

Nine-Dragon 851

Chapter 851: Wuxie Appeared Suddenly

Xiao Yao spoke calmly, "Fairy Ling, if you really want the Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid, you can only get it at the auction."

He then asked, "Or, are you assuming that your status is so great that you can get it in advance? We can't hand over goods to someone without getting its owner's permission first. Doing so would be a grave mistake! Since you are also an owner of an auction house, you should know these things!"

After he said this, Xiao Yao almost laughed out loud. He felt exultant at this moment, as he was finally able to gloat.

Fairy Ling stared at Xiao Yao for a long while before she stood up slowly and said through gritted teeth, "Thanks anyway, Palace Master Xiao."

She then grabbed the VIP Card on the table and left, an unsightly expression on her face. The Great Appraiser and Thousand Hands Old Xian quickly followed her. They lowered their heads as they went, barely daring to breathe.

It was only after they left the Red Blood Palace's auction house that the Great Appraiser spoke hesitantly, "Fairy Ling, it's just an elixir! Surely not having it won't really affect our Tianya Auction House! So, why are you so obsessed with the Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid?"

He really couldn't understand this. After all, even though the Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid could open a new path to wealth for them, such wealth would still be just like a drop in the ocean for the already prosperous Tianya Auction House.

Hence, it seemed like it was quite dispensable. Yet, for some unknown reason, Fairy Ling had visited them personally just for the chance to have it.

"I don't care about the wealth! I care about how that guy got the extinct Heartbroken Zither Grass in the first place! This plant already went extinct during the ancient era, and it simply doesn't exist at all in the current world. I need the Heartbroken Zither Grass because I'm trying to make a certain Incredible elixir, and I'm short of just that plant alone in order to finish it! If I can find the person who made that elixir, I can get news about that material's whereabouts!" she explained in a huff.

The Great Appraiser finally understood everything, and he said, "I will go to make inquiries about the identity of the person who consigned the elixir for sale!"

Fairy Ling nodded. "Okay, but don't alert him because he's probably just responsible for consigning it for sale. As for the person who actually made the elixir, he must be a very skilled person."

"Understood," the Great Appraiser replied.

Fairy Ling cast a glance at the shivering Thousand Hands Old Xian as a cold glint flickered in her eyes. She then added, "Moreover, we must get stricter with our appraisers, disposing of the mediocre our high standards!"

The Great Appraiser's heart shivered when he heard this, and he cast a glance at Thousand Hands Old Xian. It was obvious that his fate was already determined. After Fairy Ling had been embarrassed on this day, she was clearly still angry about it.

"Understood!" The Great Appraiser cupped his hands.

...

In the Red Blood Palace's Auction House, Xiao Yao followed them with his gaze. His eyes flickered as he said, "Old Yu, Old Sun, you should both keep in close contact with Su Yuxian. Moreover, you must send the auction house's experts to protect him in secret. Don't let any accidents befall him!"

After all, Su Yuxian was their only way of contacting that mysterious expert, and if he was killed by someone, everything would be ruined!

...

After Su Yu left the Red Blood Palace's Auction House, he rushed toward the Tonglin Elixir Store. It took more time than he had expected to run his errand, and as such, a whole day had already passed. It was past time for him to go back!

He went back to the Outer City and the district where his store was situated. But, just before Su Yu reached his store, he couldn't help but raise his brows. He quickly discovered that the Tonglin Elixir Store had unexpectedly been destroyed by someone!

All of its elixirs were stolen, and even the counter was destroyed! At the moment, Su Yu saw, Qing Liu, whose face was drenched with blood, was holding onto a martial artist, who was trying to steal the elixir furnace from the store!

"Lad, didn't you get enough of a beating? Get lost!" the martial artist yelled as he wore a ferocious look and bared his teeth at Qing Liu.

He then kicked Qing Liu's belly and sent him flying away. Qing Liu ended up slamming against the wall, then vomited out a mouthful of blood.

He then held his body and started rolling on the ground. It was obvious that he was in great pain.

"Pah! Even with such trifling power, you still wish to try and stop him!" The martial artist spat in disdain. "It's your shopkeeper, who's blind and isn't sensible enough, thus offending the Three Murders Gang! He brought about his own destruction!"

He chuckled evilly, and just as he was about to turn around and leave, a person suddenly appeared before him like a ghost. That person didn't emit any aura, so he the martial artist by surprise.

"Ah!" the martial artist couldn't help but scream like a scared little girl at that moment.

When he returned to his senses, he felt both humiliated and angry. He then shouted loudly, "Are you blind or something?"

Su Yu replied, while wearing a calm expression, "I'm the insensible and blind shopkeeper you just mentioned. So, I suppose I must answer yes? According to you, I am surely blind."

The martial artist was startled by this, and he laughed nastily. “You unexpectedly dared to come out? I assumed that you were just a cowardly turtle, who would quickly hole up, and not dare to show yourself. It’s good that you have come here, as now I will bring you to meet our gang boss.”

As he spoke, he stretched out his hand toward Su Yu’s shoulder. He had a Level Four Fairy Realm cultivation, so it should have been easy for him to deal with Su Yu. However, before his hand reached Su Yu, a golden ray flickered around his wrist, and just after that, his whole hand fell immediately to the ground.

He let out a miserable and pained cry at that same time, “Ah! My hand! My hand!”

His hand had unexpectedly been cut off quietly, and the knife wound was flat and smooth. Then, suddenly, his cries came to an abrupt halt. This was because his head had also been cut off, and it immediately fell on the ground and rolled around on it for a few moments!

A golden ray flickered once again, and the golden small sword went back into Su Yu’s sleeves. He ignored the puddle of blood on the ground, as well as the spectators frightened gazes, as he went into the store to take a look around.

Horror appeared in Qing Liu’s eyes. The person Su Yu had just killed was one of the Three Murders Gang’s ten greatest martial artists.

He was a ferocious and vile man, who didn’t shrink from committing any crime. He was someone feared in the Outer City, and many people held grudges against him.

However, none of them dared to blame him, despite how infuriated they were because of how powerful his cultivation was. For this reason, Qing Liu really didn’t expect that he would end up dead like this, especially being killed by a mere shopkeeper!

So, he had to wonder... If Su Yu could instantly kill even a Level Four Fairy, how powerful is he really?

As Su Yu waved his sleeves, a wisp of Vital Energy invaded Qing Liu’s body and quickly healed his injuries. Qing Liu’s pain was eased, and the state of his injuries also took a miraculous turn for the better.

He was greatly startled by this, and he quickly stood up and said, “Shopkeeper Su, I’m sorry for being incompetent and failing to look after the store properly. Please, punish me!”

Su Yu forced his expression to remain calm and serene. “It’s fine. Just tell me what happened.”

As he spoke, he tried to not get upset. After all, he had only just for a short day, yet his store had been entirely destroyed!

“It was Qin Ze!” Hatred appeared in Qing Liu’s eyes. “After he was crippled by you, he asked for help from the Three Murders Gang, and when he came here, he brought some gang members to help him destroy the store. He stole all of the elixirs in the stores, and he even took away Ying Luan!”

Su Yu’s expression became ice-cold. “They captured Ying Luan?” Su Yu really didn’t care about those ordinary elixirs, but Ying Luan was his employee!

“That’s right! It was the Three Murders Gang’s vice-master! He captured Ying Luan and wants you to pay a thousand crystals to get her back. Otherwise, he said that he will let the gang members ‘play’ with her until her death,” Qing Liu recalled angrily.

Killing intent flickered in Su Yu’s eyes when he heard this and understood the situation. The Three Murders Gang didn’t take revenge for Qin Ze, as Qin Ze’s cultivation was too low and he was now a meaningless cripple. So, he had to wonder... Why would the Three Murders Gang send a large number of people to take revenge for him?

The sole reason for this was because they had discovered from him that the new shopkeeper was wealthy. So, they wanted to use this matter as an excuse to rob him.

Upon detecting Su Yu’s killing intent, Qing Liu spoke hurriedly, “Shopkeeper, please calm down! You should get in touch with the Red Blood Palace’s headquarters, then look for someone to negotiate with the Three Murders Gang.”

Qing Liu then said, “The Three Murders Gang has countless experts, and the vice-master is a Level Nine Fairy. It’s also rumored that the gangmaster is a Divine Master expert. Moreover, they are all familiar with the Outer City’s terrain, so it would be difficult for any faction to eliminate them. The Red Blood Palace once tried disposing of them, but they failed, even losing a Divine Master expert in the attempt.”

Qing Liu took a breath, then continued, “That is why no one will bother with them. The Three Murders Gang have already become the rulers of the Outer City, and there isn’t any underworld faction here besides them. They’ve simply all been swallowed by them!”

Qing Liu concluded by saying, “Shopkeeper, you should not go there alone. They won’t abide by their words, and they may even kill you, while also taking everything in your spatial ring!”

Ever since ancient times, it has been difficult for powerful rulers to keep regional mafia under control. The Three Murders Gang was the Outer City’s regional mafia, and as such, even a faction like the Red Blood Palace couldn’t deal with them.

Su Yu nodded. “Okay, I understand. You shouldn’t worry about the store, but just look for a safe place to hide. I will just take a short trip, then come back quickly.”

Swoosh!

After Su Yu asked the location of the Three Murders Gang’s base, he started flying toward it. After five minutes had passed, he reached the Outer City’s core region. It was a destroyed fighting plaza.

If one observed it from the sky, he could clearly see many members standing guard in the vicinity. There were many members here, as well as several thousands of ordinary people. The fighting plaza was situated in an open region, so they could clearly see any invaders as they approached.

Su Yu was slightly surprised by this, and he immediately wondered... Once they were surrounded in such a place, wouldn’t it be difficult for them to escape? So, why have so many factions proved incapable of eliminating them?

Su Yu’s eyes flickered and emitted a faint, milky-white light. The whole fighting plaza appeared before his eyes, and he could penetrate it with his gaze, giving him a clear glimpse inside.

After he observed it carefully, Su Yu understood everything. It turned out that the whole ground under the fighting plaza had been hollowed out, and many tangled and complicated tunnels ran beneath it. These tunnels spread out in all directions, and as long as they hid there, it would be impossible for any great army on the ground to eliminate them completely!

When he counted them roughly, he discovered that there were more than a hundred tunnels, which meant that about a thousand people could flee through them at one time. It was no wonder that they failed to annihilate them many times! If they weren't aware of this underground situation, it wouldn't matter how many times they tried attacking them!

However, it was a pity that they had now run into Su Yu...

Su Yu started looking for Ying Luan. Regardless of where she was hidden, Su Yu could still find her with his eyes, which could see everything.

After a short while, Su Yu found her. She was hidden in an underground prison. There were several people with her, and they all seemed to be hostages, who had been captured by the Three Murders Gang!

"The Three Murders Gang's jobs are really numerous! They could even easily make a business deal, which doesn't require any capital, and it would still bring them a large amount of profits!" Su Yu sneered coldly.

If they hadn't provoked them, Su Yu wouldn't bother with them. But since they came at him and vandalized his store, Su Yu was determined to eliminate them all!

He started sweeping over the captured hostages one by one with his soul eyes, while trying to ascertain whether there was anyone here waiting to ambush him. Su Yu's gaze couldn't help but lock onto a particular hostage's body.

She had a small and thin body, wore a fluffy black dress, and had a tender and lovely face. She seemed like a porcelain doll, sweet and lovely.

She had a pair of big and bright eyes. They looked pure and almost as if they were oblivious to world's darker matters. However, if one observed them carefully, he would discover that a crafty glint would flicker in those eyes occasionally.

Su Yu was startled, and he immediately exclaimed, "Gongsun Wuxie!"

At first, he assumed that he had mistaken her for someone else, but after he observed her carefully for several moments, he became sure that it was indeed that little demoness!

How's this possible? Isn't she in the sanctum now? Why is she in Tianya City? Moreover, why was she captured by the Three Murders Gang? Su Yu couldn't make sense of it at all.

He just shook his head. It was usually just the little demoness alone who harmed other people, as none could usually harm her. Moreover, she was now revealing a sweet and harmless expression! This made him sure that she was concocting some devious schemes!

After he mulled this over for a bit, Su Yu decided to not move to rescue them at this moment. After all, with the little demoness' power, she could have fled long ago if she had really wanted. This only further reiterated his suspicions that she must be concocting a devious scheme!

Moreover, Ying Luan was safe for now, and since he didn't need to worry about her, he could finally set his mind at ease. Su Yu then decided then to hide, then quietly observe the little demoness's actions.

Chapter 852: Wanted Criminals List

After several hours had passed, many of the Three Murders Gang members entered the secret room. They then asked the new hostages to write a letter to their families.

When it was Gongsun Wuxie's turn, it seemed like she had only been here for a short while. "Uncle, please let me off!" Gongsun Wuxie pleaded with tearful eyes. She then revealed a pitiful look, like a helpless little lamb.

The person in front of her was a forty-year-old middle-aged man. He was sizing her up with an evil look. He saw that Gongsun Wuxie was beautiful, lovely, and young. Moreover, as she wore such a pitiful look on her face, it only made her even more lovable in his eyes.

"Little beauty, if you kiss me, I will let you off! How about that?" The middle-aged man stretched out his hand and wanted to stroke Gongsun Wuxie's fair and smooth cheeks with it.

Gongsun Wuxie shrank back and spoke amid sobs, "Uncle, no! My family is wealthy, and they can offer you any amount that you want!"

The middle-aged man chuckled and said, "Lassie, even if your family was the wealthiest family of all of the families that you know, it still couldn't rival our Three Murders Gang! You just need to obey me, then I will let you go when I am ready."

Many people in the gang desired this sweet and lovely lassie. Half a day ago, she had gotten lost in the Outer City and was discovered by one of the gang members.

He had deceived her and led her to the Three Murders Gang, where he imprisoned her. He was currently planning to sell her for a good sum. After all, such a pure and lovely young girl would surely be worth a great price!

Gongsun Wuxie wore a tearful look as she said, "My family has an auction house, and it is extremely prosperous!"

An auction house? The middle-aged man was startled to hear this, and he quickly retracted his hand. He then licked his lips and his eyes shone with excitement as he asked, "Which auction house?"

"The Tianya Auction House, waah.." Gongsun Wuxie started crying even louder.

Shock appeared on the middle-aged man's face as he repeated the name, "The Tianya Auction House? Are you lying to me?"

At that moment, Gongsun Wuxie felt a glimmer of hope rise in her heart. She quickly took off the pendant around her neck and handed it to him, saying, "This is my token, and as long as you bring it to the Tianya Auction House, they will recognize my status. As long as you don't harm me, the Tianya Auction House will offer you any sum you desire."

The middle-aged man grabbed the pendant. The pendant was red, and it seemed almost like a Firebird, as it had a faint flames' power within it.

“Fire Essence Jade?” The middle-aged man sucked in a breath of cold air upon recognizing it.

This pendant was unexpectedly made from the extremely precious Fire Essence Jade! The Fire Essence Jade was a jade that was born among the flames that only existed at extremely high temperatures.

Those flames weren’t ordinary mortal flames, as they were a kind of terrifying fire, which could continue burning for hundreds of years! Even All Creation Realm experts wouldn’t usually dare to rashly approach such flames!

As for the Fire Essence Jade, it was a peerless piece of jade, which was formed through hundreds of years of refining among such terrifying flames. The Fire Essence that was contained within it was in a liquid state. It was the quintessence of flames, and just a single drop of it was extremely precious, being worth more than a million crystals!

The Fire Essence Jade before him clearly had a drop of Fire Essence rolling inside it, which was visible to the naked eye. So, he could clearly tell that this pendant alone was worth a million crystals!

The middle-aged man found it hard to believe that the lassie before him could possess such an outrageous treasure. When he looked at Gongsun Wuxie again, he felt like he was looking at a crystal mine, and his eyes shone with a bright glint. He knew what kind of a reward he would get if he handed over this object to the Gang Master!

Although he wanted to keep this Fire Essence Jade for himself, he clearly knew that if he did that, he wouldn’t manage to survive the Three Murders Gang’s punishment if they caught him. So, he chose wisely to hand it over to the Gang Master.

This way, at least he could gain his trust and get a tangible reward. Moreover, he might even be promoted! With this in mind, the excited middle-aged man immediately left the prison, passed through the complicated tunnels, and quickly rushed toward the Gang Master.

As for the pitiful-looking Gongsun Wuxie, she stopped crying and revealed a complacent and crafty smile. “Humph! Humph! He took the bait quite easily! That wasn’t challenging at all.”

Before many startled gazes in the prison, Gongsun Wuxie wiped away her alligator tears, tossed her pigtails behind her, then clasped her tiny hands behind her back and raised her head proudly as she kicked open the prison’s gate. The people behind her were amazed, and delight soon appeared on their faces as they all quickly tried to rush out as well.

However, after Gongsun Wuxie left, she closed the gate once again and simply rolled her eyes at them. “Don’t be so anxious! After I take the Gang Master’s head and finish the mission, I will free you all. If you come now, you will just alert the enemy.”

After she spoke, she quickly followed the middle-aged man as he traveled among the complicated tunnels. It was only after five minutes had passed that the vigilant middle-aged man paused before an ordinary-looking cave.

This cave wasn’t any different than ordinary members’ caves, but the middle-aged man was still standing respectfully before it. After a moment, he said, “Gang Master, I’m seeking you out to discuss an important matter...”

After he waited for a moment, the stone gate opened quietly and the sound of a cold snort drifted out from inside. "I already ordered you to not call me Gang Master casually."

The middle-aged man nodded and complied. Then, he just stood there, not daring to move rashly.

But, in fact, he was just being nonchalant. Their Gang Master was too cautious, and even in his own domain, he was overly careful and prudent.

"Come in," the person inside finally said after a long silence.

The middle-aged man went inside, and the stone gate was closed tightly thereafter. No one was aware that the Three Murders Gang's prestigious Gang Master was living in such an ordinary private room. If one wasn't led here by someone, no one could have even imagined such a crazy thing!

After a short while, a petite person appeared stealthily in the vicinity. She was wearing a crafty smile at the corners of her mouth, and she exclaimed, "Humph! Humph! Humph! So, you were hiding here all along! You really troubled me with looking for you for a long while!"

Inside the room, a man, whose whole body was shrouded by black light, was sitting on a stone bed. It seemed like he was cultivating a certain powerful demonic technique.

"What did you seek me out for?" The man shrouded by black light was the Three Murders Gang's Master. He was a mysterious expert.

In the past, when a Red Blood Palace's Divine Master led people here to eliminate him, the Three Murders Gang's Master managed to kill that Divine Master expert. So, this man's power was surely profound and immeasurable.

The middle-aged man spoke, while trembling with fear, "Gang Master, we discovered Tianya Auction House's member among the hostages. After I learned of it, I quickly came here to report it to you."

"Tianya Auction House's member? Why did you bring their member here?" The Gang Master furrowed his brows. "This faction has a mysterious origin, and I'd be much more willing to provoke the Red Blood Palace or the Purple Cloud Palace than them. What's the status of the person you captured? If it's just an ordinary member, just free him, as we shouldn't provoke the colossal faction behind the Tianya Auction House for just a small sum of money."

They wouldn't manage to extort a large sum for just an ordinary member, and they might easily end up offending that mysterious faction. Hence, such a thing wasn't a profitable deal.

Cold sweat seeped out of the middle-aged man's forehead. It was obvious that the Gang Master wasn't willing to make an enemy out of the Tianya Auction House. The middle-aged now realized that he had probably overreached!

After the middle-aged man hesitated for a moment, he took the Fire Essence Jade's pendant and said gravely, "Gang Master, please make a decision. This is a keepsake that I got from that member. She claimed that her family owns the Tianya Auction House."

The Gang Master waved his sleeves and held the Fire Essence Jade's pendant in his palm. As he observed it carefully, his expression became grave and his pupils contracted. "It's really true, this is a keepsake from the Tianya Auction House's Fairy Ling."

The Gang Master then demanded to know, "Which person did you capture?"

Anger and killing intent appeared in the Gang Master's eyes as he said, "You are really just a bunch of fools! You've made a grave mistake!"

Fear and dread could be heard in his voice. He seemed quite afraid of the Tianya Auction House.

The middle-aged man knelt on the ground. "I wasn't aware of this! A gang member lured her here!"

The Gang Master was infuriated. "You are just a bunch of good-for-nothings, who don't accomplish anything and just ruin things! If it was an ordinary member, we might avoid all troubles just by freeing him, as the Tianya Auction House would surely not cause trouble over just an ordinary member. However, someone, who had Fairy Ling's keepsake must be an extremely important member, and even if we release her now, the Tianya Auction House will surely not take this lying down!"

Killing intent appeared on his face as he asked, "Where is she now?"

Since matters had already reached such a juncture, they must surely not let her go back! The only way to put an end to all of these troubles was killing that person! As long as the Tianya Auction House didn't find out that she was killed by the Three Murders Gang, they wouldn't suffer any troubles.

When his voice had just echoed out, the middle-aged man suddenly felt weak and collapsed on the ground. His eyes were wide-open, while his limbs were splayed weakly on the ground, incapable of budging an it.

It was only his tongue that could still move, and he entreated him in fright, "Gang Master, please save me! I can't move suddenly..."

The black light shrouding the Gang Master's body fluctuated, and shock appeared on his face as he asked, "Have you been poisoned?"

All of a sudden, the Gang Master realized something, and he shouted in a low voice, "It's awful! The pendant surely has something strange about it!"

As he shouted, he tried to quickly throw off the Fire Essence Jade that was in his palm. However, by the time he did this, it was already too late.

The Vital Energy inside his body had coagulated, and his whole body became weak and powerless. He fell weakly to the ground, and his limbs immediately stiffened.

He couldn't budge an inch, and he could only exclaim in alarm, "What poison is this? Even an Almighty Divine Master can't withstand it!"

Creak!

At this moment, the sound of the stone gate being opened drifted to their ears. A delicate and small, young girl, who had her hands clasped behind her back, entered the room.

She was wearing a smile as she said, "You really had a quick reaction!"

Gongsun Wuxie then picked up the pendant, swept it with her Vital Energy, and caused a layer of pink fog to sweep out from it. This was the substance that had infected the Gang Master!

“Who are you?” the Gang Master’s pupils contracted as he shouted in a deep voice.

The little demoness walked over and revealed a sweet and lovely smile as she said, “I’m obviously someone who wants to take your life. Don’t you know how precious your head is within the Red Blood Palace? It’s worth three hundred thousand merit points! Regardless of everything, you are still a wanted Ghost Buddha, ranked thirteenth in the Eighteen Blessed and Heavenly Lands! You are indeed quite valuable, hehe!”

Shock appeared on the Gang Master’s face as he asked, “How did you learn of my status?”

The middle-aged man laying on the ground was also shocked and exclaimed, “What? Are you stating that our Gang Master is a renowned and wanted Ghost Buddha?”

There was a list of wanted major criminals in the Eighteen Blessed and Heavenly Lands. They were all ruthless men, who would kill people without batting an eye. They were indeed ferocious and vile criminals.

However, the Eighteen Blessed and Heavenly Lands’ experts didn’t manage to capture them in time because of their high cultivations. Hence, they put an order of arrest out for them.

This is why they had formed a wanted criminal list, ranking the criminals according to how dangerous they were. The higher one was on the list, the more dangerous he was, and the higher the reward one could get by killing him or bringing him in to face the proper authorities!

Chapter 853: Half-Ghost and Half-Buddha

The Red Blood Palace stipulated that if a Red Blood Palace’s disciple could kill the Ghost Buddha that was ranked thirteenth, he would get three hundred thousand merit points. The reason for this was that this buddha had once killed three of the Red Blood Palace’s new Divine Masters, causing a great sensation.

However, it went into hiding afterwards! Until now, no one knew where it had gone.

No one would have ever expected that it was hiding in Tianya City’s Three Murders Gang. In fact, even the gang members themselves weren’t aware of the fact that their gang’s master was one of the Eighteen Blessed and Heavenly Lands’ most wanted criminals!

As Su Yu was observing all of this with his Soul Eyes from a distance, he was also startled by it. He had also heard about the most wanted criminals list. It was a list that had been created by the Eighteen Blessed and Heavenly Lands’ eighteen great factions.

All of the people whose names appeared on the list were vile criminals, and they all had committed serious crimes. Thus, they posed a threat to all of the Eighteen Blessed and Heavenly Lands, which was why all of the eighteen great factions had issued an order for all of their arrests.

Altogether, there was a total of a hundred people on the list, and the Ghost Buddha was ranked thirteenth, which was quite close to the top! The merit points reward for his capture was also very high at three hundred thousand merit points!

Su Yu couldn’t help but feel a rush of excitement, as it turned out that there was still a way for him to quickly earn some merit points. However, it was a pity that he must first take the mission before

killing the Ghost Buddha if he wanted to get a reward from the sanctum. If he killed the Ghost Buddha without taking the mission, he wouldn't get any reward.

Su Yu stared at the little demoness curiously. As the Ghost Buddha had been on the list for several years, there should have been more than several hundred disciples from the Eighteen Blessed and Heavenly Lands' eighteen great factions who had taken the mission of attempting to hunt it down.

But, none of them had managed to find any traces of him. It was like he had disappeared completely.

However, the little demoness, who was in the Red Blood Palace, managed to get some information about Tianya City, which was far away. She even managed to learn the Three Murders Gang's Boss true identity. As such, Su Yu's intuition was informing him that this two-faced young girl wasn't ordinary.

In the secret room, the little demoness took a short black sword and played with it in her hand, while grinning widely.

The Gang Master asked in a deep voice, "Do you want to kill me now?"

The little demoness revealed a sweet smile. "Nah! I don't want to be soiled by your blood."

The Gang Master's eyes lit up slightly, then he said, "If you want crystals, I can give you some. How much do you want? As far as I know, you can also exchange crystals for merit points in the Red Blood Palace. Since my head is worth three hundred thousand merit points, I can just give you six hundred thousand crystals, and it will be enough for you to exchange for three hundred thousand merit points. If you want more, we can discuss it further."

The little demoness replied with disdain, "I don't care about your crystals! Moreover, if I exchange a large number of crystals in the sanctum, they will investigate their origin, and if they end up discovering that I got them by letting you off, I will be done for!"

The heart of Su Yu, who was paying close attention to them, shuddered. He had considered exchanging crystals for merit points many times, but it seemed like it wouldn't work, as the sanctum would surely investigate the source of those crystals.

The Gang Master's expression became gloomy. "What do you want to do, then?"

The little demoness smiled and revealed her pearly white teeth as she said, "I want to cripple your cultivation and take you back alive to the sanctum. That way, I can get even more merit points."

As she spoke, the little demoness's gaze became ice-cold. She then turned into a blur and flew toward the black light, where she decisively thrust her dagger toward his belly!

Since the Gang Master had been poisoned by the little demoness's strange poison, and his whole body couldn't budge even an inch, there was no way that he could dodge this strike. However, an unexpected incident occurred at that moment...

The black radiance that was covering the Gang Master's body started disappearing. Then, a dazzling golden radiance shot out from his body!

When most of the black radiance disappeared, a strange human appeared before their eyes. His left half was pitch-black, like ink, and an eerie ghost energy was emanating out from it. It seemed hideous and evil.

As for his right half, it shone in a golden light and emitted an auspicious Buddhist-like aura. It gave one a serene feeling. These two extremely opposite auras appeared on the body of a single person, which was quite strange!

When the little demoness' black dagger struck his belly, it didn't manage to penetrate it like she had expected. Instead, a metallic collision sound echoed out, and the little demoness' dagger was deflected.

Such a strange transformation occurred quickly, and the little demoness was caught off guard by it. But, she still reacted quickly and immediately drew back. At the same time, she placed a shield that had been formed from white bones in front of her body.

Just as she had raised the shield to defend herself, a powerful attack struck the shield. Alarm appeared on the little demoness' face, and as she drew back, she slammed against the stone door. When she looked at the half-black and half-golden Gang Master, she saw that he had already stood up and was about to lower his fist!

“Weren't you poisoned? This is impossible, as that poison was invented by brother Shanliang, and even a middle-stage Divine Master can't withstand it!” the little exclaimed in surprise.

The Gang Master sneered coldly and said, “I was indeed poisoned by it! But, did you forget my title? I am the Ghost Buddha!”

He smiled, then said, “I'm half a ghost, and half a Buddha, and my Buddhist body is capable of purifying even an acute poison. It just so happened that it's capable of purifying the poison you used!”

The Ghost Buddha was mocking her. He knew that as long as he revealed his hidden half-Buddha body, he could use its Buddhist Light to purify all of the poisonous substances inside his body.

Even though the little demoness was clever, she had still treated him too lightly and had clearly underestimated the Ghost Buddha. After all, he was a person who managed to kill three Divine Masters of the Red Blood Palace, yet he still had not been captured!

Hence, he was surely a thorny character! Yet, the little demoness had rashly made a move against him, without investigating him sufficiently beforehand!

The Ghost Buddha's cultivation was at the Level One Divine Master Realm, while the little demoness was just a Level Nine Fairy. Moreover, the Ghost Buddha still hadn't used his powerful Divine Seal.

The little demoness didn't give this matter a single thought as she turned around and rushed out of the secret room. As she ran away, she still managed to take out a yellow sphere and throw it back at him.

Bang!

A loud explosion sound echoed. The golden sphere burst on the spot, raging flames erupting out from it immediately. The flames possessed a terrifying power, and even a Level One Divine Master wouldn't dare to rashly face them head-on.

Since the middle-aged man was lying on the ground and wasn't capable of even budging an inch, he was swept over by the flames and burnt into nothingness by them before he even managed to scream. The whole secret room was being melted by the flames. The powerful flames didn't just burn this room, but they also spread to the rooms that were connected to it, melting them all.

Just like that, several dozens of rooms were transformed into a sea of flames. Many miserable screams echoed out unceasingly. The scene soon became a hell on earth.

Just a sphere alone had ended up burning to death more than a hundred members of the Three Murders Gang. Many experts were among them, and even the Three Murders Gang's vice-master died in that group. He was a Level Nine Fairy, yet he had only managed to rush out from the room before he was swallowed by the dragons that were formed by the flames.

Such a disastrous sight alarmed the whole Three Murders Gang, causing it to alert all of its members. Regardless of whether its members were on the fighting plaza on the ground or in the countless underground tunnels, they were all alerted about what was going on.

Su Yu clicked his tongue. He knew about that sphere. It was a single-use magical treasure called the Fiery Diamond Sphere.

Its price was high, as just a single piece cost more than three hundred thousand crystals! If he added to this the fact that the little demoness hung around her neck a Fire Essence Jade that was worth a million crystals, he could deduce that she possessed an astronomical wealth!

Since the Three Murders Gang had already descended into chaos, Su Yu couldn't delay any longer, and he immediately infiltrated the prison. Since the Three Murders Gang was so distracted, it wouldn't be difficult to save Ying Luan and the others.

After five minutes had passed, a group of people walked out from a dark alley in a street far away from the Three Murders Gang's base. These people were Ying Luan and the other hostages.

Su Yu surveyed the surroundings to ascertain their safety before he spoke to the people behind him, "Okay, you should be safe here. You should all scatter though. If your homes are in the vicinity, you should go there quickly, but if they are far away, you should first hide here, then transmit a message for your family's elders to come and get you when it's safe. Understood?"

The hostages were all young men and women. They had just gone through a nerve-racking experience while they were being rescued, and they still hadn't gotten over their panic. They all nodded repeatedly, like chicks pecking at rice.

Ying Luan was just behind Su Yu, and she was looking at his back with a gaze that was filled with adoration. She never imagined that Shopkeeper Su would charge into the Three Murders Gang to save her! After all, she was just an insignificant servant girl.

"Ying Luan, you shouldn't go back to the elixir store yet. You should just hide here with them. Wait until tomorrow before coming back to the store," Su Yu instructed her before he flew into the sky and left.

The group of young men and women then quickly looked for a good hiding place. As they searched, all of the young women's faces, including Ying Luan's, were filled with longing.

One of the young women asked, “Sister Ying Luan, who is he to you?” Although they had only been imprisoned for a short time, since they had all gone through the same ordeal, they had a joint topic for discussion.

“He’s our Tonglin Elixir Store’s Shopkeeper Su.” Ying Luan was timid and shy, so she bit her lip nervously as she replied. She felt proud of being a part of the store for the first time proud at that moment.

The Tonglin Elixir Store? Those young women all blinked their pretty eyes and bore this name in mind.

After Su Yu left, he immediately went back to the vicinity of the Three Murders Gang’s base and observed its current state. After an hour had passed, most of the fire had been extinguished, but a whole underground cave had already been burnt by it and had been turned into a ruin.

Many charred corpses were being dug out. Several dozen corpses had already been dug out, but most of them had just turned into igneous rocks after they cooled. There weren’t any real corpses left behind to speak of in reality.

As Su Yu swept his gaze over them, he stopped to stare at the Ghost Buddha’s secret room. His pupils couldn’t help but contract, as flames were still burning in the secret room, while a person shining in black and golden light was standing in the room.

His golden and black light isolated him from the terrifying flames. They couldn’t injure him at all.

Su Yu became apprehensive upon witnessing this, and he thought in awe... What a powerful fleshly body! Most Level One Divine Masters wouldn’t have been able to survive such an explosion, yet the Ghost Buddha came out from it unscathed! Since this person was listed thirteenth in the wanted criminals’ list, his power is surely great!

It was only after all of the remaining flames in the secret room had dispersed completely that the Buddhist Ghost Light that was covering his body vanished. His ice-cold eyes shone with a cold glint as he said, “What a good Red Blood Palace’s disciple! She unexpectedly dared to come to my door!” He couldn’t help but admit that the little demoness was brave and cunning.

She first pretended to have been lured here, then she pretended that she was a core member of the Tianya Auction House, luring the middle-aged man into showing the way for her! Even when her crafty scheme was countered, she still managed to escape because she was already prepared! She didn’t suffer any harm at all!

However, it was a pity that had she still underestimated the Ghost Buddha’s power. Even the Fiery Diamond Sphere couldn’t deal with him!

“Let’s see how far you can get underground!” the Ghost Buddha exclaimed. He then turned into a ghost blur and disappeared from the secret room.

Everything occurring was still under Su Yu’s control, and he decided to follow the Ghost Buddha in secret. After the little demoness had fled, she traveled a long way in the underground tunnels.

However, those tunnels were all complex and tangled together, so even she was confused by them. She felt like a groggy lab rat, as many times, she was just moving around in circles, always returning to the same places! Thus, she didn’t manage to find a way out.

Chapter 854: Who Is in Desperate Straits?

Gongsun Wuxie was trying to open the roof of the cave in order to get back to the surface. However, every time she tried to find the surface, she ended up entering a new cave.

Moreover, she discovered that the more she drilled upward, the more hard and firm would the soil become. When she finally reached the top of the cave, she discovered that her low-grade spiritual artifact wasn't capable of dislodging the hardened soil. Then, when she tried to hack it with her sword, a shallow dent was left in her spiritual artifact, while the cave's roof was entirely undamaged!

"A formation is set on the uppermost cave!" The little demoness quickly discovered the reason behind this, and she was infuriated by it. "It's really hateful! Who would have expected that the Ghost Buddha would be this careful? It's no wonder that no one can break through the Three Murders Gang's base!"

If destroying the cave in the uppermost layer was easy, the past factions who attacked them wouldn't have suffered any trouble. They would have only needed to just open the underground layer.

The Ghost Buddha carefully set a formation on the ground's surface around the Three Murders Gang's base, and people outside on the surface couldn't open the cave. It was in this way that he could ensure the safety of the underground caves.

It could be said that the little demoness was like a mouse that was trapped in a cage. She was trapped in this underground world, completely incapable of escaping.

The little demoness was annoyed by this. "Humph! I don't believe that I can't get out."

After two hours had passed, the little demoness was gasping for breath in front of a wall at the end of a certain cave, her eyes filled with anxiety. "What's going on? Why have I ended up at a dead end once again, even though I have traveled for so long?"

She had already walked through ten caves, and they had all led her to a dead end, just like the one that was before her.

"Hehe, that's because among the hundred caves here, only two lead to the outside. Lassie, you don't have a way out!" An ice-cold sneering sound suddenly transmitted from behind her.

The little demoness was startled, and as she turned her head back, her pupils contracted slightly. The half-ghost and half-Buddha was standing three hundred meters away from her!

"How did you manage to track me down?" the little demoness asked in surprise.

The Ghost Buddha sneered coldly and said, "This underground region is my world. So, of course it was easy for me to find you!"

The little demoness gritted her silver teeth and said, "Humph! I don't fear you!" As she spoke, she grabbed the black dagger and her shield, holding them tightly.

The Ghost Buddha just chuckled coldly in response. "Do you have just those things alone?"

Whoosh!

The Ghost Buddha turned into a blur and attacked the little demoness' shield before she had prepared herself wholly.

Bang!

The little demoness, as well as her shield, were slammed against the wall. Such an intense jolt shocked her internal organs, and she couldn't help but spout out a mouthful of blood. She was clearly no match for the Ghost Buddha!

The little demoness rolled her eyes and took out a large number of talismans. If one counted them roughly, he would say that she took out a little more than a hundred.

They were all powerful talismans, and the price of any of them would surpass several tens of thousands of crystals on the market. Anyone of them could also pose a threat to a Divine Master's life.

The Ghost Buddha couldn't help but jump in fright upon witnessing this many talismans at once. He had planned to continue attacking her, but he stopped in his tracks and quickly drew back.

He then shouted anxiously, "Who are you really? Even a core member of the Tianya Auction House wouldn't possess this many talismans!"

"Humph, old b*stard, I will attack you until you die!" The little demoness waved her hands, and a large number of talismans shot toward the Ghost Buddha.

The Ghost Buddha didn't dare face such a large number of talismans, so he drew back immediately. At the same time, he condensed his two Ghost and Buddha divine lights, which engulfed his whole body within them.

Bang! Bang!

Suddenly, several earth-shattering explosions occurred, and even though the Ghost Buddha possessed a great magical ability, he was still forced to draw back as he was bombarded by them. Even the divine light on his body fluctuated unceasingly at this moment.

It couldn't be denied that the Ghost Buddha was outrageously powerful, and regardless of how many talismans bombarded him and exploded on him, he still didn't suffer any injuries. When the last explosion died down, the Ghost Buddha's gaze became ice-cold, and his eyes were filled with shame and anger.

But, after the smoke and dust that had been caused by the explosion dissipated, he didn't see anyone in the cave. The Ghost Buddha squinted his eyes and suddenly attacked. The two Ghost and Buddha divine lights on his body turned into two arrows, which shot toward an empty place that was about ten meters away from him.

"Ah!" A pained cry echoed out and the void fluctuated as a petite person carrying a shield was sent flying away. At the same time, a talisman that was on her chest was torn apart by the divine light.

“A concealment talisman? Humph!” The Ghost Buddha sneered coldly, and he didn’t leave little demoness any opportunity to respond before he turned into a blur, charged at her, and grabbed a hold of her neck.

The little demoness suffered the two divine light’s attacks, causing her chest to become drenched in blood. It seemed like she had suffered some grave internal injuries! Those two divine light clearly possessed a powerful might!

“Lassie, rest in peace!” The Ghost Buddha snorted coldly, while Vital Energy surged into his palm.

At that moment, he was about to penetrate her neck and throttle her. However, the Ghost Buddha suddenly felt a chill run down his spine and sensed great danger.

This was something that he didn’t feel even when the little demoness threw more than a hundred talismans at him! He felt his hair standing on end, and he quickly left the little demoness and drew back.

Swoosh!

Just when he had moved out of the way, an ice-cold thread of silk penetrated his rib. If hadn’t reacted in time, it would have been his heart that was penetrated by it!

Afterward, the silk thread that penetrated his body started moving inside him. It then cut off his entire rib before it started moving toward his heart! All of the internal organs in the way were torn to shreds by it!

His extremely powerful fleshly body, which he took great pride in, was as soft as tofu in front of this silk thread! Sensing this, the Ghost Buddha turned pale from fright. Needless to say, he was frightened and alarmed!

The thread of silk was about to cut off his chest, as his fleshly body wasn’t capable of resisting it at all. A decisive look appeared in the Ghost Buddha’s eyes, and he immediately took action by penetrating his own chest with his right hand, then reaching out toward the silk thread and grabbing it!

However, he still could only manage to slow down the silk thread slightly, as even his hand was cut apart by it! But, in the short pause during the time that he did manage to grab the silk thread, his body moved forward, which caused the silk thread to come out from his body completely.

He rushed toward the end of the cave before he turned his head back and asked with a grave gaze, “Who are you?”

At another corner of the cave, a person clad in a raincoat, whose facial features weren’t distinct, was walking toward him. This person was Su Yu in his youthful state.

He didn’t want to expose himself in front of the little demoness, which is why he had worn a raincoat. But, this disguise really hadn’t been necessary, as even if the coat was torn apart, it would reveal the youthful Su Yu, who was related to ‘Su Yuxian’ at all in the little demoness’ brain.

“I’m obviously someone who came for you,” Su Yu replied calmly, while he extended his arm and took the little demoness into his embrace.

Since they were both members of the Demon Mountain, Su Yu would surely not let her die without at least trying to save her. Moreover, he came here to destroy the Three Murders Gang so that they wouldn't bring him further trouble in the future.

The little demoness was heavily injured, and her senses were dull and weak. She could only hear a youthful and manly voice, as well as feel a wide, powerful, and scalding hot chest against her.

It was the first time that she had ever been embraced by a young man, and she couldn't help but start struggling. This was because she felt ashamed of her current distressed state.

"If you don't want to die, just obediently hold into me!" Su Yu reprimanded her. He didn't dare let himself be distracted by anything as he was facing the infamous Ghost Buddha.

The little demoness was startled by his rebuke. It was the first time in her whole life that someone had dared to reprimand her.

She was both angered and irritated by it, but she still couldn't help but calm down, even though she grumbled inwardly. Then, as she looked at his hidden face, she couldn't help but start pondering about who he was and why he wanted to save her. This was the first time she had even been interested in a man, much less a youthful and mysterious man!

The Ghost Buddha's expression became grave as he asked in a cold voice, "Are you from the Tianya Auction House or the Red Blood Palace?" As this person appeared here at this specific time, he assumed that Su Yu must surely be the lassie's companion, so he had narrowed it down to one of the two possibilities mentioned above.

Su Yu replied calmly, "Neither of them. I was just coming to settle something with you to avoid future trouble."

When he finished speaking, Su Yu's shook his sleeves, causing an invisible silk thread to shoot out toward the Ghost Buddha. Although the Ghost Buddha couldn't see the silk thread, he could still feel a great danger approaching him. So, he quickly jumped and moved away from it.

Right as he jumped, a faint crack appeared on the wall behind him, as well as on the roof of the cave. The Ghost Buddha's expression became grave, as a formation was set on the cave, and even a Divine Master like him wasn't capable of breaking the formation and damaging the cave's roof!

He couldn't help but wonder... What object is this, and why is it so terrifying?

He didn't have time to ponder this, as he was now cornered at a dead end. At this moment, he could only try to rush out from the cave and seek reinforcement from the Three Murders Gang!

Swoosh!

The two Ghost and Buddha divine lights on his body turned into two sharp arrows, which shot toward Su Yu. He followed the divine light closely because he wanted to take advantage of the moment when Su Yu would avoid them to rush out of here.

However, Su Yu unexpectedly didn't try to evade it. Instead, he turned his hand over, and a jade seal that was shining with a dazzling light appeared on his palm.

The jade seal was emitting an appalling pressure. It seemed like it was this world's spiritual god. One couldn't help but have an impulse to bow down to it upon seeing it!

The Ghost Buddha was overwhelmed with shock. "A prototype fairy artifact!"

His flying body quickly stopped in its tracks, while he drew back in fright. He drew back once again as he reached the end of the cave and said in alarm, "Sir, if you need something, we can talk it over! I'm willing to give you anything you want as compensation."

Since he was on the brink of death, the Ghost Buddha could only beg for forgiveness.

Su Yu replied calmly, "Do you still want to use the same tricks again? Are you trying to stall for time in order to use your Divine Seal? It's a pity that I'm not like this lassie... I see through your trickery!"

Before, the little demoness was too careless and had wasted too much time. This had left the Ghost Buddha with enough time to use his special Ghost Buddha Body's power.

It was only because of this that she had ended up being hunted down by him, and was almost killed! Su Yu had been through countless battles, so he understood that one must quickly dispose of his enemies.

"Five Elements Strong Thunder Seal!" Su Yu shouted as he poured his Vital Energy into the seal.

A sharp roar echoed from the divine seal, and a ferocious beast, whose whole body flickered with lightning, came out of it, roaring loudly. After it came out, it looked ferociously at Su Yu.

Its killing intent was intense, and it looked like it might betray him at any time. However, it still obeyed his orders and directed its gaze at the Ghost Buddha. It was a gaze that was filled with contempt.

The lightning beast shouted in a low voice, while its whole body turned into lightning and it instantly teleported to right near the Ghost Buddha's chest. Its speed was so quick that the Ghost Buddha couldn't even react before his body was penetrated by it!

At that moment, the Ghost Buddha's palm was still weaving hand signs. Those were the hand signs for summoning his Divine Seal!

If Su Yu had been slightly later, the Divine Seal would have appeared. Just the Ghost Buddha's magical abilities alone were amazing, and his Divine Seal would be probably even more extraordinary!

The Ghost Buddha screamed miserably as his whole body was engulfed by lightning. Many cracks that were filled with lightning started appearing on his body, filling it completely. In this way, a solemn Ghost Buddha, who had killed an unknown number of Divine Masters, ended up killed by a mysterious man on this day.

Resentment and anger welled up in the Ghost Buddha's heart. When his heart was filled completely with rancor and bitter resentment, and just when he was about to be devoured completely by the lightning, he shouted in a sharp voice, "If I die today, don't you dare dream about living!"

Chapter 855: Wuxie's Identity

“Divine Seal, Evil Spirits Affliction!” At the last juncture, the Ghost Buddha had used a secret technique to summon his Divine Seal in advance.

A magical seal that was shining in a golden light immediately appeared atop his head. A sinister-looking ghost face was depicted on the bottom of the magical seal.

Surprise appeared on Su Yu’s face, and he grumbled inwardly as he quickly drew back, still holding the little demoness in his arms. He waved his wrist at the same time, using the silk in his sleeves to quickly cut off his opponent’s head.

A large opening was left in the extremely hard cave’s room, and the outside world’s starlight shone upon this cave, illuminating it entirely. A fresh and clear air, which they hadn’t experienced for a long while, suddenly swept across their faces.

Su Yu stamped the ground with the tip of his foot, flew up into the sky along with the little demoness, then left the underground world. However, just after he left, an illusory ghost face charged out of the cave as well!

As it opened its giant mouth to bite them both, it looked terrifying! However, it didn’t bite their bodies, but their souls! Su Yu immediately felt an intense pain transmitting from his soul, and he felt like his soul was being devoured by a formless power!

Still in his embrace, the little demoness screamed miserably, while her whole body shivered. She was greatly pained, and she couldn’t help but hold onto her head with her trembling hands.

If nothing unexpected occurred, their souls would be exterminated in the next moment! Apparently, the Ghost Buddha’s Divine Seal possessed a soul attack! No one was aware of this matter before, as he had carefully hid it away in order to use it as a trump card for such a time as this!

It was only when he was on the brink of death that he finally released it. At this critical moment, Su Yu pushed the little demoness away from him.

The ghost face roared, then turned into two entities. One of these entities continued biting Su Yu, while the other chased after the little demoness.

Su Yu’s expression became grave, and he grumbled inwardly... Soul flames.

Su Yu’s eyes shone in an eerie white light, and formless soul flames instantly engulfed the ghost face that was chasing the little demoness. Black smoke rose from the ghost face, and as it turned around angrily, it gave up chasing the little demoness and pounced at Su Yu once again.

At this moment, the little demoness’ injuries had already recovered slightly, and her sight wasn’t as blurry as before. So, she witnessed everything clearly.

She felt like she was struck by an electric current, and her heart was greatly moved and stirred by it. Then, amid her confusion and doubt, a warm feeling that she had never felt before welled up in the deepest part of her heart.

Why does he want to save me? The little demoness mulled over it. This was the first time that she had ever been this confused and puzzled.

They were obviously total strangers, and she knew that he could easily throw her down and let her attract the ghost face’s attention, while he escaped away by himself. Such bewildering questions turned her mind into a mess, plaguing it because she simply had no answers at the moment.

Su Yu was currently facing the ghost faces' attack. His expression was filled with pain, just as it had been before. Several pure scarlet drops flowed out from the Divine Nine Dragons Cauldron, which had apparently been disturbed by them. Those drops fused with Su Yu's blood, immediately easing his soul's pain and healing his injuries.

Now, regardless of how much the ghost faces tore at him with their teeth, they still couldn't harm him. Finally, a miserable scream finally echoed out from the cave. The Ghost Buddha couldn't hold on any longer, and he shouted sharply as he was turned into ashes by the Lightning Beast.

As for the ghost faces, they also started to disappear at that moment. However, they didn't disappear completely. Instead, they turned into a seal that was about the size of a palm, which then flew at Su Yu. It caught him off guard and struck his chest.

Su Yu felt a scalding feeling transmitting from his chest, and when he lowered his head and looked at it, shock appeared on his face. The ghost faces had turned into an imprint, which was now branded on his chest. If one looked at it from afar, it would seem to him like a ghost face had been drilled out of Su Yu's chest!

Su Yu immediately used his Vital Energy and tried to force the ghost face out, but it wasn't affected by it at all. It seemed like it was embedded firmly in his chest. Su Yu tried using his soul power then, but it couldn't deal with it either.

Su Yu tried many other ways, but he still couldn't get rid of the ghost face. "Why it's like this?" Su Yu wondered aloud.

The ghost face's owner had already died, so Su Yu couldn't understand why it would invade his body. Su Yu felt like this was tantamount to having danger hiding within him, which made him restless and uneasy.

At this moment, the little demoness spoke weakly, "It's a curse! The power of the Ghost Buddha's Divine Seal is like a curse, and the greater its owner's resentment and rancor are, the more powerful the curse will be. It will invade the person that its owner resents, then start devouring its target's soul power until it's completely exhausted and the target is dead."

Upon hearing this, Su Yu's expression became gloomy. When he carefully examined himself, he felt like his soul power was indeed slightly weakening. However, the Divine Nine Dragons Cauldron hadn't emitted any response.

His heart couldn't help but sink. He knew that if his soul suffered any violent attack, it would be protected by the Divine Nine Dragons Cauldron. But now, his soul was just slowly losing its power, and the Divine Nine Dragons Cauldron didn't detect any danger from this matter, so it didn't treat it like a threat! This was why it didn't use its power to fight against it!

Upon figuring this out, Su Yu furrowed his brows. He really had ended up provoking a troublesome guy!

"Do you have some means for dealing with it?" Su Yu asked in a soft voice.

The little demoness shook her head, while an apologetic look appeared in her eyes. She felt like she should have shared the burden of half of the curse with him.

"Is it unbreakable?" Su Yu then asked.

“The curse will disappear by itself if you cultivate your soul power to a level greater than the Ghost Buddha,” the little demoness said, even though she knew that this was basically impossible.

After all, Su Yu’s trying to raise his soul power while the ghost face was constantly eating it was no different than a pipe dream. Su Yu’s previously tense facial expression eased a bit after hearing this, as if this was really the case, his situation wasn’t too bad.

After all, he still had the Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid, and as long as he produced a large amount of it, he should be able to make up for the lost soul power. Moreover, without checking by himself whether or not there was a way to get rid of it, he couldn’t be sure that the curse was really unbreakable!

Su Yu decided to go back to the underground room, as he wanted to verify whether the Ghost Buddha had really died. When he discovered that only his ashes were left behind, and even his soul didn’t survive, Su Yu finally relaxed. After all, Su Yu knew that if he had allowed such a dangerous enemy to travel freely in the world, he would sooner or later bring a great disaster upon him.

When the Lightning Beast caught sight of Su Yu, it roared at him several times before it went back to the Five Elements Strong Thunder Seal unwillingly. Su Yu furrowed his brows upon seeing this.

He then thought... I refined the Lightning Beast for so long, yet I still didn’t manage to tame it completely. It seems like I must refine the Five Elements Strong Thunder Seal further, then turn it into a semi-completed fairy artifact.

Su Yu left the cave, while pondering how could he send the little demoness to the Red Blood Palace’s headquarters. He knew he had to be careful, as if he was discovered by someone in the headquarters and was tailed by him, Su Yu would be in trouble.

However, when he went back to the surface, he didn’t see the little demoness. He became slightly tense as he wondered... Was she taken away by the Three Murders Gang’s members?

However, as he had only left for a short moment, and he had still paid attention to all signs of activities on the surface while he was below, Su Yu couldn’t imagine how someone could fool him and take away the little demoness during that time. All of a sudden, Su Yu shot a glance at a scarlet pendant on the ground. It was the little demoness’ Fire Essence Jade.

Su Yu grabbed it and held it in his palm. It was only then that he discovered that a sound transmission jade ornament was beneath the pendant. As he looked at it, he wondered... Did the little demoness leave a message for me?

Su Yu immediately put it near his ear and listened gravely to what she had left inside it...”B*stard, you have embraced me and molested me. I will surely not forgive you. But... I will gift the Fire Essence Jade to you because I don’t want to owe you anything for saving my life. Humph!”

Su Yu smiled. It seemed like the little demoness wasn’t kidnapped after all. Then, just when he just assumed that the little demoness had finished her speech, she continued, “Moreover, I must still inform you that I’m not a little girl any longer! I’m already eighteen years old!”

Su Yu was startled by this, and he couldn’t help but wonder why she had suddenly added this info in the end. Su Yu was aware that the little demoness’ body stayed in its ten-year-old appearance

because she had consumed a strange spiritual substance in her childhood by mistake. Her true was the same as Su Yu's!.

Su Yu was confused by this, and he could only shake his head as he looked in surprise at the Fire Essence Jade in his palm. This single piece of jade was worth a million crystals!

It was the first time he had ever gotten such a precious object. The little demoness' wealth really surpassed all of his expectations! As Su Yu thought of this, he collected it properly, stood up, and proceeded back to his elixir store.

The little demoness was now laying on a bed within a luxurious palace in the Inner City. Many beautiful maids, who all wore the same style of uniform, were beside her. They were all at the Divine Master Realm.

They all wore respectful expressions and treated the little demoness' injuries carefully. They didn't dare slack off, and they treated the little demoness as if she possessed an elite status.

An old man was sitting calmly on a chair before the bed. As he wore a serene expression on his face, and one couldn't quite discern how powerful his cultivation was.

"Elder Lan, why didn't you intervene early on? Or, why didn't you give me more powerful treasures, which would turn the Ghost Buddha into a defenseless nothing? I ended up suffering many injuries just because of you," the little demoness mumbled, while her face became filled with bitterness.

Elder Lan revealed an amiable smile. "Those were the Cliff Master's instructions. He asked me to intervene only when your life was in danger, and I also mustn't offer you any powerful treasure so that you can temper yourself. This is the reasoning behind everything, see? It's all so that you can grow stronger! Otherwise, how will you face powerful enemies in the future by yourself?"

The little demoness bared her teeth and replied, "I'm already quite powerful, and even though I'm just a Level Nine Fairy, I can still fight against a Divine Master!"

Elder Lan chuckled, then said, "The lad who saved you was just a Level Three Fairy, yet he managed to easily kill the Ghost Buddha."

If she hadn't heard it, she would still be at peace because she was oblivious to it, but after she heard it, she almost jumped out of the bed. "What? Is that guy just at the Level Three Fairy? Then... How's it possible for him to be that powerful?"

"Hehe, Young Cliff Mistress, don't you trust my judgment? That lad was hiding there from the beginning! He used a powerful technique to control the underground world's situation. He was aware of all your actions." Elder Lan's gaze flickered as he spoke.

A crafty glint flickered in the little demoness' eyes for a moment. She then squinted her eyes and asked, "Are you implying that b*stard was keeping a close watch over me from the beginning, and that he saved me while I was in danger on purpose, just to leave me with a favorable impression of him?"

Her status was quite special, and she couldn't rule out that an opportunistic person would use such tricks to gain her favor. Elder Lan muttered to himself for a moment before he shook his head and said, "That isn't the case. According to what I learned by observing him, he just wanted to save the trapped hostages, then just happened to save you in passing."

He then added, "If he was really a scheming guy and was plotting against you, I would have already eliminated him for you in secret!" Just as he said that, killing intent appeared in Elder Lan's eyes for a moment.

After hearing that, the doubts in the little demoness' heart disappeared, and she couldn't help but heave a deep sigh of relief. She then bit her lip and hesitated for a moment before she asked, "So, Elder Lan, do you know his true identity?"

Elder Lan looked at the little demoness in surprise. In his memory, his young mistress rarely cared about someone's identity. However, such doubts flashed through his mind for just a moment, and he really didn't take them seriously.

"I don't know it. I was only concerned about whether he would pose a danger to you, so I didn't bother to try seeing-through his clothes," Elder Lan replied, while shaking his head.

Disappointment appeared in the little demoness' eyes for a moment, then she threw back her head and said, "Fine. I will just forget it. I already compensated him, so I don't owe him anything now."

...

The next day, a piece of shocking news spread throughout the entire Tianya City. The Three Murders Gang's Master was killed by a mysterious expert!

This news gave rise to a great commotion. The Three Murders Gang's Master was the head of the Outer City's greatest underworld faction, and as such, he was a malignant tumor! No one had been able to eliminate him until this fateful day.

This was obviously shocking news, and both the Outer and Inner Cities' residents were astounded upon hearing it.

Chapter 856: Bright Moon Householder

Some of the Outer City's small underworld factions were getting restless because they all wanted to avail themselves of such an opportunity and divide up the Three Murders Gang's domain.

On the previous day, the Three Murders Gang didn't just lose its Divine Master Realm Gang Master, who intimidated everyone in the Outer City, but it also lost its Level Nine Fairy Realm vice-master, as well as a hundred powerful members who were neighbors to the Gang Master. Moreover, most of the Three Murders Gang's apex experts died among the flames.

At the moment, if they tried to resist the small factions' invasion, they would find themselves faced with a war of attrition. It could be imagined that, in the future, the Outer City would go back to its past state, where many underworld factions existed side by side, and as long as the Inner City was willing to eradicate them, they could achieve this at any time, thus helping the Outer City return to order.

The situation wouldn't be like in the past, where only a powerful underworld faction like the Three Murders Gang alone had all of the power.

Su Yu, who was behind all of this, didn't care about the outside world's matters. Instead, he just cultivated peacefully in the Tonglin Elixir Store.

After he went back on the previous day, he had tried several times to eliminate the ghost face curse. But, he had failed.

Since he was left without a choice, he could only start cultivating the Five Elements Mysteries Art. Once he finished cultivating it completely, he would be capable of controlling an ancient imperial saint artifact.

After he had passed the whole night cultivating, he ended up mastering two other demon clan's characters. Now, he could comprehend a total of four characters.

As long as he continued cultivating, he would be able to use a tenth of the Five Elements Divine Prison's power once he comprehended more than a hundred demon clan's characters. Moreover, just a tenth of its power was enough for Su Yu to be invincible while facing anyone below the All Creation Realm level.

The next day morning...

Qing Liu and Ying Luan waited according to Su Yu's instructions until the disorder died down before coming back after dawn. They both bustled around, cleaning up the elixir store, which was a mess. They even repaired the broken counter.

After they had made it through such a crisis, they treasured this opportunity that they had gotten only with great difficulty all the more. After all, their Shopkeeper Su wasn't just generous, he was also a hidden great expert!

Ying Luan understood this matter even more because Su Yu managed to easily infiltrate the Three Murders Gang's base and save them all. He would need to possess great power in order to achieve such a feat. Hence, she was looking forward to the future and was excited to learn from Su Yu.

"Shopkeeper Su, all of our elixirs were stolen by the Three Murders Gang. What should we do?" Qing Liu asked.

After Qing Liu and Ying Luan tidied up the elixir store, they had all gone to the back chamber. Su Yu didn't care at all about those elixirs, which couldn't even be considered as spirit elixirs, so he said, "I don't care about them, so if we don't have them, just let it be. After several days, a new elixir will be sold here. So, you all should just rest until then."

Qing Liu was taken aback by this, and Ying Luan said anxiously, "Shopkeeper Su, that's out of the question. The elixir store's counter mustn't be left empty."

Su Yu raised his brows and asked, "Huh? Why is that?"

After she went through such an ordeal on the previous day, Ying Luan wasn't stuttering anymore, and instead, she spoke smoothly, "According to the Red Blood Palace's rules for elixir stores, no elixir store is allowed to leave its counter empty. Otherwise, the shopkeeper will be fired!"

Su Yu was startled to hear this. "Why have I never heard about such a rule?"

After he came here, he had carefully studied everything about working in an elixir store, and he never came across this rule! After all, the Red Blood Palace just cared about profits, so it didn't set any detailed rules for how shopkeepers should manage their elixir stores.

"It's a rule that was set by the Elixir Meet," Ying Luan said. "A year ago, Shopkeeper Fei convened all of the elixir stores' shopkeepers to talk over this rule. Now, elixir stores aren't allowed to leave their counters empty, as such an action is seen as wasting the Red Blood Palace's resources, and once anyone was discovered breaking this rule, the shopkeeper will be fined and deprived of his current duty. The Great General Manager already agreed to this matter, so it is absolutely official."

Ying Luan then said, "I heard that the previous shopkeeper working here before us just focused on his cultivation because he felt that this store didn't have good prospects. He planned to just wait for the end of his duty before leaving, so naturally didn't care at all about the elixir store itself. As a result, there weren't any elixirs for sale on the counter, and it was even left empty for five or six days."

Yung Luan paused to take a breath, then added, "After this matter was reported by the other elixir stores' owners, our previous shopkeeper was severely punished. He was fined, deprived of his duty, and driven back to the sanctum."

Su Yu raised his eyebrows when he heard this. He didn't care at all about the elixirs, but his status as a shopkeeper was useful to him, so he couldn't give it up for now. Thus, it appeared that he had to obey this rule.

"Okay, where can we acquire elixir stocks?" Su Yu then asked. Since small elixir stores couldn't afford to hire an alchemist to make elixirs for them, they just bought elixirs and other various items from elixir dealers.

Ying Luan smiled, ran to the counter, then took an account book out from under it. The stock channels of the previous shopkeepers were recorded in the account book, as well as the supplier's name and address.

Su Yu looked at it and saw that the Tonglin Elixir Store's supplier was located in a place called the Bright Moon House. Apparently, the Bright Moon House's owner had collaborated with the Tonglin Elixir Store for years. They also couldn't produce elixirs, so they actually got theirs from another place, the Elixir Alliance.

The Elixir Alliance was the Tianya Auction House's alchemists' alliance, meaning that all those who joined the alliance were alchemists. The least skilled among them was still at an intermediate alchemist level, and there were plenty of high-grade alchemists among them. There were even two great alchemists among them, who could both make Incredible Elixirs.

Incredible Elixirs were elixirs that could be consumed by Divine Masters. Their production process was difficult, and they were greater than spirit elixirs, which could be consumed by Fairy experts. Although the difference between Incredible Elixirs and spirit elixirs lie just in a single word, there was still a great disparity between their effects.

Su Yu's current skills weren't good enough for him to make Incredible Elixirs. It wasn't just that he lacked experience, but what was most important was his shortage of soul power. The process of

production of the Incredible-grade elixirs wasn't something that average people could even imagine.

In the process of making the elixir, it mustn't come in contact with any tangible matters. The Incredible Elixirs production requirements were so strict that even impure humans mustn't come in contact with them. This was because if they used their hands or anything that their hands had touched during the production process, they might cause the furnace to explode!

This, of course, created a big problem. They soon realized that since they couldn't use any physical power, like their hands or objects, the only thing they could use was soul power.

This meant that they had to use only their souls to control the whole process. As this matter involved using soul power, it was difficult and complicated. If they didn't have a powerful soul or didn't go through a long period of training, they would be incapable of using their souls to make the elixirs.

This was the reason why great alchemists were a precious resource, as even in a city as big as Tianya City, there were only two great alchemists who could produce Incredible Elixirs! In fact, the great alchemists in all the Eighteen Blessed and Heavenly Lands could be counted on one's fingers, as there weren't more than ten of them.

The Red Blood Palace had three, while the Purple Cloud Palace also had three, and the remaining two were independent cultivators not tied to any formal palace. The Elixir Alliance also had two great alchemists, which were its pillars.

Those two people formed a neutral faction, which was in charge of just elixir production alone. Its alchemists would all hand over their produced elixirs straight to the Elixir Alliance.

The Alliance didn't want to manage stores, and it also didn't have time to look for clients, so they just left such matters to some traders they were connected with. These traders were usually all friends or relatives of some alchemists in the Elixir Alliance.

Afterward, the traders would sell the elixirs to elixir stores in all corners of the Eighteen Blessed and Heavenly Lands. These traders were called elixir dealers, and they all depended on the Elixir Alliance to make a living. So, if the Elixir Alliance collapsed, they would be left without a way to make a livelihood.

"Bright Moon House... Bright Moon Householder..." Su Yu muttered those names.

The Tonglin Elixir Store was small, and they didn't need a great amount of stock, so he didn't understand why they felt the need to look to other dealers and were constantly purchasing elixirs from an elixir dealer called Bright Moon Householder. Although this was troublesome, Su Yu was still forced to go there personally and purchase elixirs from Bright Moon Householder to fill up the counter.

"You should all rest for now, while I go to purchase the goods." After saying this, Su Yu left the Tonglin Elixir Store and headed toward the Bright Moon House.

The Bright Moon House was actually just an ordinary house with a courtyard in the Inner City, but if elixir store's owners wanted to purchase elixirs, it was a valid option. When Su Yu was just about to enter the house, he suddenly caught a glimpse of a familiar-looking woman, so couldn't help but stop in his tracks outside of the courtyard.

A beautiful woman in a green dress was standing before the courtyard entrance. She seemed dignified and pretty, and she was taking light steps as she was walking.

Just a half step behind her was a middle-aged scholar in a long robe. He was following her closely and wearing a faint smile as he spoke to her.

“Fairy Lu, just set your mind at ease. If an elixir like it came out from the Elixir Alliance, you would be the first person to get wind of it. I’m one of the Elixir Alliance’s three great elixir dealers working with the alliance, and I believe that if they wanted to sell an elixir like it, they would hand it to me first, then ask me to sell it,” he said.

Lü Chuyi’s brows were furrowed as she nodded faintly before she left out a soft sigh. “I’m just trying my luck. So, you don’t need to care about it too much. I’m sorry for bothering you.”

After she spoke, she proceeded forward and was about to leave the Bright Moon House. However, she suddenly caught a glimpse of a person standing calmly on a corner outside the courtyard.

When she saw him, her body shivered and her eyes widened. As she looked over to where he stood, her heart thumped quickly.

It’s really him! The image of a silver-haired youngster appeared in her mind. He was resolute, warm, kind, and mysterious. Moreover, he was also the guy who took her first time from her.

The silhouette which she saw out of the corner of her eye seemed similar to Su Yu’s image in her mind. Both of the men’s airs and looks seemed extremely similar. However, when she looked over there again, what appeared before her was an aged white-haired old man!

This man had grizzled hair, which fluttered in the wind, and although he was quite old, he still stood straight and tall. He also had an air of transcendence about him.

Oh... It wasn’t him! Lü Chuyi was shocked by such a great physical disparity, even though the air given off by the men were too similar in her opinion.

Su Yu turned around and looked at Lü Chuyi. He had an impulse of going over to her and revealing himself, but he knew that he could not.

A smile appeared on his aged face as he asked, “Miss, are you looking at me because you have something to ask me?”

Lü Chuyi returned to her senses and shook her head, clearly at a loss. She then raised her eyes to meet Su Yu’s and stammered, “I don’t...”

She couldn’t continue because when she was faced with his gaze, she discovered that even the men’s gazes were too similar. His eyes were as profound as the starry sky, just like that guy’s eyes had been!

He also had a special charm, which one could lose oneself around, just like the other guy. They both had a mysterious charisma, too, making it difficult for one to forget either of them.

All of this made her wonder... Is it possible for two people, who have such extremely similarities to exist in the world?

Lü Chuyi’s heart became a mess, and she pondered these things in her heart for a long while. She then asked in a soft voice, “Mister, may I ask you whether you know someone called Yin Yu?”

Su Yu's only name that she knew was the name "Yin Yu," which was the one that Su Yu used in the Mysterious Heavenly Divine Pavilion. Su Yu revealed a smile and shook his head. "I don't know him. My name is Su Yuxian. Miss, may I ask who this person is to you?"

It isn't him? Well, of course not! That would be impossible! Must have been wishful thinking of this silly girl's part... Lü Chuyi couldn't help but laugh at herself. She then blushed as she apologized to him, "He's just an old acquaintance of mine. I'm sorry for bothering you."

After she spoke, dejection appeared on her face. She then stepped out and rode the wind as she flew away. She was as graceful as a butterfly as she quickly disappeared over the horizon in the blue sky.

Su Yu let out a long sigh while observing her retreating figure. After he curbed his emotions, and went into the courtyard, where he ran into the middle-aged scholar, who just saw Lü Chuyi off.

"Old mister, may I ask why you came to my house?" The middle-aged scholar was quite polite. He was more respectful to him because he had just witnessed Su Yu exchanging words with Lü Chuyi.

His house? Su Yu suddenly realized that the person before him was Bright Moon Householder.

"I'm Su Yuxian, and I'm the new shopkeeper of the Tonglin Elixir Store. I came here to pay a visit to Bright Moon Householder." Su Yu revealed a faint smile.

Upon hearing him, the expression of Bright Moon Householder, who was still respectful to him a moment ago, froze and became quite stiff. His smile disappeared and he wore a cold look as he sized up Su Yu.

He then wore a mocking smile at the corners of his mouth as he said, "I was just wondering who the new replacement was. So... It's the famous and renowned Su Yuxian..."

Su Yu couldn't help but furrow his brows upon hearing his mockery. He tried to recall when he had ever offended this guy!

"Speak! What did you come here for?" Bright Moon Householder hid his hands in his sleeves, once again demanding to know why Su Yu came here, while wearing a fake smile.

Su Yu furrowed his brows and examined Bright Moon Householder with his eyes. "It seems like you don't plan to sell me any elixirs."

Bright Moon Householder curled up the corners of his mouth. "Hehe, it isn't that I don't want to sell them to you, but I just don't dare! Great Shopkeeper Su, someone as great as you dared to face even Shopkeeper Fei, while I'm so afraid of him. How could I dare do business with you?"

It was all because of Shopkeeper Fei! Su Yu understood everything now as he recalled what had occurred in the Elixir Meet. Su Yu hadn't let himself be exploited, and he talked back to Shopkeeper Fei in front of everyone!

He really didn't expect that Shopkeeper Fei would so narrow-minded as to go this far to make trouble for Su Yu! Since Shopkeeper Fei's Heavenly Fragrance Elixir Store was one of Bright Moon Householder's most important clients and Su Yu's Tonglin Elixir Store was insignificant in

comparison to it, if Shopkeeper Fei forbade Bright Moon Householder from selling elixirs to Su Yu, it was obvious who he would listen to!

However, he still mocked Su Yu just to add insult to injury, as well as in hopes of gaining more favor with Shopkeeper Fei. This proved that Bright Moon Householder's character was really lacking.

Since they already spoken up to here, Su Yu refused to remain and invite any more mockery. So, he just turned to leave.

"Wait!" Bright Moon Householder's expression became ice-cold. "Before you leave, you should first pay all of your outstanding debts!"

Su Yu was aware of this matter because while he was thumbing through the account book, he discovered that the previous shopkeeper had left behind a sizeable debt. He had bought elixirs on credit, so they owed him a hundred crystals. The payment was delayed until now because the store didn't have a new shopkeeper to handle everything before Su Yu had arrived.

Su Yu fished out a hundred crystals from his sleeves. Since he accepted the shopkeeper office, he would surely pay off all of his debts!

However, Bright Moon Householder still left his hands in his sleeves, and it didn't seem like he planned to accept the payment. Finally, he sneered and said, "A hundred! Are you kidding me?"

Su Yu replied calmly, "What? Isn't the debt just a hundred?"

Bright Moon Householder sneered coldly. "It was a hundred in the past, but it's now ten thousand! Guards!"

Swoosh!

The courtyard was immediately swarmed by a group of guards, all of whom were powerful experts at the Level Six Fairy Realm.

Su Yu's gaze flickered. "What do you mean by all of this?"

Bright Moon Householder replied calmly, "All purchases on credit have interest attached to them. Hence, it was a hundred crystals a year ago, but it's ten thousand now. If you don't pay it back today, don't dream about leaving! You will still here until you pay back that debt!"

It was obvious that he was in cahoots with Great Shopkeeper Fei, as for every day that Su Yu didn't come back, the elixir store couldn't open, which meant that a whole day's profits were lost! Once he didn't open the business for more than five days, he would be deprived of his work as a shopkeeper altogether!

Su Yu raised his eyes and put away the crystals, while his gaze became ice-cold. Even if Bright Moon Householder didn't want to sell him elixirs, he wouldn't make trouble for him. It was his right to choose what would bring him more profits, and Su Yu knew that he couldn't force his hand anyway.

However, since he was now trying to harm Su Yu on purpose, while helping an evildoer, this was a completely different matter!

"Are you sure about this?" Su Yu asked calmly.

Bright Moon Householder sneered. "Even at such a moment, you are still feigning calmness. I can't help but admire you for this. Guards, capture him!"

A group of servants surrounded Su Yu, while just looked at Bright Moon Householder and nodded. "Okay, I already understood what you meant, and I have given you an opportunity to be a better man. So, I hope that you won't regret your choice..."

Chapter 857: Alliance Vice-Master Liu

"Regret it? Nah! You're the one who should regret it. You talked back to Great Shopkeeper Fei out of ignorance, yet you still want to stay in Tianya City? Attack him and entertain our Great Shopkeeper Su!" Bright Moon Householder hid his hands in his sleeves, while calmly observing everything from the side.

Upon hearing his command, the guards didn't hesitate any longer, and they all attacked Su Yu. As he watched them coming towards him, Su Yu's gaze became ice-cold.

He felt like he had shown enough tolerance up until this point, and since Bright Moon Householder clearly wanted to harm him, he didn't have any reason to go easy on him. So, Su Yu revolved the Vital Energy inside his body, causing the air around him to start revolving at a high speed, while also compressing his surroundings.

The air was compressed into several black ribbons under such intense pressure, and they all emitted a powerful might.

"Buddhist Saint's Eight Characters... User!" Su Yu waved his hand casually, and the black ribbons started twitching, then swept through the surroundings.

The guards surrounding him were all just Fairy Realm experts between the Level Five Fairy Realm and the Level Seven Fairy Realm. Although they were powerful, they were still weaker than the Buddhist Saint's Eight Characters Technique.

Thus, when the ribbons whipped them, they shattered their Vital Energy defenses, and they were all sent flying away like ping pong balls. They fell everywhere, and many pained cries echoed through the air.

Bright Moon Householder, who was observing this good show from the side, raised his brows and asked, "Mastery over the first level of a middle-grade legendary technique? Impressive."

He was slightly amazed. He had already made inquiries about Su Yu's status, and it seemed like he was just an ordinary Red Blood Palace's outer sanctum disciple. However, he had to wonder... How could just an ordinary outer sanctum disciple manage to get a middle-grade legendary technique without a supporter?

He was caught off guard by this, and when he looked up again, all of his subordinates had already been beaten down to the ground!

His expression became unsightly. Regardless of everything, he was still one of Tianya City's prestigious characters, and even the Eighteen Blessed and Heavenly Lands' greatest beauty, Lu Chuyi, had once sought after him, even asking him to handle an affair for her. Thus, he knew that he mustn't allow anyone to smear his name, and he surely couldn't tolerate the fact that his guards were pummeled right in front of his residence's gate!

“Snort! You dare to behave this atrociously on my doorstep?” Bright Moon Householder snorted coldly, and a shocking spiritual pressure surged out of him as he spoke.

The injured guards nearby were all tormented by this aura, while Su Yu’s body just flickered unceasingly as he flew back to a safe distance. His gaze became slightly grave as he asked, “An almighty Divine Master?”

He really didn’t expect that Bright Moon Householder was a hidden almighty Divine Master expert. However, after Su Yu mulled over it, he found it reasonable.

Since he could become one of the Elixir Alliance’s three great partners, he surely wasn’t an ordinary martial artist. Otherwise, he would have already been swallowed alive in Tianya City, which had many hidden experts lurking within it.

At that moment, Su Yu wondered... Should I deal with a Divine Master in front of everyone?

As Su Yu surveyed the surroundings, he furrowed his brows. This house was in the prosperous Inner City, and many people were going back and forth in front of its entrance at the moment.

Thus, their short confrontation a moment ago had caught many people’s attention, and there were still people rushing over to get a front row seat. Su Yu knew that if he fought against Ying Luan in such a public venue, he might end up exposing his true power, and this is something that he simply could not do.

“Humph!” Bright Moon Householder’s whole body emitted a powerful aura, and his gaze became sharp, signaling that he was about to attack.

However, it was at this moment that two people suddenly came out from a dark corner, like ghosts. They each moved to one side of Su Yu, protecting Su Yu in the middle.

“Who’s that old man? Why does it seem like he’s being escorted by those two Divine Master experts?” an onlooker asked.

The crowd started discussing this matter spiritedly. They were all amazed and astonished.

Bright Moon Householder was also surprised, and this was especially the case when he caught sight of those two people’s outfits. “The Red Blood Palace’s Auction House?” he wondered aloud. Their outfits had the insignia of the Red Blood Palace’s Auction House on the chest area!

The pair consisted of a woman and a man, who were both middle-aged. The woman was cold and callous, while the man was calm and composed.

“Since you are aware of it, then step down!” The man who stood in front of Su Yu berated Bright Moon Householder.

The woman then said, “I won’t mind exchanging several blows with you, should you try to attack him!”

Bright Moon Householder’s heart sank, and he quite was startled by their hostility. Great Shopkeeper Fei had informed him in a message that Su Yu was just an insignificant small

shopkeeper, so he had to wonder... Why are two Divine Masters of the Red Blood Palace's Auction House protecting him?

He could deal with one of them, but he wouldn't be capable of fighting both at the same time! He shook his head, then asked, "Do you really want to oppose my Bright Moon House?"

After all, the Elixir Alliance was behind him, and since he was acquainted with many alchemists in the Elixir Alliance, he didn't fear the Red Blood Palace's Auction House.

The man's eyes shone with a cold glint. "If you are determined to give it a try, we will be obliged to test Bright Moon House's might before Su Yu..."

His words were meant to mock Bright Moon Householder, who dared to only focus his attack on a junior like Su Yu. Bright Moon Householder was infuriated, but since matters had already developed up to such a heightened degree, he was obliged to just drop it.

He then directed his gaze at Su Yu and said coldly, "You really have good luck. However, you won't be this lucky next time."

He didn't believe that those two Almighty Divine Masters would always be around to protect Su Yu, and there was surely an unknown reason behind this. He figured that he would go look for Great Shopkeeper Fei and consult him about this later.

"I'm really looking forward to the next time I run into you," Su Yu replied calmly.

It seemed that Bright Moon Householder had a stroke of good luck today. Otherwise, the Evil God would have gotten another supplement!

Bright Moon Householder was unaware of the terrifying fate that he escaped because of the arrival of those two Divine Masters. Moreover, upon witnessing Su Yu depending upon two Divine Masters to threaten him and scare him away, Bright Moon Householder couldn't help but mock him.

He said, "You are just boasting, while hiding behind other people's backs. Hehe, you don't amount to a hill of beans on your own! Lad, don't get excited too soon, as I can assure you that all of my partners in the Elixir Alliance won't dare sell you any elixirs. So... You can either purchase elixirs at a sky-high price or get lost!"

As Su Yu heard his thinly veiled threat, he wasn't really worried about this, as even if no one sold him elixirs, he figured that he would just make them by himself. After all, Su Yu was an intermediate alchemist, so he could easily produce third-grade spirit elixirs!

Even though elixir production was a troublesome process, if he couldn't find a supply of goods, he could only make them by himself. Besides, if worse came to worst, he would just ask the small kylin to help him.

With their combined skills in alchemy, they could easily produce a large number of mortal body elixirs, which were a level below spirit elixirs. The only problem with this was that it was a waste of their precious time.

This was the reason why it would be better for Su Yu to find a supplier for the goods. But, even if he didn't find one, it would only bring him a slight amount of annoyance and trouble, but wouldn't prevent him from having a footing in Tianya City.

“You can do as you wish.” Su Yu was still unmoved. He then turned his head back and revealed a faint smile to the two Divine Masters as he said, “Seniors, many thanks for helping me.”

Su Yu was aware of their aims, so he knew that they were mostly just sent here by the Red Blood Palace’s Auction House to protect him. After all, Su Yu was their only way of keeping in contact with the mysterious expert, who was capable of producing Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid. Hence, if Su Yu died, everything that they had worked for would come to an end.

Although it was good for him that he had their protection, it also brought him many troubles. For instance, with them here, Su Yu couldn’t openly go to Purple Flame Mountain to make elixirs.

Otherwise, they might suspect him. Hence, it seemed like he must alter his way of making elixirs.

“Humph! I will see how long can you continue acting this arrogantly without anyone to sell elixirs to you! At that time, don’t bother coming here to entreat me to help you.” Bright Moon Householder snorted coldly, then turned around and went back into his house.

Su Yu and the others were just about to leave, when a white-robed old man flew in from the horizon. The skin on his whole body was bright red, and he seemed quite peculiar.

It was only when he approached Su Yu that Su Yu discovered with surprise that this person’s whole body was emitting a blazing heat. It was like a furnace was hidden inside this old man’s body!

Bright Moon Householder, who was just about to step inside his house, couldn’t help but turn his head around and look at the old man. As he did so, shock appeared on his face, and his gloomy look disappeared.

Now, he wore a delighted and respectful look on his face. He then took his hands out of his sleeves. He then took several steps forward and stood before his house’s gate, cupped his hands in greeting, and stooped down.

“Greetings, Alliance Vice-Master Liu!” he said.

The blazing old man before them was the Elixir Alliance’s Vice-Master. As he was one of its most skilled late-stage alchemists, he could produce sixth-grade spirit elixirs. The grade of the elixirs someone could make demonstrated that person’s attainment in alchemy.

In the whole Tianya City, only the two Alliance Masters and the two Alliance Vice-Masters were capable of making sixth-grade spirit elixirs. This showed that their alchemy skills were the best in Tianya City.

Alliance Vice-Master Liu landed before the house’s entrance. He couldn’t help but furrow his brows after surveying the surroundings. “Why are so many people here observing this place. What happened?”

Bright Moon Householder wore an amiable look as he said, “Some silly little shopkeeper caused a disturbance in front of my house, but this matter has already been settled.”

He then invited him inside, “Alliance Vice-Master Liu, I’m honored by your presence here. Please come inside and sit down.”

The Alliance Vice-Master had an outrageously high status in the Elixir Alliance, and it was only by depending on this man that Bright Moon Householder had managed to become one of the Elixir Alliance's three great partners. In his eyes, Alliance Vice-Master Liu was his greatest supporter and was practically his lifeblood. So, he naturally dared not neglect him!

"Just forget it, as I still need to make an important elixir. I'm simply too busy at the moment," Alliance Vice-Master Liu replied, while shaking his head.

Bright Moon Householder was surprised and confused by this. "Alliance Vice-Master Liu, may I ask whether you came here to tell me about anything in particular?"

Alliance Vice-Master Liu nodded. "Oh... Yes! I must explain some matters to you, and as its Alliance Master Zhou's wish, you must earnestly carry it out. If you end up infuriating Alliance Master Zhou, another merchant will take your position, and even I can't save you then..."

Upon hearing how grave this matter's consequences were, Bright Moon Householder became solemn. "Alliance Vice-Master Liu, please instruct me about this matter. I don't mind walking through fire for him!"

Alliance Vice-Master Liu nodded. "You don't need to be so nervous, as it's just a matter that you can carry out in passing. This matter is as follows... Yesterday, Alliance Master Zhou's granddaughters were found."

Upon hearing this, Bright Moon Householder got a relieved look on his face and said, "That's news that is worthy of celebration! We were all worried about Alliance Master Zhou's granddaughters after they went missing, so it is good to hear that they were found!"

Three days ago, Alliance Master Zhou's three granddaughters had snuck out of the Elixir Alliance's base, and they had been missing ever since then. Only a few people were aware of this because the Elixir Alliance had kept it a secret for security purposes.

Although they didn't announce their disappearances, they did ask the elixir dealers to make inquiries in secret, hoping to verify whether the kidnapping had been done by the Outer City's Three Murders Gang.

Then, just one day later, news had spread that it was really done by the Three Murders Gang, and the gang had even sent a ransom letter to the Elixir Alliance! They had asked for thirty Incredible Elixirs that were capable of increasing one's cultivation, or else they would harm Alliance Master Zhou's granddaughters, maybe even kill them!

However, when they were negotiating this matter, the granddaughters were saved unexpectedly! Bright Moon Householder couldn't help but click his tongue when he heard the whole story.

He then said, "The Elixir Alliance is really powerful, as it could even rescue people who were being held in the Three Murders Gang's base. They must have hired many experts to help them with this, right?"

"No. They were actually just saved by a passerby! Alliance Master Zhou has been very busy recently, and hasn't had the time to go and thank him personally. So, he wanted you to take care of it in his place!" Alliance Vice-Master Liu said.

Bright Moon Householder was confused by this. "Alliance Vice-Master Liu, may I ask why he wants me to be the one to thank him?"

"It's because the martial artist who saved Alliance Master Zhou's granddaughters is managing an elixir store in the Outer City. The elixir store is situated in an area under your jurisdiction. That is why he wanted me to ask you to take care of it. Later, when the Alliance Master has some free time, he will surely go to thank him personally," he explained.

Upon hearing this, Bright Moon Householder was overjoyed. This was obviously a good opportunity for him to curry favor with Alliance Master Zhou.

As long as that elixir store's owner was satisfied, he might praise him in front of Alliance Master Zhou, and that would be highly beneficial for his future success. This was obviously a great opportunity for Bright Moon Householder!

"Alliance Vice-Master Liu, many thanks for your care. I will surely remember it as long as I live." Bright Moon Householder was quite grateful to him.

It was obvious that Alliance Vice-Master Liu wanted to help him. Otherwise, he could have just handed this mission to any of the other elixir dealers in the vicinity.

Alliance Vice-Master Liu revealed a meaningful smile as he said, "It's fine, as long as you understand my stake in the matter. I came here to notify you in person because I wanted to handle it before the other Alliance Vice-Master! You are a shrewd guy, and I believe that you won't disappoint me."

Bright Moon Householder was quite excited, so he asked enthusiastically, "Alliance Vice-Master Liu, may I ask which elixir store it is? And... Who is the shopkeeper?"

Chapter 858: Flipping Through Antique Books

Alliance Vice-Master Liu said, "According to what Alliance Master Zhou's granddaughters said, they all asked that elixir store's salesgirl, and it seems like he's the shopkeeper of a store called the Tonglin Elixir Store. I don't know the shopkeeper's full name. I just remember that his surname is Su, and he's called 'Shopkeeper Su.'"

"You should make inquiries about him when you go there, and you should remember to treat him politely. In the future, Alliance Master Zhou will go there personally to thank him. So, if you leave him with a bad impression, it will be awful once Alliance Master Zhou gets there and inquires about it. You should be aware that the Elixir Alliance doesn't lack elixir dealers, so many people can replace you," Alliance Vice-Master Liu warned him.

All of a sudden, Alliance Vice-Master Liu noticed that Bright Moon Householder had an odd look on his face. It seemed like he was weeping, yet it also seemed like he was smiling. His face was green one moment, then pale the other. It was quite strange.

"What? You aren't willing? You feel pained by losing profits?" Alliance Vice-Master Liu's expression became gloomy as he interrogated him regarding his strange behavior.

He was both annoyed and confused by this. Bright Moon Householder should have been a shrewd and capable guy, so he wondered why it seemed like he couldn't even part with such a small profit!

At this moment, Bright Moon Householder unexpectedly revealed a smile, which was more unsightly than his crying face before. "Alliance Vice-Master Liu, why didn't you come earlier?"

In the Outer City, there were no less than ten elixir store's shopkeepers with the surname Su. However, there was only one Tonglin Elixir Store's Shopkeeper Su, and that was Su Yuxian! He was even still among the crowd, as he hadn't left yet.

"Humph! You aren't willing to do it, are you?" Alliance Vice-Master Liu squinted his eyes.

At this moment, Bright Moon Householder felt like killing himself as he thought... Why does it have to be Su Yuxian? How could it be this coincidental?

"I... I..." Bright Moon Householder found it too difficult to explain this matter.

Alliance Vice-Master Liu pulled a long face. He assumed that this was just a trivial matter, which Bright Moon Householder should be able to complete easily after he instructed him about the details. Yet, he was unexpectedly being hesitant! He found this to be very disrespectful, especially in front of such a crowd!

"If you don't want to do it, then just forget about it. I can just seek other people to help us." Alliance Vice-Master Liu was infuriated.

It was difficult to find alchemists, but that was not necessarily the case for elixir dealers! The main reason why Bright Moon Householder could become one of the three great elixir dealers was just because he had a connection with Alliance Vice-Master Liu. This allowed him to get a large number of elixirs from the Elixir Alliance, and Alliance Vice-Master Liu could also get a share from that.

Hence, it would be easy for Alliance Vice-Master Liu to replace him with another person, and it was only because it was slightly troublesome that he didn't feel like replacing people too frequently.

Since Bright Moon Householder was being this difficult and dared to provoke him, he assumed that he would probably need to visit the elixir dealer ranked fourth, then have him replace Bright Moon Householder. As such, he wouldn't suffer any losses, but only be slightly inconvenienced.

After Alliance Vice-Master Liu spoke, he swung his sleeves and turned to leave.

But, Bright Moon Householder shouted after him hurriedly, "Wait! It isn't that I don't want to, but I can't!"

He had said similar words to Su Yu, but at that time, he had spoken in a mystifying tone, while now, he wore a sullen face as he spoke.

Alliance Vice-Master Liu furrowed his brows. "Explain this to me clearly!" He felt that Bright Moon Householder's actions were quite odd, and his instincts were telling him that there was something fishy about all of this.

Since matters developed up to this point, Bright Moon Householder felt like he could only tell him everything. Upon learning that he just drove Su Yu away moments ago, Alliance Vice-Master Liu was taken aback, and he wondered... How could such a coincidental matter occur?

Bright Moon Householder just narrated this matter briefly, and he obviously failed to mention his repulsive actions. Thus, according to his description, it seemed like Su Yu was the one making trouble for no reason.

However, Alliance Vice-Master Liu was old and experienced, so he immediately noticed the flaw in his story. "So... A low-grade elixir store's shopkeeper dropped in and randomly started beating your guards for no reason? Humph, Bright Moon, do you think I'm a fool? It seems to me that you're the one who caused troubles for him in order to curry favor with that guy surnamed Fei!"

He had hit the nail on the head and guessed most of this matter's truth instantly! Upon realizing he was exposed, Bright Moon Householder was shocked and his face turned pale. He didn't reply, but it was clear that he regretted this matter greatly.

If he really had just wanted to refrain from supplying Su Yu with goods like what Great Shopkeeper Fei had requested of him, he could have just used any excuse to reject Su Yu. But, he had gone too far and offended him repeatedly.

In the end, he had even gone so far as to try to teach him a lesson personally, which had caused Su Yu's two Divine Masters guards to show up, and that is when the matter really got out of hand!

So, he had to wonder... How can I possibly remedy this messy situation?

"I don't care about the grudges between you, but if you implicate me, don't bother coming to the Elixir Alliance again to look for me," Alliance Vice-Master Liu said coldly.

His unspoken implication was that Bright Moon Householder should take care of this matter himself. Then, if he could ease the tension between them, Alliance Vice-Master Liu wouldn't look into this matter any further. But, if he was incapable of achieving this, he could only replace Bright Moon Householder in advance so that he wouldn't be implicated once Su Yu defamed Bright Moon Householder in front of Alliance Master Zhou!

Upon hearing him, Bright Moon Householder's whole body shivered. He didn't dare to accuse or blame others any longer. "Understood, I will immediately go to apologize and make amends!" Bright Moon Householder quickly said.

An apathetic voice drifted over from the crowd at that moment, "Bright Moon, don't bother with this! I won't ask you to give me elixirs as alms, so you can just leave them for yourself." It was Su Yu!

A moment ago, Bright Moon Householder had mocked Su Yu and asked him to never come to entreat him for elixirs again. But apparently, when Alliance Vice-Master Liu arrived, Su Yu had remained in the vicinity!

He had clearly heard their conversation and was quite surprised by it. It turns out that the several young girls he saved along with Ying Luan were unexpectedly the three granddaughters of Alliance Master Zhou!

As for Bright Moon Householder, Su Yu didn't feel like paying any attention to him at the moment. If he just refused to supply goods to Su Yu because he was threatened and forced by Great Shopkeeper Fei, Su Yu could understand that and wouldn't cause trouble for him.

But, Su Yu found it ridiculous that Bright Moon Householder wanted to show off and flaunt his loyalty by trying to teach Su Yu a lesson on behalf of Great Shopkeeper Fei. Such a fawning and vile guy didn't deserve any attention, and even if he sent him elixirs for free, Su Yu wouldn't accept them because he didn't want to have any relationship with such a person!

Bright Moon Householder's face turned pale. He then gave Su Yu an entreating look and cupped his hands at Su Yu in obeisance. "Shopkeeper Su, please be magnanimous. I was blind and didn't recognize you, so please don't take this matter to heart."

It was obvious from his tone that he was entreating Su Yu to accept his elixirs. What Bright Moon Householder had stated a moment ago had really occurred, except the situation was flipped! It wasn't Su Yu who entreated him, but it was him who entreated Su Yu to accept his elixirs!

"I don't dare to claim connections with someone as great as you, so farewell." Su Yu turned around and left, escorted by two Almighty Divine Masters.

Alliance Vice-Master Liu, who had witnessed everything, was startled by this. The shopkeeper who saved Alliance Master Zhou's granddaughters had been standing just like a commoner among the crowd!

Upon witnessing that they still didn't resolve their conflict, Alliance Vice-Master Liu wore an ice-cold look as he said, "Bright Moon Householder, don't come to the Elixir Alliance ever again to look for me! Just look for someone else. Humph!"

After he spoke, Alliance Vice-Master Liu stormed off in a huff, leaving behind the disgraced Bright Moon Householder. This moment would become infamous, as everyone spread the news that, on this day, the famous elixir dealer, Bright Moon Householder, was deprived of his status.

Even if he was acquainted with alchemists in the Elixir Alliance, it wouldn't be of any use to him now, as no one would dare to defy an Alliance Vice-Master and continue making deals with him! As such, his elixir dealer career should have come to an end at this very moment.

If he was capable of redoing this matter all over again, he would surely not take such actions. But, it was a pity that he couldn't do it all over again.

After they went back to the Tonglin Elixir Store, Su Yu thanked the two Almighty Divine Masters behind him, "Seniors, many thanks for your help."

They both just revealed a faint smile, then hid away once again. This was because it was only when Su Yu was in grave danger that they showed themselves.

Su Yu entered the elixir store with his brows still furrowed. He was glad to be alone again, as he could never make Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid while he was being supervised by two Almighty Divine Masters. After all, once they realized that he was capable of making the extinct ancient liquid elixir, he would be fraught with troubles.

After he went back to his room, Su Yu went into secluded cultivation and started studying the Five Elements Mysteries Art. He passed the whole night in seclusion and managed to learn three other demon clan's characters.

So far, Su Yu had learned seven characters, he had a deeper understanding of the world's five elements, and he could easily gather all five elements with just a mere thought. This was especially the case for fire, as he managed to get a greater comprehension of it.

It was unknown whether the reason behind this was the fact that he had a wisp of disastrous flames in his body. Now, if Su Yu started making elixirs, he could control fire much easier.

The Five Elements Mysteries Art's cultivation went smoothly, but he still felt that his soul power became distinctly weaker while he was cultivating. Due to this, Su Yu's expression turned gloomy. The evil spirit that was plaguing his body was obviously a hidden danger, and if he didn't dispose of it quickly, it would affect his soul greatly.

He stood up at this moment. It was already dawn, but Ying Luan and Qing Liu were still sitting idle outside, as they had nothing to do. They were just anxiously keeping watch over the empty elixir store.

"Shopkeeper Su, why don't you let me try to get some elixirs on the black market to make up the shortage? Otherwise, if it ends up being reported, you will be fired!" Ying Luan spoke after she mulled this over. After all, such a nice shopkeeper was hard to come by, and she didn't want to lose him.

Su Yu revealed a faint smile. "You don't need to trouble yourselves with this, as I already found a source for elixirs yesterday."

Upon hearing this, Ying Luan and Qing Liu heaved a sigh of relief and exchanged a shared glance. Delight then appeared on both of their faces.

"I need to take a trip outside, so you should all wait in the store. Someone should come over today to deliver the elixirs," Su Yu said.

He wanted to look for some antique books in Tianya City in order to get a deeper understanding of curses. He also thought that he could also check to see about the Fire Essence Jade's true function.

However, what was most important was still the Saint Blood Soul Nourishing Stone. Since the Evil God was so concerned about it, it was surely a magical treasure, so Su Yu was determined to understand exactly what it was.

After hesitating for a moment, Qing Liu asked, "But, if you aren't here, how should we pay them?"

"You don't need to pay them, and even if you tried to pay them, they wouldn't accept it." Su Yu waved his hands at them, then swaggered away, leaving the two dumbfounded in his wake.

A whole night had already passed since the matter with Bright Moon Householder had occurred. Now, many people were aware of it, so they understood why Bright Moon Householder had fallen into such dire straits so quickly.

At this moment, all of the shrewd elixir dealers were aware that they must curry favor with Su Yu. This was because as long as Su Yu praised them in front of Alliance Master Zhou, they would get benefits and profits, which would greatly surpass what they would lose by offering him elixirs for

free. As such, none of the astute elixir dealers would be silly enough to miss out on such a profitable deal.

After Su Yu left the elixir store, he went to Tianya City's greatest antique books bookstore. This bookstore didn't collect ancient cultivation technique books, but instead, they carried books that described the ancient era, which would help people gain a greater understanding of the ancient era's civilization.

Most of the books had been transcribed, but some of them were originals left over from the ancient era. This was the reason why there was always a crowd of people here, as all of them were hoping to find a hidden ancient cultivation technique left over from the ancient era within the books.

But, it was a pity that they all returned empty-handed. This was because the ancient books were openly displayed in the store, which meant that they had all been examined countless times by the store owner before ever being showcased. So, if there were really any secrets hidden in them, it wouldn't be the outsiders who discovered them.

At the moment, Su Yu specifically wanted to get information about the curse, Fire Essence Jade, and Saint Blood Soul Nourishing, and he knew that he could only find them here. However, before he went into the bookstore, he witnessed a delicate and petite girl bustling around inside it. It seemed like she was looking for something specific.

The little demoness? Upon seeing her, Su Yu couldn't help but click his tongue and wonder... Why did I end up running into this two-faced girl again?

He found it surprising that she could calm down long enough to read some books, not just spend her whole time concocting plots to harm people! Su Yu's eyes flickered as he wondered what this little demoness was up to now...

Chapter 859: The Golden Ancient Book

Su Yu quietly observed the little devil. She was flipping through some ancient books, furrowing her brows, and scratching her head from time to time. Finally, a smile blossomed on her face.

At the moment, she held an authentic ancient work with a golden cover in her hands, and her facial expression looked as if she had just discovered something precious in the book. It was only after she had spent quite a long time flipping through the book that the little devil finally set it down with a satisfied smile on her face.

She then raised her head suddenly, noticing Su Yu's presence. She was taken by surprise, as she had not expected to run into him.

"Oh, it's brother Yuxian," the little devil ran up to him and exclaimed jubilantly, while putting on a friendly front. "You're in Tianya City! No wonder I haven't seen anyone from your faction!"

Su Yu smiled as he replied, "I didn't think that Wuxie would come to Tianya either, so it has to be fate!"

"Haha, you're right! It really is fate! I wonder which shopkeeper replaced brother Yuxian using the privilege of the Carp Leaping Over Dragon Gate..." Gongsun Wuxie

wondered aloud, half smiling. "Looks like you can only replace the shopkeepers of low-class shops..."

This quota had initially belonged to Gongsun Wuxie. She had planned to use it to earn a large number of merit points, then gain the qualification to enter the Glittering Jewel Wonderland.

She detested the fact that Su Yu had hindered her and taken the quota from her, leaving her with no other other options but to take on dangerous and troublesome missions. Last time, she nearly lost her life to the Ghost Buddha, but was fortunately rescued by a mysterious young expert.

"Right. It was a small, low-class shop that was in a great amount of debt," Su Yu said, not holding back. "Wuxie, don't you want to earn merit points? Did you come to Tianya to carry out some mission?"

Gongsun Wuxie nodded and gloated, "Ghost List released a new mission right after you left. Since the senior brother who was in charge of this mission hadn't made any progress in three years, he had to give up. This mission is worth 100,000 merit points."

What she was implying was that even though Su Yu had deprived her of her privileges, he himself had missed out on another mission that was worth a lot of merit points in the process.

Su Yu laughed inwardly as he thought... The little devil almost died at the hands of the Ghost Buddha! How dare she bring this up?

"Is that true? Have you accomplished the mission?" he asked, pretending to be surprised.

He had a rueful look on his face, which was the exact look that she was waiting for. At that moment, she felt unimaginably pleased.

Then, as she threw both of her braids behind her head, she burst out laughing, then asked, "Hahaha, don't you know who I am? I could end the Ghost Buddha's life with one snap of my fingers! Haven't you heard about the Three Murders Gang's leader's death?"

Su Yu had an unnatural look on his face as he replied in shock, "Yes, I have. But, how is the Three Murders Gang's leader related to the Ghost Buddha? Is it possible that you killed the wrong person?"

His reply earned a disdainful look from the little devil. Then, feeling extremely delighted inside, she laughed out loud, then said, "Stupid! Do you still not understand? The Three Murders Gang is the infamous Ghost Buddha!"

"What? You killed the Ghost Buddha?" Su Yu was stunned. Then, with her hands behind her back, the little devil asked smugly, "Haha, don't you admire me?"

"So, it seems like you've received 300,000 merit points?" Su Yu asked. He looked as if he was jealous.

The more Su Yu behaved this way, the happier the little devil became. She thought... Now that you're jealous of me, you probably are realizing that you never should have taken away my privileges in the first place!

“Needless to say, of course, I’ve gotten all of my 300,000 merit points,” the little devil proclaimed with an upturned nose. All the while, her eyes appeared to be asking, “What do you think?”

Su Yu’s facial expression changed a few times before he finally sighed. He looked upset as he asked, “How did you manage to defeat and kill the Ghost Buddha?”

The little devil laughed, then bragged, “Ha! Are you doubting my capabilities? Don’t you know that when the Ghost Buddha heard my famous name, Gongsun Wuxie, he was scared to death?”

She then added, “At first, there was an ignorant fellow, who thought of tackling the Ghost Buddha, but he was ruthlessly beaten up!”

The little devil then described how disheveled the beaten-up fellow was, while using exaggerated gestures and facial expressions. She then said, “I’m the one who finally came to save the day, clobbering the Ghost Buddha until there was nothing left of him!”

She patted her chest with pride, then said, “That fellow was so very grateful to me that he gave me something extremely precious as a thank you gift.”

Su Yu was speechless. He thought that what she was saying was ridiculous as he listened to the little devil’s shameless distortion of the truth.

“Oh I see. It sounds like you’re really amazing,” Su Yu said, while feigning being impressed.

Gongsun Wuxie crossed her arms over her chest, feeling incredibly proud. She then said, “Of course, I really do have great powers!”

Her mood had improved after she bragged for quite a while, so she no longer minded how Su Yu had seized her privileges.

At that moment, she tapped him on the shoulder and said, “Alright, I’m going back to the faction. You should carry on working as the shopkeeper here.”

Su Yu could not help but laugh as he watched Gongsun Wuxie leave. He wondered... What would she think if she knew that she had been bragging to the mysterious senior who saved her?

Su Yu then stepped into the bookshop, while shaking his head. It was quite deserted in the bookshop, and only a handful of people were quietly browsing for ancient books.

“Hello, sir. What kind of books were you looking for?” a young servant asked as he walked toward Su Yu with a warm smile on his face.

Su Yu scanned the surroundings, then calmly inquired, “What is the price per hour for borrowing books?”

The young servant smiled, then replied, “The cost is 10,000 crystals for an hour.”

Su Yu was utterly shocked by this amount. It was not that he did not have that many crystals, but this price was truly exorbitant!

At that moment, Su Yu saw a customer making a payment. Su Yu could clearly see that the customer had paid only 10 crystals.

Su Yu quickly did some calculations in his head, figuring that, based on the price that the sales clerk had just quoted to him, that meant that a single minute was worth 150 crystals. However, that customer was here before Su Yu arrived, so he surely must have spent at least a few minutes here with the books already.

So, Su Yu had to wonder... How is it possible that this customer only needed to pay 10 crystals?

Su Yu could not help but stare at the young servant. This was because he had suddenly noticed a vague taunting look in the customer's eyes. Also, Su Yu had suddenly recognized that the young man was glancing at the Red Blood Palace symbol that was on his chest.

"Are you intentionally making things difficult for me because of my identity?" Su Yu asked.

He suddenly recalled that Tianya was situated at the border between the Red Blood Palace and the Central Prefecture. This meant that a lot of influential people in the city bore grudges and were hostile toward the Blessed and Heavenly Lands.

For example, the martial artists of the Central Prefecture could purchase a rare elixir with 10 crystals, but the same elixir would be sold to the students of the Blessed and Heavenly Lands for a far more expensive price of 20 crystals. The same situations happened to the martial artists and the students of the Red Blood Palace and the Purple Cloud Palace.

Su Yu had noticed similar happenings in the account book when he was appointed as the shopkeeper of Tonglin Elixir Store. In light of this, it seemed like his hunches were right, and the bookshop before him was clearly founded by an influential person from the Central Prefecture.

Since Gongsun Wuxie was dressed in casual attire, the servant failed to recognize the Red Blood Palace symbol and did not bother her. However, Su Yu was troubled, as he was wearing his Red Blood Palace uniform.

At that point, any ordinary student of the Red Blood Palace would have left for the sake of dignity. But, not Su Yu.

With a tinge of coldness flickering in his eyes, Su Yu nodded slightly, then said, "Great. That's it then... 10,000 crystals for an hour. I don't mind the crystals."

The servant's smile froze when he heard that Su Yu agreed to the price instead of leaving with anger, and he thought... Is this man a fool? Who could afford such a price?

"What's wrong now? Won't you allow me to borrow and read?" Su Yu asked, while casting him a sideways glance.

The servant just could not understand why Su Yu would be so foolish and gullible to accept such an offer! Nonetheless, he knew that it would be unforgivable if he let such a lamb escape, willingly wanting to be slaughtered, escape!

"Haha, please come in, old man. We will begin calculating your total price once you start turning the pages. Which book would you like to take a look at first?" The servant was secretly scorning Su Yu, but he had a bright smile on his face to hide it.

Su Yu glanced around the shop, then said coldly, "Get me all of the books regarding curses, spiritual rocks, and jades."

The servant became even more scornful as he thought to himself... Is this man an imbecile? How can he possibly finish reading all three types of books in such a short time? Moreover, it's a huge bookshop, so those three types of books could number in the hundreds!

"Are you sure, old man?" the servant asked with a fake smile.

Su Yu shot him a sideways glance, then asked, "Have I not made myself clear, or are you deaf? Get me all of the ancient books of those three types of genres! And... Bring me the golden ancient authentic work as well!"

As Su Yu spoke, he pointed to the ancient book with the golden cover that Gongsun Wuxie was flipping through just now. The servant was slightly angered by this, but he kept it to himself and forced a smile as he replied, "Alright. Would you prefer the stone-rubbed version or the authentic-writing version?"

"I want all of the relevant stone-rubbed and authentic-writing versions!" Su Yu said in a low voice.

The servant looked at him with disdain as he reminded Su Yu, "Old man, let me inform you beforehand, we have a rule here that says that all of the books have to be read in the shop. Bringing them outside is not allowed! So, you'd have to finish reading them before you leave!"

The servant knew that there were so many books, and he couldn't imagine how anyone could finish reading them without spending several days and nights doing so. Moreover, if the price followed the rate of 10,000 crystals per hour, even the Almighty Divine Masters could not afford to read for much longer than one day's session.

Thinking of this made the servant even more curious to see how long this martial artist from the Red Blood Palace could last before giving up. Upon seeing the smug look on the servant's face, Su Yu became angered.

"Well? Just do as I say and go get the books!" Su Yu scolded the servant with a stern face.

Although the servant was infuriated, he had to contain his anger. After all, his low status as a servant did not give him the right to argue openly with customers. So, with the help of a few others, he clumsily scoured the bookshops and found all three types of the books and the ancient authentic work with the golden cover.

"Old man, the books are all here, so feel free to help yourself," the servant said as he laid down the books and retreated with the others, while staring at Su Yu with cold eyes.

The servants all stealthily exchanged words among themselves via their Vital Energies.

"Zhao Chuan, isn't this too much? I mean, 10,000 crystals per hour is a lot of money! I think that he may just be looking for trouble." One of the servants was clearly worried about the situation.

Zhao Chuan, who was the initial servant that helped Su Yu, smiled, then responded, “So what if he is looking for trouble? Why would the Shizhen Bookyard be scared of that? We’re not afraid of him!”

Upon hearing that, the servants quietly nodded in agreement. Since the Shizhen Bookyard had a fifth-grade Almighty as its backer, it was uncommon for people to behave recklessly in the bookshop, and its employees certainly weren’t scared of many people.

Another servant hesitated before asking, “What if he manages to actually finish reading all of these books?”

Zhao Chuan snorted, then said, “That’ll be even better. It’ll take a few days and nights for someone to finish reading a few hundred books. Moreover, there are lots of difficult words from different languages, so he surely won’t be able to read them all in less than 10 days. So... We’ll just have to wait for his payment of crystals! Haha!”

Su Yu had undoubtedly had an ample amount of confidence when he had asked for that many books. After taking in a light breath, Su Yu secretly operated the power of time, propelling himself into the state in which time was accelerated by 400 times its normal speed.

Thus, in the blink of an eye, Su Yu finished reading books that it would usually take the time to empty a teapot to read. This was helped by the fact that Su Yu had mastered the basics of words from different languages.

Hence, the foreign words in the ancient books, which seemed difficult to most people, were similar to human words to Su Yu. Therefore, Su Yu was turning the pages very quickly, and when all was said and done, he only spent an hour to finish each book.

Thus, in the servants’ eyes, Su Yu appeared like an illusionary shadow, one who could finish a book within ten breaths’ time! They even beheld the scene in awe as the books chafed against the air to produce sparks and flames as Su Yu was turning the books’ pages at an extremely fast rate.

The scene left everyone with their jaws agape. Even Zhao Chuan was dumbfounded and unable to believe his eyes.

All in all, Su Yu spent what it would have taken any normal person in a normal world more than 300 hours, which was equivalent to thirteen days, to complete reading over 300 books. But, in reality, only about half an hour had passed in the external world.

Upon finishing reading, Su Yu’s eyes became bloodshot and he looked slightly haggard. But, after such a labor, the outcome was sweet. Su Yu had discovered some of his most desired answers from the few hundred precious ancient documents.

“Fire Essence Jade can be refined into inner fire!” Su Yu exclaimed in surprise.

After all, Fire Essence Jade was a jade essence that was produced during a few hundred year process by a great fire. As such, every drop was worth up to a million crystals. So, they were valuable yet lacking an ideal market.

Although it had a variety of uses, it was mainly used as a material in crafting top-grade spiritual artifacts. Some fire-based top-grade spiritual artifacts could be greatly upgraded by it, and their

powers could also be enhanced when added with fire essence, thus making them nearly compatible with the prototypes of fairy artifacts.

During the ancient era, it was a priceless treasure that many people had strived to own. However, as it was a treasure that had been born from a harsh environment, it was extremely rare and hard to find. It was only after learning this that Su Yu understood how unimaginably valuable it was.

However, Su Yu had discovered yet another use of Fire Essence Jade in a non-mainstream ancient book. Apparently, it could also be used to strengthen the body.

If one was able to sustain the destructive high temperature of the fire essence, that person could then merge the fire essence into the body, hence refining the characteristics of the fire essence.

Different fire essences possessed different extraordinary characteristics. For instance, some had absorbed the fire poison for a hundred years, which meant that they possessed extremely acute poison. Others had been tempered thousands of times, so they were deathless and burned eternally once they were ignited.

The characteristic contained by the little devil's fire essence was still unknown. If it could be refined and integrated into the body, then Su Yu would be able to master its characteristics.

The only troublesome thing was that fire essence was extremely precarious, and as such, not even the All Creation strong men dared to touch it at times. Therefore, refining it and integrating it into the body was very risky.

Fortunately, mankind's Divine Masters from the ancient era found a stabilizing method, which was to use a water-based material to mediate the destructive power of the fire essence by applying the counteracting interaction between water and fire. This enabled the fire essence to be safely introduced into the body.

When Su Yu read about this method, it had aroused his interest. Now, he had the desire to search for the water-based material right away.

It was said that the third-grade Almighty martial artists from the ancient era used to refine drops of fire essence with drops of millenary water extract. And... As it turned out, Su Yu had acquired a rare property of fire essence, the Fire of the Heart! Now, whenever he was against an opponent, the Fire of the Heart would be activated if the attacker approached within ten feet.

The results depended on the severity of the variables. The less severe fire could disturb the opponent's heart and blood, making them prone to errors. The more severe fire could drive the opponent into a state of obsession, forcing him to descend into madness and even death.

Thinking of all of this was truly terrifying. As such, even the sixth-grade Almighty dared not to provoke him, who was merely a third-grade. If Su Yu could also acquire an element from this drop of jade essence, he could definitely boost his strength exponentially!

Chapter 860: The Mysterious Handbook

Treasures such as the millenary water extract with the water element were hard to come by, as the difficulty of finding such things was similar to that of finding Real Spirit Dragon Veins. At this moment, Su Yu could not help but silently rejoice that he had decided to delve into the wisdom that was contained in the ancient books.

It would be tough to find such rare things in ordinary books, as the remnants of the genuine benefits could only be found in the mysterious ancient civilizations. The information that Su Yu had discovered about Fire Essence Jade was a pleasant surprise. In comparison, however, the information regarding the curses filled Su Yu's heart with discouragement.

This was because these curses were much more problematic than Su Yu had ever imagined. This was a form of black magic from the ancient era, which was extremely mystifying and complicated. It was said that it had originated from a mysterious race apart, one that was unlike the human race at all.

These kinds of curses were extremely complex and numerous. In fact, there were over a million of them that had been archived in the ancient records.

An example of one such curse was Su Yu's Evil Spirit Entanglement curse. This curse was slowly devouring his soul.

Moreover, if any untoward circumstances happened to occur, the spell would erupt by means of self-explosion, completely devouring Su Yu's soul power and ending his life right then and there! Hence, this spell was quite dangerous!

Since the Ghost Buddha who had cursed Su Yu was now dead, Su Yu could only rely on himself to resolve the curse. Once Su Yu's soul state reached the Almighty level, he would be able to suppress the curse and get rid of it by force. This was his only way out.

Due to his awareness of the existence of such menacing and numerous curses, Su Yu decided to raise his soul energy. He was determined to seize every opportunity to enhance his soul energy, which included his using the Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid.

Fortunately, the seeds of various materials of the Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid in the Nine Jade Spiritual Pearl had germinated. Now, depending on the nature-defying properties within the Supreme Growing Soil, it would only require three to five days for the materials to fully ripen.

Except for Fire Essence Jade and some spells, any other clues as to the whereabouts of the Saint Blood Soul Nourishing Stone that Su Yu was so curious about were nowhere to be found. Su Yu had checked all of the materials that were related to stones in the local shops, but none mentioned the Saint Blood Soul Nourishing Stone. It was as though it had never existed.

"Is it possible that the Evil God lied to me?" Su Yu wondered aloud.

He was perplexed by this. But, as he recalled the Evil God's tone and the shocked look on his face, none of it seemed to have been faked.

After some contemplation, Su Yu stared at the piles of ancient books before him and thought... These books seem inadequate...

He felt that it was a pity that Shizhen Bookyard only contained such a limited amount of books that pertain to the topics he was most concerned about at the moment. In the end, the only book that was left unread was the golden-covered ancient authentic work that Gongsun Wuxie was reading.

With some curiosity, Su Yu flipped open the authentic work. The smell of age and some decay wafted from it, filling his nostrils.

Su Yu could not help wonder aloud, “What on earth was the ancient era like? Why did it leave behind such prosperous civilizations, but wasn’t inherited by the human race of the present time?”

In the ancient books, a multitude of things were not inherited by the present generation. For instance, Su Yu would never have discovered the amazing benefits of Fire Essence Jade from a line of tiny words unless he had read a few hundred ancient books first. The current generation simply did not know or teach such things.

Su Yu thought of his birthplace, the Zhenlong Continent. It was a barren continent that had flourished upon the arrival of Shen Yichen and others, but sadly, it had been devastated by Xue Di.

As Su Yu thought of this, he wondered... Could the same fate have befallen the human civilization of Jiuzhou?

Still confused, Su Yu continued reading the ancient authentic work. It wasn’t until he had opened the book that he realized that it was so worn out by the passing of time. It was intact on the outside, but a large portion of the pages had been degraded by time and space, leaving only a limited range of legible words.

Fairy Mountain’s End... God-seeking Road... Rise of All Stars... None of the sentences in the ancient work were continuous, as they were all disrupted and used only sentence fragments consisting of several words strung together.

Su Yu furrowed his brows and wondered... What on earth is this?

He could not wrap his mind around the contents of the ancient authentic work, even after reading it for a long time. He wondered if it was an introduction to the style and features of the ancient time, but still just couldn’t tell, as the words were truly bizarre!

While he turned the pages, Su Yu had a dazed look on his face. He was totally unclear about what it was that Gongsun Wuxie had found in the book that had delighted her so much.

A moment later, Su Yu gave up on reading the typed words altogether, instead turning his attention to staring at the time-worn, almost illegible handwriting in the book. But, it was impossible to decipher the nearly destroyed handwriting with his naked eyes.

The ink that had been imprinted on the papers had faded so much by this time, leaving only dull remnants of pen marks. It was only after half an hour of reading that Su Yu eventually got some clues. His heart thumped as he finally able to successfully decipher a few lines of tiny words in one of the middle pages.

In that moment, he finally understood what the book was about! The book actually had nothing to do with the styles of the ancient times.

Instead, it was a handwritten book that had been left behind by someone named Yaomu Daoren. It appeared to be a record of the experiences that he had throughout his life.

After reading the passages that were written in his handwriting, Su Yu discovered that Yaomu Daoren was an eminent master, who had surpassed the All Creations realm during the ancient times and whose combat power was equal to a prefecture’s king’s.

Apparently, he had then been stranded in a place that was known as the Desolate Evil Jungle. It was from this place that this handbook had come from. When Su Yu discovered that the handbook had such an amazing origin, he was stunned!

At this moment, he couldn't help but wonder... A treasure that belonged to an eminent master and absolute strong man, who overrode the All Creations Realm and reigned over the entire Jiuzhou Continent must be immensely powerful, and to think that it originated at the place where he had fallen!

Su Yu immediately continued to read in hopes of coming across the detailed place of tranquil demise that was recorded in the handbook. But, in the end, he only saw information about the Desolate Evil Jungle and nothing else, which really disappointed him.

From the description in the book, the Desolate Evil Jungle was apparently a vast region, where mankind seldom set foot within. Its perimeter stretched for hundred of thousands of miles, which meant that even at Su Yu's fast speed, it would take several days and nights to cross the entire Desolate Evil Jungle. This meant that finding the place of tranquil demise, which was in a secret spot within that region, would take even longer!

To make things worse, its name alone foreshadowed that the Desolate Evil Jungle could not possibly be a kind and gentle place, but rather must be one that was filled with immense danger! As Su Yu thought about what danger may lie ahead, he drew in a deep breath to regain his composure and continue studying the ancient authentic work. He felt surprised that such an ancient book would end up in this kind of bookyard.

When he was done reading, Su Yu checked the time and was surprised to see that nearly an hour had passed. It was now time for him to leave. But, just as he was about to set down the scroll that was in his hand, he suddenly noticed that a subtle sound was coming from the scroll.

It was an extremely soft sound, like sand flowing. The sound only lasted for a fleeting moment and was so soft that it would have been totally neglected by most. However, since Su Yu was in time acceleration mode, this short-lasting sound was as if it had been lengthened by 400 times!

Even so, the sound only lasted for a couple of breaths in Su Yu's ears. Thus, it would have been even more brief to an outsider's ears. In fact, even the All Creation masters might not have been able to notice the sand-flowing sound.

"What's in there?" Su Yu wondered aloud.

Then, with a quick turn of his thoughts, he instantly activated his Soul Eyes and saw through the entire book. Nothing could hide from the Transparent Eyes, and just as he expected, Su Yu discovered that the internal part of every page contained two grains of golden sand!

Undoubtedly, these golden grains of sand concealed some massive secret, presumably left behind by Yaomu Daoren with the intention of preventing any damage befalling the handwriting in the letter. As he thought of this, Su Yu's heart raced.

But, he knew that he could not overreact since the servants were staring at him at that very moment! So, he quickly recovered his calmness and reopened the book to keep reading. The servants who had gathered to watch Su Yu strained their necks forward to watch Su Yu turn the pages, while wondering what was going on.

“This person’s really weird! How could he have turned the pages so fast just now?” one of the servants asked in astonishment. He was truly startled by the way Su Yu had turned the pages so quickly, almost to the point of igniting a fire just now!

Zhao Chuan snorted, then asked, “Well... Would he dare to do it slowly? After all, at a rate of 10,000 crystals for an hour, I would also have turned the pages that quickly! Sadly, he deems himself wise and thinks that he finished reading all of the books. The books in Shizhen Bookyard all have seals that keep records of whether a reader has completed reading all of their contents. So... We’ll only have to check the seals to reveal his true colors, as he surely can’t be telling the truth! Ha! How dare he behave so arrogantly? He will have to pay the price!”

A moment later, Su Yu exhaled and put down the ancient authentic writings as if nothing had happened, while secretly holding back his right palm and disabling the time acceleration mode.

He then lifted his gaze to the servants and asked, “How long has it been?”

“An hour. Haha, you’re quite fast!” Zhao Chuan answered him, half smiling.

Su Yu then said, “Of course. Here is 10,000 crystals.”

He then tossed 10,000 crystals to Zhao Chuan. He considered this to be a fair trade, as he had been able to read half of the books in the bookyard, while spending only this amount of crystals. Ordinary people would have spent up to a million crystals by the time they had finished reading that same amount of books! Su Yu felt that this experience had definitely been worth the price tag.

While grasping the ring, Zhao Chuan scanned the inside of it, his pupils slightly constricting. It was indeed filled with 10,000 crystals!

Upon seeing this, he couldn’t help but give Su Yu a skeptical look. After all, it was hard to believe that an old man from the Red Blood Palace would possess such wealth, as 10,000 crystals was a large sum to even the Almighty Divine Masters!

“I’m good to go,” Su Yu said, while turning to leave.

“Wait!” Zhao Chuan yelled out abruptly and moved to block Su Yu’s path.

Su Yu squinted his eyes and asked, “What’s the matter? Does Shizhen Bookyard now kill people and rob them of their riches?”

“What? What in the world are you talking about? Shizhen Bookyard is an honest business!” Zhao Chuan scowled.

Su Yu then replied indifferently, “Oh? Is that right? Then, is the payment too little?”

Zhao Chuan sneered. “Don’t play the fool! Don’t you remember the rule that I mentioned to you earlier?”

Rule? Su Yu wondered. Then, after giving it some thought, he asked, “Are you talking about the rule saying that one is only allowed to leave when they’re done reading all of the borrowed books?”

Zhao Chuan shot him a look that indicated “good that you know,” then slanted his eyes and replied, “Yes. So, why don’t you return to your reading? Surely you wouldn’t dare leave before you finished reading all of the books. Moreover, if the final amount of crystals owed can’t be paid, we’ll pawn

you for money in accordance to Shizhen Bookyard's rules! In that case, don't blame Shizhen Bookyard for not showing respect for the Red Blood Palace, as I told you to get lost when you first came here, but you didn't listen! Now, you've lost your chance!"

Upon hearing this, Su Yu appeared to be stunned. He then asked, "But... Haven't I finished reading all of the books already? Do you have any proof that I've not finished them all?"

Zhao Chuan's reply was filled with contempt as he said, "I knew that you would say that!"

As he spoke, he randomly picked up a book that Su Yu had borrowed and sneered. "I'm afraid that you didn't know that all of these books have seals, so it only takes a little Vital Energy to make the seals react and record the reading state of the previous owner! The more of the book that you complete, the more red light is given off by the seals, with blood red being the darkest. On the other hand, it would display a pure white light if not a single word has been read in the book yet!"

Zhao Chuan then smiled menacingly and asked, "Now, do you still insist that you've finished reading them all?"