

Medical 1041

Chapter 1041 Wondrous Artifact (2)

When the Wooden Sword and the small shield collided, a loud bang echoed through the air. However, the clasp did nothing to even slow the Wooden Sword. It exploded, and the Wooden Sword continued its advance towards the burly man.

The man's face was filled with shock; even if he could dodge faster, it wouldn't do any good. In the blink of an eye, the flying sword was upon him, the cold wind brushing his face.

"I yield!" he shouted without hesitation as he fell to the ground, his voice rising several octaves.

As the Wooden Sword hovered before the man's forehead, a buzzing sound could be heard, then it turned and flew back into Yan Xiaobao's hand.

Yan Xiaobao blinked, startled by the Wooden Sword himself. Before, he had merely practiced with it, unaware of its true power. That was before he began using weightlessness.

After a moment's contemplation, he lifted his chin, clasped his hands behind his back, and looked coldly at the burly man.

The man, pale-faced, seemed unwilling to concede. He curled up but stood, glaring at Yan Xiaobao as he said, "Using the power of a magical item doesn't count as winning! I don't accept this defeat!"

Following that, the man turned and left the arena.

Granny Sunx watched Yan Xiaobao, also startled by the power of the Wooden Sword. Yet, he announced Yan Xiaobao as the victor without any further remarks.

"Hahaha," Yan Xiaobao laughed. "In the next battle, I will admit defeat immediately. I've become an immortal cultivator, haven't I? All this killing and fighting is too barbaric. It's not the way Yan Xiaobao does things." Yan Xiaobao left the arena, feeling great about meeting Li Qinghou's requirement to enter the top five.

Li Qinghou's gaze lingered on Yan Xiaobao. Though others focused on the incredibility of the flying sword, Li Qinghou paid no attention to that. He had been observing Yan Xiaobao's skill and ease in controlling the Flying Sword.

Seeing Yan Xiaobao win another match, the crowd began to sigh emotionally.

"Ah, this guy must be wealthy, that's why he has such an incredible Wooden Sword. Hmph. If he had any other weapon, he definitely wouldn't win!"

"Magical devices have nothing to do with your cultivation. First, he used those amulets, then the sword. What a waste! He'll certainly end up bankrupt."

The complaints did not last long. The next battle was about to start. Du Lingfei was competing against an extraordinary cultivation base. It was an intense fight, but Du Lingfei didn't use her banner. Instead, she used Flying Swords. They fought repeatedly in a dazzling manner until suddenly, Du Lingfei's Flying Sword shot forward at astonishing speed, appearing directly in front of her opponent.

Such speed far exceeded what ordinary disciples could control, making the audience gasp when they realized what they were seeing.

"I can't believe her weightlessness!"

"Du Lingfei has truly reached enlightenment at that stage..."

"This is crucial!" In Granny Sunx's eyes, watching Du Lingfei, a flash of approval could be seen.

Li Qinghou also nodded.

Chen Ziang was shocked, and most of those who entered the top 10 had similar reactions. As for her opponent, he smiled wryly, surrendering with clenched fists.

Du Lingfei stood on stage, proudly surveying her surroundings. She tightly greeted Li Qinghou and Granny Sunx before leaving the arena.

The crowd still buzzed.

However, Yan Xiaobao stood there, blinking his eyes.

"Does such a degree of speed count as weightlessness?" he wondered, surprised.

As Du Lingfei proudly left the arena, she could be seen with a trickle of sweat on her face. Despite being in the large circle of fifth-level Qi Condensation Dao, the consecutive battles were a drain on her spiritual energy. Especially for the last fight, her opponent possessed extraordinary combat strength. Ultimately, she was forced to unleash her weightless magic power, which was a greater drain on her spiritual energy. This was how she won.

Her goal was first place, and she knew her subsequent opponents would only be stronger. Because this particular sect competition wasn't very stringent, she didn't have much time to rest before the next match. Thus, she immediately took out a pill she had consumed, then closed her eyes and began using the time to recover.

Currently ranking in the top five are Yan Xiaobao and Du Lingfei, along with Chen Ziang. Lastly, there are two other young men, who have profound cultivation foundations in the fifth level of Qi Condensation.

At the moment, everyone is rotating their cultivation base, taking every opportunity to replenish some spiritual energy.

Only Yan Xiaobao seemed not to spend any spiritual energy at all. In fact, he even stood to the side yawning. When everyone eliminated saw this, it sparked a desire in them to defeat him.

Since he had already fulfilled Li Qinghou's requirement of entering the top five, he didn't care about the rest of the competition at all.

To suppress his boredom, he glanced at the other four competitors in the top five, especially Du Lingfei, thinking that if the speed she just unleashed counted as weightless, then he was certainly well beyond that.

"Too bad, she has such an extreme killing aura. Why would a good girl like her engage in such fighting and killing? Don't tell me all girls practicing immortal cultivation are such freaks? Zhou Xinqi is very proud, Hou Xiaomei is so irritable." Yan Xiaobao shook his head. As he was about to look away from Du Lingfei, she suddenly opened her eyes and stared coldly at him.

As for Du Lingfei, Yan Xiaobao was not even worth considering. After watching his previous two fights, she believed he had achieved lucky victories, which only strengthened her internal mockery.

"Well, dare to stare at me, do you?!" Yan Xiaobao immediately halted any movement to look elsewhere. Instead, as he glared at Du Lingfei, his eyes widened. Staring didn't have anything to do with fighting and bleeding, so since childhood, he had encountered few who could beat him at this.

Du Lingfei frowned. As for those gathered behind her worshipping, they were very annoyed, casting fierce glares in his direction.

However, seeing so many eyes on him and considering many of them were quite formidable, Yan Xiaobao cleared his throat. He had only two eyes, so how could he compete? "Hmm, they have numbers, and, real men don't fight girls."

He turned his head with a lizard-like twist.

About then, Elder Sunx's voice echoed throughout the arena.

"Very well, all of you. So far, this competition has gone smoothly. And now, we will continue narrowing down the competitors. Please forward, you five, and choose a marble. One of the marbles is a free pass into the Top 3." Smiling, Elder Sunx prepared the pouch again.

This time, Chen Ziang was the first. After drawing a marble, he frowned; his marble indicated number four.

Next was Du Lingfei, who obtained marble number two. The other two Outer Sect disciple disciples received first and third respectively.

Yan Xiaobao didn't even need to draw a marble; the remaining marble was the free pass.

Yan Xiaobao's eyes lit up, and he smiled. He replaced his position outside the battlefield, arms crossed, feeling completely relaxed as he prepared to watch Du Lingfei and the others. He hadn't even planned to continue competing, but now, doing nothing, he had entered the top three.

"Luck is a crucial component of strength!" he thought, feeling very pleased with himself.

Very fortunate indeed, many viewers fixed their gazes on him, their faces bearing even stranger expressions. Most of them really couldn't bear to accept this situation, especially the other eliminated disciples, their hearts filled with envy and jealousy.

"This guy is utterly shameless. Well, good for him, he used a magical item to enter the Top 5, but then actually got a free pass into the Top 3!"

"How despicable. Frankly, there's never been anyone as despicable in this competition." It wasn't just the spectators. Even Du Lingfei felt a bit jealous of Yan Xiaobao's luck. The same went for Chen Ziang. The other four entering the Top 5 had already spent a lot of energy.

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Chapter 1042 Advantage

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If they managed to get the blank marble, it would give them some much-needed breathing room, which would be a huge advantage in the rest of the battles.

Granny Sunx looked at Yan Xiaobao and smiled, while Li Qinghou's expression remained unchanged.

When the next round of combat began, Yan Xiaobao watched excitedly. Du Lingfei's opponent was a fierce disciple, often leaving the sect to hunt beasts, and accustomed to witnessing a lot of blood. On the other hand, Du Lingfei's light yet heavy techniques were frighteningly impressive. It not only provided her with strong defensive capabilities but also allowed her to advance with remarkable speed.

The audience was completely focused on the match, and occasionally you could hear 'oohs' and 'ahs.' Both warriors were evidently in danger of being injured, yet... there happened to be certain calls to cheer them on.

"Wow! Great sword move!

"Look at the reverse tail attack! Watch out! Look behind you! Quick, look behind you!

Rah rah rah!" Yan Xiaobao really wanted to see this fight, even starting to clap at critical points. This wasn't just behavior; Du Lingfei's performance left him deeply impressed, to the extent that he had forgotten he was actually one of the competitors.

When Granny Sunx saw what was happening, she coughed lightly. Li Qinghou's face remained expressionless, but inside, all he could do was shrug. After all, Yan Xiaobao had already completed the assigned task.

Against such a strong opponent, Du Lingfei had no time to get distracted. She was completely focused on the time needed for the incense to burn, and after using her light techniques three times, she finally achieved victory.

However, she ultimately exhausted more than half of her spiritual energy. Sweating, she was about to step out of the arena to rest when she heard Yan Xiaobao cheering her on. Then she thought about how incredible it was for her to reach the top three, yet Yan Xiaobao did it effortlessly. Her heart surged with emotion, hoping she could unleash a powerful attack on him right then and there.

When Yan Xiaobao noticed Du Lingfei glaring at him furiously, he blinked a few times, feeling somewhat offended. Then he glared back at her, which seemed to push Du Lingfei to the brink of unleashing an attack.

Chen Ziang's next match flowed more smoothly. However, he was still fighting for the time it took for half an incense stick to burn, wasting quite a bit of spiritual energy.

He was also very envious of Yan Xiaobao.

"We now have a top three. You are all Outer Sect... celebrities." Elder Sun cleared his throat. "Come forward to determine the order of battle. This time, the number three marble counts as a blank marble. Whoever draws it will directly enter the final match." Elder Sun waved his hand, and the bag of marbles appeared again.

This time, Chen Ziang was first, and when he pulled out a marble that said "number two," he sighed and stepped aside.

As she stepped forward, Du Lingfei took a deep breath. But then she stopped mid-step and turned icily to Yan Xiaobao.

"You go first!" she said coldly.

Yan Xiaobao, who had been watching the exciting battle, didn't refuse. As Du Lingfei looked at him with an icily detached expression, he reached into the bag. Not only was she waiting to see what would happen, but all the audience's eyes were fixed on Yan Xiaobao.

Even Granny Sunx and Li Qinghou craned their necks.

Being the center of attention in this way made Yan Xiaobao feel a bit embarrassed. In fact, he didn't even care what marble he pulled out, but when he finally withdrew his hand, his eyes widened in shock.

Third.

Yan Xiaobao glanced back at Du Lingfei, coughed lightly, and said, "Uh, hey, you let me go first."

Her eyes sparkling, Du Lingfei clenched her fists and glared hard at Yan Xiaobao. She took a deep breath, her chest rising; she seemed to be on the verge of exploding.

Chen Ziang's eyes widened, his jaw dropping. The thought of someone being so lucky was beyond his imagination. Once again... Yan Xiaobao would skip an entire match.

The surrounding disciples, seeing the marble in Yan Xiaobao's hand, could not contain themselves. The place burst into a huge commotion.

"He advances automatically again! His name is Yan Xiaobao, right? How... how is he so lucky!? He drew the blank marble twice in a row!"

"How shameless is this guy! He did nothing, yet he's in the final match..."

"How can such a person enter the finals? Damn it, if I were lucky, I could do the same thing!" Everyone was in an uproar, and those who were eliminated earlier seemed especially envious.

Elder Sun hesitated, then looked at Li Qinghou. Li Qinghou sighed deeply; he had to admit Yan Xiaobao was indeed very lucky.

To Yan Xiaobao, the crowd had no reason to react this way. Smiling awkwardly, he quickly walked out of the arena, standing outside with an embarrassed expression.

"Ai. Anyway, I was planning to concede..." he thought, looking dubiously at the marble in his hand.

Du Lingfei took a deep breath, suppressing her extreme irritation. Clenching her teeth, she looked at Chen Ziang, settling her Qi and clearing her thoughts. She had done her homework on Chen Ziang, knowing he was a very strong opponent.

As he stared at Du Lingfei, Chen Ziang forced a pained smile and took a deep breath.

Chapter 1043 Chapter

After taking a few breaths, they started moving. Almost instantly, explosions and Liu Hai began to sound. This was actually the most exciting match of the entire competition so far. Chen Ziang unleashed his full power, throwing out some seeds and then catalyzing them into mature plants with offensive capabilities. When Yan Xiaobao saw him using techniques of plants and vegetation in this way, his eyes glittered.

As for Du Lingfei, she used light gravity to blow her flying sword into the air. After a brief argument, she created a wooden sword to spin together with her ordinary flying sword, turning the battlefield into a more spectacular scene than before.

The two of them couldn't use their trump cards for long and were quickly depleting their spiritual energy. The battle only grew more painful.

Yan Xiaobao was watching excitedly, shouting continuously.

The battle lasted around an hour until Du Lingfei pushed the wooden sword too hard and it exploded, resulting in a massive roar. Then, a massive attack that Chen Guangang couldn't evade was driven by light gravity against the resulting debris. He was forced to retreat and ultimately exhausted all his spiritual energy. Finally, he sighed and admitted defeat.

The surrounding disciples of the Outer Sect were deeply impressed by the fierce battle and looked at Du Lingfei with admiration. They were now fully convinced of how incredible she was. As for Chen Ziang, his reputation had also grown due to the battle.

Even though he lost, he was sure to become more famous in the days to come.

Mr. Sunx seemed delighted and even considered taking Du Lingfei as a personal disciple.

Meanwhile, no matter how the competition ended, Yan Xiaobao's name was bound to spread...

Chen Zinan called to inform him of his admission, and Du Lingfei collapsed in the middle of the arena, her face pale. She swayed back and forth in exhaustion, her spiritual energy nearly completely drained. Taking a deep breath, she made some medicine pills that she immediately consumed. However, she

knew those pills could only replenish so much, and she could only fully recover by sitting in meditation for hours. After all, she had just fought four matches in a row.

But according to the competition rules, the disciples didn't have much time to rest. After all, it was just a small-scale competition.

"Yan Xiaobao, get out!" Du Lingfei gritted her teeth and said. As she looked at Yan Xiaobao standing outside the arena, her eyes glittered fiercely. She wanted to use the little spiritual energy she had to defeat the damn Yan Xiaobao, who had just entered the final match by sheer luck.

Du Lingfei's mouth was silent, and everyone in the audience turned to look at Yan Xiaobao, eager for schadenfreude. In their eyes, even if Du Lingfei was exhausted, Yan Xiaobao could only win by chance, no matter the situation she could easily defeat him.

Yan Xiaobao blinked a few times, then looked at the somewhat unstable Du Lingfei standing there, suddenly realizing he... could actually take first place.

"This is Yan Xiaobao's time to finally become famous. Once I step out and use my lightness weight, everyone will be thoroughly shocked." He proudly panted, strode into the arena, imagining everyone astonished by his victory.

However, at the instant his foot landed, Du Lingfei's eyes glittered coldly, and she suddenly performed a spell gesture and pointed. Her flying sword shot toward Yan Xiaobao instantly.

Ruthless air emitted from the flying sword, sending a strong chill in all directions. It was clear this attack was supported by all the spiritual energy Du Lingfei could summon, causing the sword to exert incredible pressure.

Even more shocking, Du Lingfei flew into the air behind the sword, almost as if she was going to merge with it.

As the sword accelerated toward Yan Xiaobao's direction at a staggering speed, a thunderous roar sounded, the speed far beyond what she used in her battle with Chen Ziang. A piercing whistle echoed, transforming into Bai Xuechun's prismatic beam.

Everyone watching was completely shocked by the sword's movement and began to cry out in disbelief.

"Lonely sword, flying immortal!"

"I can't believe Sister Du is actually using that sword spell!"

Granny Sunx's eyes glittered, and Li Qinghou nodded. Both could say that Du Lingfei had never successfully unleashed this sword spell. However, at this point in the battle, when her spiritual energy was nearly depleted, she succeeded. Using her last bit of energy, she barely managed to unleash the sword spell.

"By putting everything on the line, she gained the revelation of the sword spell," Li Qinghou said, eyes glittering in admiration. "This Du Lingfei is quite good. She actually seems more suited for cultivating on Green Crest Peak."

All the Outer Sect disciples were completely shaken. Besides Du Lingfei and her flying sword, everything seemed to blur, merging into a perfect clear picture.

The sword whistled in the air, followed by the sword holding the sword, becoming a powerful attack. Du Lingfei looked exhausted, but her eyes flashed with dazzling light. She was very confident this sword move would ensure her victory.

At the same instant the flying sword and Du Lingfei closed in on Yan Xiaobao, Yan Xiaobao's eyes narrowed. As his many defense assets exploded layer by layer, including the jade pendant and all amulets, rumbling sounds echoed. Meanwhile, he flew backward at the fastest speed.

The flying sword was clearly not an ordinary object, as it quickly began piercing through the shields. It stabbed layer by layer, destroying all defense shields, until it actually reached Yan Xiaobao himself.

However, by then, it seemed to lack much energy. Before it could actually pierce into him, it got stuck. Even when he flew backward, the sword kept pace, also visible with the layers of leather armor he wore.

When the audience realized this, their jaws dropped, gasping.

"B-Bai Xiaochun... has so much defense!!"

"How afraid of death is this guy? Is it really worth it? He actually used magical items and amulets for such a small competition? Most importantly, he's wearing leather armor!?!?"

Du Lingfei's face turned pale, looking like a rabbit whose tail had just been stepped on, fleeing. Not only was he moving at incredible speed, her sword was still stuck in his clothes. Clenching her teeth, she performed a spell gesture and pointed, trying to drag the flying sword back to her side. However, her spiritual energy was so little that all she could manage was a bit of trembling.

She tried one last time, but even as she tried to spread her spiritual energy, blood began to seep from the corner of her mouth. She stepped back a few steps, stood unsteadily for a moment, and then sat down on the ground. Her face was pale, her spiritual energy completely drained.

In her heart, she felt it was a great injustice. She struggled to enter the top 2, and Yan Xiaobao had done almost nothing. In fact, he hadn't even used any spiritual energy. Her annoyance quickly turned to anger; clenching her teeth, she glared fiercely at Yan Xiaobao, wishing she could kill him multiple times. In fact, if she had the energy, she would go over to bite him.

Yan Xiaobao took a deep breath, stepped back; he never expected Du Lingfei to act as she did.

Unexpectedly, all his defenses were pierced through.

"Fuji, it's a good thing I was mindful and put on eight layers of leather jackets." He looked down at the flying sword stuck in his shoulder. It now lacked any energy completely, getting quickly lodged in the layers of leather. When it actually reached his skin, there was nothing left to push it.

Additionally, due to his immortal skin, when it actually touched him, it didn't even match a mosquito bite.

Fear lingered in Yan Xiaobao's heart, eyes fixed on the sword, then carefully pulling it out. Then he glanced at the panting, sitting Du Lingfei.

"Sister, you really shouldn't throw away your treasures like this. Do you want this sword? If you don't want it, then I'll take it." Looking very pleased, he put the flying sword into his bag, then took his own little wooden sword. Just as he was about to launch an attack, people in the crowd began panicking.

Seeing Yan Xiaobao holding her flying sword, Du Lingfei's eyes shot with blood.

"You..." she said. Just as she was about to turn over fully, she fainted.

Because of Yan Xiaobao, she was the second person to faint in the competition.

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Chapter 1044 First Place

Sure, here's the translation:

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"Huh? You went somewhere and fainted?" Yan Xiaobao looked at the unconscious Du Lingfei, then returned to his small wooden sword. Finally, he shrugged. The surrounding outer sect disciples, especially those who had been eliminated early, glared at Yan Xiaobao angrily. Many even began to shout.

"Shameless! You're completely disgraceful, Yan Xiaobao!"

"Winning like this is unimportant, we all know!"

"Disqualify him!"

Everyone united in anger, causing Yan Xiaobao to become scared immediately. He also realized that flaunting his light gravity ability would not ease the crowd's anger; in fact, it would likely lead to worse consequences and make them more shamelessly call him... Instead, he turned to look at Granny Sunx.

"Granny Sunx, I came in first place, right? Can you announce it?"

Elder Sunx slyly smiled. As for Li Qinghou, he sighed; how could he have imagined that asking Yan Xiaobao to participate in the competition would lead him to first place?

Elder Sunx shook his head and smiled. "Uh... well, I think I can. Yan Xiaobao ranked first in the competition!"

In response, everyone glared at Yan Xiaobao angrily.

Yan Xiaobao thought he was very strong, but given how many people there were... His heart started to ache with fear. Just as he was about to leave the arena and this dangerous place, Du Lingfei regained consciousness with the help of some spectators and sat up again. Gasping for breath, she glared angrily at Yan Xiaobao, gritted her teeth, and shouted, "Yan Xiaobao, I refuse to admit defeat!

"You may have taken first place, but only because I let you have it. That doesn't change how much I hate you. Do you dare to fight again!?"

Yan Xiaobao let out a sarcastic laugh, continuously walking away. In his mind, he would fight this crazy woman again. Besides, what if she fainted again?

"I won't use magic against you," she continued. "Moreover, as disciples of the outer sect, we are all apprentice alchemists at Xiangyun Peak. Why don't we compete with plants and vegetation?!" Du Lingfei stared at Yan Xiaobao, and when she spoke, her words were slow and deliberate.

"If you win, you can keep my Pine Sword. But if you disagree, then you'll regret it!"

Yan Xiaobao stopped walking. Upon hearing the mention of plants and vegetation skills, he couldn't help but turn to look at Du Lingfei.

Seeing Yan Xiaobao stop and apparently hesitate, she resisted the impulse to launch a savage attack and quickly continued, "Yan Xiaobao, if you can defeat me with plant and vegetation skills, then you can even have this Cloudsoaring Incense!" With that, she made a string of blue-purple incense.

As soon as the incense appeared, it started to fill with spiritual energy, and the eyes of the surrounding outer sect disciples immediately filled with envy.

"Level-1 spiritual medicine! Cloudsoaring Incense... It's a very amazing level-1 spiritual medicine. Absolutely very expensive, useful for anyone at the seventh level of Qi Condensation!"

"Du Lingfei must have spent a lot of merit on this, preparing to break through the fifth level of Qi Condensation..."

"Sister Du's plant and vegetation skills have placed her in the top 20 of the top three stones outside the 10,000 Alchemist Hall. Yan Xiaobao will definitely fail!"

Yan Xiaobao immediately recognized the Cloudsoaring Incense, having read about it while researching the third volume of plants and vegetation introduction to Cloud Mist Grass. He was immediately moved, even before he heard everyone mention Du Lingfei ranked top 20 on the stele, his eyes shone brightly.

Taking a few steps, he stammered, "You- you... you really rank top 20 on the plant and vegetation stele?"

He actually just wanted to confirm whether what he heard was true.

"Are you going to compete or not!?" Du Lingfei gritted her teeth and said.

"But I've only studied the first three volumes..." he said hesitantly.

"That's exactly what I meant! Compete with me in the first three volumes! Come on, I dare you!" Du Lingfei was very angry, feeling like she was going to explode.

"Alright... I'll compete!" he said. "Happy now?" Although he seemed like he wanted to cry inside, his heart was bursting with joy. He couldn't help but think that this girl was a bit silly.

Once the crowd heard Yan Xiaobao's words, they started booing and assaulting him fiercely. Du Lingfei took a deep breath, inhaling a lot of spiritual energy, which made her a bit stable. She glared angrily at Yan Xiaobao, walked over to Elder Sunx, and bowed deeply.

"Elder, disciple Du Lingfei asks you to bear witness to the plant and vegetation battle between me and Yan Xiaobao."

Granny Sunx's view of Du Lingfei was increasing. She smiled a bit, and then smiled broadly: "Very well. I will bear witness. However, since we are talking about plant and vegetation skills, perhaps the Peak Lord will decide the nature of the challenge better."

She looked at Li Qinghou. Li Qinghou looked deeply at Yan Xiaobao for a moment, then nodded.

The surrounding disciples were now very excited, and Du Lingfei was the same, she turned to Li Qinghou, bowed deeply.

Yan Xiaobao was also very happy that he wouldn't have to perform any dangerous battles for his name. He stood there, no longer looking like he was about to cry, but instead arrogantly glanced at the crowd with his chin stuck out in a chosen fashion. Du Lingfei coldly snorted.

At this point, Li Qinghou glanced at Yan Xiaobao and Du Lingfei, then began speaking, his voice cool, "The path of plant and vegetation is unpredictable. Although we limit things to the first three volumes, these volumes contain many variables. Today I will show you two challenges. We will see which one of you can achieve victory." With this, he reached into his satchel and produced two seeds.

Chapter 1045 First Place_2

"The seeds of these two flowers can be catalyzed with spiritual energy. The level of your plant and vegetation skills will determine how many spiritual flowers bloom. This is how we decide the winner of the first round." Li Qinghou waved his hand, sending two seeds to Yan Xiaobao and Du Lingfei.

Du Lingfei unhesitatingly grabbed the seeds. At the same time, Li Qinghou sent a pill flying her way, which she also caught, a hint of shock on her face.

"Take this pill to restore your cultivation base," Li Qinghou said calmly. Du Lingfei's face lit up. After expressing her gratitude, she consumed the pill. After a few breaths, she shuddered, and her eyes began to shine bright; her cultivation base was fully restored.

Yan Xiaobao was not too pleased about this but did not dare to say anything. Instead, he lowered his head to look at the elf seed lying in his palm, beginning to study it closely.

"Can't admit it?" Du Lingfei mocked. "Well, I can tell you, this is a Blue Elf Thistle Seed." With that, she completely ignored Yan Xiaobao, closed her eyes, and channeled her spiritual energy, then poured it into the seed in her hand.

Almost immediately, an emerald green sprout emerged from the seed. It quickly grew until it was about a third of a meter tall. Then, with a blue bloom, it began to grow taller.

Yan Xiaobao watched what happened, then turned his attention back to his seed, continuing to study it intently.

Li Qinghou had been watching Yan Xiaobao, and soon, a barely perceptible surprise could be seen in his eyes.

While Yan Xiaobao stood there thinking, all the surrounding Outer Sect disciples were watching Du Lingfei. The plant in her hand was now two-thirds of a meter high and had produced a second flower.

When Yan Xiaobao transmitted some spiritual energy into his seed, Du Lingfei's spiritual plant had already sprouted three flowers. Yan Xiaobao didn't maintain a steady flow of spiritual energy but instead sent it into the seed. In fact, when the seed sprouted, he even blew away the first few sprouts with a breath.

After enough time to burn an incense stick, Du Lingfei's face turned pale, her teeth gritted. With her last bit of energy, she coaxed the sixth blue flower to bloom, after which she took a breath. Setting the plant by her side, she tightly clasped her hands and bowed to Li Qinghou in salute.

Li Qinghou nodded. "Six flowers, all of excellent quality. Nice work."

Du Lingfei was quite satisfied with herself, glancing at Yan Xiaobao. When she saw his spiritual plant was less than a third of a meter tall, her sneer deepened.

The surrounding Outer Sect disciples were very excited.

"Sister Du absolutely deserves her reputation. The Blue Elf Thistle bloomed six flowers. It's unbelievable! Yan Xiaobao didn't even produce one flower. He's completely at a disadvantage."

"The plant catalysis competition first involves studying the seed, then using unique catalytic methods to make it grow. In this regard, Sister Du is really ahead."

In the midst of all the chatter, Yan Xiaobao's spiritual plant gradually reached a third of a meter in height. Next, a slightly wilted blue flower appeared. Compared to Du Lingfei's flowers, it looked malnourished, even eliciting some laughter from the crowd. But suddenly, a second blue flower appeared on the short stalk. Then came the third, fourth, fifth, sixth, and seventh...

In the span of just a few breaths, Yan Xiaobao's spiritual plant bloomed with nine flowers!

This instantly sparked widespread shock and disbelief.

Du Lingfei stared in utter disbelief. "Bluespirit Thistle blooms one flower every three minutes. How can this short plant have nine flowers!"

However, the matter wasn't over. Even with nine small blue flowers appearing, Yan Xiaobao shut his eyes, took a deep breath, then suddenly exhaled loudly. That breath contained spiritual energy, landing on the nine flowers, which instantly began to tremble and change color. They were no longer blue but indigo!

Indigo starts as blue, but its hue is deeper![1]

Once people realized what had happened, their eyes widened in astonishment.

"That's... That's not Blue Elf Thistle!!"

"Indigospirit Thistle! It's Indigospirit Thistle, whose seeds are hard to distinguish from Blue Elf Thistle seeds! In fact, if you use catalytic methods on Indigospirit Thistle with Blue Elf Thistle methods, you'll actually produce an indistinguishable Blue Elf Thistle, unless you waste the seed!"

Everyone was stunned, incredulous as they stared at Yan Xiaobao.

Yan Xiaobao opened his eyes, then set the Thistle aside. Smirking, he clasped his hands behind his back, looking at Du Lingfei.

His plant and vegetation skills had reached an indescribable level. After studying the seed for a while, he noticed the differences, easily identifying what type of seed it was.

Du Lingfei's face flushed; it felt to her as if someone had just slapped her. She stepped back several paces, first looking at her despondent Bluespirit Thistle and then at Yan Xiaobao's Indigospirit Thistle. Suddenly, her face reddened with heat. Earlier, due to lack of understanding, she had accused Yan Xiaobao, but shortly after, he clearly proved she wasted the seed.

"That Yan Xiaobao certainly was very lucky," she thought, grinding her teeth. "I thought it was a Blue Elf Thistle, and he guessed it was an Indigospirit Thistle. Well, it's just a stroke of luck for him, not that he truly identified the seed!"

"Yan Xiaobao wins the first round," Li Qinghou calmly said. "This was indeed an Indigospirit seed, not a Blue Elf Thistle. They look alike, but some of the veins grow differently. If you don't research deeply into the nuances, it's easy to be confused by them." Looking at Yan Xiaobao, he waved his hand again, causing a spiritual plant to appear.

It was very unique, with four colors and nine differently shaped leaves. It also had two flowers, one black, one white. The flowers seemed almost to have feelings as they frequently struggled against each

other, as if trying to overpower one another. Though this plant resembled a single one, if you observed carefully, you'd see signs of grafting into it.

"The first round focused on catalysis. As for the second round, it will focus on identification. This special spiritual plant has been grafted from numerous other plants. Whichever person can correctly discern the most grafted materials... will be the winner."

Li Qinghou sent the grafted plant floating in front of him, then looked at Yan Xiaobao. Considering he brought Yan Xiaobao into the sect, he was quite curious to see what surprising things he could accomplish.

Du Lingfei clenched her teeth. In her view, she had been careless just now. Now, she was more focused than ever before. Taking out a jade, she approached the spiritual plant.

Yan Xiaobao's eyes shimmered as he also stood up, starting to examine the plant, occasionally using the jade method. After a while, Du Lingfei stepped back, rubbing her bridge of the nose. Then she looked at Yan Xiaobao with a serious expression on her face. She had identified eight plants. The others were unfamiliar types to her.

However, Yan Xiaobao was not yet finished. As he buzzed around the plant in circles, the light from his eyes grew brighter. Occasionally, he even shouted in surprise as if he'd just noticed something very interesting.

"Wow, can you pull this off!?"

"Well... this is intriguing!"

The crowd watched silently. None believed Yan Xiaobao could identify any of the plants; indeed, most believed his catalysis of the Indigospirit Thistle was just luck.

"Faker!" Du Lingfei thought. "Yes, just keep pretending!" Deep down, she started feeling uneasy, her hatred for Yan Xiaobao only continuing to grow.

Incense had burned for a sufficient amount of time, yet Yan Xiaobao continued. He was truly immersed in what he was doing, even forgetting he was in a contest. Seeing such a grafted plant seemed to open a doorway in his mind about plant and vegetation skills. All of a sudden, he realized the thousands of medicinal plants he was familiar with not only served their own purposes but could actually be mixed together.

Ultimately, he reluctantly stepped back, eyes glowing with fascination and admiration.

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Chapter 1046 Grafting

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Li Qinghou and Elder Sun exchanged a glance, then Li Qinghou said, "Very well. It's time to reveal which spiritual plants you've identified. Du Lingfei, you go first."

Du Lingfei clenched her teeth, then pulled out her jade slip and began to speak.

"I saw eight plants, including waterheaven rhubarb, coldsole root, earthdragon fruit, dawnfog lichen..." She continued until she reached the final medicinal plant. "Sealwort flower!" Afterward, Du Lingfei looked at Yan Xiaobao, confident he could never surpass her. Of course, although eight may not seem like a lot, identifying various elements of a fully grafted medicinal plant is an extremely difficult task. Eight is actually quite a lot.

"Hmph. If Yan Xiaobao shamelessly says the same eight plants," she said coldly, "then we can check the jade slip as proof!"

Yan Xiaobao cleared his throat, looked around, then flicked his sleeve and took out the jade slip with his notes attached.

"Let's forget the eight plants Sister Du mentioned. In addition, I saw 67 medicinal plants. Unfortunately, there are 31 I couldn't identify. That means, in the end, I identified 36." His words immediately caused an uproar among the surrounding disciples.

"36? How is that possible!"

"7 or 8 should be the limit. How could he find dozens?!"

Du Lingfei glared coldly at Yan Xiaobao. She did not believe his words at all and assumed he was merely guessing the types of plants.

"Little Brother Bai," she said sarcastically, "why don't you say there are only 30,000 plants? That would cover everything in the third volume of plants and vegetation, so at least you'd certainly guess some right."

In response to what Du Lingfei had just said, all the outer sect disciples in the audience snickered. None of them believed Yan Xiaobao's skills in plants and vegetation could match hers.

Especially after hearing the last thing he said, which seemed utterly unbelievable. Clearly, Yan Xiaobao was just blindly guessing at grafted plants.

"If Yan Xiaobao really could identify all those types of plants, his skills in the first three volumes of plants and vegetation would place him on the same level as Sister Zhou Xinqi! How is that possible!?"

"Ah, he's just mysterious and confuses everyone. This guy is so annoying! At least he'll be exposed as a fraud sooner or later!"

Everyone laughed and mocked Yan Xiaobao, who stood there with a slight frown on his face.

"Are you all finished?" he said, his expression cold, genuine anger finally burning in his heart. If this were a battle situation, he wouldn't act this way. But considering his grand ambition to become a primary Pharmacist, doubting his ability with plants and vegetation was a great insult.

"You can say I'm lucky, you can say I won because of my magical items. But when it comes to the Dao of plants and vegetation, don't think your superficial knowledge can see the heavens and the earth's breadth and width!"

As his voice echoed, solemn and grave, his slight frame suddenly seemed more like a towering peak. He coldly looked at the outer sect disciples, their laughter turning into shocked expressions.

Even Du Lingfei was taken aback. Yan Xiaobao before her now looked completely different from before.

Yan Xiaobao coldly snorted, then flicked his sleeve. Abandoning his usual charming yet burdensome demeanor, he stood with his hands clasped behind his back, coldly surveying the surroundings, then began to speak, exuding an odd, indescribable energy. "This spiritual plant, I temporarily call it the black-and-white Orchid, contains gold and silver root, heavenly leaves, water grass, Nine Immortal Fruit, Spiral Blade, edge flowers, wind-exploring stems, Yang Fruit..."

As he continued speaking, the energy grew stronger, causing strange expressions to appear on the audience's faces.

Especially for Du Lingfei, as she looked at the spiritual plant, her frown deepened. She was familiar with all the medicinal plants Yan Xiaobao mentioned, which indeed came from the first three volumes of plants and vegetation, but she saw no evidence they existed within the grafted plant.

Du Lingfei snorted, still not believing that Yan Xiaobao was actually identifying the grafted plant. "It's like you're really reciting a bunch of random plants from the first three volumes of plants and vegetation. If you really can recite all these plants from memory, then I suppose I'd lose, or rather, I'd admit defeat."

Everyone started laughing and mocking Yan Xiaobao again.

"Yeah, right. If you're that good, then why don't you recite the first three volumes of plants and vegetation!? Then you'd definitely win!"

"Trying to look mysterious, right? Superficial knowledge? Breadth and width of the heavens and the earth? You're the one with superficial knowledge. If you don't know the plants, just say so. No need to try and pull a fast one. How despicable!"

Yan Xiaobao looked coldly at Du Lingfei, then returned to the crowd. Then he laughed, glanced back at the plants, and continued, "Grow Hundred Herbs Root for thirty years until it becomes a full Hundred Herbs. Remove the stems and veins, roast, then soak in spirited water. After that, transplant them onto

skybleak leaves, and you eventually get this unique mottled pattern." Yan Xiaobao waved his hand, causing a breeze that lifted a leaf on the plant, revealing a distinctive mottled pattern.

"Nine heavenly grass leaves have merged into one leaf, then fed with white thorn flowers as they grow. You can see it here!

Chapter 1047 Grafting (Part 2)

"The flowers of the Whiteburn bloom once they reach a hundred years. When they do, you have only a hundred chances to transplant them onto the Clover, which you can then use to nourish the Sky's Leaf. This white flower is clearly a White Burned Flower!

"Clover Ginseng, when roasted over intense flames, will eventually wither, but when artificial essence is injected into the ginseng, it will aid the growth of the sheathed seed, allowing the two to combine!

"Then, those scattered seeds..." as Yan Xiaobao spoke, he gestured exaggeratedly toward the various parts of the spiritual plants, which contained the evidence he mentioned. His description was incredibly precise, even detailing the specific techniques involved. Soon, the disdainful looks gradually disappeared, and everyone started taking deep breaths. Their faces fell, and eventually, all the Outer Sect disciples wore expressions of disbelief. Some even shouted out in shock.

"This is impossible!!"

"Oh my God, how is he able to do this!?"

Every word Yan Xiaobao uttered was like an invisible palm striking them. After all, they were all Apprentice Alchemists. Earlier, they couldn't see through the secrets hidden within the spiritual plants, but with Yan Xiaobao's detailed explanation, it suddenly all seemed to make sense.

Everything Yan Xiaobao said was correct and complete. His performance was a massive blow to all the Outer Sect disciples.

"I can't believe this Yan Xiaobao... has such incredible skills in plants and vegetation!" The Outer Sect disciples felt an explosion erupt in their hearts. Their previous sneers and mockeries now heated their faces with embarrassment.

More surprising was that his explanation was obviously a reverse deduction. He discerned the grafting method simply by observing the grafted plants; only someone with unbelievably remarkable skills in plants and vegetation could achieve this.

Even Granny Sunx's eyes were filled with disbelief. "He inferred everything in reverse! His... his comprehension of plants and vegetation is remarkable..."

"He's just an Apprentice Alchemist, yet he can analyze the spiritual plants grafted by the Peak Lord himself. This... this..."

As for Li Qinghou, his eyes sparkled; he could hardly believe he was staring at the Yan Xiaobao he once knew.

Du Lingfei's face turned pale, and she staggered backward. With her understanding of plants and vegetation, as soon as she heard Yan Xiaobao's explanation, she knew he was right. In fact, there were points in his presentation she didn't even understand. At this point, she felt thoroughly and utterly embarrassed.

At present, Yan Xiaobao wasn't using any magical tricks. However, every statement he made was backed by his understanding of plants and vegetation, turning it into something akin to Holy Power or magic items. Du Lingfei couldn't handle what was happening at all. She felt lightning flashing in her mind, and she withdrew further, her face growing paler.

"Flame Raider and Nine Flames Sky can be used to protect the spiritual bulbs from intense sunlight. Merge them into Crow Spoon Fruit, and it will yield Black Lilies! This is the last spiritual plant I recognize." Yan Xiaobao took about half a stick of incense's time to complete his explanation. As he swept his gaze across the crowd, his eyes flashed like lightning and then finally settled directly on Du Lingfei.

"Sister Du. Ladies and gentlemen of the sect. The Dao of plants and vegetation is deep and profound, with nothing being absolute. If it weren't, you couldn't progress in plants and vegetation at all. However, you truly want me to recite all the plants from the first three volumes of plants and vegetation. How difficult is that?!" Lifting his chin, he flicked his sleeves and began reciting.

"Spiritwinter Bamboo..."

"Earth Dragon Fruit..."

"Root Store..." His voice was crisp, and he spoke with a calm demeanor. The arena was filled with silence. As his words echoed, they felt like a giant invisible hand striking everyone a second time.

Everyone present was filled with deep humiliation, audible gasps filled the air. Some even took out jade slabs containing information about plants and vegetation and compared it against what Yan Xiaobao said. Soon, they began to tremble, their shock intensifying.

As she retreated, Du Lingfei's face was pale, looking at Yan Xiaobao as if he were a ghost.

The reason she had previously made such sarcastic comments was because she had never seen anyone actually recite thirty thousand different types of medicinal plants. To her, it seemed impossible. If someone could really do that, then they must have already attained a godly skill level in plants and vegetation.

As time passed, Yan Xiaobao's speech became faster and faster. Almost in one breath, he spoke for two hours. To the audience, hardly any time seemed to pass, and nearly everyone pulled out their jade books and studied alongside Yan Xiaobao's recitation.[1]

Two hours later, he finished reciting all the medicinal plants. Then, there was a moment of silence, followed by an explosive roar that could be heard even outside the arena.

"Oh my God... not a single mistake! He's absolutely right... I can't believe I just witnessed all of this with my own eyes!"

"All 30,000 medicinal plants... Yan Xiaobao's skill in plants and vegetation is simply astonishing. Wait... what's his ranking on the Stele of plants and vegetation?"

"Competing in plants and vegetation between Du Lingfei and Yan Xiaobao is like throwing eggs at a rock!"

As the commotion continued, Du Lingfei looked at Yan Xiaobao with growing bitterness. Her reaction to losing the fight didn't lead to such feelings. But as it stood, in terms of skill in plants and vegetation, she had been completely and utterly defeated.

How could she have imagined that Yan Xiaobao, with unbelievable luck and many magical items, would actually surpass her in plant and vegetation skills?

This was a tremendous blow for her, and she couldn't help but laugh bitterly. She threw away the Cloudsoaring incense and then fled the arena. Given how embarrassed she felt, staying was out of the question.

Now that Du Lingfei was gone, the other surrounding Outer Sect disciples began to feel even more awkward. They quickly clasped their hands and bowed to Yan Xiaobao before hurriedly departing. It's easy to imagine how long the deep sense of shock they felt would last.

Soon, the arena was nearly empty. Yan Xiaobao was the only one left, coughing dryly. He realized... this time he had truly done it. Setting down the Cloudsoaring Incense, he carefully looked at Li Qinghou.

"Disciple... will be off now," he said, turning away so swiftly that he nearly left a cloud of dust behind.

Granny Sunx watched Yan Xiaobao leave, the shock in his eyes still evident.

"Peak Lord, this kid... is extraordinary!" he murmured softly.

Li Qinghou lowered his head, letting out a hearty laugh, then waved his hand and shot up towards the mountain peak. The news about Yan Xiaobao humiliating Du Lingfei in the competition spread among nearly all disciples, causing a huge stir throughout the sect, taking only half a month to circulate.

Every time Yan Xiaobao went out, he would be greeted warmly by the Outer Sect disciples he encountered. For the first time in his life, Yan Xiaobao felt famous. Now, he liked to leave his residence. He would even approach random people and start chatting with them, all hoping they would ask who he was, so he could proudly reveal his name.

Yan Xiaobao truly enjoyed living such a lavish life. He even tripled the spiritual enhancement applied to Du Lingfei's incense. Using that incense, he then pushed himself from the large circle of the Qi Condensation Dao's fifth level to the sixth level.

As for his Light and Heavy Magic, the more he practiced it, the more refined it became. In fact, he had started to delve into the second level of the Violet Qi Cauldron control art, which was a subtle weight art.

Although it initially seemed extremely difficult, after many attempts, he made some progress.

One day, as he was sitting cross-legged in his yard, practicing lightness and heaviness, his expression flickered. He set down the Wooden Sword, looking up at the main gate of his courtyard. Moments later, there was a knock at the door.

"Brother Bai, are you at home?" Upon hearing the familiar voice, Yan Xiaobao's eyebrows slightly furrowed. People didn't often come to visit his courtyard. He waved his hand toward the door, which creaked open, slowly revealing a haggard young man.

He wore the attire of an Outer Sect disciple, his expression grave as he clasped his hands tightly and bowed deeply.

"Xu Baocai sends greetings to Brother Bai."

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Chapter 1048 Apology

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"What are you doing here?" Yan Xiaobao asked, looking very shocked. This young man was the same Xu Baocai who he fought back against in the oven, and back then, he was at the third level of Qi Condensation. Apparently, Xu Baocai is now an Outer Sect disciple.

However, after seeing that Xu Baocai was still at the third level of Qi Condensation, he felt more relaxed. With a very stern expression, he said, "Now that you are an Outer Sect disciple, what do you mean by refusing to let the past go? Do you still want to fight me?"

Xu Baocai immediately shook his head. He had a bitter smile on his face and once again bowed respectfully to Yan Xiaobao.

"I was ignorant and foolish back then. Please, Brother, do not mock me. I came today to apologize for what happened. Let's forget everything." Xu Baocai seemed very serious about wanting to forget everything that happened. After all, now that he was an Outer Sect disciple, past events were not very important.

Most importantly, Yan Xiaobao was now very famous on Xiangyun Peak. Since Xu Baocai was an Outer Sect disciple on the same mountain, he obviously wanted to avoid any complications arising from the past.

Yan Xiaobao blinked and recalled everything that happened in the oven. In some ways, Xu Baocai counted as an old friend. He quickly stood up, invited Xu Baocai inside, and then they sat down and started reminiscing.

Remembering that unforgettable blood notification, Yan Xiaobao couldn't help but ask, "Now that you mention it, back then, I really didn't understand why you used blood to write the word 'death' so many times. Eventually, I understood, but even then, I've always been curious; isn't it very painful to use so much blood to write so many characters?"

As he recalled the strange behavior back then, Xu Baocai's face was full of embarrassment, and he quickly changed the subject.

"Brother Bai, you need to be careful of the supervision department's personnel. I heard that Chen Fei and those who were forced into the Outer Sect with you have always held a grudge."

"Chen Fei?" Yan Xiaobao was immediately filled with vigilance, remembering that brawny, muscular man from the supervision department.

"What is his current cultivation level?" he asked, looking very serious.

"I heard he's in the large circle of Qi Condensation at Level 4," Xu Baocai immediately replied, hoping to inform Yan Xiaobao of these things and clear the air between them.

When Yan Xiaobao heard the mention of the fourth level of Qi Condensation, he felt a bit better, actually appearing calmer than before.

Xu Baocai didn't further elaborate. He and Yan Xiaobao began talking about the sect, and Yan Xiaobao quickly realized that Xu Baocai actually knew much more than he did. He seemed to know everything happening on the South Shore of the Spirit Stream Sect. He knew about major events and trivial matters, even things that were supposed to be big secrets. Eventually, they started discussing the latest gossip, making the conversation even more lively.

"Brother Bai, did you know there are five beauties in the Spirit Flow Sect, each astonishingly attractive? Cultivators like us, who can cultivate alongside any one of them, will be able to live a life without regrets."

Yan Xiaobao's interest was piqued, so he asked Xu Baocai to elaborate further.

Yan Xiaobao wanted to listen, and this was Xu Baocai's favorite topic to talk about, so his eyebrows immediately became excited.

"When it comes to their level of beauty, the five beauties are actually equal. However, their status in the sect is different for all. First is Xu Meixiang, Lord Gao Feng, whose true beauty and allure... oh, yes, she's Fatty Zhang's Master."

"Really?" Hearing this news, Yan Xiaobao was genuinely shocked. Fatty Zhang had mentioned his master numerous times and always called her the 'old sh..' Then he recalled when they reunited with Miss Skinny Zhang, and how it was because that old shrew hated fat people.

Suddenly, everything made more sense to Yan Xiaobao. Clearing his throat and mind, he decided not to think about it further. It was too dangerous.

"The next two in the rankings actually come from Xiangyun Peak. The first is Zhou Xinqi, Sister Zhou, and then it's Du Lingfei, Sister Du." Xu Baocai was explaining all he knew, so when he brought up Zhou Xinqi, he also needed to talk about the electors.

"Brother Bai, you probably already know that on the South Shore of the Spirit Flow Sect, there are three great electors. One of them is Zhou Xinqi from Xiangyun Peak. Another is Lu Tianlei from Violet Cauldron Peak, and the last is Shangguan Tianyou from Green Crest Peak! The three of them are perfect geniuses!" Xu Baocai's eyes were filled with jealousy.[1]

"If they are truly amazing, how could they be in the Outer Church like us?" Yan Xiaobao asked, his mouth curling into a slight sneer. Although he didn't know much about Shangguan Tianyou and Lu Tianlei, he had encountered Zhou Xinqi. In fact, the jade pendant he held was her gift.

Xu Baocai stalled with a cough. Although he lowered his head inwardly concerning Yan Xiaobao, he didn't dare express such a sentiment and instead chuckled lightly: "Brother Bai, if it weren't for the strict sect rules, the three would have already left the Outer Sect for the Inner Sect. Even so, they're still very famous, completely deserving to be called the leading figures of the Outer Sect. Even the Inner Sect fears them. Once their cultivation level reaches the appropriate threshold, they will definitely become stars of the Inner Sect as well! Although for them, even the Inner Sect is just a stepping stone toward their ultimate goal of joining the traditional echelon!"

Chapter 1049 Apology (Part 2)

Yan Xiaobao still couldn't quite believe it.

"Take Zhou Xinqi for example. Due to her plant and vegetative meridians, she is sure to inherit Lord Li Feng's legacy and become the leading alchemist of the Spiritual Flow Sect. Then there is Lu Tianlei. He grew up in a very poor family, initially as thin as a stick of firewood. But he has rare lightning meridians, and the magical techniques he cultivates belong to the lightning road. In fact, the sect leader personally stated that he will have an extraordinary future."

"Really?" Yan Xiaobao asked, clearly shocked. He was no longer a newcomer to the Cultivation World and had learned a lot about how things worked. Hearing about the lightning meridians, he couldn't help but feel a bit jealous. Such spiritual meridians would make one's magical techniques explosively powerful and ensure few bottlenecks during cultivation.

Seeing Yan Xiaobao finally reacting like people do when hearing such things, he continued with the third person: "Of course, there's Shangguan Tianyou, even more amazing. He has a Sword Spirit Body, and some even say he's a reincarnated spiritual child of an all-powerful sword cultivator. For some reason, as

if the heavens were sinful, they blessed him with happiness all his life. When he was three, he happened to find an ancient sword walking down the road; when he was seven, a baby crimson cloud descended from the sky and accepted him immediately as its master; when he was thirteen, he acquired a golden Light Shield. That's why his name is Heavenly Protection, and once he joined the sect, the main elder was completely moved."

Yan Xiaobao's eyes widened, and he looked a bit unsettled. "Heaven is sinful!?!? Three... years old? Such luck! What kind of... wait, he's a reincarnated spiritual child of an ancient all-powerful cultivator?"

At that moment, he decided he absolutely wouldn't do anything to provoke Shanguan Tianyou, even if the heavens willed it.

Xu Baocai was quite pleased to see Yan Xiaobao so shocked, so he sighed and then decided to make some explanations about the Foundation. "These three will definitely reach the Foundation. Brother Bai, our cultivator initially worked as a servant and then joined the Outer Sect. We compare our promotion to jumping through the Dragon's Gate like a fish. However, the truth of the matter is that only breaking through from the Qi Condensation Stage to Foundation Establishment is truly becoming that fish that leaps over the Dragon's Gate. Only then does your life truly change, and you truly cast off mortal life. When your longevity increases by a hundred years, that's the true path to becoming immortal."

Just as Xu Baocai sighed, Yan Xiaobao heard about the hundred-year life extension, and his eyes flashed with light more intense than anything he'd ever seen before. He even started to tremble, his mind filled with a rumbling sound. He reached out and grabbed Xu Baocai's arm.

"You just said after reaching Foundation you gain an additional hundred years of longevity?"

Xu Baocai stared at Yan Xiaobao's bloodshot eyes in shock. He felt a little scared and nodded.

Yan Xiaobao breathed heavily and began pacing back and forth in the courtyard, waving his arms, making frenzied gestures. He almost seemed mad, mumbling to himself, laughing crazily.

Xu Baocai was now truly frightened, unsure what was happening. A chill ran down his spine, and he said he needed to leave. Yan Xiaobao barely noticed; it was as if he were trapped.

Xu Baocai took a deep breath and hastened his departure in terror.

After a stick of incense had burned, Yan Xiaobao raised his head, his hair wildly tousled from long breaths. Then he tossed his head back and laughed out loud.

"One hundred years! Foundation Establishment! I am definitely going to reach the Foundation!" Xu Baocai completely ignited Yan Xiaobao's desire to enter the Foundation. For the next few days, he went to the Holy Scripture Hall many times, even eventually going to the Holy Hall.

Divine Might Hall is a place that collects vast amounts of information about the cultivation world for study. After researching detailed explanations of Foundation Establishment, Yan Xiaobao confirmed that what Xu Baocai said was accurate, as if a spark was lit in his heart.

In his view, only by reaching the Foundation can he truly take the first step on the path to eternal life.

What excited him even more was the information on how to enter Foundation Establishment through three methods, each affecting longevity in different ways. Finally, he gained a clearer understanding.

"Heavenly Dao, Earth Dao, and Mortal Dao. Three types of Foundation Establishment....

"Mortal-Dao Foundation Establishment requires a Foundation Establishment Pill. The chances of success are low, but if successful, you gain a hundred years of longevity.

"Earth-Dao Foundation Establishment involves absorbing Earth Energy and converting it to shaking power. The chances of success are even lower, but the result increases longevity by two hundred years!

"Finally, the legendary... Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment! It's extremely rare, achieved only through random chance. But if you manage to establish this type of foundation, you gain 500 years of longevity!" After more detailed research, Yan Xiaobao confirmed Heavenly Dao Foundation cannot be pursued specifically. As for Earth-Dao Foundation Establishment, there are special requirements needed to obtain Earth Energy.

Therefore, the simplest for him was to seek a Foundation Establishment Pill for Mortal-Dao Foundation Establishment.

Yan Xiaobao put down the jade in his hand, taking a deep breath as his eyes shone. "I need to start planning for the future and ensure I am thoroughly prepared. I must obtain one of those Foundation Establishment Pills....

"Foundation Establishment Pills are expensive, just to be prepared for all possibilities, I should certainly have more than one. In that case... the best method is to create some myself!" Yan Xiaobao's eyes sparkled, his dream of becoming a Master Alchemist and crafting an eternal life pill becoming stronger than ever.

"Apprentice Alchemist, Skilled Pharmacist, Master Alchemist... Now I'm an Apprentice Alchemist. To become skilled, I need to create some medicinal pills and proceed to promote and test.... The minimum requirements for the test are mastering the fifth volume of plants and vegetation. But that alone does not ensure success. I also need to completely master all five Soul Creatures." Eyes sparkling, he pulled out the jade sliding plate containing the third volume of plants and vegetation, and examined it once more. After confirming he memorized everything, he immediately left his courtyard.

However, moments later, he ran back and quickly donned several layers of clothing, also disguising himself a bit. Only then did he truly leave.

"Zhou Xinqi's fans are terrifying. They've allegedly been telling others they'll chop me to pieces... I have no choice but to keep a low profile." He still felt somewhat unsettled.

Considering the differences between himself and Zhou Xinqi's fans, he finally made a decision. "Humph. Wait until I enter Foundation Establishment. Then I'll make a grand scene and proclaim myself Lord Turtle. Then we'll see who dares chop me to pieces!"

As usual, the 10,000 Medicines Pavilion was packed with people. In attendance were not just Outer Sect disciples from Xiangyun Peak but disciples from Green Crest Peak and Violet Cauldron Peak, requested for various reasons to become proficient in plants and vegetation.

Currently, Yan Xiaobao wandered among the crowd, trying to ensure he didn't attract any attention. After reaching the small cabin dedicated to the third volume of plants and vegetation, he slipped inside, taking the test, then melted back into the crowd.

Although he had intended to leave right away, after a while, he couldn't resist raising his head to look around. Soon, when people realized that the Turtle's design on the monument for the third volume of plants and vegetation had surpassed the Magic Bottle, commotion erupted.

He felt extremely pleased, his face displaying a shocked expression, shouting in surprise. However, Zhou Xinqi's demon fans only took a bit of time to appear, causing Yan Xiaobao to wave his fists in frustration.

"It's their fault I have to maintain such a low profile," he thought angrily. He glared at them for a while, then turned and left quickly.

In the days that followed, news of the Little Turtle once again spread through the Outer Sect of Xiangyun Peak like wildfire. Everyone talked about the Little Turtle design highlighted on the monument.

However, another month passed, and just as the rumors began to settle, disciples outside the Ten Thousand Medicines Pavilion suddenly noticed that the Little Turtle had appeared on the fourth Stele, once again taking first place through the Magic Bottle.

The result incited immediate uproar!

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Chapter 1050 Ten Thousand Medicines Pavilion

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"This Little Turtle is quickly surpassing Sister Zhou Xinqi! He has four first places!"

"He has four steles, Elder Zhou Xinqi has five stones. Who is this Little Turtle...?"

Of course, it was Yan Xiaobao who shouted these things, which made him feel great. However, when Zhou Xinqi's fans started to go crazy, he cleared his throat, lowered his head, and continued on.

A few days later, Zhou Xinqi appeared at the Ten Thousand Medicines Pavilion, studying four steles, with a very serious expression on her face. Then she entered the tenth stele. When she came out, her name now occupied the first place.

By then, all the Outer Sect disciples of Fragrant Cloud Peak were closely watching the Ten Thousand Medicines Pavilion. Zhou Xinqi had six steles, while Little Turtle had four stones...

Everyone was speculating whether this Little Turtle would ultimately take the fifth stele, which would put him on par with Zhou Xinqi.

In fact, some disciples from the Outer Sect started betting on whether this Little Turtle could actually achieve first place on five steles. It even reached the point where some elders of Xiangyun Peak were taking notice.

Yan Xiaobao went all out, trying to seize the next first place. After obtaining the related jade, he studied it day and night. Coupled with his hatred for Zhou Xinqi's fans, whenever he visited the Ten Thousand Medicines Pavilion monthly and took first place, he would take advantage by whipping the crowd with Little Turtle.

Gradually, many disciples began to admire this Little Turtle, most of whom related to Yan Xiaobao himself. He never missed an opportunity to promote Little Turtle to anyone who would listen. For example, at this point, Hou Xiaomei was completely infatuated.

Finally, a month later, on a sunny day, the magic bottle on the fifth stele flickered and then dropped by a spot, thus the Little Turtle appeared on it.

From then on, the Outer Sect disciples of Xiangyun Peak fell into chaos. The whole crowd came to see the scene, and soon, all the talk around the mountain focused on the Little Turtle.

"Little Turtle's skills in plants and vegetation must be at an indescribable level. How did he become so shocking?"

"Amazing! Little Turtle is now almost on par with Sister Zhou..."

There were indeed people in the crowd who speculated that the Little Turtle might be Yan Xiaobao. In fact, some of Zhou Xinqi's fans didn't overlook any possibilities and naturally kept an eye on him.

Yan Xiaobao felt extremely indignant and decided to dispel any doubts, so he reluctantly attempted the test for the fourth stele. He stayed inside for a while, then came out, trying hard to convince everyone he performed poorly.

After doing this a few times, Zhou Xinqi's fans started to divert their attention to others. Of course, there was no way to prove anything to anyone in one way or another.

However, they continued to spread vile rumors, telling people that if they discovered who the Little Turtle was, they wouldn't just cut him to pieces, they'd slice him into bits!

When Yan Xiaobao heard this and imagined what he'd be like in such a state, he started to tremble. In the end, he gritted his teeth, and his malicious determination flared up again.

"Not happy, huh? Well, when I get more first places, I'll make you even more unhappy!" He gritted his teeth, determined to achieve this goal, and narrow the gap between him and Zhou Xinqi.

A month later, Little Turtle claimed the first place on the sixth stele!

Another month later, it got first place in the seventh!

At that time, the area around the Ten Thousand Medicines Pavilion resounded with cries of alarm and surprise.

"Seven first places! Go, Little Turtle, go! Even Sister Zhou hasn't achieved ten first places!"

"Hahaha, I love this Little Turtle. He's definitely going to pull it off!"

Even as many disciples among the crowd shouted such things, there were a dozen or so young people in the area, all looking very solemn. Some of them were even disciples of the Inner Sect, and their expressions were particularly cold. One of them was a young man with a pockmarked face, his eyes especially fierce.

"Ladies and gentlemen, fellow disciples," he shouted. "If anyone knows who this Little Turtle is, please tell me, I owe you a favor!" The pockmarked young man's voice sent shivers through everyone, immediately silencing all talk about the Little Turtle.

People in the crowd immediately recognized who this young man was and quickly avoided his gaze. Others felt angry, but were too afraid to say anything.

"That's Brother Qian from the Judicial Hall, Qian Dajin..."

"I heard he's been pursuing Sister Zhou and Du Lingfei..."

Yan Xiaobao stood in the crowd, glaring angrily at the pockmarked-faced Qian Dajin. Finally, he walked back to his courtyard, feeling very irritated.

"You can't even find me, but you still insist on dueling with me!?" he muttered, focusing on studying the five volumes of spiritual creatures. As he learned more about using parts of soul creatures in the preparation of spiritual medicine, his skill in plants and vegetation further improved.

In fact, because he could compare and contrast both, see how they worked together, his skills in plants and vegetation actually experienced significant growth.

The next month, the Little Turtle took the first spot on the eighth stele by replacing the magic bottle!

Another month later, he got first place in the ninth!

He now had nine first places!

The Outer Sect disciples around the Ten Thousand Medicines Pavilion had gone up in arms. More and more people loudly proclaimed that the Little Turtle would absolutely take ten first places.