

Martial Arts 231

Chapter 231: Hurry, take me to see him!

After Xia Tian finished speaking, he stared unblinkingly at Chen Fan.

It wasn't that he doubted Chen Fan was lying, but this matter was so significant that he had to confirm it repeatedly.

"Yes,"

Chen Fan smiled faintly and said, "The association's pill formula, when the skill level reaches Perfection, has only a 30% chance of refining a Top-grade Qi Blood Pill. However, with my improved pill formula, when the skill level reaches Perfection, the probability of refining a Top-grade Qi Blood Pill is 100%."

The three people present gasped.

Chen Fan's words revealed at least two important pieces of information.

First, his alchemy skill level had already reached Perfection.

Second, the quality of the improved pill formula absolutely surpassed the association's formula.

Xia Tian slowly exhaled the breath he had been holding and nodded, "You are right. I've heard from the Vice President that even the alchemy masters at headquarters, who have perfected the Qi Blood Pill refining skill, only have a 30% probability of producing Top-grade Qi Blood Pills in one furnace."

The room fell silent again.

"Brother Chen, you are truly amazing."

Sun Wei struggled for a long time before uttering these few words.

For the first time in his life, he felt that his vocabulary was so lacking. After searching for a long time, he couldn't find a word to describe Chen Fan's excellence.

"Chairman, I was just lucky. It was like a blind cat running into a dead mouse," Chen Fan laughed, "At that moment, I had a flash of inspiration and tried it with a mentality of giving it a shot, and it actually succeeded."

"Even with a flash of inspiration, one must have the foundation to make it work."

Xia Tian's voice arose, "You were able to improve your alchemy skill level to Perfection within a few days. This level of talent is unparalleled, even at headquarters."

"Indeed,"

Ye Ling, who was standing to the side, also had glints of amazement in her eyes.

The alchemy masters at headquarters had long perfected the Qi Blood Pill refining skill. They had also tried to improve the pill formula to increase the probability of producing Top-grade Qi Blood Pills, but without success.

Yet this young man had done it.

One cannot help but acknowledge that not all people are the same.

"You flatter me, seniors,"

Chen Fan replied modestly.

Although he knew it was incredible, he remained humble as appropriate.

Just as he was about to suggest proceeding with the assessment, Xia Tian's voice rang out.

"Brother Chen, may I ask you to refine one or two more furnaces?"

"Alright,"

Chen Fan roughly guessed their intention, sensing they wanted to verify whether his pill formula was really effective.

Since he would have to refine them eventually anyway, it didn't make much of a difference.

Soon, the second furnace of elixirs was completed.

A trail of hot steam emerged, revealing uniform Top-grade Qi Blood Pills.

The pupils of Xia Tian and the others simultaneously widened, though not as exaggerated as the first time.

Next came the third furnace.

Still, all Top-grade Qi Blood Pills.

This time, Sun Wei's face broke into a broad grin.

Xia Tian and the other exchanged glances and nodded.

"Brother Chen, Chairman Sun, please wait here for a moment. Ye Ling and I need to step outside."

"Alright," Sun Wei responded promptly.

Watching them leave, Sun Wei looked at Chen Fan with eyes full of joy and reluctance.

If he guessed right, Elder Xia and Ye Ling were definitely going outside to call headquarters to report this news.

They came with two people.

But it seemed likely they would depart as three.

Xia Tian and Ye Ling walked to a corner, took a deep breath, and said, "This young man is indeed extraordinary. In my opinion, his talent in alchemy is comparable to Ling Yu's talent in martial arts."

"Indeed,"

Ye Ling strongly agreed.

Ling Yu was the True Essence Realm Martial Artist born with eight meridians connected.

Now, another alchemy genius had appeared, which was truly a blessing for the association.

"Brother Xia, you brought me out here to report this to headquarters, didn't you?"

"Indeed, we came together, so for such a significant matter, it's only right to report together to make headquarters believe."

"Alright, Brother Xia, you report it. I will speak truthfully," Ye Ling said eagerly.

Xia Tian took out his phone and dialed the Vice President's number.

Soon, the call connected.

"Xia Tian?"

A middle-aged man's voice sounded.

"It's me, Chairman Chang," Xia Tian replied respectfully.

This Chairman Chang was one of the two vice presidents of the association, a genuine True Essence Realm Martial Artist.

"Hmm, weren't you going to Anshan City to perform assessment duties? According to my calculations, you should have arrived by now."

"Yes, Chairman. Ye Ling and I are indeed here in Anshan City."

"Oh?"

Chang Bai sounded curious, "How did the assessment go? Was it a Meridian Refining Martial Artist?"

"Well..." Xia Tian was a bit embarrassed, but he quickly added, "Chairman, we haven't conducted the assessment yet because I have something more important to report."

"Something more important?"

"Yes,"

Xia Tian began recounting the events that had occurred earlier.

He had only narrated half when a voice exclaimed loudly over the phone.

"What did you say? An entire furnace of elixirs, all Top-grade Qi Blood Pills!"

The voice was so loud that it startled Ye Ling.

"Yes,"

Xia Tian replied, feeling both elated and amused, not expecting the usually composed Chairman Chang to react so dramatically.

But this news was indeed explosive, so much so that even the President would likely be shocked.

"Xia Tian, are you not joking with me?" Chang Fei's tone quickly returned to normal but was still filled with doubt.

"Chairman, how could I joke about something like this," Xia Tian shook his head, "Ye Ling is here with me. Let her talk to you."

"Alright,"

Soon, Ye Ling took over the call.

"Ye Ling, tell me exactly what happened,"

"Yes, Chairman,"

Ye Ling recounted the entire event from start to finish, adding numerous details, and mentioned that Chen Fan had refined two more furnaces of Qi Blood Pills.

"Let me speak with Xia Tian,"

Xia Tian took the phone, "Chairman, I'm here."

"So, you confirmed that the young man named Chen Fan indeed has the ability to refine an entire furnace of Top-grade Qi Blood Pills?" Chang Fei asked.

"Yes, Chairman," Xia Tian replied without hesitation, "We witnessed the three refining processes with our own eyes, and there can be no mistake."

There was a sound of deep breathing over the phone.

"Alright, I got it. Wait while I make a call."

Upon saying this, Chang Fei ended the call and looked ahead, his eyes filled with shock and joy.

Deep down, he believed that the young man named Chen Fan wasn't lying because the association's pill formula had a maximum success rate of 30% for Top-grade pills.

In contrast, the Awakened Association's formula had a higher success rate but not 100%.

If, if this was true, the Jiangnan District Martial Arts Association would be incredibly fortunate. Given a few more years, their strength would likely surpass that of other regional associations, and the number of Meridian Refining Martial Artists would significantly increase.

With these thoughts, he quickly dialed another number.

"Sorry, the number you dialed is currently unavailable, please try again later,"

Chang Fei frowned and dialed once more.

He received the same response.

"Forget it, I'll go there myself." He stood up abruptly, walked out of his office, and headed towards the elevator.

The elevator descended to the third basement and stopped.

The doors opened to a brightly lit office area where people in white lab coats were either sitting in front of computers monitoring dense data or walking around with various documents.

Seeing Chang Fei arrive, everyone started greeting him quickly.

"Carry on with your work, don't mind me,"

Chang Fei shook his head and fixed his gaze on a woman in front of him, "Is Elder Tang in the Alchemy Room?"

"Yes, Chairman," the woman responded quickly.

"Good, take me to him,"

The two walked to a large door.

"Chairman?" the woman looked at the door, shrinking back a bit.

"Open it," Chang Fei took a deep breath, "I'll handle it,"

The woman then placed the access card on the scanner.

"Beep!"

A crisp electronic sound was heard as the alloy door opened sideways.

"Who is it!"

A voice filled with rage came from inside, "Which damn idiot dares to enter while I'm conducting an experiment?" An old man with white hair stood at the doorway, cursing.

The woman was instantly scared and slumped to the ground, looking at Chang Fei for help.

"Calm down, Elder Tang, it's me,"

Chang Fei entered with a smile, waving to the woman behind him to leave.

"It's you?"

Elder Tang was stunned and then sneered, "Not even you or that lad Shi Tao can interrupt me. Get out!"

Chang Fei chuckled awkwardly. The association esteemed Elder Tang highly, often likening him to a precious treasure. He wouldn't get angry but only smiled brighter, "Elder Tang, I have a very important matter to discuss with you. If, after hearing me out, you find it uninteresting, I'll roll myself into a ball and roll out of here."

Elder Tang frowned, squinting at Chang Fei.

It seemed this lad had come prepared.

"Alright, speak then."

"Elder Tang, are you working on improving the Qi Blood Pill formula?"

"That's obvious!"

With impatience, Elder Tang glared, "Everyone on this floor knows I'm refining the Qi Blood Pill formula. What are you trying to say? Out with it, or I'll throw you out!"

"Elder Tang, what if I told you I know how to improve the formula?"

"You?"

Elder Tang looked up and down at Chang Fei skeptically, "Kid, you don't have the skills."

"I don't," Chang Fei laughed, "But that doesn't mean someone else doesn't."

"What do you mean?" Elder Tang's smile faltered.

"I know someone who improved the Qi Blood Pill formula, raising the Perfection Realm's Top-grade Qi Blood Pill success rate to 100%. Elder Tang, would you like to meet this person?" Chang Fei smiled.

Chapter 232: Is It Reliable?

"What did you say?" Sure enough, after Chang Fei finished speaking, Elder Tang stood frozen, asking in an incredulous tone, "Say that again?"

Chang Fei smiled and repeated his words again, then asked, "So, Elder Tang, do you still want to kick me out now?"

Elder Tang's eyes widened, and after a moment of staring at each other, he narrowed his eyes, speaking doubtfully, "Kid, are you making a fool of me on purpose?"

Chang Fei couldn't help but laugh bitterly.

Even if Elder Tang had the time, he didn't have the leisure for this kind of thing.

"Elder Tang, although I didn't see this with my own eyes, I believe that Xia Tian reported this to me after repeated confirmations."

He recounted in detail what Xia Tian and his companion had said over the phone.

"All top-grade Qi Blood Pills?"

Hearing this, Elder Tang's face instantly filled with suspicion, "Are you sure they didn't see it wrong?"

Keep in mind, even in the Awakened Association, it's hard to produce an entire cauldron of top-grade pills. Unless there's an extraordinary stroke of luck, but such chances are extremely low. Even refining a hundred or a thousand cauldrons might not yield such a result.

"Elder Tang, I had the same reaction at the time, thinking they must have seen it wrong." Chang Fei nodded, "But then, Xia Tian's next few words left me stunned."

"What words?"

Elder Tang asked subconsciously, then frowned, slightly annoyed, "Kid, if you have something to say, just say it all at once, don't keep me in suspense here."

Chang Fei chuckled dryly twice, "Xia Tian and the others, to confirm it wasn't a coincidence, had that young man named Chen Fan refine two more cauldrons. Guess what, what was the result?"

"What result?"

Elder Tang couldn't help but get a bit nervous, staring intently at him.

"The next two cauldrons of Qi Blood Pills were also all top-grade."

Chang Fei stated word by word.

"!"

Elder Tang's pupils shrank suddenly, his breathing instantly quickened.

Once could be described as a coincidence.

But two consecutive times, three times, could only be explained by skill, nothing else.

But is this really reliable?

It should be known, even at the headquarters, including himself, five alchemists had tried to improve the association's Qi Blood Pill formula.

Some succeeded in raising the probability of a Perfect Realm top-grade Qi Blood Pill from ten percent to around thirty percent, but going higher was almost impossible.

After nearly two years, progress had stagnated.

The rest could only temporarily put the Qi Blood Pill research aside, focusing more on the True Qi Pill.

After all, in these times, high-end combat power is decisive, and Martial Artists at or below the Entry Force level, while not unimportant, are of lower priority in comparison.

Thus, the task naturally fell to him alone.

Over the past few months, he had read extensively and conducted hundreds of experiments, all ending in failure.

But then, Chang Fei came to tell him about a young man in a small city who had improved the pill formula, achieving a one-hundred-percent chance of producing top-grade Qi Blood Pills.

Anyone would find it unbelievable, let alone him.

"Chang Fei,"

Elder Tang spoke up, "Are the two people you sent really reliable?"

"Reliable."

Chang Fei nodded quickly.

There are fewer than ten True Essence Realm Martial Artists at the headquarters, and though he may not know each one intimately, he is familiar with most of them.

"I still don't believe it."

Elder Tang shook his head.

"Simply mastering this alchemy to the Perfection Realm can exclude ninety percent of people, to say nothing of improving the pill formula. If one in ten can do it, it's incredible."

If he couldn't achieve it, could a young upstart?

The key point was a one-hundred-percent probability of top-grade Qi Blood Pills.

Even the Awakened Association didn't have that capability.

Chang Fei couldn't help but laugh bitterly, grasping Elder Tang's skepticism.

But, in public and private, he hoped this was true.

If top-grade Qi Blood Pills could supply other cities, the probability of Meridian Refining Realm Martial Artists appearing in the association could increase by twenty percent.

Don't underestimate this twenty percent; even if only one True Essence Realm Martial Artist emerged, it would be a huge gain.

Because a True Essence Realm Martial Artist possesses the strength to compete with B-level Awakeners, if they were a chairman, they would be even stronger!

"Elder Tang, what if, what if this is true?"

He smiled and said, "Xia Tian and the others are trustworthy. If they say it, it means it's likely true.

Of course, it's indeed perplexing that a young man from Anshan City can achieve this, so I came to pull you along to verify its authenticity; the cost is merely some of your time.

If it turns out false, once Xia Tian and the others return, I will have them apologize to you immediately. But if it's true, Elder Tang, I fear you yourself would be interested, wouldn't you?"

Elder Tang was taken aback.

Yes, if something like this existed, he would study it non-stop for days and nights, without eating or sleeping.

"Alright, let's see if this Chen Fan kid is as amazing as they say."

Chang Fei smiled slightly.

Internally, he couldn't wait either.

Soon, Xia Tian and his companion at the Anshan City Branch received a message from the headquarters.

"Brother Chen,"

Xia Tian put down his phone, looked at Chen Fan, and sincerely said, "Chairman Chang hopes you can refine another cauldron. He will verify this via video call, and by his side, Elder Tang from the headquarters will also be watching. Brother Chen, please don't refuse; improving the pill formula is immensely significant for our association and the entire Human Race."

"Yes, Brother Chen."

Ye Ling also earnestly persuaded, "I know it's a hassle, but please, don't worry. As long as you perform as usual, the association will not treat you unfairly."

"Brother Chen." Sun Wei, standing by, also signaled with his eyes.

This is a golden opportunity.

Chairman Chang is a big shot in the association, just below the president.

And Elder Tang, though unheard of before, interacting with Chairman Chang meant he was no ordinary person.

Most likely, he's an Alchemy Master!

If Brother Chen seizes this opportunity, it would be a breakthrough for him.

The Anshan City Branch would also benefit considerably.

Hearing Xia Tian's words, Chen Fan couldn't help but feel pressed.

He admitted, much of his action was out of self-interest; after all, he no longer needed the formula, so why not exchange it for some tangible benefits, even a few million contribution points would be worth it.

But in truth, Xia Tian wasn't wrong; the formula held great significance for the entire Human Race.

This applied not just to Qi Blood Pills, but equally to True Qi Pills, and higher, Gathering Spirit Pills.

He took a deep breath and smiled:

"Elder Xia, no need for formalities. It's just a small effort. I'm ready anytime."

Xia Tian and Ye Ling exchanged excited glances.

"Immediately, immediately, Brother Chen, you really..." Xia Tian, grateful, couldn't find the words.

"I'll get the equipment ready." Sun Wei burst out in a rush.

In less than five minutes, all preparations were complete.

"Chairman Sun, the headquarters is ready, we can start the video call anytime," Xia Tian said, glancing at his phone.

"Everything is set here too."

"Alright then, let's begin, Brother Chen. No pressure, just perform as usual." Xia Tian reminded.

Soon, two figures appeared on the projector screen.

One was a tall, imposing middle-aged man, and the other was an elderly man with graying temples and a stern look.

They were Chang Fei and Elder Tang from the headquarters.

The two looked at the scene before them and finally focused their gaze on Chen Fan.

Indeed, he was very young.

"Chairman, Elder Tang, this is Brother Chen, Chen Fan."

Xia Tian gestured towards Chen Fan.

"Hmm."

Chang Fei's face broke into a smile, "Brother Chen, I heard you improved the association's Qi Blood Pill formula, increasing the top-grade pill's probability from thirty to one hundred percent, correct?"

Next to him, Elder Tang scrutinized closely.

If the young man on screen was lying, he would know immediately.

Sun Wei couldn't help but get tense.

This person was a True Essence Realm Martial Artist!

A whole two realms above him!!!

"Yes, Chairman."

Chen Fan's tone was calm, meeting Chang Fei's gaze.

Chang Fei showed a hint of surprise, then smiled slightly.

"Good, then refine another cauldron for me to see. By the way, the person next to me is a master of alchemy, capable of refining not just Qi Blood Pills, but also True Qi Pills at his fingertips."

"Alright."

Elder Tang waved impatiently, "Let's begin then."

Chen Fan glanced at him calmly.

"Yes, Chairman."

"?"

Elder Tang frowned.

Did he just feel, maybe, somewhat, disdained?

At this moment, the whole room's atmosphere grew tense.

Xia Tian and Ye Ling found their palms unknowingly sweaty.

This time, they staked their reputations; if Chen Fan underperformed, Chairman might be indifferent, but Elder Tang would surely hold a grudge against them.

However, judging by Chen Fan's earlier conduct, he seemed calm, implying no risk of underperformance.

As long as it matched the previous three times, all would be well.

"Brother Chen, good luck!"

Sun Wei clenched his fist tightly.

Chapter 233: A Bit of an Accident

The alchemy process has officially begun.

Even knowing that two great figures from the headquarters were watching, Chen Fan's heart remained calm and undisturbed.

On one hand, his inner strength was profound enough.

What about True Essence Realm Martial Artists?

One day, he would reach that realm and even surpass it.

On the other hand, though he did not dare to claim his Qi-Blood Pill refining skills were the best in the world, ranking in the top three was a certainty.

Elder Tang, projected in front of him, was naturally not included in these comparisons.

"This young man named Chen Fan is indeed extraordinary," Chang Fei thought to himself as he observed Chen Fan's actions.

Because of his status, even those few brilliant youths in the association couldn't help but act unnaturally around him.

Of course, there was one exception, that kid Ling Yu.

The guy was indeed a genius, one in a million. Even he had to admit that being surpassed by Ling Yu was just a matter of time.

But precisely because of this, except for the president, Ling Yu held a lofty attitude towards others in the headquarters, even behaving arrogantly in front of him.

He couldn't help but worry that this guy might suffer a major setback one day.

Neither of these two attitudes was desirable.

In contrast, the young man in front of him was unmoved by honor or disgrace. This was the truly admirable mindset.

Time ticked away.

The initially indifferent Elder Tang also became highly focused.

As the saying goes, "Amateurs watch the show, experts watch the technique."

This young man indeed had some skills.

What puzzled him was that some steps, which could be skipped, were executed meticulously by him. Conversely, some crucial actions, which could directly affect the pill quality, were ignored...

"Can he really refine a whole furnace of Top-grade Qi-Blood Pills this way?"

Elder Tang frowned deeply, expressing strong doubt.

However, everyone remained silent from beginning to end as if they didn't exist.

In the blink of an eye, several more minutes passed.

"It looks like it will be over in another three or four minutes."

Elder Tang stared fixedly at the alchemy furnace.

In three minutes, the answer would be revealed. If the result wasn't as Xia Tian and the others had claimed earlier, they would face consequences.

But just then, a muffled sound came from the furnace.

"What!"

Elder Tang exclaimed, eyes widening.

The Anshan City Branch members, including Chen Fan, raised their heads and looked at him puzzled.

"Elder Tang, what happened?"

Chang Fei asked urgently, glancing at the furnace.

That sound just now came from the furnace, right?

It's said that when the elixir forms, a sound would come from within the furnace.

Could it be that Elder Tang could judge the quality of the elixir just by the sound?

Elder Tang ignored Chang Fei and looked at Chen Fan, pointing at the furnace, "Did your elixir form?"

"Yes."

Chen Fan glanced at him, with a faint smile, "Do you think the time is off?"

Elder Tang was momentarily speechless.

"According to the association's pill formula, one furnace of elixir takes fifteen minutes. With my improved formula, it takes twelve minutes." Chen Fan explained.

Behind him, Xia Tian and the other two exchanged glances, secretly realizing that not only had the pill quality improved, but so had the efficiency.

Elder Tang's lips twitched, humming in displeasure, "Fine, then open the furnace. I want to see what quality this batch of elixirs is."

"Brother Chen, please." Chang Fei's tone was quite polite.

"No problem."

Chen Fan stepped forward, opened the forge lid, and took out the still-steaming elixirs but hesitated in his movements.

"Brother Chen, what's wrong?"

The originally cheerful Xia Tian and the others suddenly felt their hearts leap to their throats.

Could it be that something went wrong?

Chang Fei also became a bit nervous.

Did he fail?

If it was a failure, that would be terrible.

While he could stay and watch Chen Fan refine another batch, what about Elder Tang?

Elder Tang's lips curled into a sneer, thinking that a pill formula couldn't be modified lightly. Even a minor change could result in vastly different outcomes.

Not to mention reducing the original fifteen-minute process to twelve minutes.

"It's nothing."

Chen Fan shook his head with a bitter smile, "This alchemy process was mostly successful. There was just a small unexpected issue."

"Mostly successful?"

"A small unexpected issue?"

Everyone looked bewildered by Chen Fan's contradictory statements.

If it was successful, why was there an unexpected issue?

Chen Fan didn't elaborate and brought the still-steaming elixirs to everyone.

"Hiss..."

Sun Wei, Xia Tian, and the third person collectively gasped, their faces soon filled with excitement.

Top-grade!

All were Top-grade Qi-Blood Pills!

Brother Chen, stable as always!

"!!!!"

At the headquarters, Chang Fei's eyes also widened with intense joy on his face.

Even across a screen, he could see at a glance that the quality of the Qi-Blood Pills was top-grade!

What did this mean?

This meant that what Xia Tian and the others had said was true. The young man named Chen Fan had indeed improved the pill formula, raising the probability of producing Top-grade Qi-Blood Pills to one hundred percent.

"How is that possible?"

Elder Tang felt as if he had been hit by a giant bell, causing his head to ring.

One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten—ten whole Top-grade Qi-Blood Pills!

An entire furnace of Top-grade Qi-Blood Pills!

How did he do it?

"Brother Chen, you're amazing." Xia Tian sighed in relief and couldn't help but give a thumbs up.

"I knew Brother Chen could always be relied on," Sun Wei remarked with a smile.

"Brother Chen, you mentioned an unexpected issue earlier. What did you mean?" Ye Ling asked curiously.

"Yes, I remember you said the process was mostly smooth but with a small issue. I see you have a whole batch of top-grade pills. What went wrong?" Xia Tian glanced at the pills again.

Chen Fan knew it was time to test his acting skills.

To be honest, he hadn't expected there to be a Celestial Grade Qi-Blood Pill this time...

But this might not be a bad thing. He could use this to raise the price.

He frowned and pointed at one of the Qi-Blood Pills, "Seniors, haven't you noticed that this pill is slightly different from the others?"

"Slightly different?"

Everyone quickly looked,

including Chang Fei and Elder Tang on the screen.

"It does seem different!" Ye Ling's eyes widened, "It's similar in size but darker in color, more concentrated, and seems to have a thin membrane on the surface."

"What? A membrane?"

Elder Tang was nearly terrified at the mention.

Chang Fei's body shook as if hearing something monumental.

"Yes, Brother Xia, look, isn't there a thin membrane on the surface?" Ye Ling pointed at the Celestial Grade Qi-Blood Pill.

"Indeed." Xia Tian nodded, "There is a thin membrane, and I feel the medicinal power within this pill is stronger than the other nine. Brother Chen, what's going on?"

Chen Fan shook his head with a bitter smile, "I don't know either. This is the first time I've encountered this situation. That's why I said there was a small unexpected issue."

"Really?"

Xia Tian was also puzzled.

It seemed like a good unexpected issue?

But he didn't know for sure.

"It's not an accident."

At this moment, Chang Fei's voice came from the screen.

"Brother Chen, if I'm not mistaken, you may have just refined a Celestial Grade Qi-Blood Pill."

"What? Celestial Grade Qi-Blood Pill!"

"Celestial Grade!"

"Celestial Grade?"

Xia Tian and the others were extremely excited.

Chen Fan quietly sighed in relief. In that case, he wouldn't have to overact.

"Celestial Grade? President, you mean I've refined an elixir of higher quality than Top-grade Qi-Blood Pills?"

He acted surprised.

"Indeed." Chang Fei looked at Chen Fan, "Above top-grade is celestial grade. Even the Awakened Association seldom refines Celestial-Grade Qi-Blood Pills."

He took a deep breath, revealing that although his face was calm, his heart was in tumult.

"One Celestial-Grade Qi-Blood Pill is equivalent to the effect of six or seven Top-grade Qi-Blood Pills. The absorption rate for Martial Artists is as high as 90%. Brother Chen, you've given us an enormous surprise."

Silence.

Xia Tian and the others looked at Chen Fan again.

For average Qi-Blood Pills, the absorption rate for Martial Artists was only 30%, with the rest expelled from the body.

Moreover, if it was low-grade, impurities would accumulate in the meridians, severely affecting future cultivation, so taking low-grade pills was almost like cutting off one's future prospects.

Many had no choice.

If given a choice, who wouldn't prefer top-grade pills? They contained very few impurities, almost negligible, with an absorption rate of 50%.

That's impressive indeed.

With an absorption rate of over 70%, top-grade Qi-Blood Pills were highly coveted. They were thrilled just to get a bottle occasionally.

Who knew there was a celestial grade, superior to six pills!

More importantly, a 90% absorption rate was nearly equivalent to 100%!

Chen Fan's formula not only increased the probability of top-grade pills to 100%, but also made celestial-grade Qi-Blood Pills possible!

"I see."

Chen Fan finally realized.

This time he wasn't acting.

It was his first time knowing that elixirs had an absorption rate, 90%—indeed, celestial-grade quality was not the ultimate.

However, this didn't matter to him.

Because he could absorb 100%.

Chapter 234: Expand the Scope

Just as Chen Fan was silently speculating, Chang Fei's voice sounded once again.

But this time, he was not speaking to the people from the Anshan City Branch.

"Elder Tang, wasn't I right?"

Xia Tian and the others couldn't help but look at Elder Tang.

At this moment, Elder Tang was still with his mouth wide open, a look of complete astonishment on his face.

"Elder Tang?"

Chang Fei was stunned and called out softly a few times.

Unfortunately, he still couldn't wake the other party up.

Helplessly, he could only reach out and touch Elder Tang.

"Ah?"

Only then did Elder Tang wake up like from a dream, with a bewildered look.

...

Xia Tian and Ye Ling exchanged glances, trying hard to stifle their laughter.

They never expected Elder Tang to lose his composure like this.

To know, this person's status in the headquarters was quite high. On regular days, even the president had to be polite when seeing him.

Sun Wei swallowed hard, glancing at Chen Fan unintentionally.

There was no doubt that the "culprit" who caused Elder Tang to lose his composure so was Brother Chen.

Heaven-grade Qi Blood Pill!

He would never have thought, even if beaten to death, that the Top-grade Qi Blood Pill wasn't actually the most powerful.

If only he could...

Thinking of this, he didn't dare to think any more and stopped his thoughts immediately.

What a joke, that was the Heaven-grade Qi Blood Pill! Even the president probably hadn't tasted it. He should be content and thank heaven for getting a Top-grade Qi Blood Pill.

He also wondered whether, after talking to Brother Chen about this, he would sell him a favor.

"Chang Fei, did you just say something to me?" Elder Tang brought his fist to his mouth and coughed lightly twice.

Chang Fei smiled wryly and repeated what he said before.

Elder Tang's expression quickly changed, his eyes became incredibly heated, staring fixedly at the Qi Blood Pill with a thin film on its surface, giving one the illusion.

As if he wasn't looking at a pill, but at his beloved woman.

"Yes," Elder Tang's voice trembled, "this pill is indeed the Heaven-grade Qi Blood Pill."

Xia Tian and the others exchanged glances.

They originally wouldn't have suspected the president of deceiving them, but now with Elder Tang's personal confirmation, there's no need to say more about the authenticity.

Chang Fei nodded lightly, his gaze falling on Chen Fan, taking a deep breath before speaking slowly:

"Brother Chen, I don't know if you are willing to sell this improved alchemy formula to the association? Rest assured, the association will definitely not treat you unfairly and will offer you a satisfactory price."

The atmosphere in the room became tense all of a sudden.

Everyone thought that since Chen Fan was willing to display it in front of the crowd, he should be willing to hand the improved formula to the headquarters.

But what if not?

Fortunately, their slight concern proved to be overthinking.

Chen Fan smiled faintly and said, "President, you are too polite. As a member of the association, I am naturally willing to hand the formula to the headquarters. It's just, I wonder what kind of satisfactory price the president will offer?"

Hearing this, Sun Wei broke out in cold sweat, thinking Chen, this is the president, you don't need to be so blunt. Directly handing over the formula, the headquarters surely wouldn't renege, right?

Xia Tian and the others were also startled.

They say newborn calves are not afraid of tigers, today they truly witnessed it.

"Hahaha."

Chang Fei laughed heartily and said, "Brother Chen is straightforward, this personality, I like it."

"Indeed."

Elder Tang nodded and said, "Young people should be like that, playing tricks is no fun. Chang Fei, in my opinion, the headquarters should just pay one billion contribution points directly for this formula."

"One, one billion contribution points!"

Not only Sun Wei, but Xia Tian and the others also gaped.

Even for Meridian Refining Realm Martial Artists, earning one billion contribution points is no easy feat. After all, the acquisition price of an entire Elite-level Fierce Beast is only over ten million.

To collect one billion, at least five or six Elite-level Fierce Beasts would be needed.

Don't look at him earlier, cutting down a Black Feathered Eagle with one blow, the number of Meridian Refining Martial Artists with such strength in the whole association is less than six.

"Hmm."

Chang Fei nodded, looking at Chen Fan and said, "Brother Chen, you heard Elder Tang, what do you think?"

To be honest, he felt this price was a bit high.

The association's formulas, for the Perfect Level below, the appearance rate of Top-grade Qi Blood Pills is thirty percent, and the price is only two million contribution points.

It is said that in the Awakening Association, the formula for the Perfect Level has a seventy percent appearance rate of Top-grade Qi Blood Pills, priced at six hundred points, equivalent to six million contribution points of the association.

Formulas are important, but someone has to succeed in making it, including herb cultivation, which is also crucial.

But the appearance rate of Top-grade Qi Blood Pills with Chen Fan's formula is one hundred percent. Even if doubled, twelve million contribution points could be reasonable.

But, even accounting for a low probability of Heaven-grade Qi Blood Pills, it shouldn't be tenfold, directly pricing at one billion contribution points, right?

However, on the other hand, this formula is indeed very important to the association! Not to mention one billion, even two billion or three billion could be discussed.

"One billion contribution points, huh."

Chen Fan frowned slightly.

To be honest, he looked down on it.

Because when he was still a Transforming Force Martial Artist, going out for half a day he could earn twenty to thirty million contribution points.

Not to mention, now he is already a Meridian Refining Martial Artist, aiming to hunt Elite-level Fierce Beasts.

The acquisition price of an ordinary Elite-level Fierce Beast is over ten million contribution points, for high-level Elite-level Fierce Beasts, the acquisition price is generally over twenty million, and the top-level starts from thirty million.

So earning one billion is not easy, but definitely not difficult.

"Is it too low?"

Chang Fei smiled and said, "No problem, if the price is unsatisfactory, we can negotiate slowly. How about one billion five hundred million contribution points?"

"One billion five hundred million!"

Xia Tian and the others were utterly envious and speechless.

Indeed, technical personnel are highly prized.

Chen Fan shook his head slightly and said, "President, I'd like to change the way."

"Change the way?"

Chang Fei looked at Elder Tang, then couldn't help but ask:

"How do you want to change it to?"

"Commissions."

Chen Fan said without hesitation, "I am willing to give the formula to the association for free, but the association gives me a thirty percent commission on every Top-grade Qi Blood Pill sold in the future, how about it."

Upon hearing this, the atmosphere in the room became silent.

Xia Tian and others widened their eyes, looking at each other, seemingly saying, Brother Chen really has a big appetite!

The price of a Top-grade Qi Blood Pill in the Awakening Association is five times that of an ordinary Qi Blood Pill, starting at least one hundred thousand contribution points.

Chen Fan directly takes thirty percent, that's thirty thousand.

One pill, he takes thirty thousand, ten pills, that's three hundred thousand, by analogy, one thousand pills is thirty million, and ten thousand pills is three hundred million!

Three hundred million!

At first glance, it seems he loses by providing the formula to the headquarters for free.

In the end, it's a big win!

Is ten thousand Top-grade Qi Blood Pills a lot? You know, in the whole Jiangnan Sub-district Martial Arts Association, there are more than thirty people above the Meridian Refining Realm. Calculating with one person one pill per day, 30 pills are needed per day! One month is 900 pills!

Chen Fan's commission is nearly thirty million!

This is to say the least, presidents and the like might use a few pills a day, right?

How about adding the purchases of Entry Force Martial Artists?

Don't see Top-grade Qi Blood Pill being expensive and unaffordable for ordinary martial artists, just believe it, once on the sale list, it will be sold out in less than ten minutes?

It is very likely, the monthly commission will be one billion, even two billion!

This is passive income! No need for alchemy or risking life hunting Fierce Beasts, just waiting for contribution points to come in while leading an easy life.

Chang Fei and Elder Tang also fell silent due to Chen Fan's words.

What Xia Tian and the others could think, why couldn't they?

Three percent,

Three percent,

Accumulated over time, it will reach terrifying proportions? It's no exaggeration to say, Chen Fan will be working for the whole association.

"Brother Chen," Chang Fei smiled bitterly, "Isn't this request a bit too high?"

"Indeed, young man, don't be too greedy." Elder Tang frowned, showing three fingers, and said, "Three billion, we will buy your formula for three billion contribution points."

To him, this price was already very high.

Chen Fan unhurriedly looked at Chang Fei and said, "President, is thirty percent commission really high? The pills from my formula are all Top-grade Qi Blood Pills."

"Besides, my formula has a chance to produce Heaven-grade Qi Blood Pills, which I didn't include, right?"

Chang Fei was suddenly speechless.

He had to admit, Chen Fan was right.

The cost of herbs is high.

But the higher the quality of Qi Blood Pills, the higher the premium.

In the end, even a Top-grade Qi Blood Pill could cover the cost, what about Top-grade Qi Blood Pills then?

"Of course, if the headquarters is unwilling, I won't force them."

Chen Fan glanced at Elder Tang, "Three billion, then three billion."

"Is this true?"

Hearing this, Elder Tang was overjoyed.

Three billion, once learning this alchemy, recouping the cost is just a matter of time.

Chen Fan looked at him, secretly shaking his head. From now on, this man's image in his heart was utterly gone.

He looked at Chang Fei and said, "President, which option do you choose?"

"Of course the second..."

Elder Tang was interrupted by Chang Fei midway.

"Brother Chen, I choose the first option."

These words were beyond most people's expectation.

Xia Tian and the others exchanged blank looks.

Honestly speaking, they would have agreed with Elder Tang's suggestion and chosen the second option if they were the president.

Only Sun Wei looked at Chen Fan's back, nodding quietly.

Chapter 235: What if it's the True Qi Pill Formula

"Chang Fei, are you an idiot?" Elder Tang couldn't hold back anymore, "Three billion contribution points, isn't that price high enough?"

"High, but it's still not enough."

Chang Fei sighed lightly.

"What do you mean?"

Elder Tang was puzzled, then loudly said, "Chang Fei, stop playing word games with me here, just say what you mean directly."

Chang Fei showed a hint of helplessness on his face.

This Elder Tang, in front of so many people, doesn't even know to leave him some dignity.

Luckily, he's already used to it, this is just how it is.

Besides, Elder Tang's advocacy for choosing the second option was also from the association's perspective, to strive for more benefits for the association.

Only, at this time, choosing the second option might be a short-sighted act.

He squinted his eyes and gazed at Chen Fan: "Brother Chen, if I'm not mistaken, you dare to propose the second condition, you must have already prepared a countermeasure in your heart?"

"Does the president think that I would tamper with the pill formula?" Chen Fan asked.

"This should not be the case."

Chang Fei shook his head, "Whether the pill formula is authentic or not can be seen at a glance, and I see that your every move is genuine, unlike someone who would resort to unscrupulous activities."

"The president has a good eye." Chen Fan smiled.

"..."

Xia Tian and the others felt a bit speechless upon hearing this.

This is praising both oneself and the other party.

A bit shameless.

"Brother Chen, praise indeed."

Chang Fei smiled, "Honestly speaking, when you proposed the second condition, I was immediately tempted, even at the price of three billion, acquiring the pill formula from An Ning is a profitable deal for the headquarters."

"Then why did the president change his mind?"

"To recruit talent, of course."

Chang Fei said, "Your asking price is indeed high, even unique within the association, but it truly is worth it, the headquarters is willing to do this to earn your trust in the association."

Elder Tang, listening with a sour heart, couldn't help but lament the changing times.

He, and those few, all worked with the intention of benefiting the association and fighting for the rise of the human race. The association had expressed willingness to share profits from the Top-grade Qi Blood Pills with them, but they all refused without exception.

Yet this young man, with such high talent in alchemy, is so engrossed in money!

If everyone were like this, would the human race still prosper? Would there still be a future?

Chen Fan nodded.

"Moreover, I have a feeling."

Chang Fei's voice continued: "If we choose the second condition this time, next time, I fear we won't have the same choice opportunity."

"No same choice opportunity as today?"

"What do you mean?"

Xia Tian and Ye Ling frowned upon hearing this.

If the second condition is chosen, isn't it already chosen?

"Chang Fei, can't you be a bit clearer?" Elder Tang was also annoyed, "That young fellow Shi Tao is the same, always saying ambiguous things."

Chang Fei smiled, "Brother Chen should know what I'm talking about."

Chen Fan shook his head, "President, I don't understand what you just said."

"Really?"

Chang Fei's smile deepened.

It seems this young man is far more cunning than he imagined.

However, this confirms that his previous choice was correct.

"The headquarters president is indeed hard to handle."

Chen Fan thought to himself.

How could he not understand what Chang Fei meant?

The other side likely guessed his countermeasure.

Yes, the True Qi Pill.

If the association chooses not to share profits and directly buys out with three billion contribution points, he wouldn't say anything.

But the True Qi Pill, after fusion, he would never hand it to the association.

After all, one must consider each other's position, right?

"Brother Chen, if you have nothing more to add, then as per your previous proposal, the association will share thirty percent of the profits for each Top-grade Qi Blood Pill sold into your account."

"Alright."

Chen Fan agreed, "Then I will record the pill formula and specific procedures into a video and send it to the headquarters later."

"No need."

"Hmm?"

Chen Fan was puzzled, staring at Chang Fei, "No need?"

"That's right."

Chang Fei smiled and looked at Xia Tian and Ye Ling behind him.

"Pack your things, later go back to the headquarters with Xia Tian and Ye Ling. Xia Tian, Ye Ling, put aside your current tasks, the priority is to ensure Brother Chen arrives at the headquarters safely. Can you do that?"

"No problem, President!" Ye Ling said with a serious expression.

"President, I, Xia Tian, promise that unless I die, I won't let Brother Chen get hurt." Xia Tian said firmly.

Sun Wei showed a bit of reluctance, but also some relief.

He had long known this day would come.

With Chen Fan's talent, how could he stay in the small Anshan City forever?

The headquarters is where he should go, where he can truly shine.

"Wait a minute."

Chen Fan raised his hand, puzzled, "President, when did I say I'm going to the headquarters?"

"???"

Everyone was stunned, even Chang Fei.

What's going on? People always aim for higher places, this era has someone refusing to leave a small city for a large one?

"Brother Chen," Xia Tian smiled warmly, "The headquarters is in Jiangnan City, in terms of safety, Anshan City is nowhere close."

"Indeed, Brother Chen, Jiangnan City is heavily guarded, with A-level Awakened stationed there. Even if a Beast King-level fierce beast arrives, it can't do anything. If you're worried about not having friends there, don't be, there are many Martial Artists your age at the headquarters, you won't feel lonely." Ye Ling also smiled and advised.

"Young man," Although Elder Tang was displeased, his heart still hoped Chen Fan would come, partly to master the improved alchemy skills quickly, partly to save Chen Fan's soul from being 'tainted' by money.

"Do you know how many people, breaking their heads, still can't enter Jiangnan City? I know you may feel comfortable in Anshan City now, but when you come to the headquarters, you'll know what true comfort is."

"Brother Chen, if you have family in the city, the headquarters will also send someone to bring them here. You can be assured of that." Chang Fei smiled.

"Sorry, President."

Chen Fan still refused, "I can't leave here now because I have unfinished business."

They looked at each other.

"Unfinished business?" Chang Fei was surprised, "Tell us, what it is. If the association can help, we'll definitely assist you."

Sun Wei was also anxious, "Brother Chen, what could be more important than going to the headquarters? Tell me, I'll handle it, you pack and go with Elder Xia to the headquarters."

Chen Fan shook his head.

What he referred to naturally was saving Meng Yu's sister, Meng Xue.

A man's promise cannot be left hanging.

As for letting the association handle this, it's quite difficult since both parties aren't from the same faction. Even if negotiations succeed, would the Awakened Association's upper echelons ensure Anshan City's people hand over Meng Xue obediently? No chance of a covert approach?

Besides, he didn't feel at ease about his family and friends in the village.

More importantly, staying here allows him to refine the True Qi Pill peacefully, without worrying about interruptions.

At the headquarters...

Can he still refine pills peacefully? It's questionable.

"President, I appreciate your kindness, but right now, I really can't leave here."

"Kid, why are you so ungrateful?" Elder Tang was indignant, "Isn't the headquarters a thousand times better than here? Huh? Isn't it a thousand times better?"

"Alright, Elder Tang."

Chang Fei shook his head, sighed, "Brother Chen, have you really thought this through? Although Anshan City seems peaceful now, how long can this peace last? That's the question."

"Sorry, President."

Chen Fan still chose to refuse.

The atmosphere suddenly became tense.

Xia Tian and others didn't know what to say.

Honestly, Chen Fan is the most unique person they have ever met.

Sun Wei was also anxious and couldn't help but advise, "Brother Chen, the President and the others mean well, you..."

Chen Fan smiled at him.

"Sigh."

Sun Wei sighed, swallowing what he was about to say.

"Fine." Chang Fei was helpless, "If you ever change your mind, just let me know anytime, I'll send someone to pick you up."

"Alright, thank you, President." Chen Fan said.

"No need."

Chang Fei waved, his eyes filled with regret and worry.

He was genuinely concerned about the possibility of unforeseen incidents with Chen Fan staying in Anshan City.

"Looks like I need to keep an eye on Anshan City's situation. If there's any sign of a beast tide outbreak, I'll immediately send someone to fetch him."

He made up his mind.

After discussing more details, this video call finally ended.

As soon as it disconnected, Elder Tang couldn't help but complain, "Chang Fei, what was up with you before? Why insist on agreeing to his first condition?"

"Elder Tang."

Chang Fei, anticipating this question, sighed with a bitter smile, "Have you ever thought that one day he might improve the True Qi Pill formula just like today?"

"What! Improve the True Qi Pill formula?" Elder Tang's breath instantly became rapid.

Chapter 236: Above the True Essence Realm

Just like the Qi Blood Pill, currently within the association, only top-grade True Qi Pills can be refined.

However, unlike the Qi Blood Pill, even with a skill level reaching the Perfection Realm, the probability of refining a top-grade True Qi Pill is less than thirty percent. Usually, a cauldron of True Qi Pills yields only two pills, which is quite rare.

Similar to how the higher the quality of the Qi Blood Pill, the more qi and blood it can enhance; the quality of a True Qi Pill also determines the amount of True Qi replenished after consumption.

A low-grade True Qi Pill can roughly restore fifty strands of True Qi, possibly a bit more or less, but generally around that range.

Therefore, even a Meridian Refining Realm Martial Artist who has made a breakthrough for some time should not consume an entire True Qi Pill directly, as it could potentially burst their meridians and cause life-threatening danger.

A middle-grade True Qi Pill can roughly restore two hundred strands of True Qi. This large amount of True Qi can nearly fully restore a mid-stage Meridian Refining Martial Artist.

Of course, everything has two sides.

The total amount of True Qi restored is much higher than that of a low-grade True Qi Pill, so the time required will naturally be much longer.

However, the speed of True Qi restoration varies from person to person, even if they are cultivating the same Heart Method. The restoration speed can differ greatly due to the disparity in the Heart Method's level.

A top-grade True Qi Pill can provide up to one thousand strands of True Qi!

Even a late-stage Meridian Refining Martial Artist only has a total True Qi amount of one or two thousand strands. Two top-grade True Qi Pills can fully restore their True Qi.

Crucially, top-grade True Qi Pills not only help late-stage Meridian Refining Martial Artists break through the last two meridians but also provide a source of True Qi for True Essence Realm Martial Artists. By compressing this True Qi into True Essence and storing it in the dantian, the more True Qi obtained, the more True Essence is converted, thus enhancing strength!

Therefore, the top-grade True Qi Pills refined within the association are primarily supplied to several True Essence Realm Martial Artists, such as President Shi Tao and Vice President Chang Fei.

It is imaginable that even an increase of ten percent in the probability of producing top-grade True Qi Pills would be a significant improvement for the association!

Thinking of this, Elder Tang took a deep breath, looking at Chang Fei, "Is that even possible?"

Over the past year, the other seniors in the association have worked tirelessly to increase the probability of top-grade True Qi Pills from ten percent to twenty percent.

"Who knows?"

Chang Fei smiled, "Just like this time, Elder Tang, you and I would never have imagined that a young man from a small place like Anshan City could perfect the Qi Blood Pill formula to this extent."

Elder Tang was stunned.

Yes, until the pills were produced, he never believed Chen Fan could do it.

The result? Not only did he refine a cauldron of top-grade Qi Blood Pills, but he even produced a Celestial Grade pill.

To put it bluntly, he wouldn't dare dream of such a feat.

"In any case, Elder Tang, let's wait and see." Chang Fei smiled.

He was genuinely looking forward to seeing Chen Fan improve the True Qi Pill formula.

Even if he couldn't produce an entire cauldron of top-grade True Qi Pills, even without any top-grade pills, as long as he could significantly increase the probability of top-grade True Qi Pills, it would be enough.

With enough top-grade True Qi Pills, the president might soon break through to the Celestial Realm!

Next to him, Elder Tang furrowed his brows deeply.

Hope so.

Though he felt the hope was slim.

...

In the Anshan City Branch.

Looking at the dark screen, Xia Tian turned his gaze to Chen Fan.

"Brother Chen, wouldn't you reconsider? With your talent, developing at the headquarters is the best choice."

"Yes, Brother Chen." Ye Ling's lips moved slightly.

She feared that if a crisis broke out in Anshan City after they left, even if they received the news and rushed back immediately, it might be too late.

"Thank you for your kindness, but I've decided." Chen Fan smiled at them.

"Sigh."

Xia Tian and Ye Ling shared a helpless, puzzled look.

"Elders, isn't it time for the assessment?"

Xia Tian and Ye Ling were stunned, then smiled wryly.

Yes,

Their purpose here was to conduct Chen Fan's Meridian Refining Realm Martial Artist assessment, wasn't it?

However, they never expected that someone who appeared to be a Martial Artist was also an extraordinary alchemist.

"Alright, Brother Chen, the assessment is simple, similar to the Entry Force assessment. Just let me feel the True Qi in your body." Xia Tian said seriously, with an added element of earnestness in his eyes.

If Chen Fan truly was a Meridian Refining Realm Martial Artist, his aptitude in martial arts would be unparalleled.

"You just need to sense the True Qi in my body?"

"Yes, Brother Chen, if you can't control the True Qi within, just tell us its location, and we can use our True Qi to detect it," Ye Ling explained.

After all, as long as there was a trace of Qi Sensing within, it would be considered as being in the Meridian Refining Realm.

"No need for all that trouble."

Chen Fan smiled, looking at Xia Tian, "Elder Xia, I'm going to act now."

Xia Tian was briefly stunned and somewhat surprised, "Alright, go ahead."

Chen Fan lifted his right hand and pushed out a palm.

A force of the palm surged forward.

From over a meter away, the clothes on Xia Tian's body fluttered sharply.

But soon, the commotion gradually died down until it seemed as if nothing had occurred.

"True Qi Release!"

Xia Tian exclaimed in shock, eyes wide with amazement.

Beside him, Ye Ling was also dumbfounded.

She initially thought they would need to touch Chen Fan's body to utilize their True Qi to detect inside or that Chen Fan might control his True Qi to transfer it to them.

But in the end, Chen Fan actually used True Qi Release!

Had he just broken through to the Meridian Refining Realm?

Sun Wei was equally stunned.

As far as he remembered, True Qi Release was something only mid-stage Meridian Refining Realm Martial Artists could achieve.

Embarrassed by their stares, Chen Fan chuckled, "Well, to be honest, I've already unlocked the first four meridians."

He didn't think there was anything to hide about this level of attainment. Saying it now would make his future breakthrough to True Essence Realm seem more acceptable.

"No wonder."

Xia Tian suddenly realized, but his eyes still held disbelief.

So, Chen Fan was already a mid-stage Meridian Refining Martial Artist?

Such a young mid-stage Meridian Refining Martial Artist?

Ye Ling was speechless.

Because she also was just a mid-stage Meridian Refining Martial Artist...

As for Sun Wei, he seemed to have figured things out.

No wonder Brother Chen could kill high-level fierce beasts as easily as chickens; he was already a mid-stage Meridian Refining Martial Artist, after all?

That would mean Brother Chen had no need to fear Qin Ye who was only an early-stage Meridian Refining Martial Artist.

No, not necessarily.

After all, two fists couldn't fend off four hands. The chamber didn't just have Qin Ye as its sole Meridian Refining Martial Artist, and they had Awakeners backing them.

"Brother Chen, I never thought your alchemy skills far outpaced ours, and your martial arts talent also leaves us in the dust."

Xia Tian sighed softly.

"Yes, now you're on par with me in terms of the realm, and you may surpass me soon," Ye Ling smiled bitterly.

"You flatter me, elders. I just have better luck." Chen Fan smiled at Xia Tian, "Elder Xia, I should have passed the assessment, right?"

"Of course."

Xia Tian smiled wryly.

If this didn't count as passing the assessment, what would?

"Brother Chen, rest assured, I will promptly report the result. In less than half an hour, your information will be updated, and you can use your contribution points to purchase items."

Hearing this, Chen Fan's smile grew wider.

He had been waiting for this.

Pill formulas were one thing, but according to common sense, those within the Martial Arts Association couldn't compare with those in the Awakened Association.

What he really valued were consumables.

Such as the herbs for refining True Qi Pills and weaponry.

Compared to the Awakened Association, this could save quite a bit of contribution points.

"Oh, Brother Chen, we have good news for you."

Ye Ling smiled mysteriously, "Upon reaching the Meridian Refining Realm, Martial Artists unlock new items."

"Oh?"

Chen Fan was pleased. Could it be?

"Some are heavenly materials and earthly treasures and other special items," said the straightforward Xia Tian.

"These heavenly materials and earthly treasures can enhance the body, such as improving constitution, increasing power, boosting speed, and even enhancing Spirit and the True Qi within Martial Artists,

The special items are crafted by the Awakeners in the Awakened Association. They include things like space items, teleportation talismans, protective talismans, etc. As you ranked first last month in contribution points, you can choose one from the special items."

Chen Fan felt an uneasy sense.

It turned out that the special reward Sun Wei mentioned referred to this?

He was right.

There were three special items as mentioned by Xia Tian,

Option one, a medium space item with a storage space of 1 cubic meter.

Option two, a small protective talisman, able to withstand one attack from a high-level fierce beast,

Option three, a small teleportation talisman, capable of instant teleportation up to 500 meters, ignoring obstacles.

"Brother Chen, these three items were painstakingly acquired from the Awakened Association. They are invaluable. You can choose any one of them. If you don't have a space item, I recommend the first option. Though it doesn't store much, it is very convenient."

"A space item..." Sun Wei's eyes were filled with envy.

Not just the space item, but the other two options as well.

Chen Fan, however, felt like crying.

Chapter 237: Urgent Mission

Xia Tian and his companion smiled at Chen Fan.

These three special items are quite good for Entry Force Martial Artists.

On one hand, the price is five million contribution points, equivalent to the price of two High-level Fierce Beasts.

On the other hand, they are scarce in number.

Because even the association can only purchase a limited number of special items from Awakeners every month, only Meridian Refining Martial Artists are qualified to buy them.

Of course, these three are very basic special items, and the association has better ones available, but their prices are terrifyingly high!

"I'll go with what Elder Xia suggested and choose the first one," Chen Fan laughed.

If he hadn't joined the Awakened Association, he might have been tempted by these items, but now, he has better ones on him, and it's not difficult to buy even better ones.

The special item given by the association could be given to Uncle Zhang once he returns to the village.

And at the same time, he could refine some top-grade Qi Blood Pills to take back.

"Alright, Brother Chen," Xia Tian wiped his finger over the ring he wore, and immediately, a ring appeared in his right hand.

"A spatial ring?"

Chen Fan asked in surprise.

"Yes, a spatial ring," Xia Tian smiled, "As long as you touch it with your finger, you can see the items inside. Just a thought can bring the items out, very convenient."

"Yes, everyone in the association uses spatial rings," Ye Ling added.

"I see."

Chen Fan nodded, internally thinking, so they're all standard issue.

"Brother Chen, let me teach you how to set it up?"

"Elder Xia, it doesn't seem that difficult, just need to set the fingerprint and password, right?"

"Yes, since you know, I won't say more," Xia Tian nodded. After exchanging a glance with Ye Ling, he coughed lightly and said, "Brother Chen, now that you're a Meridian Refining Martial Artist and an essential part of the association, there are some things I need to discuss with you."

"Mhm." Chen Fan listened attentively.

"Firstly, the headquarters provide all Meridian Refining Martial Artists with certain resource tilts. Not only do they get the privilege to buy high-level items, but they also get free cultivation resources, such as five bottles of low-grade True Qi Pills each month for those who have just entered the Meridian Refining Realm."

"Five bottles of low-grade True Qi Pills," Chen Fan murmured.

At the price of a hundred thousand each, one bottle is a million, five bottles are five million; these conditions are quite reasonable.

"Yes, we were originally planning to remind you not to take whole pills, but now it seems unnecessary."

Xia Tian smiled slightly and continued, "Mid-stage Meridian Refining Martial Artists can get three bottles of middle-grade True Qi Pills each month."

"Elder Xia, how much does one bottle of middle-grade True Qi Pills cost in the association?" Chen Fan asked out of curiosity.

At first glance, Mid-stage Meridian Refining Martial Artists get almost half the amount, but that's not actually the case.

"One middle-grade True Qi Pill costs three hundred thousand. One bottle is three million; three bottles are nearly ten million contribution points," explained Xia Tian.

"Ten million."

Chen Fan nodded.

Compared to Early Stage Meridian Refining Martial Artists, the benefits for Mid-stage ones double.

Of course, there's another implicit message here.

That is, one middle-grade True Qi Pill provides at least three times the potential points of a low-grade one. If a low-grade pill provides a hundred thousand points, a middle-grade one provides at least three hundred thousand.

That's half of a Heaven-grade Qi Blood Pill.

"Elder Xia, what about Late-stage Meridian Refining Martial Artists?"

"Late-stage Meridian Refining Martial Artists can get two bottles of top-grade True Qi Pills each month." It seemed Xia Tian knew what Chen Fan would ask next, and he smiled meaningfully, "One top-grade True Qi Pill costs 1.2 million contribution points; one bottle is 12 million, two bottles, 24 million."

"24 million..."

Sun Wei's head buzzed.

He worked tirelessly, risking his life for months to save that many contribution points.

But Late-stage Meridian Refining Martial Artists can get that amount without doing anything every month.

It's truly demoralizing to compare.

"It's quite good, isn't it?" Ye Ling asked with a smile.

"Mhm," Chen Fan responded with a smile, "I'm afraid that while enjoying these rights, we also have corresponding obligations?"

Xia Tian and Ye Ling both chuckled.

"Indeed."

Xia Tian nodded, "Rights and obligations are reciprocal. The association spends a vast amount of resources to cultivate us, naturally hoping we'll help solve its problems. Hence, all Meridian Refining Martial Artists must complete an emergency task each month."

"A very urgent, must-do task, right?"

"Yes," Ye Ling said, "The priority of emergency tasks is the highest. Once we receive the email, no matter what we're doing, we must drop it to complete the task first. If successful, there are rewards; if failed, there are penalties. But don't worry too much,"

She gently comforted, "Emergency tasks are dangerous, but generally, there will be seniors leading, sometimes even True Essence Realm Martial Artists. With some caution, missions can be completed successfully."

"I understand."

Chen Fan agreed, but thought to himself, these emergency tasks surely aren't that simple.

Emergency means urgent; those two words say it all.

But as the saying goes, you train soldiers for a thousand days to use them for an hour. When danger arises, who else but the martial artists will resolve it?

After hesitating for a moment, Xia Tian said, "Brother Chen, what I'm about to say is just my personal opinion, with no ill intent.

First, emergency tasks are unpredictable, and even team leaders face risks. Given your talent in alchemy, joining the headquarters as an alchemist is quite feasible,

so you can get these cultivation resources for free without taking emergency tasks."

"I appreciate Elder Xia's kindness, but I still want to pursue martial arts further," Chen Fan smiled.

If he went to the headquarters, he'd probably become a tool for alchemy.

Instead of placing the hope of saving the Human Race on others, he'd rather rely on himself.

"As long as you've decided."

Xia Tian patted Chen Fan's shoulder.

Whether it's hunting fierce beasts outside or refining elixirs at the headquarters, both serve the Human Race, without any difference in value.

"It's getting late; we should leave and carry out the next task."

Sun Wei was taken aback and quickly stepped forward, saying, "Must you leave so soon? How about staying for lunch?"

"No need."

Xia Tian waved his hand, "We appreciate Chairman Sun's hospitality."

As he spoke, he looked at Chen Fan again, "Brother Chen, if you ever change your mind and want to go to the headquarters, just message us or notify the vice-chairman, and we'll come to get you."

"Sure, I will. Elders, take care and be safe on your way," Chen Fan said gratefully.

For whatever reason, these two from the headquarters indeed showed concern for him.

"Don't worry, even against top-level elite fierce beasts, we can still fight." Xia Tian smiled, "Alright, no need to see us off."

"Brother Chen, Chairman Sun, take care. Looking forward to our next meeting," Ye Ling waved with a smile and followed Xia Tian out.

Nevertheless, Chen Fan and Sun Wei escorted them to the city gate.

Both parties wished each other well.

In the next moment, Xia Tian and Ye Ling shot off into the distance like bullets.

"Brother Xia, I still feel uneasy leaving Brother Chen here alone,"

Ye Ling said worriedly.

"If today's events get out, some evil forces might target Brother Chen."

"We don't need to worry much about that."

Xia Tian thought for a moment and said, "The only ones who know about this are Elder Tang, you and me, and Sun Wei. Headquarters will keep it a secret, we won't say anything, and neither will Sun Wei. Brother Chen definitely won't."

Ye Ling nodded.

"Worrying about it does no good."

Xia Tian smiled wryly, "Brother Chen refused to come with us, what else can we do? We can't knock him out and take him away, that would be disgraceful at the headquarters."

"Indeed."

Ye Ling sighed.

That is the biggest issue.

No idea what kept Brother Chen here?

Just hope he stays safe until he decides to go to the headquarters.

At Anshan City's gate.

Sun Wei stood, gazing into the distance.

"Chairman," Chen Fan turned and reminded, "They've gone far; we should head back."

"Mhm."

Sun Wei finally looked away.

Feeling a bit regretful.

The headquarters barely sent anyone, and they left in less than two hours.

But it wasn't a complete loss since a Mid-stage Meridian Refining Martial Artist stood beside him now.

"Brother Chen, you really put me to shame. Honestly, I don't even feel right sitting as chairman anymore," Sun Wei said apologetically.

Chen Fan waved his hands, "Chairman, I'm not interested in your position at all. I just want to refine elixirs and hunt fierce beasts quietly."

Sun Wei couldn't help but chuckle.

He thought of something and hesitated before asking, "Brother Chen, could I ask you a favor?"

"Is it about top-grade Qi Blood Pills?" Chen Fan smiled.

"!"

Sun Wei was shocked, blushing, "How did you know?"

He coughed, "Yes, Brother Chen, could you sell me some top-grade Qi Blood Pills?"

Chapter 238: Repaying a Peach with a Plum

Sun Wei's heart was somewhat nervous.

The Top-grade Qi Blood Pill was a valuable item, and no one would feel they had too many of them.

He truly didn't have anything of value to use in exchange.

After all, a single Top-grade Qi Blood Pill was worth ten thousand contribution points, equivalent to ten thousand yuan. Even an average Transforming Force Martial Artist wouldn't lack this amount, let alone Chen Fan.

"One or two pills?"

Chen Fan looked astonished.

"One or two pills are enough?"

"Ah?" Sun Wei was stunned, not quite understanding Chen Fan's meaning.

"President, do you remember when I first joined the Branch Office, you gave me a bottle of Top-grade Qi Blood Pills in the name of the Branch Office?"

Sun Wei's body trembled.

Could it be?

Chen Fan smiled faintly, "Although that bottle of Top-grade Qi Blood Pills was given in the name of the Branch Office, it was actually from your own pocket, President. So, when we get back, I'll give you a bottle of Top-grade Qi Blood Pills as a gesture of gratitude."

"This...this...can it really be?" Sun Wei said in disbelief.

After all, it was a Top-grade Qi Blood Pill!

Even the value of two pills would be equivalent to a whole bottle of Top-grade Qi Blood Pills.

"President, do I look like someone who jokes about these things?" Chen Fan chuckled.

"No, not at all." Sun Wei stammered.

His heart was filled with gratitude and relief.

Back then, he generously gave Chen Fan a whole bottle of Top-grade Qi Blood Pills, which was indeed an investment.

For other members joining the association, he also gave a bottle of Qi Blood Pills in the name of the association, but they were of Middle Grade quality.

Now the facts proved that his initial investment wasn't wrong.

"President, actually, there's one more thing I'd like your help with," Chen Fan said at the right time.

"Brother Chen, please speak!"

Sun Wei hurriedly said, "As long as it's within my abilities, I definitely won't decline."

"President, no need to be so serious. It's not a big deal," Chen Fan said, explaining his plan to add an Alchemy Furnace.

"Oh, so that's it."

Sun Wei smiled awkwardly, "I thought it was something serious. Don't worry, Brother Chen, I will arrange this as soon as I get back. By tomorrow at the latest, there will be an additional Alchemy Furnace in the Alchemy Room."

"Alright, then I'll trouble you, President."

Chen Fan nodded.

He planned to start by refining two furnaces of elixirs simultaneously.

If he found it manageable, he could add another Alchemy Furnace later.

He just didn't know if there was enough space in the Alchemy Room. If not, he could knock down a wall to make more room.

"By the way, President."

Chen Fan suddenly thought of something and smiled, "A single bottle of Top-grade Qi Blood Pills probably won't last very long, right?"

"Well, it should be enough for a while."

Sun Wei smiled wryly.

At his level, he consumed about one Top-grade Qi Blood Pill a day.

For Top-grade Qi Blood Pills, it might be one every two days, so a bottle would last about twenty days.

As for what happens after twenty days, the headquarters might have increased the production of Top-grade Qi Blood Pills by then, though they likely would still be hard to obtain.

"Let's do this," Chen Fan thought for a moment, "While I'm still in the association, if you or Brother Gao and others want Top-grade Qi Blood Pills, you can come to me with herbs of equivalent value.

For example, for one Top Grade Qi Blood Pill worth ten thousand yuan, you must provide herbs worth ten thousand yuan. For a whole bottle, you'd need herbs worth one hundred thousand yuan."

"Brother Chen, are you...are you serious?"

Sun Wei trembled with excitement.

"Yes."

Chen Fan nodded, "We're all members of the same association, and in the same branch, so it's a small favor. However..."

His voice paused, and he held up two fingers, "I can only refine up to two furnaces of Top-grade Qi Blood Pills each day."

"Great! Wonderful!"

Sun Wei quickly agreed.

A daily quantity limit was to be expected.

After all, Brother Chen was already at the Meridian Refining Realm, no, the Mid Stage of the Meridian Refining Realm, and he would be busy with his cultivation. Even if he refined elixirs, it would be primarily True Qi Pills. It was already a big favor for him to take the time to refine Top-grade Qi Blood Pills for them.

Even if it was just one bottle or even half a bottle, he would feel overwhelmed with gratitude.

"Brother Chen, once we get back, I'll share this good news with Gao Shan and the others. They will definitely be extremely grateful to you."

"President, there's no need to be so formal. It's just a small favor." Chen Fan smiled.

His doing this was partly for this reason.

The other reason was that it was a foolproof investment. The extra herbs could be used to refine elixirs for his family, saving him the trouble of buying them himself, which would cost money and effort.

As they talked, they arrived at the base.

Chen Fan returned alone to the Alchemy Room to continue refining Qi Blood Pills.

He estimated that by the afternoon, or at the latest by evening, he could use up the remaining herbs, and by then, his permissions should already be unlocked.

He could then focus his energy on refining True Qi Pills.

Meanwhile, Sun Wei took out his phone and called Gao Shan and Xu Jie to the meeting room.

"President, what's the matter? I was training when you called me, and you didn't even tell me what it was." Xu Jie complained.

"Yes, President, I didn't even have time to ask you what it was before you hung up the phone."

"Exactly."

The Zhao Brothers chimed in.

"All right, everyone, quiet down," Tu Yue glanced at them, "since the President asked us to drop everything and come to the meeting room, it means this must be something important."

"Exactly," Gao Shan, the most steady one, nodded, then looked around and asked, "President, why isn't Brother Chen here? Did you forget to inform him?"

With this remark, the others also realized.

"Hehe, Brother Chen doesn't need to come."

Sun Wei sat in his chair and, before anyone could ask more, smiled and said, "This time, it's indeed a very important matter, and it's also good news."

"Good news?"

"Good news?"

Hearing this, Gao Shan and the others looked at each other in confusion.

"President, is it true?" Xu Jie's eyes widened.

In their impression, when the President called them to the meeting room, it was usually bad news.

Even if it was good news, it wouldn't be that good.

"President, what exactly is the good news? Stop keeping us in suspense and just tell us."

"Yes, President, the suspense is killing us."

Tu Yue glanced around and couldn't help but say, "President, since it's good news, isn't it better to also call Brother Chen over?"

As soon as she finished speaking, the room went quiet.

"Don't worry."

Sun Wei waved his hand, "Once I explain, you'll understand why Brother Chen isn't here."

First and foremost, everything discussed here must remain confidential. Don't mention it to anyone outside. Can you do that?"

They exchanged glances and nodded in agreement.

They had chosen to stay in the association rather than join the business group, which proved their loyalty to the association.

"You're all using Top-grade Qi Blood Pills, correct?"

"..."

They rolled their eyes at him.

"President, you know that very well."

"Yeah, we'd love to use Top-grade Qi Blood Pills, but they're impossible to buy."

"Wait a minute, President, do you mean?" Xu Jie exclaimed.

The others seemed to get a hint of what he was implying.

Could it be that the President's good news was?

"That's right."

Sun Wei smiled mysteriously, "I called you here to tell you that, from now on, our association members will have access to Top-grade Qi Blood Pills."

"What!"

"Top-grade Qi Blood Pills!"

"Oh my gosh!"

The meeting room erupted in exclamations. Fortunately, the soundproofing was good, so they weren't worried about being overheard.

"President, you're not joking, right? We'll have access to Top-grade Qi Blood Pills?"

"Where are these Top-grade Qi Blood Pills coming from? Do you have connections at headquarters?"

"That can't be right. If you had connections at headquarters, you would have told us sooner."

"Don't talk nonsense," Sun Wei said, annoyed, "What connections? Stop spreading rumors."

They shrank back a bit.

"President, then what about the Top-grade Qi Blood Pills?"

Sun Wei lowered his voice, "Everyone, keep your mouths shut and don't shout out loud when I tell you this."

They complied, their eyes overflowing with curiosity.

"It's Brother Chen."

Sun Wei whispered, "Brother Chen, besides being a Martial Artist, is also an Alchemist who can refine Top-grade Qi Blood Pills."

Their mouths flew open, and they were speechless.

Sun Wei, seeing this, nodded in satisfaction, "Don't doubt my words. Just now, people from the headquarters came, and Brother Chen gave them his improved Pill Formula,

So it won't be long before the headquarters can produce a lot of Top-grade Qi Blood Pills. But exactly when it will happen is still unknown.

But since Brother Chen belongs to our branch, we're not like other branches who have to wait for the headquarters to supply us."

"President, you mean Brother Chen can refine Top-grade Qi Blood Pills for us?" Tu Yue was in disbelief.

"Exactly."

Sun Wei nodded, "We just need to provide herbs of equivalent value, and he'll help us refine Top-grade Qi Blood Pills."

Silence fell again.

Xu Jie and the others were stunned, like wooden figures.

"What, still don't believe?" Sun Wei was a bit exasperated, but he had anticipated this reaction.

Helplessly, he recounted the events, omitting some details, like the Celestial Grade Qi Blood Pills and the agreed prices.

Indeed, after hearing this, their breathing became rapid, their eyes seemed ready to pop out of their sockets, and their jaws nearly hit the floor.

Chapter 239: Breakthrough, Mid Stage of Meridian Refining!

"So, President," Xu Jie tried to suppress his excitement and said, "Brother Chen's alchemy skills far surpass even those of the alchemists at the headquarters?"

"Cough, cough."

Sun Wei lightly coughed twice and said, "You could think of it that way. However, these comments should stay within this meeting room, spoken privately, and not be leaked out."

"I understand, I understand." Xu Jie nodded vigorously like a pecking chick.

Who would have thought that the Alchemy Master would be right beside us?

"President, is what you said true? Brother Chen is really willing to make Top-grade Qi Blood Pills for us?"

"Yes, President, did Brother Chen personally say this?"

Everyone's hearts were in their throats.

Top-grade Qi Blood Pills, how could they not be tempted?

"That's right."

Sun Wei sighed and said, "Not only did he say it personally, but he also brought it up proactively."

"He brought it up proactively!"

Gao Shan and the others were shocked internally.

"Yes, on the way back, he mentioned it to me. He said, everyone are Martial Artists of the association, and we're in the same branch, it's not easy. So, he's willing to take some time to help everyone."

Sun Wei said.

"Phew..."

Everyone took a deep breath.

"Brother Chen is really a good person, not forgetting us even at this time."

"If I were Brother Chen, I might not be able to achieve this level of selflessness."

"Me too."

While touched, everyone felt a bit ashamed.

"Indeed."

Sun Wei agreed and added, "But you must also know that Brother Chen's time is limited, so he set a quota—every day, he can refine at most two bottles of Top-grade Qi Blood Pills."

"Two bottles a day?"

Xu Jie was startled but quickly nodded, "Two bottles are already a lot!"

"That's right, those are Top-grade Qi Blood Pills! Two bottles mean twenty pills. We have six people here, including the President, each can get three to four pills."

"Exactly, the key is two bottles a day. Even taking one pill a day is amazing, plus we can store up a lot."

Everyone became extremely excited.

Other branches, even if they wanted to buy Top-grade Qi Blood Pills, couldn't get them, let alone having a stockpile.

In Martial Arts, falling behind in one step means falling behind in every step.

By the time the headquarters learns Brother Chen's pill formula and can mass-produce them, we would have already led by a huge margin.

Sun Wei smiled at the few.

If possible, he truly wished Chen Fan could stay, but it was evidently impossible, so he could only hope for him to stay a little longer.

Treasure this period of time.

...

Time flew by, it was already the afternoon.

The two hundred sets of medicinal materials had all been refined into Qi Blood Pills.

A total of two thousand Qi Blood Pills, more than two hundred and twenty Celestial-grade Qi Blood Pills, slightly above a tenth probability.

Chen Fan kept ten bottles, consumed the rest, and his Potential Points reached an astonishing 2.6 billion!

"Phew..."

He stretched and relaxed his muscles.

Finally done.

The alchemy process was tedious, but the results were delightful.

With over 2 billion Potential Points, creating the fourth meridian pathway would be more than enough.

The fifth meridian, perhaps also feasible?

The sixth, probably challenging.

"Next is breaking through the meridians." Chen Fan's eyes showed a hint of anticipation as he looked at the attribute panel,

Realm: Early Stage of Meridian Refining (0/6 million)

True Qi: 1395/930 (+50%)

With a thought, he allocated 6 million Potential Points.

Inside his body, a vast torrent of True Qi emerged, powerfully breaking through the first acupoint of the fourth meridian.

[600 million Potential Points consumed, Yin Qiao Meridian's Ranggu Acupoint unlocked]

[True Qi increased by 40 points]

[Constitution increased by 12 points]

[Power increased by 11 points]

[Agility increased by 10 points]

Several lines of information appeared in his mind.

"40 points of Primordial True Qi."

Chen Fan glanced at it; the boost in physical attributes was decent.

He looked up to see the cost of unlocking the next acupoint in the meridian pathway had increased to 6.5 million Potential Points.

"Fortunately."

He glanced at the remaining huge amount of Potential Points.

Once again, he allocated 6.5 million Potential Points.

[6.5 million Potential Points consumed, Yin Qiao Meridian's Zhaohai Acupoint unlocked]

[True Qi increased by 41 points]

[Constitution increased by 13 points]

[Power increased by 12 points]

[Agility increased by 13 points]

...

Several breaths later,

The vast True Qi arrived at the last acupoint of the Yin Qiao Meridian.

In the face of such powerful True Qi, the obstruction was like paper, it didn't last half a second before being breached.

[10 million Potential Points consumed, Yin Qiao Meridian's Earth Mechanism Acupoint unlocked]

[True Qi increased by 48 points]

[Constitution increased by 12 points]

[Power increased by 11 points]

[Agility increased by 10 points]

Simultaneously, several lines of information appeared again,

[Complete Yin Qiao Meridian pathway unlocked]

[True Qi increase by 60]

[Constitution increased by 12]

[Power increased by 15]

[Agility increased by 16]

"The fourth meridian pathway is unlocked."

Chen Fan smiled. The last acupoint costing exactly 10 million Potential Points, coincidence or not?

He looked at the panel.

Realm: Early Stage of Meridian Refining (0/15 million)

True Qi: 2079/1386 (+50%)

Moreover, a long-missed plus sign appeared beside the realm.

"Finally can level up the realm."

Chen Fan sighed, it was not easy.

He was curious about the effect after the breakthrough.

Would it be similar to before, only boosting four basic physical attributes, or only increasing True Qi amount, or both?

After some hesitation, he decided to break through first.

After all, he had many trump cards now; if encountered danger, using perception to run away would not be difficult.

"Breakthrough stage?"

A line appeared in his mind,

Chen Fan chose yes.

At that moment, a familiar feeling surged.

"Thump, thump, thump!"

The entire world seemed to still, Chen Fan could only hear his heart pounding like a drum. Following that, a large amount of heat flowed through his meridians to every corner of his body, strengthening his skin, muscles, bones, and spirit.

He even felt his True Qi growing stronger.

"Choosing realm breakthrough not only boosts physical attributes but also increases Primordial True Qi!" Chen Fan's eyes widened in joy.

This was more comprehensive compared to just body refinement or qi refining.

Three to five seconds later, the heat dissipated.

Chen Fan felt drenched like he had taken a bath.

But corresponding to that was an unprecedented sense of power.

Realm: Mid Stage of Meridian Refining (0/15 million)

True Qi: 2495/1663 (+50%)

Level: 28 (0/10 million)

Constitution: 0.82 million

Power: 0.85 million

Agility: 0.66 million

Spirit: 1.56 million

Potential Points: 2 billion

Experience Points: 2000

One breakthrough increased Primordial True Qi from 1386 to 1663, a 20% boost.

Including the cultivation technique's bonus, Chen Fan's current total True Qi reached nearly 2500.

Four basic attributes below also rose by 20%.

Spirit attribute's value was the highest, over 1.5 million, more than ten times the other three attributes.

Chen Fan's smile widened.

He felt this immense spiritual power, if used with Soul-Annihilating Finger, even a B-level Awakener couldn't survive?

Unsure if Soul-Annihilating Finger works on Fierce Beasts?

Or if it works on Low-level Fierce Beasts, then what about High-level Fierce Beasts?

It's said that Commander-level Fierce Beasts have intelligence and can think like humans, perhaps then a spiritual attack could work on them?

Chen Fan nodded, thinking it might be worth a try, but he had to be careful.

As a Martial Artist, his attack methods were bow and arrow, short weapons, fist and kick, using vast True Qi.

As an Awakener, his attack methods were super high speed and invisible Spirit Secret Technique.

In front of people, unless necessary, he shouldn't mix methods, otherwise, getting exposed would be awkward.

Again looking at Constitution, Power, Agility—these basic attributes, Chen Fan felt quite satisfied.

Take power, 8000 points, 800 times a normal person, pure muscle strength reaching 80,000 catties.

Add Martial Technique [Burst], easily reaching 400,000 to 500,000 catties, 200,000 tons power!

Generally, an elite-level Fierce Beast, weighing 200-300 tons, speed at 1000 meters per second, impact force of 200-300,000 tons.

Basically, his full-strength punch matched the strongest hit of an elite-level Fierce Beast.

Up against an Awakener with protective gear against elite-level Fierce Beasts, Chen Fan could break through their shield with a few punches!

"I feel like continuing to enhance the body."

Chen Fan thought.

Now each acupoint breakthrough needs 15 million Potential Points, but to level up to 29 costs only 10 million Potential Points.

Which is more cost-effective, clearly visible.

With a thought, Chen Fan allocated 10 million Potential Points just to see the cost for next level enhancement.

The familiar heat surged from the heart again.

Unlike before, there was little movement of True Qi internally.

After a few seconds, the heat receded quickly.

Level: 29 (0/100 million)

Constitution: 0.98 million

Power: 1.02 million

Agility: 0.79 million

Spirit: 1.87 million

Like before, all four attributes rose by 20%.

But the next enhancement cost increased tenfold, from 10 million to 100 million Potential Points.

"..."

Chen Fan smiled wryly.

He thought he could enhance the body several times, now it was clear, with current Potential Points, only one more enhancement was possible.

And at this rate, enhancing to level 30 would need 1 billion Potential Points...

"Seems breakthrough is more cost-effective."

He glanced at the realm section.

Then let's continue, until the point refining Qi consumes more than 1 billion Potential Points, then flip to body enhancement.

Noting few enhancement attempts, yet with a large base...

Later stages might enhance several thousand points, far beyond the initial low-level enhancement.

Chapter 240: True Qi Value, 3000 Points!

Chen Fan's gaze fell on the realm column.

With 190 million potential points remaining, he planned to continue unlocking meridians.

The first benefit is that by opening the acupoints, the increase in true qi is the most significant, while the improvement in Constitution, Power, and agility seems more like a bonus.

However, even the legs of a mosquito are meat, right?

The second, and most important reason.

He possessed a large number of cultivation techniques that he had not yet had time to practice.

Although most of them are not body refinement techniques, when combined, they are still quite considerable.

Not to mention, there are techniques like the Dragon Elephant Wisdom Skill which greatly enhances strength attributes.

"The fifth meridian should be the Chong Meridian, right?"

Chen Fan recalled.

In the early stage of the Meridian Refining Realm, four meridians need to be unlocked, specifically the Yangwei Meridian, Yinwei Meridian, Yang Qiao Meridian, and Yin Qiao Meridian.

Unlocking all four of these meridians means a martial artist officially enters the mid stage of Meridian Refining.

In the mid stage, only two meridians need to be unlocked, the Chong Meridian, and the Dai Meridian.

The acupoints in the Chong Meridian are numerous, totaling 14.

The acupoints in the Dai Meridian are much fewer, only 9.

Even when combined, there are only 23 acupoints, which is less than half compared to the previous four meridians.

However, this does not mean that fully unlocking these two meridians is only half as difficult as unlocking the previous four.

According to the discussions among many Meridian Refining Martial Artists in the association, the difficulty of unlocking the Chong and Dai Meridians is two to three times that of the previous four!

If luck is not on your side, one acupoint might hold you back for several months!

If successful in unlocking these two meridians, one can enter the late stage of Meridian Refining, facing the greatest challenge among the eight extraordinary meridians, the Ren and Du Meridians!

Undoubtedly, these two meridians are the most difficult among the eight.

Take the Ren Meridian for example, it requires unlocking 24 acupoints, more than any of the previous six!

One can imagine how much true qi is needed to fully unlock the Ren Meridian.

However, it only has the second-highest number of acupoints, which meridian has the most?

Correct, it is the Du Meridian.

As the last meridian to be unlocked, it has the highest number of acupoints, 28!

Although it only has four more acupoints than the Ren Meridian, the amount of true qi needed to fully unlock it is at least twice that of the Ren Meridian!

Many martial artists in the late stage of Meridian Refining are stuck on one of the acupoints of this final meridian.

Fortunately, everything has two sides.

The more acupoints that need to be unlocked, the more primordial true qi will be enhanced, and the true qi increased by the heart method will also be more.

"As long as there are enough potential points, whether it's the Chong, Dai meridians or the Ren, Du meridians, it won't be a problem."

Chen Fan thought to himself.

He even had a hypothesis in his mind.

With his high spiritual power, even without relying on potential points, just using his internal true qi to impact the acupoints, he could potentially unlock the eight extraordinary meridians.

Of course, this method is far too slow and unnecessary.

With a mere thought, a surge of immense true qi suddenly erupted from within him.

In almost an instant, the first acupoint was broken through.

[Expended 15 million potential points, unlocked the Youmen Acupoint in the Chong Meridian]

[True Qi +49]

[Constitution +15]

[Power +16]

[agility +14]

Several pieces of information immediately appeared in his mind.

"True Qi increased by 49 points." Chen Fan estimated, considering the Chong Meridian has 14 acupoints, fully unlocking it would provide a primordial true qi of seven to eight hundred points.

That's equivalent to the sum of the first three meridians.

He nodded, appreciating that the large expenditure of potential points indeed resulted in substantial improvements.

If he reaches the final Ren and Du Meridians, unlocking one meridian could potentially increase primordial true qi by over a thousand points.

In a flash, another substantial amount of potential points was invested.

[Expended 16 million potential points, unlocked the Tonggu Acupoint in the Chong Meridian]

[True Qi +50]

[Constitution +16]

[Power +14]

[agility +14]

...

Every time Chen Fan clicked, the number of potential points on the panel plummeted sharply.

[Expended 23 million potential points, unlocked the Si Man Acupoint]

[Constitution +13]

[Power +17]

[agility +16]

When he tried to unlock more meridians, there was no reaction within him.

Instead, a small line of text appeared in his mind,

[Insufficient Potential Points]

"So soon?"

Chen Fan's mouth opened slightly, showing a look of surprise on his face.

He remembered not clicking many times, yet 190 million potential points were already gone.

Indeed, that was the case.

Currently, there were less than 20 million potential points remaining.

And to unlock the next Chong Meridian acupoint, 24 million potential points were needed.

"Just a little short."

Chen Fan felt a bit regretful.

He still had two to three bottles of Top-Grade Qi Blood Pills, which, collectively, provided just over 200 thousand potential points.

Clearly, it wasn't enough.

"Forget it, I'll save it for next time."

He shook his head.

Even if he managed to gather enough for the next 24 million, it would only unlock one more acupoint, leaving four acupoints remaining.

His gaze fell on the panel,

Realm: Mid Stage of Meridian Refining (0/2400 million)

True Qi: 3210/2140 (+50%)

Level: 29 (0/100 million)

Constitution: 0.98 million

Power: 1.02 million

agility: 0.79 million

Spirit: 187 thousand

Potential Points: 20 million

Experience Points: 2000

Even though only nine acupoints were unlocked, his primordial true qi had increased from more than 1600 to 2140 points.

The total true qi also surpassed 3000 points.

Chen Fan's mouth curled into a slight smile, feeling that this was quite fortunate.

The Cloud-piercing Arrow Technique has two active skills.

One is the Wind-Chasing Arrow, which consumes 1000 points of true qi, doubling the arrow's flight speed.

One is the Cloud-piercing Stone-shattering, which consumes 3000 points of true qi, tripling the arrow's power.

Three times!

Now, he had an additional trump card.

Additionally, the higher the total true qi, the higher the activation level of the Burst martial art skill, considering the two limiting factors are internal true qi and spiritual power, and his spiritual power was more than sufficient.

"Not enough experience points, otherwise my internal true qi wouldn't be just this amount."

Chen Fan sighed lightly.

Whatever it takes, he had to go out and hunt fierce beasts tomorrow.

As for today...

He glanced at his phone, it was already past six in the afternoon.

At this moment, there was a new message on his phone.

Curiously, Chen Fan clicked to check; it was an email from the Awakened Association.

Turns out, the Cloud Jade Fruit he ordered from the association had arrived at the Anshan City Awakened Association.

"Looks like my true qi will increase quite a bit again." Chen Fan smiled after reading.

Just wondering how much primordial true qi will be increased?

thousand points, honestly, it was pretty expensive.

But he didn't immediately set off because there was still one matter to attend to first.

He took out another phone from the space items.

Clicked into the Martial Arts Association.

Immediately received numerous messages, emails from the headquarters, and private chat messages from individuals.

"Brother Chen, don't forget to send over the modified pill formula. By the way, I've sent you an email with the contract drafted based on your previous instructions. Check it thoroughly, and sign if it's correct."

It was a message from Chang Fei.

Then there were messages from Elder Tang, whose tone was much rougher and more frequent than Chang Fei!

"Boy, didn't you say you'd send the pill formula? It's almost an hour now."

"What's going on? Two hours have passed. Recording the entire process wouldn't take this long."

"Boy, what do you mean? It's already past five. You haven't finished it yet?"

Just as he finished reading, his phone vibrated again with new messages.

"Boy, it's past six now. If you don't send it over, I'll chase you every hour until you do."

Chen Fan was speechless.

He immediately blocked Elder Tang, then sent a message to Chang Fei, assuring him that he would send the email in the evening.

Then, he opened the new emails.

The first one congratulated him on becoming a Meridian Refining Martial Artist, and mentioned rights and duties similar to what Xia Tian had told him.

He scanned through it quickly and clicked close, opening the second one, the contract mentioned by Chang Fei.

This time, he diligently read through it, knowing it concerned his own interests, and he had to take it seriously.

Fortunately, there was nothing wrong, so he signed it.

Having done that, he accessed the marketplace.

Indeed, the purchase privileges for Meridian Refining Realm items had been unlocked.

The item categories were similar to before, but there were additional ones, such as Heavenly Materials and Earthly Treasures, and special items.

Curious, Chen Fan clicked on the special items, and was stunned to see the first line.

Small-Sized Spatial Ring: Price 5 million contribution points, contains 1 cubic meter of internal space.

million contribution points?

He rubbed his eyes.

It turned out he wasn't mistaken; the price was indeed 5 million contribution points.

"Is it much more expensive than the Awakened Association?"

Chen Fan mused.

Five million contribution points, equivalent to five hundred points, could buy five of such items at the Awakened Association.

However, upon reflection, it was understandable.

After all, these are two different organizations, and special items, only awakeners can create. Hence, rarity dictates the price, and price differences are expected.

Moreover, Martial Arts Association contribution points are indeed less valuable than Awakened Association points.

He scanned further; similar special items in the Martial Arts Association were generally priced at five times that of the Awakened Association.

In the Heavenly Materials and Earthly Treasures section, items that enhance basic attributes were priced similarly to those in the Awakened Association but were scarce, with the highest price being 10 million contribution points, equivalent to items below a thousand points in the Awakened Association.

Chen Fan squinted his eyes.

He thought that once his contribution points increased, he could buy more.

Even if it only increases by a couple of hundred points, accumulated over time, it would still be significant.

The most important thing is that once the headquarters learns his pill formula, he can earn contribution points even without going out to hunt.

"Right, I need to check the price of the True Qi Pill formula and the herbs." Chen Fan quickly clicked on the elixir section.