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Chapter 3226 Test

Cade glanced at Kai, and in response, Kai took out an alchemist token from his Storage Ring. This token had been obtained during his time in Jipsdale.

Seeing Kai's alchemist token, the female alchemist nodded and began gathering various herbs according to the prescription.

Soon, she had prepared all the required herbs and said, "Mr. Seizon, most of the mystical herbs needed according to the prescription are here. However, there's one ingredient, Rooster's Crow, which we don't have. It's quite rare and precious, so you'll need to go to Jubilante for it."

"We'll have to pay Jubilante a visit?"

Cade's expression turned somewhat uncomfortable upon hearing this. Perplexed, Kai asked, "What's wrong?

Does Jubilante not sell mystical herbs?"

"Mr. Chance, you may not be aware of this, but despite selling various mystical herbs, Jubilante doesn't allow just anyone to buy them. Even if you're an alchemist, you need to undergo his assessments. Only if you pass can you purchase the herbs from him. I've heard that Jubilante's assessments are particularly tough. I'm afraid..." Cade trailed off, but it was clear he was worried that Kai might not pass Jubilante's tests.

"Take me there so I can try my luck. Let's see if I can pass the assessment," Kai said.

He wasn't overly confident that he could pass Jubilante's assessment, considering Jubilante's likely expertise in alchemy.

"Okay, then." Cade nodded. After packing the various mystical herbs, Cade led Kai away from the Alchemist Guild toward a magnificent mansion behind it.

As they approached the entrance, Kai noticed a gathering of people, all dressed as alchemists.

Cade explained, "Mr. Chance, this is where Jubilante resides. To buy mystical herbs directly from him, one must pass through a series of assessments," Cade explained. "These people are here for the assessment. If one can meet Jubilante and purchase herbs, it's a considerable achievement in the alchemist community."

Per Kai's observation, those participating in the assessment were mostly older and more experienced alchemists. Those lacking substantial alchemical experience or expertise didn't dare to take part in such evaluations.

"Let's go inside and take a look," Kai suggested, heading toward Jubilante's mansion.

"Hey, what are you doing? Don't you see there are so many people? Stop pushing."

"What are you doing here, young man?

You're not here for the assessment, are you?"

"This is Jubilante's assessment, not a game. You better leave quickly."

Many alchemists mocked Kai, mainly because of his young age. Even if he possessed some knowledge in alchemy or medicine, it was unlikely to be substantial.

"The Seizon family invited this alchemist. Who says that young people cannot participate in the assessment?" Cade spoke up.

Seeing Cade, the alchemists ceased their comments as a form of respect to the Seizon family. As everyone fell silent, Kai walked into Jubilante's mansion.

As soon as he stepped inside, Kai felt a wave of spatial fluctuations, indicating the presence of an illusion array. Meanwhile, several dejected alchemists slowly revealed themselves.

"Ah, even the first stage is so difficult. Who can pass it?"

"Indeed, even Jubilante himself might struggle to pass."

"Trying to distinguish various mystical herbs based on their shapes, colors, and scents in the illusionary realm is extremely challenging."

The alchemists were heard complaining. Listening to their comments, Kai understood that alchemists had to identify various mystical herbs based on their shapes, colors, and scents inside the illusion array.

For Kai, this wasn't particularly difficult. In his consciousness field, he had the Holy Guide to Pill Crafting and the Golden Tome.

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Just as Kai was about to step into the illusion array, a sudden commotion behind him interrupted him. "Make way, make way! Why do incapable alchemists like to come here?"

Following the shouts, a dozen alchemists in white rushed forward, forming a path by holding hands.

An elderly man with white hair, exuding an air of grace and dressed in a gray robe, slowly walked into Jubilante's mansion. Upon seeing this elderly man, many alchemists went wild.

"Jubilante, Jubilante..."

"I love you, Jubilante..."

"Jubilante, please accept me as your disciple."

"Jubilante, can I be your godson?" Numerous alchemists shouted, with many female alchemists beaming with excitement, eager to become this old man's wife.

Upon seeing Jubilante, Cade became somewhat breathless. He blurted out excitedly, "I never thought I'd see Jubilante with my own eyes. This is amazing!"

Jubilante remained arrogantly indifferent, showing no signs of emotional change amidst the cries of the surrounding alchemists.

However, when passing by a beautiful female alchemist, Jubilante would give a slight smile and then gently caress her face.

Those female alchemists would tremble with excitement, some even fainting on the spot. Observing this scene, Kai felt a sense of déjà vu.

This wasn't much different from the mundane world, where major celebrities would receive similar adoration from fans.

The ecstatic cheers, especially from female fans, seemed oddly familiar. However, Kai couldn't understand why these beautiful female alchemists were so infatuated with this old man. Jubilante seemed too old for such attention.

As Kai remained in Jubilante's mansion, one alchemist chided, "What are you doing? Make way!"

Kai remained silent and was about to make way when Jubilante noticed him. Frowning, Jubilante remarked, "You're so young, yet you're here for the assessment. No wonder there's such a commotion at the entrance of my residence. In the future, young alchemists like you are not allowed to take the test. Do you take my home for a market where anyone can just come in and take the assessment?"

After saying this, Jubilante signaled to a white- robed alchemist beside him. The alchemist instantly understood and shouted at Kai, "Leave immediately. You're not qualified for the assessment!"

"Why not? Why do young people not have the right to take the assessment?" Kai asked, furrowing his brows.

The white-robed alchemist retorted angrily, "There is no reason. If we say you can't, you can't. How dare you defy me?"

Cade stepped forward to explain, "Jubilante, the Seizon family invited this alchemist here. He wants to buy some mystical herbs from you, so he has to take the assessment."

Jubilante coldly glanced at Cade, then waved his hand, signaling the whiterobed alchemist to step back.

"Out of respect for the Seizon family, I'll let him take the test once. But it's futile as he won't pass."

With that, Jubilante continued walking forward. The white-robed alchemists, along with the female alchemists he touched earlier, followed him.

The female alchemists seemed excited as they knew they had been selected and might be able to rise to success.

Watching these excited female alchemists, Kai couldn't help feeling a bit sad. They were just playthings to Jubilante. Once he had enough, they would be discarded. They thought they could change their fate and rise to the top, but it was nothing but a laughable notion.

Although Kai couldn't help but scorn Jubilante, he found himself compelled to endure the assessment. After all, he still needed those mystical herbs from Jubilante. "Such behavior, and yet he still receives everyone's respect. Truly eye-opening."

This muttered comment from Kai caught the attention of Jubilante, who had originally been leaving.

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Jubilante turned slowly to face Kai and inquired, "What did you just say?"

"I said your conduct doesn't match your position," Kai retorted directly. Kai's remark immediately shocked Cade. The surrounding alchemists were left in disbelief as they stared at Kai in utter amazement.

"Where did this guy come from? He's got some nerve talking to Jubilante like that!"

"Absolutely audacious. How dare he say Jubilante's conduct doesn't match his status?"

"He's done. Even the Seizon family can't save him now."

The alchemists chattered among themselves, ready to witness Kai's downfall. Cade attempted to speak up for Kai. "Jubilante, he-"

Before Cade could finish, Jubilante gestured for him to stop talking. Jubilante looked at Kai icily and asked, "You said my conduct doesn't match my status?"

"Yes," Kai replied nonchalantly.

"Do you even know who you're talking to?" Jubilante narrowed his eyes slightly.

"I feel like you're all talk. I don't think you can even pass the tests you yourself set up," Kai provocatively remarked.

Kai's statement aimed to resonate with many alchemists who believed the assessment was too difficult, even for Jubilante himself. Sure enough, as soon as Kai spoke, it caused a commotion among the alchemists.

"I also think Jubilante can't pass his own assessments."

"That's right. These assessments are too difficult."

"Finally, someone dares to bring it up. I wonder how Jubilante will handle this."

The discussions spread rapidly, reaching Jubilante's ears. Jubilante's expression turned unpleasant as he heard the discussions and Kai's provocation.

"Kid, what do you mean? Do you want to challenge me?" Jubilante asked coldly.

"What's wrong with a little challenge?" Kai flashed a tiny smile.

"You're not qualified to challenge me. To challenge me, you have to pass this assessment first," Jubilante said, waving his hand to make the illusion array clear.

Everyone saw a faint appearance of various flowers and plants in the void, which were mystical herbs in the illusion array.

The assessment required participants to quickly identify the types of herbs based on their tastes, shapes, and colors.

"If you want to challenge me, head in!" Jubilante declared with an icy snort. Kai merely chuckled softly. Without hesitation, he headed into the illusion array. Herbs of various kinds swayed in the wind within the illusion array. Jubilante's voice sounded in Kai's ears.

"You need to find Nelumbo's Seed, Palace's Autumn, wild mugwort, Dragon's Bile, ragwort..." Jubilante listed over a dozen types of herbs. "Remember, you only have ten minutes. If you can't find these herbs within ten minutes, you fail and won't get to challenge me."

The number of herbs he listed was clearly more than what the others were given, yet he only gave Kai ten minutes, which was a relatively short time!

"Seriously? Finding over a dozen types of herbs in ten minutes is simply impossible!"

"Not even an immortal can do this."

"This is an assessment that can't be completed. It seems Jubilante is doing this on purpose."

Everyone was indignant on behalf of Kai. This wasn't an assessment. Clearly, it was a prank. No one could find over a dozen types of herbs within ten minutes.

However, Kai remained silent and scanned the various herbs as if he had a radar in his mind. Countless types of herbs flashed in Kai's consciousness field, and the Golden Tome in his consciousness field began to flicker, precisely pinpointing each herb.

Kai walked forward calmly to pick the herbs without even looking.

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It was as if he knew exactly where the mystical herbs were located. Kai spent less than ten minutes to find the list of mystical herbs in the sea of plants. Following that, Kai showcased his findings to everyone.

All the alchemists were stunned at the sight of Kai holding all the mystical herbs, not a single mistake to be seen. Even Jubilante furrowed his brows, his expression becoming somewhat unnatural.

"What the heck, is he cheating?"

"What are you thinking? How could he cheat within this illusion array? But this is too unbelievable."

"I didn't expect this young man to have some skills. No wonder he dared to challenge Jubilante."

Everyone widened their eyes as they stared at Kai within the illusion array. Their jaws had dropped open in shock.

Kai slowly walked out of the illusionary array, giving Jubilante a faint smile. "Now, do I have the right to challenge you?"

Jubilante's facial muscles twitched a few times, then he coldly snorted. "Fine, I accept your challenge. But how about adding some stakes this time?"

"What do you want to bet?" Kai asked.

"Your life!" Jubilante's face twisted into a sinister expression. Jubilante wasn't about to let Kai off for humiliating him in front of so many alchemists.

Cade became somewhat panicked upon hearing that Jubilante wanted to bet on Kai's life. He wanted to say something, but Kai stopped him with a wave of his hand.

The other alchemists were all gasping at Jubilante's intense gamble. They didn't expect him to go this far. Everyone stared at Kai, wondering if he would dare to accept the bet.

"No problem. If you win, you're free to take my life," Kai said nonchalantly. "You said that yourself, and so many people can testify. Let's get started then!" Jubilante's eyes gleamed with confidence.

"Wait, what if you lose?" Kai asked.

"I won't lose," Jubilante declared with absolute confidence.

"But what if you do? I can't be the only one who puts something on the line, right?" Kai fixed his gaze on Jubilante.

Jubilante replied, "If I lose, you can propose any condition."

"Okay. If you lose, I don't want your life. I just want this mansion and all the herbs inside," Kai told him, glancing at the splendid mansion.

Jubilante hesitated for a moment and didn't immediately agree to Kai's condition.

"What's wrong? Are you scared to agree as you are worried you might lose? I dare to bet my life, yet you hesitate over your mere possessions? If you are a

coward, let me know. I can leave right after taking what I need. You'll still have your mansion, and everyone will still respect you. You can also continue fooling around with the pretty female alchemists who are enchanted by you."

Kai's words were full of mockery.

"Nonsense! Who says I'm afraid? If I lose, everything is yours," Jubilante declared, feeling both annoyed and angry.

"Good. What are we competing?" Kai asked, gesturing for Jubilante to go ahead in a gentlemanly manner.

Kai's air of arrogance irked Jubilante, who abandoned any pretense of being genteel and clenched his teeth. "Since we're both alchemists, the most fitting display of our prowess is through alchemy, Let's craft the same pill simultaneously and determine who can do it more swiftly and skillfully."

"Sure. What pill do you want to craft?" Kai inquired.

In response, Jubilante retrieved a bottle from his pocket and poured out a pill. "Let's compete by crafting the Aksum Pill."

The alchemists immediately buzzed with excitement. "This Aksum Pill is Jubilante's masterpiece. It seems a bit unfair to use that as a comparison."

"Jubilante is getting desperate, huh? I can't believe he's doing this."

"It's indeed a bit lacking in manners to use his best pill as the challenge."

Many people sneered at Jubilante's actions, but they only dared to gossip quietly instead of questioning him aloud.

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Jubilante, as if unaware of the discussions around him, stared coldly at Kai and challenged, "Willing to compete with me?"

"Why not? It's just that I've never crafted this Aksum Pill before. Show me the pill recipe," Kai replied confidently.

"You want to see the pill recipe?" Jubilante was taken aback.

"Of course. I don't know the ingredients of this pill, so I need to take a look at the pill recipe. Just a glance will do," Kai said impatiently.

Although Jubilante's expression darkened, he reluctantly handed over the pill recipe to Kai. After all, his opponent had never crafted this type of pill, and just a glance at the pill recipe would not give Kai any advantage.

Witnessing Kai's audacity to compete without prior experience in crafting the Aksum Pill, the onlookers nearly fainted.

This was a high-stakes challenge, and Kai seemed to be sharpening his blade at the last moment. It would be a miracle if Kai managed to outdo Jubilante, for the Aksum Pill was the latter's specialty.

Though Cade, who was standing aside, knew close to nothing about alchemy, he had never seen anyone who would check out the pill recipe right before a match.

"This guy has some skills, but he's boasting a little too much this time. Crafting the Aksum Pill without prior experience... He might not even be able to successfully craft it, let alone win the challenge."

"I wonder what's going on in his head. Succeeding in the crafting of the Aksum Pill takes months of practice, and here he is, agreeing to take on Jubilante's challenge."

"This is hilarious. He's taking his life so lightly. If he can win against Jubilante with this last- minute attempt, I'll submit to him and pledge to be his apprentice!"

The crowd was buzzing with discussions about Kai's seemingly audacious move. Meanwhile, Jubilante, observing the way Kai was solemnly reading the pill recipe, snorted.

"All right, I'm done. We can begin."

Kai handed the pill recipe back to Jubilante. "Are you sure about competing like this?" Jubilante asked again, eyeing his opponent with skepticism.

"Of course, A man doesn't go back on his words. Since I've made my promise, I'll keep it," Kai confidently answered.

"Very well. Maybe today's the day I'll teach you what humility is!"

With that, Jubilante waved his hand to gesture to his subordinates to bring out two cauldrons. However, Kai shook his head after a glance at them. "I have my own cauldron; I don't need this."

"Lad, I'm providing you with a high-quality cauldron which will greatly increase your success rate of crafting the pill. Are you sure you don't want to use it?" Jubilante questioned, puzzled.

"This young man is just making a fuss! The cauldrons Jubilante has provided are all high- quality goods. I'd like to see what cauldron this guy has that he won't even use the high-quality cauldron Jubilante prepared."

"He'd better reveal something good, or else he'd be embarrassing himself."

The people were whispering their remarks to each other. "What kind of proper pill can your worn-out junk produce? Of course, I won't need it," Kai said with disdain.

Jubilante, angered by Kai describing his cauldron as "worn-out junk," retorted, "Fine. Let's see what kind of cauldron you have, then."

With that, he had one of his subordinates carry away one of the cauldrons. "All right, show us your cauldron!" Jubilante said, sounding like he was ready to witness a joke.

Everyone fixed their gaze on Kai, eager to see what kind of cauldron he could produce. Without rushing, Kai calmly reached into his Storage Ring and pulled out the Divine Cauldron.

The moment the Divine Cauldron manifested, the surroundings became filled with an ancient and sacred aura.

"This... Is this the Divine Cauldron?"

At the reveal of the Divine Cauldron, Jubilante's eyes widened. He was utterly stunned. The others were equally mesmerized, their eyes bulging, mouths hanging open, some even drooling.

"Good lord, it's the Divine Cauldron! That's an ancient specialized cauldron..."

"No wonder this guy is so confident. He's got the Divine Cauldron in his hands."

"Comparing it to the Divine Cauldron, the cauldron Jubilante just presented really is just like a piece of junk."

The crowd erupted into a frenzy, buzzing with excited discussions.