang Bai’s aura and was equally excited. She lowered her head to glance at her husband, Fang Gang. Then her figure swiftly moved forward through the passage opened by the surrounding experts and stood directly in front of the Alchemy Room.

“Creak!”

With a soft sound, the door to the Alchemy Room was opened from inside, and Baili Mingyue’s graceful figure darted out.

“Auntie! Sister Fang Yun!”

Baili Mingyue only came out after sensing Fang Yun and the others’ presence. Upon seeing Yang Mei and Fang Yun, she quickly stepped forward, her voice tinged with a sweet cry, tears welling up in her eyes.

Yang Mei and Fang Yun were well aware of the relationship between Fang Bai and Baili Mingyue, considering Baili Mingyue as one of their own in their hearts.

Similarly, Baili Mingyue treated them like family. After being apart for several years, the sudden reunion left them overwhelmed with emotion, tears of joy streaming down.

“Uncle Fang... what happened to him?”

Seeing Fang Gang unconscious in Yang Mei’s arms, Baili Mingyue was startled and cried out in surprise.

At this moment, a white shadow flashed, and Fang Bai, clad in white, full of elegance, also stood in front of Yang Mei.

“Mother, who hurt my father?”

Fang Bai’s gaze fell directly on the heavily injured and unconscious Fang Gang, his brow furrowing tightly, and a deep chill gathering in the depths of his eyes.

For Fang Bai, although Fang Bai, Yang Gang, and Fang Yun were not his real family, they shared an unbreakable familial bond, and Fang Bai had promised the original owner of this body to take good care of his family.

Now, with Fang Gang severely injured, how could a man of his word like Fang Bai not be furious?

Fang Bai made a decision in an instant. Regardless of how powerful the opponent who hurt Fang Gang was, he would not hesitate to make them disappear from this world permanently.

Fang Yun sensed Fang Bai's sorrow and anger in his eyes. Standing beside him, she softly said, "Little Brother, Father is gravely injured. Are you confident in healing him? We can discuss other matters afterward, yes?"

Fang Gang had been injured for several days now, and his condition was worsening. Fang Yun's heart had been hanging in suspense all the while, with hope and anticipation in her eyes as she inquired of Fang Bai.

Fang Bai nodded, glanced at Fang Gang's injuries, then took Fang Gang from Yang Mei's hands, saying, "It's just a minor injury, don't worry. Leave it to me!"

He turned with Fang Gang in his arms, re-entering the Alchemy Room to begin treating Fang Gang's injuries.

Yang Mei, Fang Yun, and Baili Mingyue waited outside the Alchemy Room to prevent other specialists from approaching and disturbing them. Meanwhile, the three women communicated through Thread Condensation Sound Transmission.

"Was it a disciple from the Wind Blade Sect who injured Uncle Fang? Hmph! This sect is doomed!"

After a round of communication, Baili Mingyue received information about the culprit who injured Fang Gang, and her pretty face was filled with Evil Qi.

Now that Baili Mingyue was a Thunder Tribulation Expert, when her anger flared up, her oppressive aura spilled out, making Yang Mei and Fang Yun, who faced her, feel pressured.

"Mingyue, what is your current cultivation realm?"

Fang Yun couldn't help but ask.

Baili Mingyue replied, "The first tier of the Thunder Tribulation Realm!"

Fang Yun exclaimed, "You're amazing! I'm only at the initial stage of Soul Severing..."

Baili Mingyue held Fang Yun's hand, saying, "I'm just a bit luckier. Sister Fang Yun, your talent is no worse than mine. You'll quickly advance to the Thunder Tribulation Realm too."

"I hope so!"

Fang Yun thought that if she were also a Thunder Tribulation Expert, perhaps when at Zheng Family Village earlier, she would have been capable of confronting the Wind Blade Sect disciple, and Father might have avoided disaster.

They chatted for about a hundred breaths before seeing Fang Bai and Fang Gang step out of the Alchemy Room one after the other.

Fang Gang's face was flushed with normal color, and his aura steady, looking perfectly normal, nothing like someone who was comatose from severe injuries just a hundred breaths ago.

As Fang Gang walked, he occasionally turned to glance at his son, his face bearing an indescribable joy.

When he awakened from unconsciousness earlier, he felt two streams of Spiritual Energy slowly circulating within him. Wherever these streams flowed, his injuries rapidly healed, and within a hundred breaths, his wounds were completely cured.

Seeing his son sitting cross-legged behind him, with his palms resting on his back, he understood it was his son who saved and healed him.

Fang Gang felt himself over and realized that his journey on the Martial Dao was not impeded by this injury, and his strength was even greater than before he was hurt.

Fang Gang didn't expect to meet his son here, and after a few simple exchanges, learned that his current strength was enough to defeat a Thunder Tribulation Level Three expert, leaving him both astonished and delighted.

To prevent Yang Mei, Fang Yun, and the others from waiting anxiously outside, the father and son promptly left the Alchemy Room and went outside.

“Fang Gang, you... you’re fine now?”

Seeing her husband, Yang Mei wondered if she was seeing things. She rubbed her eyes for another look, realizing it was no dream, her face filled with incredulity.

She knew her son was remarkably gifted with many methods, but complete healing of someone gravely injured and near death within a hundred breaths was somewhat incredible.

“I’m fine, thanks to our son’s efforts.”

Fang Gang replied with a hearty laugh.

Yang Mei stepped forward to hold Fang Bai’s hand, now finally taking the time to get a good look at him.

Fang Bai smiled as he gently patted Yang Mei’s hand, glancing again at Fang Yun, and asked, “Mother, Sister, it’s been a long time. How have you been?”

Yang Mei observed that her son appeared even more handsome and imposing than before, with an added indescribable special aura, her joy growing with every glance. She nodded, “Good... good...”

But Fang Yun said, “We used to be fine, but things haven’t been good recently... Little Brother, you must seek justice for Zheng Family Village and avenge Father!”

Yang Mei added, “Yes, we must reclaim Zheng Family Village! We can’t let those villains take it over!”

Seeing Village Chief Zheng Yi from Zheng Family Village standing not far away, observing them, Fang Gang waved to him, calling out, “Brother Zheng, please come over for a chat!”

Zheng Yi had just spoken with Lei Zheng and only then learned that Fang Bai in Red Maple City was such a powerful and influential figure, and even an Honorary Elder of the largest force in Red Maple City, the Fire Cloud Sect. He was overjoyed.

Although he wanted to go over and converse with Fang Bai, his heart was filled with both respect and awe towards such a formidable person with strong backing, and he hesitated to move.

Seeing Fang Gang beckoning him over, Zheng Yi hurriedly walked over and asked, "Brother Fang, what is it?"

When he said "Brother Fang," he deliberately emphasized the phrase to indicate that he and Fang Gang were peers, so in front of Fang Bai, he wouldn't have to speak humbly or address himself as a junior.

Chapter 1739 Lend Them a Hand

Fang Gang patted Zheng Yi's shoulder, then turned to Fang Bai and said, "Son, come and meet your Uncle Zheng!"

Fang Bai, not knowing the relationship between this "Uncle Zheng" and his father, walked over, cupped his fists, and said with a smile, "Hello, Uncle Zheng."

Zheng Yi had already heard about some of Fang Bai's deeds from Lei Zheng and knew that this young powerhouse before him was a hot topic in Red Maple City. Whether in strength or status, he was beyond Zheng Yi's reach.

Yet now, this formidable figure, who had once slain a Thunder Tribulation third-level expert, was skilled in both alchemy and artifact refining, and had been hired as an honorary elder by the Fire Cloud Sect, was cupping his fists and bowing before him, acting as a junior, and even calling him "Uncle." Zheng Yi suddenly felt dizzy with excitement and at a loss.

"Oh... good... you too..."

Coming back to his senses, Zheng Yi felt a bit light-headed as he responded clumsily.

Fang Gang smiled at this scene and said to Fang Bai, "After your mother, your sister, and I arrived in the vast world of three thousand, if not for Uncle Zheng's shelter, we might still be wandering who knows where! Your Uncle Zheng has been a great benefactor to us! The villagers of Zheng Family Village have been a great benefactor to us!"

Yang Mei and Fang Yun nodded in agreement.

Fang Gang continued, "We of the Fang Family must know how to be grateful. Zheng Family Village is now occupied by the Wind Blade Sect. We must help take it back! But it is said that the Wind Blade Sect is very powerful, so we cannot rush this. We need to plan carefully!"

Zheng Yi also knew that without a meticulous plan and without an overwhelming power against the Wind Blade Sect, it would not be easy to reclaim Zheng Family Village from them, so he nodded and said, "Yes! We must plan slowly and not act recklessly!"

A cold gleam flashed in Fang Bai's eyes as he said coldly, "Wind Blade Sect... Alright, I remember them! Dad, Uncle Zheng, rest assured, I will make the disciples of the Wind Blade Sect regret provoking you!"

Seeing the cold gleam in Fang Bai's eyes, Zheng Yi couldn't help but shudder, thinking this young man's evil qi is intense; surely many experts have fallen at his hands.

Fang Bai chatted with his family and Zheng Yi for a bit, then arranged for them to stay in Red Maple City. As for the hundreds of other villagers from Zheng Family Village, he also asked Zheng Yi to bring them into the city for temporary accommodation. Once Zheng Family Village was reclaimed in the future, they would be allowed to return.

Fang Bai, now an honorary elder of the Fire Cloud Sect, wielded significant power and was embraced by countless strongmen in Red Maple City. His status was extremely high, so arranging for hundreds of people to stay in the city was just a matter of his word.

After settling his family and the villagers from Zheng Family Village, Fang Bai then called Lei Zheng over and whispered instructions to him.

Lei Zheng, after receiving some sort of promise from Fang Bai, was so excited his face turned red, and he pledged with a vow to accomplish what Fang Bai had instructed. Then, with a group of brothers, he hurriedly left.

Zheng Yi saw Lei Zheng, a Thunder Tribulation second-level expert, and a group of Thunder Tribulation first-level experts, obeying Fang Bai as if they were his little brothers, which gave him more confidence in reclaiming Zheng Family Village.

“Gentlemen, Fang here wants to spend the next few days with my family, so the stall won’t be open for now. If anyone needs spirit pills or spiritual artifacts, you can go to the Fire Cloud Sect for your purchases!”

Saying this, Fang Bai tidied up the stall briefly, then, along with Baili Mingyue, accompanied his family and Zheng Yi to the residence of the Fire Cloud Sect.

The crowd of strongmen waiting in line was disappointed, but no one dared to show dissatisfaction. After all, no one wanted to upset Fang Bai given his current status and position.

Fang Bai now lived in a massive courtyard within the Fire Cloud Sect, with many pavilions and halls built within. There were also dozens of young male and female disciples from the Fire Cloud Sect specifically serving him. This kind of treatment was even superior to some of the other elders in the Fire Cloud Sect.

Despite this, no one among the tens of thousands of disciples in the Fire Cloud Sect raised any objections. Instead, they felt it was only natural. After all, like Fang Bai, an alchemist and artifact refiner brought benefits to the Fire Cloud Sect far beyond what he took.

Moreover, Fang Bai was still young and had endless potential, whether in the Martial Dao or in alchemy and artifact refining abilities. Pleasing him would only bring countless benefits to the Fire Cloud Sect in the future.

Fang Gang and Yang Mei felt proud in their hearts, seeing their son enjoying such high regard from the Fire Cloud Sect.

Zheng Yi, seeing how outstanding Fang Bai was, realized that it might be difficult to retain Fang Gang, Yang Mei, and Fang Yun in Zheng Family Village in the future, which filled him with regret.

But on second thought, he realized that if Zheng Family Village could maintain a good relationship with Fang Bai's family, they would be able to reap endless benefits in the future. Any other forces wanting to bully the villagers of Zheng Family Village would have to think twice about the consequences.

Learning of Fang Bai's reunion with his family, the Sect Leader of the Fire Cloud Sect, Qin Ming, personally visited, exchanged pleasantries with Fang Gang and his wife, then left a gift before departing.

The gift left by Qin Ming consisted of some royal grade cultivation resources. Fang Bai glanced at them and then handed them to Zheng Yi, as a token of gratitude for him sheltering his family.

Zheng Yi accepted the space ring handed over by Fang Bai, infused his divine sense, and saw the mountain of royal grade cultivation resources piled within, his hands shaking with excitement.

The villagers of Zheng Family Village, including Zheng Yi, normally ventured into the primeval forest at their own risk to hunt spirit beasts, just to exchange for some king grade cultivation resources to distribute among the martial artists of the village for cultivation.

They naturally dreamed of royal grade cultivation resources, but given their own strength, they were unable to obtain them.

Now, with the flick of Fang Bai's hand, the spatial ring he gifted contained only royal grade cultivation resources. How could Zheng Yi not be overjoyed?

"With these royal grade cultivation resources, the Zheng Family Village will surely produce more Soul Severing experts in the future!"

Zheng Yi carefully put away the space ring, thinking with delight.

As for Thunder Tribulation experts, Zheng Yi did not dare to imagine it at the moment. After all, the strongest in Zheng Family Village was only at the initial stage of Soul Severing, and reaching the Thunder Tribulation realm, who knows when that would be. It's better to be more realistic.

"Actually, among the villagers of Zheng Family Village, some martial artists have good aptitude. What they lack are high rank cultivation resources and guidance from experts. Little brother, your cultivation level is much stronger than mine, and you know more. If you have leisure time, help them out!"

Fang Yun said earnestly.

Fang Bai nodded with a smile and said, "A drop of water shall be returned with a burst of spring. The villagers of Zheng Family Village have been a great benefactor to our family. I will certainly not treat them poorly. Uncle Zheng, how about this: tomorrow you bring the villagers to me here, and I'll explain the Martial Dao for them in the courtyard plaza."

"Wonderful! Wonderful! Fang... dear nephew, on behalf of the hundreds of villagers from Zheng Family Village, thank you!"

Upon hearing this, Zheng Yi was overjoyed, repeatedly expressing his gratitude.

Fang Bai, who once slew a Thunder Tribulation third-level expert, must have incredible insight and understanding of the Martial Dao. Listening to his explanation was indeed a rare opportunity.

The next morning, Zheng Yi led the hundreds of villagers from Zheng Family Village who were staying in the city, and they headed to the large courtyard where Fang Bai lived in a grand manner, sitting cross-legged at the location designated by Zheng Yi.

Chapter 1740 Beauty Is in the Eye of the Beholder

The hundreds of villagers from Zheng Family Village already knew that today a Thunder Tribulation Expert would explain the Martial Dao to them; each of them was invigorated and extremely excited.

For them, such an opportunity was truly rare; perhaps listening even for a short while could open up a new world of Martial Dao for them, thereby changing their destinies.

Moments later, Fang Bai, accompanied by his family and Baili Mingyue, stepped out and entered the courtyard.

Upon learning that the person who would explain the Martial Dao to them was that young man in white, the villagers of Zheng Family Village were dumbfounded, finding it hard to believe.

In their impression, Thunder Tribulation Experts were generally older, some even had long white beards, exuding an immortal-like aura.

Yet, the young man in white before them had no trace of a Martial Artist Aura; at first glance, he appeared to be an ordinary person, making it hard for the villagers to associate him with a Thunder Tribulation Expert.

However, before coming, Village Chief Zheng Yi had repeatedly urged them to show respect to Fang Bai and not to be rude, so although the villagers were surprised in their hearts, none dared to speak out.

“Father, Mother, Sister, Mingyue, you all sit down too and listen with everyone!”

Stopping in the center of the plaza, standing amidst the hundreds of villagers, Fang Bai looked around and said to his family and Baili Mingyue.

The four Fang Gang nodded, walked away together, and sat cross-legged on the ground not far away, slightly looking up at Fang Bai.

With a gentle smile on his face, Fang Bai also sat cross-legged under the watchful eyes of hundreds.

After he sat down, his figure slowly rose, stopping to float at a height of about three meters.

In this way, the hundreds of villagers could clearly see his every move.

Fang Bai's voice, seemingly possessed of some magical power, as soon as his voice softly sounded, the hundreds of villagers were instantly captivated.

What Fang Bai spoke of were all elementary and understandable entry-level Martial Dao Arcane and Great Dao Principles, which Fang Gang, Yang Mei, Fang Yun, and Baili Mingyue had heard years ago, but hearing them again now, they gained different insights.

The hundreds of villagers were hearing Fang Bai's sermons for the first time.

Fang Bai's explanation seemed like clearing clouds to reveal the sun, giving the villagers a feeling of enlightenment, seeing an unprecedented vast world of Martial Dao.

As Fang Bai explained the Martial Dao, occasionally his hands formed seals to demonstrate some simple Martial Arts, passing them on to the villagers.

Though said to be simple Martial Arts, they were all created by Fang Bai in his past life, suitable for Great Calamity Period experts in the Thunder Tribulation Realm for cultivation; they were profound and powerful. If the villagers could comprehend even a little, they would benefit enormously.

Just as Fang Yun said, among these hundreds of villagers, some had good aptitudes, but previously due to being limited by their perspective and cultivation resources, their cultivation level progressed slowly. But if someone provided them with the necessary conditions, they would be like tigers returning to the mountains, dragons to the sea, and could make astonishing progress in a short time.

While Fang Bai was explaining in the plaza center, some villagers of good aptitude lost themselves when inspired, and couldn't help but dance, following Fang Bai's practice, gradually transitioning from awkwardness to skillfulness, gaining different insights with each practice.

Two hours passed, Fang Bai fell silent, seeing the hundreds of villagers around him with varied expressions—some frowning in deep thought, some utterly confused, some enlightened, and some overjoyed—he couldn't help but smile slightly.

Among Martial Artists, aptitude varies greatly, and the villagers of Zheng Family Village were manifesting their various aptitudes at this moment.

Fang Gang and Yang Mei originally had average aptitude, but having often received guidance from Fang Bai before, they opened up a lot, and through the Marrow Cleansing of various Spirit Pills refined by Fang Bai, their aptitude was significantly improved.

After Fang Bai fell silent, the two closed their eyes in thought, seemingly inspired.

As for Fang Yun, possessing an Innate Fire Spirit Root, she had extraordinary aptitude and excellent understanding, belonging to the class of favored prodigies.

She now wore an expression of sudden enlightenment, her brows showing joy, evidently having comprehended much from Fang Bai's explanation.

Fang Yun had high aptitude and understanding; her lack of cultivation level was due to the lack of cultivation resources. Now, having encountered Fang Bai, this was no longer an issue.

Fang Bai knew that with a massive stack of cultivation resources, Fang Yun's strength would rapidly improve in a short time, with hopes of quickly advancing to the Thunder Tribulation Realm.

This time, Baili Mingyue, listening to Fang Bai's explanation, also gained some insights and benefited a lot, but having recently advanced to the Thunder Tribulation Realm, she needed to accumulate various strengths again, waiting for the next outbreak.

Among the hundreds of villagers of Zheng Family Village, Village Chief Zheng Yi had the highest aptitude, but he was also limited by cultivation resources, so at over forty, he was still in the initial stage of the Soul Severing realm, while some with equal aptitude in Red Maple City were already Thunder Tribulation Experts of one or two levels.

Fang Bai felt that Zheng Yi now was like a volcano, always restricted by various obstacles. This time, by gifting him Royal Grade cultivation resources and explaining the Martial Dao, it was equivalent to removing the obstacles blocking the volcanic eruption, and he would soon experience his eruption.

Therefore, among the hundreds present, Fang Bai knew that Zheng Yi was ironically the most likely to be the first to advance to the Thunder Tribulation Realm.

Including Fang Bai, hundreds of people sat on the plaza within the courtyard for nine days.

During these nine days, regardless of wind or rain, the hundreds remained motionless as a mountain.

On the tenth day, experts from various places near Fang Bai's residence sensed the aura of dozens of Martial Artists expanding in all directions, knowing that someone had advanced in rank.

However, those dozens of Martial Artist auras were not strong, indicating that the Martial Artists' realms were not high.

Finally, seeing black clouds forming in the sky above the plaza of Fang Bai's residence, accompanied by thunderous roars, some experts took notice, knowing someone was Crossing the Thunder Tribulation.

Moments later, after forty-nine bouts of lightning strikes ended, the black clouds dispersed, the thunder ceased, and a strong Martial Artist Aura spread in all directions, evidently someone successfully crossed the Thunder Tribulation.

"The Village Chief successfully crossed the Thunder Tribulation!"

"Zheng Family Village finally has a Thunder Tribulation Expert!"

"The Village Chief is mighty!"

"Zheng Family Village suddenly has dozens of Soul Severing Experts, greatly increasing its strength!"

"Thanks to Senior Fang's guidance!"

"Senior Fang is mighty!"

...

In the plaza of the courtyard, seeing Zheng Yi successfully cross the Thunder Tribulation, the hundreds of villagers from Zheng Family Village who had taken cover far away cheered aloud.

They knew all of this was thanks to Fang Bai, feeling immeasurable gratitude and admiration for him.

“With one guidance enabling dozens of experts to advance, in this vast world, who can achieve this besides Fang Bai?”

Baili Mingyue blinked her beautiful eyes, her gaze radiating a unique charm, looking tenderly at Fang Bai with a face full of admiration.

Fang Yun giggled and said to Baili Mingyue, “Beauty lies in the eyes of the lover. Your man, praise him to your heart’s content!”

Baili Mingyue blushed slightly, stamped her foot, and playfully chided, “Sister Fang Yun, you’re teasing me!”

Fang Yun joked with a grin, “Oh my, the Little Witch can also blush and act coquettish, how rare!”

Baili Mingyue replied, “Sister Fang Yun, if you keep saying that... I’ll tickle you! I’ll tickle...”

“I dare not... I dare not... Mingyue spare me... hahaha...”

The two girls laughed and played, tumbling together in a heap of mirth.