

Nine-Dragon 861

Chapter 861: Golden Sand

Su Yu shrugged, then asked, “Haven’t I already told you? I’m done reading.”

Zhao Chuan laughed. “You’re still stubborn, even when you’re in trouble!”

Zhao Chuan then activated the seal, and a bright beam of light exploded from the ancient book. He then sneered and said, “Open your godda*n eyes and take a look at what light this is...”

His words ended abruptly, and the other servants around him all looked as if they had just seen a ghost. All of them were petrified and were frozen motionless in their spots.

This was because the light that was exploding from the ancient book was not a white light, but was a red light! In fact, it was a blood-red light of the darkest shade! This showed that the book had been thoroughly read by Su Yu, and not a single word was missed!

“Ha! As you see... It’s a blood-red light! So, it seems like it’s your godda*n eyes that aren’t opened wide enough,” Su Yu said leisurely.

Zhao Chuan was shocked, and disbelief was written all over his face as he asked, “How could this happen? It’s impossible!”

Still skeptical, Zhao Chuan grabbed another book and activated its seal, and a blood-red light exploded once again! Utterly shocked, he continued to grab a few more books, yet the same blood-red light was displayed every single time that he checked each of them!

He was extremely stunned, surprised, and confused as he uttered in amazement, “It’s not possible! How did this happen? Theoretically, it’s nearly impossible for someone to finish reading all of the contents in these books in such a short time!”

Su Yu shrugged, then asked indifferently, “Well... Since it’s clearly settled, may I go now?”

Zhao Chuan struggled to pull himself together, while looks of awkwardness and embarrassment flickered over his face. Ashamed, he asked, “You want to go? Ha! I suspect that you have somehow used some shady tricks to change the seals in secret. So, you can’t leave Shizhen Bookyard before a thorough investigation is carried out!”

Su Yu refocused his gaze, slowly squinting his eyes at Zhao Chuan as he asked, “What if I insist on leaving before then?”

Zhao Chuan’s face was glum as he replied, “Well... You don’t get to decide! Seize him!”

Immediately, a group of people pounced on Su Yu in an attempt to capture him. A gold gleam shone in Su Yu’s eyes as he sneered at them and said, “I’ve had enough of you! You’re playing with fire, so don’t blame me for the repercussions that may befall you!”

Those who besieged Su Yu were only a group of servants of the fourth-grade fairies. So, it went without saying what kind of poor fates awaited them.

Su Yu reached out and struck them with the Buddhist Saint’s Eight Characters, instantly sweeping all of them off of their feet. At the same time, nearly every wall of bookshelves in the entire

bookyard were sent flying. The entire bookyard had been turned into a scene of complete chaos all of a sudden!

Zhao Chuan was taken aback, and he exclaimed, "The middle-level cultivation technique! Oh no! He's got a powerful hidden ability! Inform the bookyard's master of this right away!"

He then scampered toward the backyard, while shrieking in panic and terror. As he watched him run away, Su Yu's eyes were cold as he yelled after him, "You're the main culprit!"

After a few breaths, Su Yu flit over to stop him in his tracks with ease, then gave him a blow to his abdomen, causing him to vomit blood and fly backwards, crashing into the wall. This blow instantly destroyed Zhao Chuan's Dantian!

One whose Dantian was destroyed was equivalent to a cripple in the world of martial artists, and if this cripple had been overly obnoxious in his last life and had offended too many people, his consequences would be dire indeed!

Su Yu had dealt with all of the servants in the blink of an eye, while wreaking havoc in the bookyard. This horrified the servants, who were lying on the ground, and as they were very afraid of him now, they dared not step forward to stand in his way.

They could have never have predicted that Su Yu would be so mighty and intimidating! If only they had known, they would never have been foolish enough to follow Zhao Chuan in bullying him!

Su Yu withdrew his palms and cast a cold glance at Zhao Chuan, whose Dantian was now completely destroyed. He then said, "Let this be a lesson to you!"

Su Yu then left the bookyard with wide strides. Not long after he left, two strong men walked out from the inner hall of the bookyard. They were both entities of the Almighty level.

Su Yu would have recognized them if he was there. One was a middle-aged scholar, who was none other than the Bright Moon Householder, who had been deprived of his right to collaborate with the Elixir Alliance!

Standing beside him was a dark-skinned female, who was wearing a black robe. She had an aura of pride and arrogance about her.

"What happened?" asked the black-robed female in a deep voice, while she scanned the surroundings.

The servants dared not to hold back anything as they recounted the matters that had just taken place in great detail. Upon learning that a student from the Red Blood Palace was responsible for all of this, the black-robed female was enraged.

"This is intolerable! Does the Red Blood Palace still think that Tianya City belongs to the Blessed and Heavenly Lands?" she asked in a rage.

Then, she fixed her cold gaze on Zhao Chuan and said, "But... You were the one who started this whole conflict! So, don't think that you can run away from a death sentence! You must die!"

Then, with a flick of her fingers, a whiff of Vital Energy shot through Zhao Chuan's skull! He was killed before he even got to beg for her pardon.

The Bright Moon Householder frowned, then asked, “Master Qin, do you want me to catch up with the student from the Red Blood Palace and capture him?”

Shockingly, the dark-skinned woman was the master of the Shizhen Bookyard.

“You don’t have to, as now is not the time to openly confront the Red Blood Palace. When the right time arrives, the Red Blood Palace will suffer its due consequences!” Master Qin replied. She then waved her hands and immediately commanded the remaining servants to clean up the store.

Suddenly, anticipation appeared on her face as she added, “Remember to keep the things that we discussed just now among ourselves, as they affect our relations with the relics of Yaomu Daoren, which mustn’t be taken lightly!”

The Bright Moon Householder’s eyes glinted with a sharp light as he nodded and said, “I understand. Thanks for your willingness to grant me such an opportunity.”

“There’s no need to say that, as the Central Prefecture is clear about your circumstances. Since the Elixir Alliance doesn’t value any rapport, you don’t have to show any mercy...” she replied.

After the Bright Moon Householder had been openly deprived of his qualification, he was noticed by people with certain intentions within the Central Prefecture, who then recruited him. He was, after all, a strong figure of the second-grade Almighty level, and as such, he possessed remarkable capabilities.

“I will definitely give you my best efforts,” the Bright Moon Householder said, while flashing a small smile. As he spoke, he silently pledged to himself that he would make Shopkeeper Su of the Tonglin Elixir Store regret his past actions!

As for Su Yu, once he returned to the Tonglin Elixir Store, he went into seclusion. His eyes contained a shrewd light as he slowly opened up his right palm. At that moment, a portion of the Milky Way’s starlight receded, leaving behind more than 200 grains of golden sand on Su Yu’s palm! These were the golden sand grains that he had obtained from Yaomu Daoren’s handbook.

“What on earth are these things?” Su Yu wondered aloud. He was very curious as he tried to gather them.

Chapter 862: Golden Words

Even after spending some time in attentive observation, Su Yu still could not identify the unique features of the golden sand. Apart from the strange color and hard texture, it seemed rather ordinary.

Every method that he had used, including instilling Vital Energy, soaking it with water, scorching it, and others, had failed to alter the golden sand in any way.

Could this be only ordinary sand? Was I overthinking it? Su Yu could not help but doubt himself. But, since these sand grains were hidden in such deep spots, it did seem unusual.

After observing the sand for a long time, while Su Yu continued to stare at all of the fine and delicate grains of sand, he suddenly noticed something odd. It appeared that each grain of sand was

different, and none of them were exactly the same! This discovery made Su Yu's eyes shine, and he immediately focused all of his attention on observing the unique shapes of each grain of the golden sand.

The sand grains were extremely microscopic, which explained how they had thus far been able to avoid being seen by anyone. Even with Su Yu's perfect eyesight, it took him a great deal of effort to distinguish the unique shapes of the golden sand grains.

He spent a solid half hour before finally being able to distinguish between the concrete shapes of the sand grains. To be more precise, they weren't exactly shapes, but instead... They appeared to be some kinds of words! These golden sand grains were carved words that were as delicate as dust!

Looking at them more carefully, Su Yu believed that these words seemed to belong to the race of Mu, which Su Yu was somewhat familiar with. The strangest thing was that all two hundred of the words were very uncommon, so Su Yu only managed to recognize a little less than one-tenth of them.

Initially, he thought that his basic knowledge about the Mu vocabulary would be satisfactory, as it was even favored by the Deputy General Manager, who had assigned him great responsibility because of his prowess in this department. But, unexpectedly, Su Yu could only recognize less than one-tenth of the two hundred Mu's words that were now before him!

This embarrassed Su Yu, as he realized that his fundamental knowledge of the language and vocabulary was inadequate. Thus, it seemed like it was necessary for him to continue to study the Mu vocabulary more carefully in the future, especially if he intended to unveil the secrets about the golden sand. The only way to do so was for him to be able to decipher all of these words!

Right when he was about to delve into studying the words, Yingluan ran toward him in a state of agitation and excitement, while yelling at the door, "Shopkeeper, someone has come to pay you a visit!"

"Who is it?" Su Yu asked.

Yingluan replied, "It's the elixirs vendor from Tianya City."

Knowing that it was someone selling elixirs, Su Yu lost interest immediately and replied indifferently, "Haven't I told you before? If any vendors come to deliver the elixirs, just accept them on my behalf. I don't have time to bother with them now."

When Su Yu had gone to Shizhen Bookyard, three to four of these same vendors had come to deliver elixirs, and Yingluan had thus far complied with Su Yu's instructions and accepted them all without bothering him. But, he had assumed that this more important vendor should be the exception to this rule...

Due to his agitation, Yingluan stuttered as he said, "No... It's n-n-n-ot what you think... The one who just came was selling for the fifth-ranked Huang's Elixirs!"

Su Yu still replied indifferently, "Regardless of the ranking, ask him to leave his elixirs and his name. I'm preoccupied, so it's inconvenient for me to meet with any guests."

Upon hearing this, Yingluan dropped his jaw! It was fine that Su Yu did not meet with any of the previous insignificant vendors, but Huang's Elixirs was a famous existence in Tianya City. As such, Yingluan couldn't imagine how could Su Yu could take them lightly!

Previously, the Tonglin Elixir Store was so restricted by Shopkeeper Fei that the vendors dared not to sell the store any elixirs. Now that someone had finally come to trade, Su Yu was acting so nonchalantly about the matter! This really confused Yingluan.

“But, Shopkeeper Su, the visitor is from the fifth-ranked Huang’s Elixirs, and they’re known for the superior quality of their elixirs. They have a great reputation, one that is even better than the Bright Moon Householder’s! The former shopkeepers all wanted to make contact, but were rejected. So... Why don’t you seize this opportunity?” Yingluan was anxious as he asked Su Yu about his reasonings.

Su Yu pondered this... I’m not the one who should seize the opportunity. It’s the vendors of the elixirs who are all trying to build goodwill with the Alliance of Elixirs by creating a connection with me, thus replacing the Bright Moon Householder’s position!

“Just do as I have ordered you! No matter who comes here, have them leave their elixirs and their names with you. I’m not free to entertain anyone at present,” Su Yu said in a stern voice.

Yingluan noticed Su Yu’s displeasure, so he stuck out his tongue and worriedly turned around to obey his orders.

Surprisingly, a generous laughter resonated in the backyard as a voice asked, “Don’t you even want to meet with me?”

Su Yu lifted his brows, while carefully recalling the familiar voice. Suddenly, he guessed who the voice belonged to and wondered to himself... Is it really him?

Su Yu immediately stood up to open the door and stepped out of the elixir store, where he immediately spotted a middle-aged man clad in a blue shirt among the crowd. He was a guard from the Red Blood Palace headquarters in Tianya City, a middle-aged man with the surname of Jue, who possessed the cultivation of a first-grade Almighty.

He had always given Su Yu the impression that he was an overly enthusiastic man. So, Su Yu immediately raised his guard in the face of his sudden, unannounced visit.

“Ah... It’s Senior Jue.” Su Yu greeted the man with cupped hands and a smile, and no trace of his suspicion could be seen on his face.

Jue sized up the Tonglin Elixir Store with a careful gaze. Then, while looking closely at the other nearby vendors of elixirs, he chuckled and said, “I knew that you weren’t an ordinary man from the minute I first saw you. Isn’t that right? You became famous in the city in just a few days, and now, everyone knows that you saved the three granddaughters of Master Zhou from the Elixir Alliance. Now, you have ties quite an important person!”

Su Yu smiled humbly, then replied, “I did it with great luck, as Master Zhou is out of my league.”

“Haha! Wel... Don’t you want to invite me inside?” Jue smiled and asked.

Su Yu frowned slightly, as he was rather reluctant to get too close with this man. But, since it was inappropriate to refuse him in public, he replied, “Come inside...”

Then, Su Yu said to Yingluan and Qingliu, “Don’t interrupt me if it isn’t very important...”

Yingluan nodded obediently. After the two men went inside, she turned and said to a white-shirted senior with a reddened face, “I’m sorry Elder Huang, I couldn’t get our shopkeeper to meet you...”

The elderly man named Huang was the founder of Huang’s Elixirs and the current man at the helm of the enterprise. He appeared to feel very awkward about this situation.

After all, he was a famous figure in the inner city, and many Almighty Divine Masters would request the secret elixirs within the Alliance of Elixirs from him. However, he was refused entry by a small elixir store!

Su Yu had even ordered his subordinates to keep any unimportant people and matters from disturbing right in front of this poor man! Apparently, people like him did not matter in Su Yu’s eyes!

Thus, it was only natural that Elder Huang would feel awkward! Anyway, with his background as a businessman, he had experienced worse humiliation in the past, was well as a great amount of contempt that was not worth mentioning!

So, he shook it off and replied to her good naturedly, “Haha, young lady, it’s not your fault. Since Shopkeeper Su gave you this order, you must do as he wishes. Here are 5,000 various kinds of low-grade spiritual elixirs, 500 middle-grade spiritual elixirs, and 50 top-grade spiritual elixirs! I heard that Shopkeeper Su encountered some troubles, but I couldn’t offer any help at the time, so I’d like to present these to him as a gift now.”

Yingluan and Qingliu each drew in a cold breath upon hearing this, and the surrounding onlookers were extremely stunned too.

“Low-grade spiritual elixirs are normally worth about 10 crystals each, while middle-grade spiritual elixirs are worth at least 100, and top-grades are worth about 1,000! Altogether, these would add up to be worth over 150,000 crystals! That’s almost a half-year’s worth of sales for the Tonglin Elixir Store!” an onlooker exclaimed in awe.

Another onlooker gasped, then commented, “How generous! It seems like Elder Huang has paid a huge price to offer such a gift! I heard that his elixir brand is having a hard time and is being severely oppressed.”

“Indeed, although Huang’s Elixirs is quite popular, the company doesn’t have good relations with the Elixir Alliance, unlike the first four. The elixir-manufacturing masters that he knows are turning to the first four vendors, and if this carries on, Huang’s Elixirs will be reduced to a small vendor in less than a decade,” yet another onlooker said.

This was a market in which only the strong survived. The strong get stronger and the weak get weaker, and in the end, one could end up dominating the rest entirely.

This was why Huang’s Elixirs was willing to pay a huge price in order to gain Su Yu’s favor. After all, even a price of 150,000 crystals would be worthwhile if Su Yu would sing their praises in front of Master Zhou!

“I’d like to excuse myself now,” Elder Huang said as he set down the elixirs and turned to leave with his family’s help.

The Huang family did not look pleased. They were clearly angered by the treatment that they had just received, and many of them commented on this...

“Su Yu looks down on people! He refused to let us in, even when we came to visit with such a lovely gift!” A middle-aged woman was annoyed.

“Right! Grandfather, he’s too mean! He gave an order to not be disturbed by unimportant people right in front of us! This is too much! As the Huangs are prestigious people, how do we carry on living in the city after such a shameless rebuke?” a youthful lady asked with gritted teeth, obviously furious.

Lastly, a middle-aged woman asked in a low voice, “Father, are you really confident of your ability to gain Shopkeeper Su’s favor? Our family’s having a hard time, as we are burdened with Shopkeeper Fei’s oppression. We went against him to sell Shopkeeper Su these elixirs, and I’m afraid we’ll lose business from the Heavenly Fragrance Elixir Store and fail to build relations with Master Zhou. At that time, we’ll face even a worse situation than this!”

After hearing his family members air their grudges, Elder Huang smiled calmly as he replied, “Just take it easy. All we can do is try our best. Maybe things will turn for the better.”

“But grandfather, isn’t such a gift as you have just offered Su Yu way too much? I think, for elixir stores of his level, a gift of elixirs worth 10,000 to 20,000 would suffice!” The youthful lady was still unconvinced.

Elder Huang laughed. “Enough! Since the choice has already been made, there’s no use in having regrets. Let’s see if he can help us turn the tide.”

In direct contrast to his calm demeanor, the rest of the members of the Huang family looked unnatural and were frowning. They were clearly not displeased with the whole matter.

Even if Su Yu favored them or ended up praising them before Master Zhou, they weren’t sure that it could really improve their family’s plight. In fact, they were all wondering... Will Master Zhou hand over Bright Moon Householder’s channels to our family, just because of some good words Su Yu speaks on our behalf?

At most, they figured that Su Yu would only remind the Elixir Alliance to take care of their family. In light of this, they did not find it worthwhile to pay such a high price.

Meanwhile, Su Yu was having a conversation with Jue, who was the man who had just come to visit out of the blue...

“Haha, even elixir brands like the Huangs are asking you for favors now! It seems that you’re really highly regarded!” Jue remarked.

Su Yu shrugged, then replied, “I prefer to keep a low profile, as it’s not a good thing to be in the spotlight too much.”

A shrewd look flickered in Jue's eyes, but he maintained his pleasant smile as he said, "It's best that you understand... The Huang family is struggling now, and many influences in the Elixir Alliance are prepared to remove them and replace their position with their own kin. So... You'd better keep your distance from them to avoid being despised by the Alliance, which would directly affect your livelihood."

Is that so? Su Yu thought as he nodded quietly.

He then said, "Understood. But, I am guessing that you didn't come all this way just to remind me of these things?"

Chapter 863: Suspicious Testing

Jue looked calm as he replied to Su Yu, "Of course not. I came here when I heard the news about your troubles, hoping to offer you some help. I know the second-ranked vendor of elixirs, Wutong Yard. I also know that they're willing to supply you with some elixirs."

He then added, "Their current situation is that they're faced with an urgent shortage of talents, so if you could help them, they will agree to reject the Heavenly Fragrance Elixir Store's request to close off your supply and provide you with an endless supply of elixirs at a very good price."

Su Yu remained unruffled as he replied with a question, "I'm just a shopkeeper of a small elixir store, so how can I help them?"

"It's simple... You'll only need to help them by translating this elixir recipe..." Jue then retrieved an elixir recipe from his pocket and spread it out before Su Yu.

Su Yu could not help but feel surprised as he looked at the recipe. This was because the writing on the elixir recipe was not any writing of the human race. Instead, it was written in the Mu language!

Several thoughts flashed through Su Yu's mind, and he immediately raised his guard. At that moment, he recalled the Deputy General Manager's warning to him: "Do not expose your ability of recognizing words of the Mu language, or else you will put yourself at the risk of death!"

Su Yu had always been suspicious of Jue for being overly helpful toward him. Now that Jue had asked him to translate an elixir recipe that was written in the Mu language, it seemed that he was obviously testing to see whether Su Yu was well-versed at understanding the Mu language!

Su Yu certainly did not believe that this was a coincidence. This middle-aged man named Jue was definitely suspicious, which meant that Su Yu now had a big problem!

Despite the overwhelming emotions that he was feeling inside, Su Yu appeared very calm, and with furrowed brows, he flipped through the recipe for a moment and expertly faked a stunned look as he asked, "Dare I ask... What is this? Are these ancient words... Or some kind of symbols? How can such a strange elixir recipe exist?"

Jue was staring at Su Yu as Su Yu spoke, closely observing every one of his subtle expressions. After ascertaining that Su Yu did not seem to be faking, Jue's brows slightly furrowed for a fleeting moment, and he put on a look of pity as he replied, "This is only a peculiar form of writing. If you really can't recognize it, I'm unable to help you do so. After all, that's why I brought it here in the first place..."

Su Yu looked disappointed. "Well... I have only myself to blame for lacking in proficiency. Senior, thanks a lot for coming and trying to offer me your help."

Jue nodded, then cupped hands and said, "Okay. Take care. I believe that you'll be able to resolve this crisis with the help of Huang's Elixirs. It's getting late, so I have to get back to duty. Goodbye."

Su Yu stood up and saw him out.

Should I inform the Deputy General Manager of this? Su Yu wondered as he watched Jue leave. He then shook his head lightly after a moment.

This person was very cautious, as he did not give himself away from the beginning till the end! There was no evidence of any trickery in him at all! Shaking his head, Su Yu returned to the bookyard and continued being enlightened about the Mu words that had been left behind by Yun Yazi.

Meanwhile, at the end of the skyline, Jue's face fell as he thought to himself... It seems like the expert in Mu words who was dispatched by the Red Blood Palace really isn't Su Yu! This was all just a waste of my time!

However, who else can it be if it's not him? Could it be Gongsun Wuxie, who came to carry out missions from the outside sanctum? After thinking this, Jue immediately decided to change his target from Su Yu to Gongsun Wuxie!

The next day, Su Yu awoke from the state of 400-times acceleration. After a day of intense study, he had learned a great number of Mu words.

He could now recognize another one-tenth of the words from the 200 Mu words from the golden sand. However, the golden sand was extremely scattered, and he was unable to arrange the words in order yet. So, even though Su Yu could recognize two-tenths of them now, he could still not read them in a complete manner.

If all of the words were successfully deciphered, with patience, perhaps the 200 words could be pieced together in a concrete order, and the secret within them could then be revealed. This was Su Yu's ultimate hope.

He was about to continue studying when a gentle voice was heard from the door, "Shopkeeper Su, today is the auction, did you meet up with the senior?"

Two people were standing at the door when Su Yu went to open it. Surprisingly, they were the Almighty strong men from the Red Blood Palace Auction House, who had secretly protected Su Yu.

Upon seeing them, Su Yu's eyes shone. The Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid was extremely crucial to achieving merit points this time. As to whether the name of Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid could be made known was even more important!

When Su Yu opened the door, both men stared at him closely, eagerly wanting to know if the senior had come.

"No. Ever since he left me to deal with the elixirs, he's not been seen anywhere," Su Yu said.

The two men did not seem to be too disappointed, but only gave out light sighs. In fact, they had been secretly observing all of the comings and goings from a spot just outside Su Yu's house, thus

allowing them to ensure that no one suspicious had come in or out. They were only trying their luck by asking at this moment.

“Nevermind. Since the senior apparently didn’t want to come, Shopkeeper Su can attend the auction on his behalf. You can also use the distinguished card that was given to you by the cabinet’s master,” one of the two men said.

Su Yu nodded. Then, escorted by the two men, he arrived at the Red Blood Palace Auction House. The auction that day was rather special. The insiders all knew that the Central Prefecture had placed their items for sale three days ago.

These items were demonic beast materials, winery goods, and elixirs. The purpose of this auction was to bring shame upon the related industries of the Red Blood Palace.

This was actually quite an ingenious plan... An auction held in the Red Blood Palace, ruthlessly crushing the Red Blood Palace’s confidence in the related industries, while using the brand-new auction items as an advantage. What an insult! When the three auction items gained popularity after the day, the Red Blood Palace would face even more humiliation for acting as a springboard to their success!

This time, the Central Prefecture’s influences chose this specific auction house on purpose, as many people would come forward to watch, even without them having to pay to get extensive publicity for the event from media outlets and what not. This would meet their expectations of achieving renown for their new auction items, thus rapidly popularizing them!

The Red Blood Palace was extremely pressured and exhausted from contending with this matter. As such, it seemed to be facing a tremendous crisis.

If the influences of the Central Prefecture prevailed, they would lose their prestige and the ability to continue running any businesses in Tianya City. They would then end being a laughing stock in the days to come!

The Red Blood Palace Auction House was super tense at the moment. This was especially the case with the heads of the three industries, Lin Ming, the shopkeeper of the largest shop of demonic beast materials, Yu Linglong, the shopkeeper of the largest winery, and Fei Hang, the shopkeeper of the largest elixir store!

These three had been sternly chastised by the Deputy General Manager just a few days ago, so one could only imagine how great the pressure was that they were now facing.

It was said that the Deputy General Manager intended to attend the auction personally. So, if their performances failed to satisfy him, the consequences could be truly severe!

As the auction had not yet begun, Su Yu was not brought to the scene of auction directly. Instead, he had just arrived at the lounge. All of the owners of the items at this auction were gathered here. And... As Su Yu was the owner of the Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid, Su Yu also was expected to be here.

As Su Yu entered the lounge, he quickly found the three famous shopkeepers, Lin Ming, Yu Linglong, and Fei Hang. His entry captured the attentions of all of the people in the lounge.

Most of them simply shot him a glance, then looked away. That is, except for Fei Hang, whose eyes shone, revealing that the shopkeeper was clearly stunned.

After staring at Su Yu for a while, Fei Hang couldn't help but ask, "Why are you here?"

Su Yu laughed, then replied with a question, "Could it not be that the auction house of my faction was also founded by Shopkeeper Fei? Or... Am I not allowed to come here without your permission?"

While he was talking, Su Yu found a random chair to sit on. The whole time, he wore a smile on his face, exuding confidence and composure.

A look of awkwardness flashed across Fei Hang's face. He had heard about the Bright Moon Householder, and he felt shocked that Su Yu had formed ties with the Elixir Alliance, which had clearly caused lots of elixir vendors to disobey his orders. Even the Huang family had presented Su Yu with quite an expensive gift, thus resolving the crisis of the Tonglin Elixir Store!

Initially, Su Yu was a nobody in his eyes, and he had deemed Su Yu not worth his attention at all. But, as a sign of caution to the rest of the shopkeepers of other elixir stores, he now felt that it was necessary to confront Su Yu.

But, he never could have predicted that not only was Su Yu not punished, but that they would have lost a stable elixir supplier for nothing! Worse still, Su Yu had set an appalling example, and now, one after another, the shopkeepers of other elixir stores would probably start to turn to Su Yu, relying on his channel of elixir suppliers to supply them with goods.

Then, they would stop obeying Fei Hang's orders altogether! This was the worst and most intolerable part of the whole dilemma!

"Don't get too proud! As long as you remain in Tianya City, you're under the jurisdiction of my Elixir Organization! After the auction, I'll settle this dispute with you once and for all!" Fei Hang said coldly.

Su Yu twitched his mouth in disdain as he replied, "As you wish."

A mere Elixir Organization could only threaten Su Yu about the supply source of his elixirs, but Su Yu would be able to create his own supply source soon. So, he had no real reason to comply with the Elixir Organization, much less fear it!

Their bickering was noticed by Yu Linglong and Lin Ming, who both scowled. As they were two of the three main shopkeepers, they were familiar with Fei Hang's character.

They had heard things about the Elixir Organization. It was said that in order to maintain the performance of the Heavenly Fragrance Elixir Store, Shopkeeper Fei had exploited the other lower-class stores.

The shopkeepers dared not voice their anger, except for the straightforward newcomer from the Tonglin Elixir Store, who had immediately left the scene, thus infuriating Shopkeeper Fei. He was so angry that he took his vengeance immediately thereafter.

Despite Shopkeeper Fei's awful behavior, people like Su Yu, who offended their superiors, were unacceptable to them. As such, they would also loathe lower-class shopkeepers, like Su Yu, who

disobeyed orders if Su Yu was involved in their industries. Otherwise, they wouldn't be able to manage and keep control of the lower-class shops.

"Aren't you a faction's student from the outside sanctum?" Lin Ming asked Su Yu, not even attempting to conceal his distaste.

Su Yu was cool and calm, and while taking note of the other's tone and attitude, he refused to respond graciously as he asked with equal disdain, "Who are you?"

Lin Ming had the intention of lecturing him, but was shocked at having been questioned by Su Yu instead! He was embarrassed that Su Yu did not even know him, thus disabling him from unleashing the scolding that was at the tip of his tongue.

So, all he could do was sneer. He then said, "You didn't even make an effort to learn about all of the industries in Tianya City. It seems like your elixir store isn't doing too well, either."

Su Yu replied in a carefree manner, "Haha! It looks like it's the industry of demonic beast materials that isn't doing too well!" The demonic beast material industry was one of the three industries that had suffered the worst blow from the Central Prefecture.

"How dare you? You.... Little brat!" Lin Ming slammed his fists down on the table as he glowered at Su Yu. He was embarrassed that his weak spot had been called out in public by Su Yu.

Su Yu calmly replied, "You've got to brace yourself for humiliation if you are going to insult others. What's the point of inviting humiliation upon yourself if you don't even have such a realization of the repercussions that may result from it?"

Lin Ming was furious and finally understood what Fei Hang had been feeling all this time. In Lin Ming's mind, this brat was totally fearless, and one could get extremely angry by just talking to him!

Meanwhile, Yu Linlong was thinking...This newcomer from Tonglin Elixir Store is indeed ignorant, as he dares to provoke anyone!

Chapter 864: A Tit-For-Tat

Since Lin Ming just suffered a stroke of bad luck, Yu Linlong wouldn't directly go to berate Su Yu. Instead, she just cast a disdainful glance at him. In her eyes, they all had noble statuses, and a low-grade elixir store's shopkeeper wasn't on an equal footing with them.

When the place had just calmed down, a mocking voice drifted in from outside, "The Red Blood Palace's people are really interesting, as even before we arrived here, they already started a dogfight. Hehe..."

Upon hearing this, all three of the Great shopkeepers looked over angrily. They were all infuriated!

However, when the person outside came in, shock appeared on their faces. The people who had just entered were three middle-aged men. They all had outstanding bearings and didn't seem like common martial artists at all.

A fair middle-aged man was walking in their midst. He had a thin body and seemed just like a pile of bones. He also had quite narrow eyes and wore a mocking smile.

He seemed to be quite vile and mean. He was the one who had just mocked them, and he was also the leader of those three people.

“Hall of Celestial Spirits’ Hu Wangui?” Fei Hang uttered his name slowly. It could be discerned from his voice how apprehensive he was about this man.

The Hall of Celestial Spirits was an elixir store that had been on the rise within the past ten years, and it was also the vanguard of the Central Prefecture’s elixir stores faction. Ten years ago, the Hall of Celestial Spirits was just an ordinary middle-grade store, but this year, its sales had already surpassed the number one Heavenly Fragrance Elixir Store’s, thus making it the most popular elixir store.

It was at the peak of its power and its fame was getting greater, while the Heavenly Fragrance Elixir Store’s situation was just getting worse. This was the reason why Fei Hang was reprimanded by the Deputy General Manager, and it also explained why how Fei Hang now hated and resented him!

Hu Wangui cast a glance at Fei Hang with his narrow eyes, while he emitted a peal of queer and sharp laughter. “Well, it’s our Great Shopkeeper Fei! If I had known earlier that it was you who was fighting with your colleges, I wouldn’t have described it as a dogfight.”

He emphasized the word ‘dogfight’ on purpose, and it was obvious that he was trying to humiliate him. Fei Hang was fond of looking good in the eyes of others, so it was hard for him to take such humiliation in front of the crowd.

But, he gritted his teeth and asked in a deep voice, “Hu Wangui, what are you so proud of? You just became the owner of the greatest elixir store several months ago, yet you have already presented yourself as being some great person!”

Hu Wangui revealed a playful smile. “I’m not really anything great, but I’m still better than a fallen dog, am I not?”

The two middle-aged men next to him started laughing with him upon hearing this.

“You really went overboard with your insults!” Fei Hang’s face became flushed with anger.

Lin Ming and Yu Linglong were also infuriated, but they were able to remain more composed than Fei Hang.

“Shopkeeper Fei, don’t waste your breath on him. Let’s just go participate in the auction. They all want to embarrass us in the auction, so let’s just make them go back with their tails between their legs!” Yu Linglong said coldly.

Hu Wangui examined Yu Linglong with his eyes and sneered. “You are quite confident. Shopkeeper Yu, if you become your restaurant’s dancer, you will probably manage to defeat us, but then, we will also visit it to cheer for you!”

His gaze was brazenly sweeping Yu Linglong’s curvaceous body. Although she was already middle-aged, she was still attractive and could be considered a beauty. This was good, as the prosperity of a restaurant business didn’t depend as much upon its food and drink as it did on its entertainment programs!

After all, martial artists didn't usually care much about the quality of their food and wine. In fact, they wouldn't mind eating basically anything! Hence, it was really just the entertainment programs that attracted them, and if the restaurant had a beautiful dancer with a noble status, its business would surely boom!

Upon hearing his insulting words, Yu Linglong was so infuriated that her whole body shivered, but she still couldn't lash out at him. So, she simply had to bear it.

She then said coldly, "You will understand everything at the auction."

Hu Wangui chuckled, then directed his gaze at Lin Ming and revealed a mysterious smile. "As for you, Shopkeeper Lin, I heard that your demonic beast material store was monopolizing Tianya City's whole business in the past. But now, most of your territory has been occupied. I really don't understand this. Doesn't your Red Blood Palace have any competent people? Why have they left trash like you in charge of it until now?"

Lin Ming was infuriated. "You! Hu Wangui, don't get too complacent, as didn't you just get ahead of us for a while? What's so amazing about this meager accomplishment?"

Hu Wangui sneered. "We are obviously amazing! You just aren't willing to accept it!"

Even though Lin Ming was infuriated by him, they were still helpless, as the Central Prefecture's industry's current state had already demonstrated that they were better than them!

This was the reason why he, Fei Hang, and Yu Linglong didn't continue arguing with them. It was because they were really inferior to them, and if they continued arguing, they would just shame themselves even more!

Hu Wangui felt quite glib at the moment, as he saw that all three of the Great Shopkeepers were left at a loss for words. He wore a mocking smile and looked at Su Yu, who was sitting between them.

Even though he didn't know who Su Yu was, he still didn't plan to let him off. "Well? Since you were reprimanded by two out of the three Great Shopkeepers, you surely aren't an ordinary person. The previous dogfight was really spectacular! Hehe."

Su Yu's eyes were closed all this while, and he seemed like a serene and calm old man. He just turned a deaf ear to this mockery.

Hu Wangui sneered. "Hey! Why don't you say anything?"

Even though it seemed like he was mocking him, he was actually trying to make an inquiry about Su Yu's status. It was like he had just stated, since he could defy the three Great Shopkeepers, he surely had some cards up his sleeve.

Su Yu opened his eyes and looked at Hu Wangui with an apathetic gaze. He then asked calmly, "Do you really want me to speak?"

Hu Wangui chuckled and wore a mocking smile. "Just speak, or are you afraid? It's not surprising, as even the three Great Shopkeepers by your side can't utter a word!"

Su Yu chuckled and swept away the dust on his sleeves. He then said, "Fine. It's you who wanted me to speak. I was just wondering whether you ing who taught you to speak like that, as you seem quite skilled in it. But, it makes you sound like a sissy! You must have been taught by a famous teacher and practiced it diligently for many years!"

Upon hearing this, killing intent appeared in Hu Wangui's eyes. At the same time, the two people beside him were both startled and looked at Su Yu angrily.

Hu Wangui squinted his narrow eyes and revealed a faint smile. "You are really daring! Fine... I will remember you."

Su Yu waved his hand at him. "I didn't want to speak, but it was you who insisted on it. Yet, when I spoke, you got angry!"

Yu Linglong almost burst out laughing at this moment, and she had to quickly cover her rosy lips to stifle a giggle. She felt most of her pent-up frustration disappearing at this moment.

Su Yu was just sitting calmly at the side with his eyes closed. He was not provoking anyone, yet Hu Wangui still went out of his way to provoke him! It seemed like Hu Wangui was addicted to mocking people, and always wanted to look for his next victim in order to get his fix!

However, Su Yu was daring, and he didn't have qualms about anything. So, he immediately poked Hu Wangui's sore spot and infuriated him. No matter how one observed this, it would just seem like Hu Wangui had finally reaped what he sowed.

As she looked at Su Yu at this moment, Yu Linglong felt like his venomous tongue wasn't always harmful to them, and it was even beneficial to them if they stood on the same side.

Hu Wangui's expression was unsightly. He had cultivated a feminine cultivation technique in his early years, which had caused his voice to become sharp. He was always ridiculed because of it, but none of those who laughed at him ever survived.

As this matter wasn't a secret in Tianya City, all of the people who were aware of it didn't dare ridicule his sharp voice. Even people from factions that were hostile to them restrained themselves from commenting on it.

However, a reckless old man dared to mock him in front of the crowd. He felt like his sorest spot had just been just poked!

"You are really sharp-tongued! Just have a look at what will befall you after the end of the auction," Hu Wangui said angrily.

Su Yu chuckled. "Since you are always mocking people, I assumed that you were quite immune to mockery! Yet, you give in so easily! If you are this sensitive, you should stop mocking people."

Hu Wangui was already infuriated and so upset that he was shaking, yet Su Yu still didn't let him off. This caused him to fly into a rage, while a cold glint flickered in his eyes. "You are courting death!" he screamed.

Swoosh!

He then started moving, and it seemed like Hu Wangui unexpectedly wanted to attack Su Yu right here! Su Yu's eyes flickered as he wondered... Is he really going to try and attack me? Hehe! Does he not see that my two bodyguards are both keeping an eye on me?

"Brother Hu, don't fall into their trap! We are in the Red Blood Palace's Auction House, and if we break its rules, they will use it as an excuse to deprive us of our rights to

participate in the auction! Just bear it for now, as you must look at the bigger picture!" One of the two middle-aged men next to him tried to persuade him to be prudent.

Upon hearing this, Hu Wangui returned to his senses, curbed his killing intent, and suppressed his revolving Vital Energy. He then stared at Su Yu coldly and said, "Fine! Just consider yourself lucky this time."

Su Yu chuckled. "Just continue on doing what you were doing. Weren't you just barking loudly a moment ago? Why aren't you uttering a word now?"

Killing intent raged in Hu Wangui's heart, but he reminded himself that he must curb his anger. So, he just closed his eyes, sat still, and turned a deaf ear to him.

"Well? So... Are you sleeping now? Why don't you show us your mocking tongue's skills? Why did you stop? Aren't you too incompetent? How can trash like you become your group's leader?"

He then turned to the pair behind Hu Wangui and asked, "As for you two, are you really willing to be led by such a fake person? Are you still men or not..." Su Yu continued chattering, and he even targeted the other two middle-aged men from the Central Prefecture.

Those two men were infuriated by Su Yu, while Hu Wangui was so angry that his whole body was shivering. He really wanted to just slap Su Yu to death, and he felt like he had just poked an annoying hornets' nest!

In this way, a strange scene appeared in the lounge. A Level Three Fairy Realm old man was unceasingly mocking three experts with great statuses, yet they just bore it, shut their eyes, and turned deaf ears to it!

If one observed them carefully, he would discover that the blue veins in their foreheads were throbbing, and it was obvious that they were on the brink of going crazy. Even though the three Great Shopkeepers were hostile toward Su Yu, they still didn't try to stop him.

Meanwhile, Yu Linglong wore a faint smile as she examined Su Yu with her pretty eyes. Her impression of Su Yu had changed greatly.

It seemed like, as long as no one provoked him, he wouldn't feel like provoking anyone. But, once he was provoked, he would surely not spare any who crossed him!

Now that she had mulled this over, she realized that his conflict with Fei Hang must have been caused by Fei Hang because the latter tries to push him around. As for Lin Ming, it was only because he didn't find Su Yu pleasing to the eye that he had provoked him.

This guy seemed quite interesting. As Yu Linglong's impression of him turned for the better, she wore a smile and turned to observe Hu Wangui and the other two men, who just quieted like cowardly turtles while they were being cursed.

Upon seeing this, she couldn't help but burst with joy, and all of her anger because of Hu Wangui's mockery faded away. It was only after five minutes had passed that several pretty maids came and greeted them gracefully.

“Auctioned products’ owners, the auction will start shortly, so please follow us there,” one of the pretty maids announced.

Hu Wangui opened his eyes and looked at Su Yu with his intense gaze, which was brimming with killing intent. The two people next to him all felt like they had just been relieved of a heavy burden, and they couldn’t help but heave a sigh of relief after they got to enjoy a moment of peace after such a long period of tension. After all, that old man was really unreasonable and thorny!

The three Great Shopkeepers also stood up at that moment. As for Su Yu, he sipped a mouthful of tea, cleared his throat, then left the lounge along with them.

The maids showed them the way to the auction site. The auction still hadn’t started yet, and it was only auctioned products’ owners, like them, who were present.

However, there were also some auctioned products’ owners, who mustn’t expose themselves, who would just wait and come here later, along with the guests. So, the auctioned products’ owners weren’t just limited to these seven people.

At the moment, they all stood in front of a flight of steps that were leading to the second story of the building. The second story contained a VIP Lounge, and only people with great statuses could get into it. There were only nine VIP Lounges in the whole complex, so it was a swanky place.

Hu Wangui looked at Su Yu coldly. “It seems like we will need to separate here for the time being, but you should still not forget that this affair between us has still not been settled!”

Su Yu revealed an odd look as he asked, “Why will we need to separate temporarily?”

Upon hearing him, Hu Wangui sneered coldly, then replied, “What does it feel like to you? Do you think that your status allows you to get into the VIP Lounge? You should obediently just go and sit in the ordinary seats!”

Chapter 865: Yellow Spring Tree Root

Su Yu stroked his chin and gave a hollow laugh, but didn’t say anything else. Yu Linglong rolled her pretty eyes, smiled at Su Yu, and revealed her white teeth.

She then said, “If you don’t mind it, you can just share my VIP Lounge with me. You can watch the auction clearly in it, and it’s also peaceful and cozy. It can also help you avoid being exposed in front of everyone, as no one will be able to see you, even if you auctioned off an extremely precious product.”

Su Yu revealed a faint smile. “Shopkeeper Yu, thank you for your concern. I appreciate your kindness.”

Hu Wangui started mocking him at this time, “Just let him leave! He shouldn’t get to enjoy such fortune!”

After he spoke, he glared at the maids and asked, “What are you still standing here for? Quickly, take us to the VIP Lounges!”

This group of maids didn’t dare offend him, and their leader rushed to do as she was told.

“Understood, sir! Please show us your VIP cards, and we will bring you there according to your card ranking.”

Even VIP Lounges here were varied. Some were better than others. The closer the lounge was to the front, the better and more luxurious its services would be. This meant that not all people capable of getting into a VIP Lounge were on equal footing, and one could see the disparity between their status just through their order of the line at that moment.

Hu Wangui threw his VIP Card at her and looked around in disdain at the other people here. “Do you still need to take a look at it? It’s obvious that I am the most important, so you will have to lead me there first!”

The maid quietly nodded an acknowledgment to him before still continuing to check everyone else’s cards carefully. But, she didn’t even look at Su Yu. This was probably because she knew that he didn’t have a VIP Card.

Upon witnessing this, Hu Wangui sneered at him. “Even a little maid knows what you amount to! Hehe.”

However, when his voice had just echoed through the space, they witnessed that maid reveal a faint smile. She then walked up to Su Yu and asked, “You are old Mister Su, aren’t you? Please follow me. The Second VIP Lounge has already been prepared for you. It is waiting for you to honor it with your presence.”

Everyone at the scene was astounded when they heard this, especially Hu Wangui, whose expression became gloomy. “What do you mean by this? Why would a martial artist, who doesn’t even have a VIP Card, be able to get a better lounge than me?”

His VIP card has the number seven marked on it, which represented the Seventh VIP Lounge, and there was a great disparity between it and Su Yu’s Second VIP Lounge.

Hu Wangui’s face stiffened as he then asked, “Are you trying to make a fool out of me? Are your Red Blood Palace’s Auction House’s VIP Lounges so cheap that anyone can get into them?”

The maid wore a faint smile as she replied respectfully, “Sir, please calm down. You may be unaware of this, but Mister Su is our Red Blood Palace’s Auction House’s distinguished guest today, and the Pavilion Master has already instructed us to take such measures in welcoming him. Hence, the reason why he doesn’t need a VIP card.”

Upon hearing this, everyone was startled. The auction house’s distinguished guest? A small elixir store’s shopkeeper? They couldn’t understand this at all, and this was especially the case for Fei Hang.

Fei Hang was the Heavenly Fragrance Elixir Store’s shopkeeper, and his store was ahead of all the elixir stores in sales and profits. Yet, in the end, a small elixir store’s shopkeeper surpassed him! He found this matter to be utterly unbelievable!

Hu Wangui couldn’t understand it either, and wondered... What ability does this Level Three Fairy Realm old man have that enabled him to become the auction house’s distinguished guest? Moreover, I am still a great and distinguished guest! What about me?

On this day, the Deputy General Manager would come here personally, which explained why the empty First VIP Lounge had been left for him. If he hadn’t been one of the guests, even the absolute best First VIP Lounge would have been taken by the old man in front of them! It was absolutely unfathomable!

Su Yu smiled leisurely, then cupped his hands at Yu Linglong before taking the lead in the line. He then followed the maids upstairs before the crowd's dumbfounded gazes.

Once he got to the VIP Lounge, he found several pretty maids already waiting inside, all of them awaiting his arrival and ready to comply with Su Yu's every command. The room was decorated luxuriously, and all its furnishings and accoutrements were made from precious materials.

A giant crystalline glass window was at the front of the room, and one could see through it into all corners of the auction site below. Moreover, people outside couldn't see into the room, which ensured that the distinguished guests' identities wouldn't be exposed.

This satisfied Su Yu greatly, and he smiled as he casually grabbed a precious spirit fruit from a nearby tray and waited patiently for the auction to begin. After an hour had passed, the auction site was finally opened to the public and a large number of guests entered.

The several thousand seats were all filled completely in just five minutes. Most people had come here just for Hu Wangui's and his two companions' goods. After all, the shrewdest people here were all aware that this was a contest between the Red Blood Palace and the Central Prefecture, and the one who could get the last laugh would be the ultimate winner.

However, what they really hoped to see was what was so amazing about the three products that would cause the Central Prefecture's faction to dare to arrogantly choose the Red Blood Palace's Auction House on purpose. Time passed slowly, and just when the site had become packed with people, an auctioneer showed up on stage.

"Sirs, I will be in charge of this auction." The old man wore an amiable expression, and the moment he appeared, a discussion arose among the crowd...

"What? It's unexpectedly Master Gao! I thought that he had already retired and had since been placed in charge of only inspecting treasures? Why has he appeared on stage once again?"

"That's right, Master Gao is one of Tianya City's few great appraisers, and he's also the only person from the Red Blood Palace that ever surpassed the Tianya Auction House. In fact, the Tianya Auction House's great appraiser was a disciple Master Gao taught himself, and the Tianya Auction House tried many times to snatch Master Gao from them, but he rejected them every time!"

"Wow! I really didn't expect that I would get to see Master Gao on stage ever again. It's really a nice surprise!"

"Hehe, since he's here, we won't need to worry about this auction's products' authenticities."

"Since Master Gao is here, it appears that I didn't end up making a trip here in vain!"

Master Gao? Su Yu was surprised to hear the crowd's reaction, and he asked the maids behind him, "Who is this Master Gao?" It seemed like he was a respected character in Tianya City.

The maid closest to him looked at Master Gao and revealed a respectful expression. “Master Gao is a person with broad knowledge and experience. His cultivation level isn’t high and he’s just in the Half Fairy Realm, but everyone in Tianya City still respects him. Even Almighty Divine Masters will frequently seek him out and consult him. There was once even an All Creation Old Monster, who traveled a long distance to Tianya City just to consult with him.”

Even an All Creation Old Monster consulted him? Su Yu was flabbergasted to hear this. So, there is still such a character here?

“Master Gao has studied many fields, having reached a high level in each, and he’s highly respected due to this. Moreover, he’s a just and fair person, which is why he is popular among the crowd.”

Upon hearing that he was a person proficient in many fields, Su Yu revealed a pensive look.

Then, Master Gao spoke from the stage once again, “Sirs, I thank you on behalf of the auction house for traveling here, and I welcome you all here on its behalf.” His welcoming words received thunderous cheers in response.

“Now, I won’t continue wasting your precious time. We will start the auction now,” Master Gao announced.

Su Yu’s gaze became grave upon hearing that the auction was finally starting.

“Please bring the first product,” Master Gao requested with a smile.

A pretty young lady immediately walked out on the stage. She was wearing a smile and carrying a red tray. The tray was covered with a red cloth, so no one could see what was on it.

“This product was obtained by our auction house three months ago, and even I wanted to keep it for myself! But, it’s a pity that its owner wanted to sell it here in the auction. Sirs, if you have any interest in it, please don’t miss this chance,” Master Gao urged in a mystifying tone.

The crowd immediately went into an uproar...

“What object is so amazing that even Master Gao desired to keep it for himself?”

“Since Master Gao took a liking to it, it must be extraordinary!”

Su Yu observed everything that was occurring from above, and he couldn’t help but sigh in admiration of Master Gao’s skills. He had expertly managed to arouse the crowd’s excitement with just a few words. At this moment, Even Su Yu couldn’t help but become very curious about the object on the tray.

“Hehe, I won’t keep you all in suspense any longer,” Master Gao said as he lifted the red cloth, revealing a white rhizome.

It was as big as a pinkie and seemed just like a tree root, but it was as pure and translucent as jade and shone with a bright luster. Many eyes among the audience widened up as the people observed this plant, but no one managed to recognize what it was exactly.

“Sirs, may I ask whether anyone can recognize this plant’s origin and function?”

Master Gao asked in the same mystifying tone.

Everyone just looked at each other in dismay. They couldn’t recognize it. Even though they were all martial artists, who had made great accomplishments in their cultivations, strangely enough, none of them knew what it was at all!

When the crowd was just wagging their tongues excitedly about this rhizome, a sweet voice echoed out from among the crowd, “If I can answer your question correctly, can you gift it to me?”

The crowd followed the direction that the voice came from, and as they looked over, they were mesmerized by what they saw. They just witnessed a lovely young girl, who seemed like a porcelain doll, sitting at the front with her chin supported by her hands.

She was waving her snow-white leg in the air, while wearing a lovely smile on her face. It was rare to see such a lovely young girl here!

When Su Yu looked over at her, black lines appeared on his forehead. Gongsun Wuxie? Why is she present everywhere I go?

Master Gao wore an amiable smile as he replied, “It isn’t up to me to decide this, but if you can reply correctly, I can certainly ask the Pavilion Master to give you a discounted fee.”

Gongsun Wuxie rolled her eyes at him, then muttered in a soft voice, “What a stingy old miser!”

She then jumped out of her seat and moved closer to stare at the jade-like rhizome, while licking her lips. She then said with a smile, “If I am guessing correctly, it should be the Yellow Spring Tree Root! This plant grows in the Extreme Yin Lands and relies upon absorbing the soul power that is drifting through the world in order to grow.”

She paused to glance around at the audience for a brief moment, then continued, “This explains why it contains a large amount of essence. If one consumes it, it will cleanse his soul, and increase his soul power by a hundredth! It’s a rare and valuable treasure, which has appeared just two times in Tianya City in the past!”

An amazed look appeared in Master Gao’s eyes, and he clicked his tongue in wonder. “Little girl, who is your teacher? How do you know so much about it?”

Gongsun Wuxie raised her head proudly. It seemed like she wanted everyone to notice that she was as confident as a peacock.

She then said, “I’m a peerless genius, and I learned everything without a teacher. I don’t need anyone to teach me!”

Master Gao didn’t get angry at her bold assertion, but just wore a more amiable look on his face as he chuckled, then said, “Hehe, continue studying on your own then, and your future achievements will surely be great.”

After he spoke, Master Gao looked at the shocked crowd and said with a smile, “That’s right, it’s really the Yellow Spring Tree Root from the rumors! It grows only in the Ghost Prison, and it’s difficult to find it in the human world. It can increase its consumer’s soul power by a hundredth, and I can guarantee this matter to you all personally!”

The crowd went into an uproar once again...

“What? It’s unexpectedly a spiritual object that is capable of increasing one’s soul power?”

The crowd became impassioned. No one expected that the first product would be this amazing!

It must be known that the rarest goods were treasures capable of nourishing one’s soul, and one could usually only run into them by pure luck. However, such a product was now just before all of their eyes! It was like a fire, which ignited their emotions and caused them to boil over!

Gongsun Wuxie licked her lips and said with a smile. “I really didn’t make a trip here in vain, as this object is rare indeed!”

Upon witnessing that the crowd was already stirred up enough, Master Gao announced in a loud voice, “The Yellow Spring Tree Root’s bidding price will start at thirty thousand crystals. You may begin bidding for it now...”

Such an inflated price didn’t deter the frantic crowd because a worldly treasure that was capable of increasing one’s soul power was surely a peerless treasure, which couldn’t be described with just mere words! As the crowd started competing over it, it seemed like they had all lost their minds!

As they frantically scrambled to outbid one another, its thirty thousand crystals price rose quickly to fifty thousand in just several seconds!

It continued rising until a prideful voice echoed through the whole place, “One hundred thousand crystals! Don’t anyone dare try snatching it from me!” Gongsun Wuxie crossed her hands before her chest and uttered the outrageously high number, which caused people to almost faint on the spot from shock.

After all, one hundred thousand crystals was a sum that would tempt even an Almighty Divine Master! Upon hearing this, Su Yu’s thought... Does this wealthy girl wish to be robbed?

This price already surpassed the Yellow Spring Tree Root’s true value by a great deal, which explained why the sounds of people fighting over it had all but disappeared. In the end, Master Gao nailed down the deal and announced with a smile who won the bid for the Yellow Spring Tree Root.

Su Yu clicked his tongue and thought... If even a product that can increase one’s soul power just by a hundredth percent is this expensive, wouldn’t my Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid’s price be worth an even more ridiculous price?

Upon witnessing this, Su Yu calmed down and felt much more assured. The Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid’s effects were far greater than the Yellow Spring Tree Root’s, and since even the former could be sold for a hundred thousand crystals, his Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid’s price certainly wouldn’t any lower than that.

While people were sighing in regret for losing out on a chance to win the first product, there was still an air of excitement in the crowd, as all of their emotions had been properly stirred! Upon seeing this, Master Gao wore a smile as he said, “I believe that you will be all the more interested in the second product up for auction...”

A maid carried over a jade box at that moment. It was as big as a palm and was bright red. It was a precious Fire Jade, and such a big chunk of it was worth more than ten thousand crystals!

“It isn’t easy to find such a big chunk of Fire Jade. As expected, since Master Gao is in charge, there won’t be any substandard products here! They will all most certainly be very fine products!” someone in the crowd exclaimed.

The crowd stared at the Fire Jade, all mulling over it inwardly. This object was useful in nourishing fire attribute magical treasures, and it also had outstanding effects. Moreover, it was quite difficult to find! Thus, many people were tempted by the object

Master Gao swept the crowd with his gaze and revealed a mysterious smile as he said, “Sirs, you should have already noticed that this is a jade box made by Fire Jade, and its price is high, but I still want to say that it isn’t the actual product that is up for auction. The actual product is just a grain of a crystal that is inside the jade box!”

What he meant by a grain of crystal was a small piece of crystal that was the size of a grain of sand. The crowd was stunned by this, and they all wondered... The Fire Jade is just an affiliated material that contains the real treasure?

When the crowd observed it carefully, they discovered that the Fire Jade Box really had a shining grain of crystal within it, which was a bright red color. It was unknown what kind of object it was exactly.

The expression of Su Yu, who was observing the site from the VIP Lounge, changed gradually and became grave. Then, in the end, surprise appeared on his face.

He stroked his spatial ring subconsciously with his finger, while his gaze remained locked onto the scarlet grain of crystal. He then murmured in surprise, “The Saint Blood Soul Nourishing Stone!”

The grain of crystal in the box was none other than the Saint Blood Soul Nourishing Stone! Even until this moment, Su Yu still hadn’t managed to discover this mysterious object’s origin, even though he had flipped through many ancient books and records.

Chapter 866: Glittering Jewel Immortal

“Master Gao, don’t keep us in suspense! What is this object?” someone in the audience shouted.

In fact, the entire audience’s interest was aroused. After all, since a valuable Fire Jade Box was used just to store it, they couldn’t imagine how precious the blood-red crystal inside the jade box was!

“Hehe, when I first received this object, I didn’t manage to recognize it because my experience and knowledge is limited. I assumed that it was just an ordinary crystal, and so I almost missed it! It was only after I flipped through the Glittering Jewel Secret Record that I learned of its origin,” Master Gao explained, while chuckling.

The crowd’s curiosity was aroused even more by hearing him speak. Even the knowledgeable Master Gao didn’t manage to recognize it at first glance! Hence, it was surely an extremely rare object!

“This object has a special name in the Glittering Jewel Secret Record... Saint Blood!” Master Gao then announced.

Saint Blood? The crowd was at a loss, as they had never once heard about this Saint Blood before.

“Sirs, you may all be new to this term, but if I inform you of its other name, you may probably already know about this object.” Master Gao’s eyes flickered as he said the other name slowly, “It’s also known as a Divine Crystal!”

The whole audience became instantly silent, and only the echo of those two words, “Divine Crystal,” reverberated along the walls of the room. It was only after several moments that the sound of people taking a few cold breaths could be heard. Then, many ardent gazes looked at the crystal, their eyes remaining glued to it thereafter, unable to look away.

“Wow!” Gongsun Wuxie squinted her bright eyes. “I didn’t expect that such a peerless treasure, which usually would only appear in Jiuzhou’s most prosperous auction houses, would appear in this small auction house! Moreover, this is an object that hails only from the Glittering Jewel Wonderland!”

Su Yu was the only one who didn’t know much about the Glittering Jewel Wonderland, which explained why he wasn’t surprised or startled at the moment.

“That’s right! It’s a Divine Crystal!” As Master Gao stared at the crystal, his excitement was apparent in his tone. “When the Glittering Jewel Immortal died in meditation, her indestructible body was buried in the deepest part of the Glittering Jewel Wonderland. At this same time, her indestructible soul turned into countless pieces of Divine Crystal, which were sprinkled into all corners of the Wonderland.”

He then added, “The Divine Crystals were Glittering Jewel Immortal’s Divine Soul’s parts, and it’s rumored that her past memory, as well as all martial techniques that she learned and her comprehension of the world were inside the crystals. If one can get a Divine Crystal, it will be tantamount to getting a part of the Glittering Jewel Immortal’s inheritance! As for its price, I don’t need to say more about it, as you should all be aware of it, aren’t you?”

The gazes of the audience became flushed, and their eyes all became green with envy. The Glittering Jewel Immortal was a Jiuzhou Emperor, who had suppressed all kings with her power in the past, thus ruling all Nine Prefectures as an empress. Her fighting prowess had already surpassed all other kings to reach an unfathomable realm!

There were even people who stated that she had already become an immortal, and her lifespan had surpassed ten thousand years, almost rivaling heaven’s lifespan! Her eyes had witnessed the continent’s turmoil, the fall and rise of many kings in Jiuzhou, and the rise and decline of the Human Clan over the years. As such, it could be said that she was like Jiuzhou’s Protector God.

Such an outstanding empress died during meditation several hundred years ago, and her divine soul had dissipated at that time. As for her body, it was buried in the deepest part of the Glittering Jewel Wonderland.

The Glittering Jewel Wonderland became Jiuzhou’s Human Clan martial techniques saint ground because the Glittering Jewel Immortal’s inheritance had been left there. All of the people wanted to go there, hoping to run into a fortuitous encounter that would change their lives and turn them from carsps into divine dragons.

A hundred years ago, the new queen, the Lifeless Sword Prefecture's queen, got a part of the inheritance in the Glittering Jewel Wonderland. It was only due to this that she managed to cultivate into the Transformation Realm and claim her place on the throne firmly.

A hundred years had almost passed since then, and the Glittering Jewel Wonderland's gate would soon open once again. As such, it attracted the gazes of all of Jiuzhou's living beings.

Now, a crystal that probably hid a part of the Glittering Jewel Wonderland's inheritance had suddenly appeared before their eyes! Such a shock was tantamount to suffering the brunt of a great earthquake!

"The Red Blood Palace's Auction House has such an object?" The pupils of Hu Wangui, who was in the VIP Lounge, contracted.

His gaze became sharp, and didn't wait for the official start of the bidding for this object before he shouted loudly, "My Hall of Celestial Spirits wants this Divine Crystal!"

The crowd couldn't help but furrow their brows upon hearing this, and they all thought... The Hall of Celestial Spirits is really overbearing! Master Gao still hasn't even announced the starting price for bidding!

However, only a few people would talk back to him because the Hall of Celestial Spirits had already become Tianya City's number one elixir store. So, no one would dare to offend him rashly.

"The Hall of Celestial Spirits? I don't know it... But our Purple Cloud Palace wants it!" A woman's sweet voice was heard.

The crowd was startled and wondered in disbelief... Even the Purple Cloud Palace's people came here?

However, as they mulled it over, it seemed like although the Central Prefecture had aggressively targeted the Red Blood Palace alone, it would still end up affecting the Purple Cloud Palace's industries in Tianya City. So, they certainly couldn't ignore this!

As for who they sent here, that was still unknown. They could only discern that it was a pretty woman with a graceful body. As for her face, it was covered by a white veil, which concealed her identity.

"I also want this Divine Crystal, so can you please show me proper respect and leave it to me?" A soft voice then reached everyone's ears. It was sweet and pleasant-sounding.

The crowd turned their heads and looked over to see a pretty middle-aged woman with a calm and serene temperament. But, it seemed like she possessed great prestige as well, revealing that she must have a high status.

"Fairy Ling!" someone among the crowd exclaimed in surprise. This woman was none other than the Tianya Auction House's Owner, Fairy Ling!

“Even the Tianya Auction House’s people came here personally? Isn’t the sensation caused by this auction a bit too great?” Someone felt that something was amiss about this whole affair.

After all, Fairy Ling was a rarely seen and highly influential figure, so everyone had to wonder why she had come to watch the fight between the industries of the Red Blood Palace and the Central Prefecture. Everyone was starting to sense that there had to be another reason behind the purpose for holding this auction.

Fairy Ling’s pretty eyes flickered, and she swept all nine VIP Lounges on the second floor with her gaze, while wearing an enigmatic smile. The bidding for the object still hadn’t officially started, but three factions with powerful backers had already started fighting over it!

The guests, who wanted to compete over this object, couldn’t help but reveal bitter looks. Even if they managed by pure luck to buy this object, they still might not dare to take even half a step out of the auction house with it! After all, the Divine Crystal was far more precious than even the previous Yellow Spring Tree Root!

Master Gao revealed a faint smile as he calmly said, “Sirs, please don’t get this anxious. This is just a piece of crystal that is the size of a grain of sand. As such, it probably contains just a fleeting memory of the Glittering Jewel Immortal. Plus, she lived for more than ten thousand years and passed most of her life in serene mediation, without any thoughts in her head. Hence, this piece of crystal is probably empty! I wouldn’t place so much of your hope upon it.”

Everyone understood this, and they knew that the possibility that such a small piece of crystal might contain next to nothing in regards to her essence and powers. However, even though this was the case, it was still a risk they were willing to take. Thus, they still considered this item worth fighting over.

“I won’t say more than this at the moment. So, now... I will auction off this object. Its starting price is a hundred thousand crystals!” Master Gao announced loudly.

Hu Wangui’s gaze became sharp as he immediately upped the bid, “Two hundred thousand crystals!”

After he instantly increased the price by a hundred thousand crystals, most of the other people who wanted to try their luck for it could only shut their mouths indignantly. It was already out of their reach.

“Three hundred thousand!” the Purple Cloud Palace’s mysterious woman uttered her bid softly.

Fairy Ling swept over those two people with her gaze, then said calmly, “You shouldn’t even bother competing over it. Regardless of what your highest bidding price reaches, I will simply add a hundred thousand crystals to it.”

Upon hearing her bold and strong words, the crowd couldn’t help but admire her. As was to be expected of the Tianya Auction House’s Owner, she was clearly very confident! Regardless of how high they raised the price of the Divine Crystal, such a sum would be just a drop in the bucket for the mysterious Tianya Auction House’s Owner.

The Purple Cloud Palace's mysterious woman got quiet for a moment before she replied softly, "Just continue fighting for it without me then. I will step down now."

As Hu Wangui stared at Fairy Ling, he couldn't help but narrow his eyes. "Why did she bow out?"

After he mulled it over for a moment, Hu Wangui spoke obstinately, "Four hundred thousand crystals! If you bid more than that, I will also bow out of this bidding war."

"Five hundred thousand crystals! So... Who is left? Anyone?" Fairy Ling asked as she calmly swept the surroundings with her gaze.

Everyone in the crowd could only smile bitterly, as no one could compete against the wealthy owner of the Tianya Auction House.

Upon seeing this, Master Gao nodded, revealed a faint smile, then struck the deal. It was sold for five hundred thousand crystals! This was much higher than what they had expected... By about a hundred thousand crystals!

As Su Yu watched everything closely, he couldn't help but click his tongue in wonder. He thought... So, the Saint Blood Soul Nourishing had other names, like "Saint Blood" and "Divine Crystal!" Moreover, it unexpectedly contains Jiuzhou's most powerful empress' inheritance!

"That Evil God almost deceived me!" Excitement appeared in Su Yu's eyes as he muttered this in surprise. He was rejoicing inwardly for paying attention to it and not letting the Evil God cheat him out of such a big chunk of Divine Crystal!

After all, just a small piece of crystal that was the size of a grain of sand was worth five hundred thousand crystals! This meant that a piece the size of a fist should be worth a sky-high price!

He then wondered... Could its price even surpass a hundred million crystals?

As he thought about this, Su Yu couldn't help but lick his lips excitedly. Division Vice-Master Qi was really lucky, since he managed to get such a big chunk of Divine Crystal from an ignorant inner sanctum's disciple!

Fairy Ling handed over the crystals to them on the spot and received the Divine Crystal. She then immediately start imbuing her Vital Energy into the crystal. As she did so, Su Yu instantly felt a boundless Vital Energy surge into the crystal.

"A middle-stage Divine Master!" Su Yu exclaimed as his pupils contracted.

This woman was really abnormally powerful! Moreover, what astounded Su Yu the most was that even though it seemed like she had just simply imbued her Vital Energy into the Divine Crystal, she still ended up consuming half of her body's Vital Energy!

It was only after that moment that the crystal had emitted a reaction, turning into a white ray of light, which immediately disappeared into Fairy Ling's forehead. After a short while, Fairy Ling opened her eyes.

Then, with her gaze still calm, she said, "Sure enough! It's just a blank memory."

As she was still so calm and composed at this moment, people couldn't help but admire her. After all, she had just spent a whopping five hundred thousand crystals! Such a sum was tantamount to half of a Level One Divine Master's entire life savings!

Su Yu understood many matters from this. It wasn't like he had never tried to use his Vital Energy to activate the Divine Crystal, but it didn't emit any reaction at the time.

Now, he finally understood why. It was because his Vital Energy was too weak and wasn't capable of activating the Divine Crystal and causing it to emit any reaction. After all, there was a great disparity between the Vital Energy of a Level Three Fairy and that of a middle-stage Divine Master.

So... I didn't end up making a trip here in vain... Su Yu comforted himself inwardly. Since he had found a way to use the Divine Crystal, it had made this trip worthwhile.

After the matter with the Divine Crystal came to an end, the crowd's expressions became solemn, as the most important section of the entire auction was coming up.

Hu Wangui wore a mocking smile at the corners of his mouth as he said, "Now, it begins! Our Central Prefecture has prepared well in order to thoroughly defeat all of your three great industries!"

Master Gao wore a calm expression as usual as he announced, "The rules will be altered for this next section of the auction. I will no longer announce a starting bid, and I will also take out a pair of products, introduce their traits and selling points, then let you all compete for them."

Upon hearing this, excitement appeared in the eyes of the crowd. They were excited to witness the contest between both sides, as it was sure to be fierce and eventful!

Two pretty maids went up to the stage and stood on each side of Master Gao. Master Gao then lifted uncovered the tray that was in the hands of the maid on his left side.

A golden claw, which seemed like it was made of the purest gold, was on the tray. The claw was extremely sharp and emitted an ice-cold metallic glint, which gave everyone a restless feeling. It was wholly gold and seemed to be quite special.

"Sirs, you are probably all aware what this object is?" Master Gao asked, while scanning the crowd.

The crowd started whispering amongst each other. Even though this wasn't a commonly seen object, there were still people who recognized it.

Someone suddenly guessed, "Is it the claw of the far west region's Golden Wind Divine Sparrow?"

The same audience member then added, "Such parts of that Divine Sparrow is rarely seen, as it lives in a nasty environment in the far west region of the continent, and catching it is extremely difficult! In fact, it's rarely seen in any of the prefectures! However, because its body parts are excellent materials in making magical treasures, their price is extremely high, though rarely present on the market!"

He then shook his head and said, "And... The price of this auction's claw has surpassed the past ones that I have heard about by a great deal."

Master Gao revealed a faint smile. "Since you all already seem to know about it, I won't waste time further introducing it. This object is from the Red Blood Palace's Ten Thousand Demons Pavilion,

and the Pavilion Master wants to use this opportunity to announce a good piece of news to you all... The Ten Thousand Demons Pavilion has already managed to successfully reach an agreement with the Far West Region's most famous hunting caravan, the Heavenly Eagle Group."

He then said, "All of the Golden Wind Divine Sparrows that are captured by the Heavenly Eagle Group will first be sold in Tianya City's Ten Thousand Demons Pavilion. As such, there will surely be a large supply of other goods drifting to the Ten Thousand Demons Pavilion, and he welcomes you all to honor it with your presence."

Upon hearing this, the crowd nodded, while a few among the crowd whispered among themselves...

"If it's the Heavenly Eagle Group, there won't be any issue with it, as that demonic beasts hunting group has a great influence, and if they agreed to sign an agreement with him, they will surely supply him with proper goods."

"Hehe, it seems like the Red Blood Palace's demonic beasts industry made a smart move and is choosing to hide behind such a trump card. It will be hard for that guy from the Central Prefecture to take this, and he will probably just end up making a fool of himself!"

...

In the VIP Lounge, a complacent smile appeared at the corners of Lin Ming's mouth. He had already started planning and preparing this matter a year ago by negotiating with the Heavenly Eagle Group. In the end, he managed to succeed in striking a deal with them before the start of the auction.

Lin Ming had done all of this while keeping a low-profile, so even the Deputy General Manager wasn't aware of it, let alone the Central Prefecture's industries. They probably wouldn't have imagined, even in their wildest dreams, that he could have hidden such a trump card!

After Master Gao finished introducing the Red Blood Palace's product, he started introducing the Central Prefecture's product. Hu Wangui, who was in a VIP Lounge, wasn't worried, nor was he surprised or startled.

Instead, he curled up the corner of his mouth and revealed a mocking smile as he commented, "He finally took the bait, didn't he?"

Whoosh!

After Master Gao uncovered the product, the audience saw that it also a golden claw. More specifically, it was a Golden Wind Divine Sparrow's claw!

Upon seeing this, Lin Ming's smile disappeared and his eyes flickered. "What's going on? Why is the Central Prefecture auctioning off a Golden Wind Divine Sparrow's claw as well? Is it just a coincidence, or is it some hidden plot against us?"

A helpless look flickered in Master Gao's eyes for a moment. As an auction house isn't allowed to inform anyone of the products being auctioned off before the official start of the auction, he understood why Lin Ming was upset. This came as a total surprise that the products were the same!

“That is right... It’s also a Golden Wind Divine Sparrow’s claw. It’s from the Demonic Treasure Pavilion,” Master Gao announced as he saw the audience’s surprise.

At this moment, a soft whirring sound echoed out from a VIP Lounge on the second floor. It was the giant glass window of the room where Hu Wangui and his two companions were situated as it started opening up, revealing the three people to the crowd.

Hu Wangui wore a faint smile. “Sirs, I also want to announce a piece of good news to you all. My Demonic Treasure Pavilion has already subdued the Far West Region’s Heavenly Eagle Group, and from now on, they will join my Demonic Treasure Pavilion as employees or cohorts of sort. Now, all of the Golden Wind Divine Sparrows that they capture will belong to our Demonic Treasure Pavilion alone!”

Upon hearing this, the audience went into an uproar...

“Did the Heavenly Eagle Group really become a subordinate of the Demonic Treasure Pavilion? How did they achieve that?”

“So... If we want parts of Golden Wind Divine Sparrows, we’ll have to go to visit the Demonic Treasure Pavilion?”

In a VIP Lounge, horror appeared on the face of Lin Ming, who had still worn a confident expression just a brief moment ago. “That’s impossible! I already started negotiating with the Heavenly Eagle Group a year ago, so how did you manage to subdue them this quickly? Wait... Did you all set me up?”

Lin Ming finally understood that this was just a plot set up by Hu Wangui, and that Hu Wangui had already subdued the Heavenly Eagle Group a year ago, but had hidden it on purpose! He had apparently ordered them in secret to fake a collaboration with the Ten Thousand Demons Pavilion!

Just when Lin Ming had become so pleased with himself because of this affair, Hu Wangui had suddenly announced this matter to create trouble for him! He was livid!

The thought that the Heavenly Eagle Group, which was seen as a trump card that was capable of remedying the situation by the Ten Thousand Demons Pavilion, had already been subdued by Hu Wangui long ago really seemed like a joke! The great disparity between them caused the Ten Thousand Demons Pavilion to become a laughing stock, thus helping the Demonic Treasure Pavilion accomplish its underhanded aims!

“You are really ruthless!” After Lin Ming returned to his senses, he almost fainted from anger.

Hu Wangui sneered. “Shopkeeper Lin, how can you say this? The Heavenly Eagle Group members are my subordinates, and I am the one who accepted signing an agreement with you. So, if you want parts of Golden Wind Divine Sparrows in the future, you can just take them from my Demonic Treasure Pavilion with a ten percent discount.”

It appeared that the Demonic Treasure Pavilion had ended up becoming a store that was a grade lower than the Ten Thousand Demons Pavilion. Master Gao let out a soft sigh. It seemed that the Central Prefecture’s faction had still prevailed in the end.

The Demonic Treasure Pavilion had stepped on the Ten Thousand Demons Pavilion in order to elevate itself even further. It would be difficult for it to not become well-known in the future now, even if they didn't desire great fame.

Chapter 867: Eight Treasures Brew

Lin Ming was dumbstruck, and even after he sat down again on his chair blankly, he didn't utter a single word for a long while. He knew that he was done for because the Deputy General Manager, who was in the First VIP Lounge, had witnessed everything.

As they observed Hu Wangui in the VIP Lounge, the crowd couldn't help but sigh. This person was so sinister and ruthless, that he set a plan in motion to try to utterly destroy Lin Ming's Ten Thousand Demons Pavilion!

If Lin Ming just lost the treasures contest at this auction, the Ten Thousand Demons Pavilion's prestige and business would only suffer slight losses and wouldn't be affected too greatly. However, if he ended up becoming a target of Hu Wangui's oppression like this, the Ten Thousand Demons Pavilion would become the laughing stock of the whole city, thus losing its prestige.

Such a matter's consequences would be dreadful! As such, it would have been better for the Ten Thousand Demons Pavilion's owner to never have participated in the auction!

Yu Linglong and Fei Hang's expressions became gloomy, and they couldn't help but feel anxious and frightened. They never had much confidence in their chances in this auction, and now, things seemed even more hopeless. As for Hu Wangui, he had come here fully prepared, and they weren't capable of dealing with him.

Master Gao looked at Lin Ming with pity before he shook his head and said, "According to my appraisal, those two Golden Wind Divine Sparrow's claws have identical grades, so there isn't any difference between them. The bidding will start now. As there is not starting bid price, the one who bids the most for them will get them. Sirs, please start!"

Everyone started competing for the items at the same time, and their value in the purchasers' eyes could be discerned instantly. As Golden Wind Divine Sparrows parts had extensive uses, many people were vying for them.

However, strangely enough, even though they were similar Golden Wind Divine Sparrow's claws at the same grade, most purchasers still focused on the Demonic Treasure Pavilion's golden claw. The reason for this was because they trusted the product that auctioned off by the Heavenly Eagle Group's owner more.

Even though Master Gao had already stated that they were similar, the people were all skeptical and felt that they couldn't be sure whether the Demonic Treasure Pavilion had ordered the Heavenly Eagle Group to hand over a defective claw to the Ten Thousand Demons Pavilion. This, of course, was just their suspicion, and it was also the reason why Lin Ming's defeat was foreordained.

In the end, the Demonic Treasure Pavilion's golden claw was sold for eighty crystals, which was a high price for just a single part of a demonic beast. As for the Red Blood Palace's golden claw, it was sold for fifty crystals, which was just an ordinary price for it. However, as this was an auction with an intense and competitive edge to it, it was strange for it to have ended up being sold just for its normal price.

Upon witnessing this scene, the hearts of many Red Blood Palace's members shuddered. The Red Blood Palace's Auction House's Pavilion Master Xiao Yao, who was in the First VIP Lounge, couldn't help but sigh.

He then said, "Lin Ming was too careless."

Pavilion Master Xiao Yao was speaking to the person next to him. However, while he was standing, that person was sitting. If Su Yu was present, he would surely recognize that person because it was the Deputy General Manager, who he had met when he had just arrived in Tianya City.

The Deputy General Manager nodded calmly. "Replace him. He has had an easy and comfortable life for so long, and he is no longer suitable to have a leading role in the industry."

Pavilion Master Xiao Yao nodded, then ordered his trusted aid to pass down the order.

Hu Wangui was satisfied to hear this. He looked at Yu Linglong, and revealed a meaningful smile.

"Please bring over the fourth product." Master Gao's expression was as indifferent as before as he spoke calmly.

At this time, two women ascended the stage leisurely. They were both clad in thin robes, and their flesh could be faintly seen through them. They were quite alluring.

Both those women had a pretty appearance and outstanding facial features, luminous eyes, and a mesmerizing charm. They were both beautiful women, the likes of which were rarely seen here.

Many ardent gazes among the audience focused on them at once. The crowd also understood that the restaurants industries' success relied heavily upon their dancers. However, both of these dancers from each side were at the same level.

It would be difficult for Hu Wangui to beat the Red Blood Palace's restaurants industries because, although beauties weren't necessarily numerous, they were also not necessarily rare. Hence, if Hu Wangui could find them, so could Yu Linglong!

Many Red Blood Palace's members were reassured to see the matched beauties. They felt confident that this round would end as a tie, and they wouldn't end up losing once again, not like in the demonic beast materials' contest!

However, Hu Wangui curled up the corners of his mouth and revealed a mocking smile as he quickly asked before Master Gao started assessing them, "Are the Red Blood Palace's restaurants using women's charms alone to attract attention? Since that's the case, why don't they just go ahead and turn their establishments into brothels?"

Yu Linglong clenched her fists in secret, but spoke calmly as she asked, "What are you trying to say?"

Hu Wangui revealed a sinister smile. "Hehe, I never said that I wanted to auction a dancer. I disdain using such despicable means!"

Hu Wangui clapped, and the woman clothed in thin clothes belonging to the Central Prefecture's side took out a jade gourd from her sleeve. The gourd had a yellow liquid within it, which was emitting a mesmerizing fragrance.

“What I’m auctioning is wine, not people!” Hu Wangui declared as she revealed a carefree smile.

The crowd returned to their senses after hearing this. Apparently, Hu Wangui was using a shady plot once again!

Before the start of the auction, he had hinted many times that he would choose a dancer proficient in melodies, but in the end, when Yu Linglong found a dancer as beautiful as his, he had quickly changed his story, stating that he was actually auctioning some famous wine!

He wanted to use this matter to tarnish Yu Linglong’s restaurant’s reputation. It was obvious that he had sinister motives.

No one present had expected such a scene to occur, and they all couldn’t help but feel embarrassed on behalf of the Red Blood Palace. After all, two of their great shopkeepers had fallen into their enemies trap, and it wasn’t even a brilliant scheme! As such, the crowd’s impression of the Red Blood Palace’s shopkeepers couldn’t help but turn for the worse.

However, Yu Linglong was still as composed as before, and a crafty smile blossomed on her face as she said, “Well... That’s really coincidental, as what I wanted to auction is also wine! Of course, not people! It’s the Lifeless Sword Prefecture’s Wine Immortal’s secret wine. He already sent his gifted disciple to Tianya City to become my restaurant’s First-Grade Wine Master. Sirs, if anyone wants to have a taste of the Wine Immortal’s excellent wine, feel free to pay a visit to my restaurant.”

The crowd went into an uproar. They couldn’t believe that Yu Linglong still hid such a trump card!

The Wine Immortal’s name was well-known. He was proficient in making all kinds of marvelous wines.

In fact, people were willing to spend their whole family’s fortune just to taste a mouthful of this wine. So, of course they were shocked by the fact that his gifted disciple was working in a restaurant!

“Well, Shopkeeper Hu? Are you satisfied with my product? Or... Have you also bribed that disciple and lured him to your side, planning to use him to ridicule me?”

Hu Wangui squinted his eyes and looked at Yu Linglong. “Hehe, Shopkeeper Yu, you are really shrewd and scheming!”

Hu Wangui’s voice then suddenly changed in tone, “However, do you think that I’m not prepared for it?”

Hu Wangui then looked at the crowd and smiled. “I don’t dare claim that my spiritual wine is better than the Wine Immortal’s wine. However, it’s a wine that is made from a recipe that was found in some ruins from ancient times. Hence, it isn’t something that a mere disciple can brew.”

He then said, “The wine that I want to auction off is called ‘Eight Treasures Brew,’ and one would need to spend three years just to brew a single drop of it. It’s extremely precious, and tasting just a single mouthful of it will make you feel like you have become an ascending immortal! Sirs, if you are interested in it, why don’t you have a taste of it?”

The crowd went into an uproar once again! The news of an ancient wine’s brewing recipe was indeed shocking!

Master Gao wore a solemn expression as he started introducing the two spiritual wines. As everyone expected, Hu Wangui's spiritual wine was identified as being an ancient spiritual wine that was recorded only in the ancient books.

Its long-term consumption could purify one's fleshly body, and it also had many other magical effects. Although Yu Linglong's spiritual wine was pretty good and was rarely seen in the whole Jiuzhou, it still couldn't rival an ancient spiritual wine. Hence, it was obvious that Hu Wangui would get an overwhelming victory in this auction between the two items once again.

Yu Linglong's face became dark, and she clenched her jade-like fist tightly. She wasn't willing to accept this. Even though she had done her best, she had still suffered a defeat in the end.

Hu Wangui was greatly pleased with this, and he laughed at her. He then said, "Well, Shopkeeper Yu, I already stated that if you work as a dancer, your restaurant's business will surely flourish! I would surely come to cheer for you! Haha!"

Yu Linglong was infuriated. She had imagined that she would catch Hu Wangui off guard in this auction and be able to humiliate him. But, in the end, she was the one that was humiliated instead!

She was distraught and filled with anxiety, and she could only reprimand him coldly, "What are you so pleased about? The three great industries are headed by the elixir industry, which is the most important and brings the greatest profits. The profits of the demon beast materials and restaurants industries couldn't rival even a third of elixirs industry's earnings."

This was indeed true. It wasn't like many people needed precious demonic beast materials, and only a few martial artists were fond of loitering in restaurants! However, all martial artists needed a very kind of elixir.

In fact, they would all frequently consume them in great quantities. Even magical treasures, weapons, cultivation techniques, demonic beasts' materials and the like couldn't rival them. In summary, elixirs had the most extensive uses and were essential products for all martial artists.

Half of the profits that factions gained from their industries came from the elixirs industry alone. Regardless of which faction wanted to set foot in Tianya City, they could do without having demonic beasts' materials stores or restaurants, but they would surely not give up on elixir stores!

The Red Blood Palace and the Central Prefecture's industries had many fights, but they were mostly regarding elixirs. Whoever managed to dominate the elixir market would manage to get the most profits. So, the next round was the round of the auction that the people were most concerned about.

Upon hearing her, Hu Wangui just laughed in disdain. "Elixirs? Ha! How can incompetent trash like Fei Hang compete against my Hall of Celestial Spirits? If he doesn't take our elixirs like the Pure Blood Pills, the Spiritual Nourishment Pills, and the Exquisite Powder, which can be found everywhere in the streets, you'd better not put your hopes in him!"

Hu Wangui knew clearly what kind of person Fei Hang was, and he also knew that he didn't have any fighting spirit. He was a person, who didn't mind cruelly ripping off his colleges just to preserve his store's position as a high-grade elixir store. He simply couldn't help but look down upon him.

Yu Linglong was infuriated. "Stop acting this arrogantly! His product still hasn't started being bid upon, so how can you know that Fei Hang didn't prepare for it?"

Hu Wangui said with a smile, “Hehe, Shopkeeper Yu, please don’t get angry. If you end up harming your body, I will be blamed for it!”

It seemed like his gaze was capable of penetrating Yu Linglong’s VIP Lounge and seeing her. Then, to add insult to injury, he had just teased her in public!

“You’re shameless!” Yu Linglong replied indignantly.

“Please, bring over the fifth product,” Master Gao requested calmly.

Two maids went up to the stage at that moment, each of them carrying a plate. The plate in the hands of the maid on the left side had a transparent jade gourd that had a pill with black color mixed with white inside of it.

Its white portion formed a divine dragon picture, while its black part formed a magnificent phoenix picture. It was really a beautiful sight, and no one could recognize it.

The maid on the right side was carrying three jade bottles, which all were filled with a different type of pills. When the crowd had a closer look at them, they couldn’t help but look at each other in dismay, and they all wondered...

Pure Blood Pills, the Spiritual Nourishment Pills, and the Exquisite Powder... Aren’t those the Heavenly Fragrance Elixir Store’s best selling elixirs? What does Shopkeeper Fei mean by doing this?

Upon witnessing this, Yu Linglong was so infuriated that her whole body shivered. She clenched her jaw and glared at Fei Hang, who was sitting next door.

She then asked, “Did you go crazy? You unexpectedly took out those three elixirs? Didn’t you prepare anything else?”

Hu Wangui laughed disdainfully. “Hehe, it isn’t out of my expectation! Didn’t I say that this good-for-nothing knows just how to harm his own people, while he will just bear his enemies’ assaults? He just knows how to protect himself! He doesn’t care about others at all!”

Yu Linglong’s face became hot and she felt ashamed. She was infuriated.

Fei Hang was strangely calm. “Shopkeeper Yu, you don’t need to get angry over this. Just let the enemies act arrogantly like they want. New elixirs don’t necessarily represent good sales volumes. The Pure Blood Pills, the Spiritual Nourishment Pills, and the Exquisite Powder are our most basic elixirs, and they have been selling well until now. So, no one and nothing can affect them.”

Fei Hang then added, “There is obviously a reason behind this. It’s because their effects are good and they are offered at a suitable price. This is the most important aspect, as one can’t persist for long just by depending solely on new products.”

Fei Hang’s words seemed reasonable and logical.

Chapter 868: Dragon Phoenix Spiritual Elixir

There was a reason why the three elixirs became classic and the typical ones who didn’t lose their fame, even after a long time. Even if a new elixir was better in some aspects, it still might not necessarily manage to surpass them.

It couldn't be denied that even though Fei Hang was plausible, he was constantly in contact with elixirs and was thus quite familiar with the market's current situation.

At this moment, the crowd started discussing this spiritedly. The actions of Fei Hang, who seemed to be the most stupid out of all of them, actually seemed to contain hidden wisdom.

The greatest martial path was always the simplest, and this was also the case for elixirs. As such, elixirs with fancy effects weren't as popular as practical ones.

Hu Wangui revealed an ice-cold look and spoke with pity in his voice, "The world is advancing forward, and an old man like you has already fallen behind in the ranks. My elixir will defeat the classic elixirs that you are so proud of."

The crowd understood his implication and looked at the pretty black and white elixir. An interesting look appeared on the face of Fairy Ling, who wore a calm expression. "It seems like I have seen this elixir somewhere before..."

Just when the crowd had raised their heads and looked at it expectantly, Master Gao finally spoke, "Sirs, I don't believe that there's any need for me to introduce the three elixirs on the right side, as you are all already familiar with them. They are the Pure Blood Pill, the Spiritual Nourishment Pill, and the Exquisite Powder. They cost in the market eleven crystals for a piece of the first one, twelve for the second, and nine crystals for the last."

He then said, "Now, I will talk about the black and white Dragon Phoenix Elixir on the left side first. I believe that it's a type of elixir that first originated from the Glittering Jewel Wonderland. This elixir was just an ordinary elixir in the ancient era and was suitable for Fairy Realm martial artists' consumption. It has three great effects..."

He paused for a moment to take a breath, then continued, "The first effect is that it helps one to calm down, and swallowing it before cultivation will help one get rid of all distracting thoughts, thus allowing the person to cultivate during meditation peacefully."

He then explained the next effect, "The second effect is derived from the powerful spiritual energy that is contained in the elixir, which is helpful to one's cultivation, while the third effect is a healing effect. It has such an effect because of its special ingredients."

He then scanned the audience with his gaze as he announced, "In summary, it can help one to calm down, increase his cultivation, and heal his injuries."

Upon hearing this, Fei Hang's calm expression became grave. This is because its three effects corresponded to the effects of the Pure Blood Pill, the Spiritual Nourishment Pill, and the Exquisite Powder, which meant that it was a single elixir that had the effects of all those three elixirs combined into one!

He had heard about the Dragon Phoenix Spiritual Elixir once before, and it was confirmed that it really had such effects, even in the past. But, its recipe had been lost.

After all, it was just a common elixir that was consumed by the ancient era's martial artists alone, so it was easy for its recipe to get lost. Moreover, one of its ingredients, Dragon Whisker Grass, was already extinct, so there hadn't been any way to make this elixir all this time. This is exactly the reason why he had never considered it to be a threat!

“How useful is just a single portion of the elixir?” Yu Linglong consoled himself by asking with doubt in his voice.

After all, the Dragon Whisker Grass was already extinct, so they surely wouldn’t be able to get enough of it for large scale production of Dragon Phoenix Spiritual Elixirs! Then, even if by some miracle they found a bit of it, the cost of the elixir’s production would be extremely high, which meant that they wouldn’t get any advantage at all over him!

Master Gao then spoke up again, “Hehe, I just want to inform you all of a piece of good news. After my Hall of Celestial Spirits’ alchemists worked hard for a dozen years, they finally managed to successfully plant a large number of Dragon Whisker Grass seedlings! This means that you can all have a chance to taste the Dragon Phoenix Spiritual Elixir, just like the ancient era’s martial artists in the past!”

He then said, “After my Hall of Celestial Spirits’ high-ranking members discussed this matter, we decided to not depend upon this elixir to make profits, and we will just use them to repay you all for your support! This explains why it will be sold for ten crystals per portion.”

Upon hearing him, the whole audience went into an uproar. Managing to recover the ancient era’s Dragon Phoenix Spiritual Elixir ingredients was already an inspiring achievement, and as such, people would be even willing to pay a high price just to get to sample it. However, not only did the Hall of Celestial Spirits not sell it for a high-price like they all had expected, but they had even put it up for sale at an outrageously affordable low-price!

As it was an elixir that contained all of the same effects as the Pure Blood Pill, the Spiritual Nourishment Pill, and the Exquisite Powder combined, its price should be thirty crystals. Yet, they would need just ten crystals to get a portion of the Dragon Phoenix Spiritual Elixir, which had the effects of three different elixirs in one!

So... It was cheaper by three times! Upon realizing this, all of the people became very emotional and were excited by such a tempting price. Moreover, it was still an object from the ancient era, so it gave them all a mysterious feeling.

So, as long as one wasn’t a fool, he wouldn’t spend his money on buying the Pure Blood Pill, the Spiritual Nourishment Pill, or the Exquisite Powder separately, but would purchase the Dragon Phoenix Spiritual Elixir instead! It was a no-brainer!

It could then be imagined that if they were capable of mass-producing the Dragon Phoenix Spiritual Elixir, people would lose interest in the Pure Blood Pill, the Spiritual Nourishment Pill, and the Exquisite Powder altogether. Then, these items would be forgotten memories of the past.

Fei Hang felt his body turning ice-cold as he watched the scene unfolding before his eyes. After all, the Heavenly Fragrance Elixir Store was depending upon those three elixirs to maintain its status as a high-grade elixir store. So, once it lost them, it would immediately be reduced to just a middle-grade elixir store!

Everyone was excited, and it was only the Red Blood Palace’s people who felt their hearts gradually sinking. Such a blow was too powerful for them to withstand!

It started in the demonic beasts’ materials industry, then spread to the restaurants’ industry before it impacted the most important elixir industry! Each blow was more intense than the one before it!

It was undeniable that the appearance of the Dragon Phoenix Spiritual Elixir would deliver a destructive blow to the Red Blood Palace's low-grade and middle-grade elixirs' business. Although the business of the Red Blood Palace's three great industries wasn't absolutely decimated through this auction, it was still gravely affected.

Specifically, it could be imagined that those three great industries' profits would fall by around thirty percent. Such a percentage would surely damage the Red Blood Palace's bottom line greatly, and the Red Blood Palace's sanctum would surely fly into a rage!

The Red Blood Palace's members all felt like the sky had just collapsed upon them. They were all aware that the current situation was anything but reassuring.

Many gazes looked toward the First VIP Lounge. This was because a great person was within it. He was an influential man, who could control the fate of all of the industries' members.

Palace Master Xiao Yao's expression was gloomy. He had expected that the Central Prefecture would try to suppress them aggressively and was aware that they might lose, but he still didn't expect that they would suffer such a tragic defeat!

Lin Ming had been toyed with and had become a laughing stock, and even Yu Linglong's skill had proven to not be on par with them. As for Fei Hang, his foundation had been destroyed completely, along with his low-grade and middle-grade elixirs' business!

This would affect them all greatly, and it could be said that everyone from the outer sanctum's disciples to the Inner Palace's Mo Tianxuan would be greatly alarmed upon hearing about this. Moreover, this grave affair occurred while they were in charge of all of Tianya City's industries, and it was unknown whether they could survive the sanctum's punishment, which would surely be severe.

Palace Master Xiao Yao's expression remained calm as usual, while in fact, he was filled with killing intent as awaited the Deputy General Manager's instructions. The Deputy General Manager's expression was also calm, and neither anger nor delight could be seen on his face.

He was strangely composed. However, Palace Master Xiao Yao was aware that the Deputy General Manager was the most terrifying when he was in such a seemingly calm state!

"The Hall of Celestial Spirits... The Dragon Phoenix Spiritual Elixir..." As the Deputy General Manager repeated the names, Palace Master Xiao Yao's whole body shivered.

He could discern repressed killing intent from the Deputy General Manager's calm tone. Even the Deputy General Manager's killing intent was aroused by this, or, it would be more appropriate to say that the Deputy General Manager's heart was perturbed by this. After all, this affair's influence was too great, and as such, it surpassed the Deputy General Manager's limit of forbearance.

After the crowd recovered from their initial excitement over the Dragon Phoenix Spiritual Elixir, they gradually noticed the Red Blood Palace's members' moods, and they all couldn't help but whisper commentary about it to each other secretly...

"How awful! We'd better withdraw..."

"This matter has gotten out of control, and it seems like the Red Blood Palace can't bear it any longer! They probably won't let Hu Wangui and his companions leave. You

should all prepare to withdraw at any moment, as a great battle may occur here soon.”

The crowd noticed how biting cold the current ambiance was, and they all felt wisps of formless murderous aura welling up in some of the people’s hearts.

Hu Wangui squinted his eyes. “Hehe, So... You can’t accept such a defeat, and now you want to kill us? Your Red Blood Palace is really contemptible!”

He wasn’t worried at all and just sneered coldly. He would only feel more delighted the more desperate the Red Blood Palace’s members became. Since he had managed to corner the Red Blood Palace to such an extent, it could be inferred that their industries had been greatly damaged. It seemed that their plan had succeeded!

Only a few people here were still composed, and some of those were the ones aware of some secret facts. Master Gao was still composed, and it seemed like he didn’t detect the killing intent that was emanating from all sides. As such, he just continued auctioning off the Dragon Phoenix Spiritual Elixir, the Pure Blood Pill, Spiritual the Nourishment Pill and the Exquisite Powder.

Many people were ready to leave this dangerous area, as they knew that after the auction came ended, this place would quickly turn into a killing ground. However, Master Gao still continued, seemingly unaware of all of this.

He announced, “Please bring out the next product.”

Huh? The guests were all startled, and they wondered... Is there still a product that is even more important than the others, which has been left until the end?

Fairy Ling pursed up her lips, while her eyes pretty eyes lit up. “Now that such a boring treasures contest has finally come to an end, it seems that spiritual liquid will be finally presented!”

Hu Wangui was also taken aback by this and wondered... Is there really still another product left to auction off?

Chapter 869: Transcending Time

Despite having some doubts, Hu Wangui did not take them to heart. Since the matter was already over and done with, the time had come to figure out a way to excuse himself.

A female servant with slender hands held a jade vessel as she walked up to the auction stage gracefully. She had a lovely smile on her face, and her beauty outshone all of the previous female servants.

Anyone who had ever been to an auction before would know that the exquisiteness of the auction increased as the auction progressed, finally culminating in the highlight at the end. The female servants were a part of all of this build-up.

“So... Is this the grand finale?” someone in the crowd asked, while all of the people hesitated before sitting down once again.

Master Gao wore a bright smile on his face. He did not seem to be in a rush to introduce the next item as he said laughingly, “Ladies and gentlemen, I suppose that you have noticed that the auction items from the ancient times have appeared several times in this auction...”

Hu Wangui and the other two had consecutively displayed the Spiritual Wine Eight Treasure Brew from the ancient times and the Dragon Phoenix Spiritual Elixir, which was also widespread in the ancient era. Similar recovered ancient items were usually rarely seen in previous auctions, but they had appeared two consecutive times today! This made people here wonder just how much effort Hu Wangui and the others had put in to bring this about!

The people present who had particularly bright minds detected the overtone in Master Gao's speech and were surprised. Many of them wondered... Is it possible that the last few items are related to the ancient times as well?

In fact, many ancient items were considered weak to the modern martial artists. However, due to the temptation of their belonging to a vanished civilization, anyone would stop by and pay attention to the items.

After capturing everyone's attention again, Master Gao finally said, "Next up is also an ancient item. It is an elixir that had disappeared from history, but has once again been recovered before the world's eyes! The efficacy and value of this elixir far surpasses those of the previous auction items. I swear on my life that this elixir is unprecedented! Everyone, seize this opportunity, don't miss out on such greatness!"

His speech made everyone quite curious, as Master Gao rarely exaggerated the goodness of the auction items. So, his using words like "unprecedented" made everyone take notice. Everyone focused their attention on the jade vessel.

Master Gao received the jade vessel with a smile and proclaimed in a clear voice, "I am here to witness alongside all of you the emergence of a spiritual elixir that has been extinct for centuries!"

However, Hu Wangui was not impressed. "What's so terrific about ancient items, aside from some special species?"

After recovering the Dragon Phoenix Spiritual Elixir, Hu Wangui understood that most of the so-called "ancient items" were nothing special. In fact, most of the time, they were not even as good as modern items!

After all, the times were advancing. Far too many people indulged themselves in the glory of the past, regarding items from the ancient times as mythical existences, thus blindly following suit in believing that they were nearly priceless instead of considering the value of the so-called ancient items through concrete evaluation.

As Hu Wangui pondered these things, he had to admit that he did not exactly believe that there was coincidentally one ancient item left tonight...

"This elixir was an extremely renowned spiritual item from the ancient times. So, it will hardly be obtainable, even if one has a ton of money!" Master Gao could not hide his excitement.

He then said, "I've been appraising treasures all my life, so it remains in my memory forever if I come across a significant treasure with a meaning that transcends time. If this recovered elixir can be publicized and produced on a grand scale, it'll have a time-transcending impact on Tianya City, on the Blessed and Heavenly Lands, on Jiuzhou, and even on the entire human race! In my opinion, it can be ranked among the top five of all time!"

The stipulation for sale was that this item must be publicized on a major scale. This was because a mere bit of it would only be like a small ripple of a wave in a vast ocean to the human race. It would simply be incapable of causing any real impact.

But, Master Gao had described this as possibly posing results that would transcend time! Upon hearing this, the audience was visibly shaken, and even Hu Wangui refrained his disdainful look and began pondering what Master Gao had just claimed.

He wondered... If even Master Gao called it a treasure that could transcend time, its significance must be truly great!

The people's exhilaration then reached a climax, as they were all yearning for the disclosure of the item's true appearance. Master Gao had definitely achieved his goal of influencing their moods.

He laughed for a moment, then finally announced, "This item will be familiar to those who study elixirs. It is the Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid!"

Then, with Vital Energy, Master Gao transformed the five words, "Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid," into sound waves, causing them to reverberate in an overlapping manner as they spread throughout the huge auction hall, quivering everyone's eardrums. Most were unfamiliar with it, but the few who knew about it were so stunned. They felt as if they had just been struck by lightning!

Hu Wangui's facial expression changed from its previous calm to one that was utterly shocked. He then looked dumbfounded before his face twisted into an expression that revealed his strong suspicions.

At that moment, he could hear his heart thumping wildly. As he was heavily involved in the elixir industry, he already knew a lot about the Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid, which was widely renowned in the ancient times and had made the present generation regret its ever being lost!

This was because it was the only kind of elixir that could enhance Soul Energy among all of the spiritual elixirs! Soul Energy was defined as a privilege that belonged to those few with spiritual talents.

These few had much stronger Soul Energies, which allowed them to train with the Secret Book of Soul and advance into elixir-refining masters. Some of them were even able to train to the point where they possessed souls of the Almighty level, and they did so far earlier than normal people, thus breaking through the level of the Almighty Divine Masters... All because of their strong souls.

As such, Vital Energy was no longer the deciding factor for breaking through the Almighty level. Instead, it was Soul Energy!

If Soul Energy did not fulfill the requirements for breaking through the Almighty level, one will be perpetually trapped in the bottleneck. Countless martial artists were trapped among the ninth-grade fairy level, while trying to find every way to enhance their souls.

They bore the agony of blazing flames, squandering their souls in the severance of feelings and relationships, and experienced all kinds of unimaginable worldly pains just to stimulate their soul enhancement. Those with a strong backing could perhaps find extraordinary treasures of the universe, such as the Yellow Springs Root, and advance with ease, but most had to experience misery. It was as though they were undergoing an excruciatingly painful metamorphosis.

It could be said that the discontinuity of the human race's Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid had resulted in the stagnation of the progress of human martial artists. Martial artists in the ancient times could train to become ninth-grade fairies, and the breakthrough into Almighty would happen naturally.

However, the present generation had to experience unbearable pains to make this possible. If this elixir had really re-emerged as Master Gao had promised, it would bring about a great change! The best part was that everyone present would witness this miracle!

"What?" the mysterious and graceful lady from the Purple Cloud Palace stood up out of the blue and exclaimed in shock.

Fairy Ling's eyes shone with a shrewd light and were scanning the area for important guests.

Lin Ming, Yu Linglong, Fei Hang, Hu Wangui and the other two had spoken and had already brought forth their elixirs. This meant that they could not be the owner of the Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid.

There were only two rooms left in the end. One of them was the number one guest room, which belonged to the Deputy General Manager and Palace Master Xiaoyao. The last room had been silent this whole time, and the person inside it had not revealed himself even once. Fairy Ling's gaze was eventually fixed upon this secret room.

Then, with the minority of the onlookers feeling shocked and the majority of them feeling bewildered, Master Gao tried to contain his excitement as he laughed and said, "Ladies and gentlemen, I'd like to welcome Fairy Ling to make an introduction about the amazing usages of the Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid."

Fairy Ling frowned all of a sudden, and her unusual behavior made the auction party of the Red Blood Palace raise their guards up. They were reluctant to let such a strong opponent in the industry find out about the owner of the Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid. Although, with her background, she would find out sooner or later, they could only do their best to delay such a thing.

Everyone looked toward the beautiful middle-aged lady who was so mysterious and elegant. Despite her reluctance, Fairy Ling could only introduce the item to the public with some resentment.

"It has two usages. The first is to improve cultivation, and the second is to improve the Soul Energy of fairy martial artists!" she announced uncaringly.

She was already a fifth-grade Almighty Divine Master, so the Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid did not appeal to her. Thus, she managed to speak lightly of it.

Nonetheless, it was of great concern and importance to all of the fairy strong men present!

Chapter 870: Twists and Turns

"What? An elixir that enhances the soul?" someone from the crowd exclaimed.

Then, numerous voices broke out from the crowd. It was like a volcano had erupted! After all, this was unlike the Yellow Springs Root, which was a spiritual item of the universe. Although it was able to enhance Soul Energy, it was hard to come by and was unable to fulfill all of the needs of the

martial artists. However, since elixirs were produced from energies, everyone had the chance of acquiring them!

Master Gao nodded lightly, then said, “Right. Soul enhancement is a special effect of the Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid, which is an ancient elixir! Besides, it’s also extremely useful for the cultivation of souls!”

Once again, murmuring and exclamations rippled through the crowd.

“It’s impossible!” someone voiced their doubts amid the crowd’s collective shock.

Hu Wangui was the most doubtful of them all. “The elixir recipe for the Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid isn’t a secret. I think that all of the big influences hold a copy of its recipe. As to why this elixir hasn’t re-emerged in Jiuzhou even after such a long time, all of us are aware of the reason. So... Isn’t it too early to be happy?”

Hu Wangui had really dampened their spirits. Upon hearing this, a number of people calmed down and started pondering it.

They figured that if the elixir-producing House Yuan had such an elixir recipe in their collection, the big influences in Tianya City surely had it as well. This elixir was not exactly difficult to be manufactured, as it was only a middle-grade elixir. But, the people still wondered why it hadn’t been manufactured for so long.

The reason was that one of its main ingredients had become completely extinct. This ingredient was the Heartbroken Zither Grass! This spiritual grass had been exterminated long ago, thus becoming just a speck of dust in the history of time.

One of the main ingredients of the Dragon Phoenix Spiritual Elixir had also become extinct, but had not been completely wiped out. Thus, it was no wonder that the influence behind Hu Wangui could mass-cultivate the material, as some of it grew in the Glittering Jewel Wonderland.

Nonetheless, the Heartbroken Zither Grass had indeed been annihilated, and the world had not seen it for hundreds of thousands of years. Hence, the re-emergence of the Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid was extremely unreasonable, which is what made it so surprising!

Hu Wangui seemed to have seen through the Red Blood Palace’s scheme. “Haha, did you set up this fraud in order to save the situation because you’re too afraid to lose?”

His words caused the crowd to stir. If the Red Blood Palace had really done that, it would not just be an auction that they lost, but also their reputation! After all, nothing was more abominable than instilling hope in people, then causing them to despair right afterward!

The auctioneer then said, “I’m not responsible for convincing you to believe. I’m only in charge of evaluating the authenticity of the auction items. I’ll now draw out three drops and invite three people to come forward and have a taste. The first up will be Shopkeeper Hu, since you are the most doubtful! The second quota can be given to Fairy Ling, who seems genuinely interested in the spiritual liquid! And... Let’s give the last quota to Lady Lü from the Purple Cloud Palace.”

Hu Wangui frowned and sneered. “Great! I do want to try it!”

Fairy Ling put on a cool smile and scanned guest room number two, then said, “Alright. I’ll show its owner some respect by trying it as well.”

However, the woman from the Purple Cloud Palace with the surname Lü kept quiet. She simply jumped up to the platform as gracefully as a divine butterfly, took a drop of the spiritual liquid, and consumed it. The changes on her face could not be discerned, as she was wearing a veil, but delight could be seen in her eyes through the veil.

“It really did enhance the Soul Energy! From the look of its color, smell, taste and its effects, this is truly the Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid!” she then exclaimed.

Fairy Ling then consumed the drop of liquid as everyone cast envious looks at her. Blinking her pretty eyes, she said indifferently, “It’s the Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid. I will swear to that at the risk of my own reputation.”

The verification by these two women satisfied those who had doubts. After all, Fairy Ling was known for her noble identity, and she had no reason to conspire with the Red Blood Palace to deceive them.

However, there was one more person left, and his judgment was the most important of all. In fact, when Hu Wangui walked up to the stage and examined the item up-close, he knew from experience that it really was the long-extinct Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid.

The shock he felt upon realizing this was far greater than the women’s, but he was reluctant to admit it. Then, after a long hesitation, he consumed the liquid drop.

A long while later, he opened his eyes slowly, seeming to be very peaceful. He then nodded his chin lightly, and as the people looked at him expectantly, he said, “Yes, this is indeed the Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid.”

A commotion ensued in the audience upon hearing his claim. Even Hu Wangui, who was on the opposing side, had validated the authenticity of the Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid! Hence, it must have re-emerged for real!

Right when everyone was immersed in their surprise, Hu Wangui said coldly, “But... The effect of the soul enhancement was too weak! It was not even as great as the Yellow Springs Root. So... Chances of achieving a breakthrough into the Almighty level with it are nearly zero! This ancient Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid is very disappointing!”

Everyone that heard this couldn’t help but wonder... Is it possible that the effect was really so weak?

“Fairy Ling, Lady Lü, is this true?” an elderly man with a great reputation asked from his seat among the crowd.

Fairy Ling was calm as she replied, “That’s right. This Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid’s effect was fairly ordinary, so I must admit that it seems that the rumors have been exaggerated.”

The woman with the surname Lü from the Purple Cloud Palace lightly nodded her head and said, “Yes, the effect wasn’t as good as the rumors led us to believe.”

The expectant auctioneers’ hearts sank when they heard the unanimous claims.

“Master Gao, I’d like to hear from you...” An onlooker addressed Master Gao, still unwilling to give up.

“What else is there to talk about? It was recovered from some ancient remains, and the medicinal effect has clearly diminished due to years of negligence! It’s ridiculous how the Red Blood Palace tried to turn the tide by misleading people. Everyone, don’t be fooled by such a low-class trick!” Hu Wangui seemed to have seen right through it, and he spoke up before Master Gao could reply.

Whispers spread throughout the crowd, and all of the people were communicating their anxieties and doubts. Upon hearing their murmuring, Hu Wangui smiled coldly. In his mind, he had complete control of the situation now.

“Haha, it’s just like what Shopkeeper Hu said... This vessel of the Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid has an ordinary effect, which is slightly inferior to the Yellow Springs Root,” Master Gao agreed with a smile.

The audience calmed down from their agitation upon seeing his unalarmed smile, but disappointment still filled their eyes as they received the confirmation from Master Gao.

Master Gao then went on to explain, “The reason for this is simple... It’s because this is a vessel of a defective sample of the Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid! It isn’t due to long years of storage, but a failure in its manufacturing!”

As Master Gao spoke, his eyes were bright as the sun, emitting a radiant light. He then added, “I can guarantee with my reputation that the refining period of this spiritual liquid didn’t exceed five days! In other words, it was refined by the modern martial artists!”

What? Upon hearing this, hopeful gleams crept into the crowd’s disappointed eyes once again.

Hu Wangui sneered. “Really? How about you show us one that is refined successfully if you’re truly capable?”

Master Gao nodded without hesitation and said, “As you wish!”

As he clapped his hands, another female servant, who was on standby by the side, came forward, holding a jade box in her hands. In contrast to the dark purple spiritual liquid in the jade vessel, the liquid in the jade box was lilac in color, and it was dreamily resplendent. As such, its color fit the color description of the Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid more precisely.

Lady Lü’s bright eyes emitted a look of surprise as she gazed at the jade box with delight. At the same time, a bright light flashed in Fairy Ling’s eyes as she glanced over to guest room number two!

“This is the perfect Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid that was refined successfully. According to the elixir gradings, it belongs to the third grade, which is fairly high. What’s most precious about it is that it’s completely free of impurities, which indicates that the manufacturer achieved a paramount mastery in the extraction of elixirs, which comparable to the effect of the State of Transfiguration!” Master Gao was being quite generous with his praise.

He then added, “I’ve tested it myself, and its effect on soul enhancement exceeds double that of the Yellow Springs Root! One who’s reached the ninth-grade fairy only needs to consume 100 drops of

it, and they can train their Soul Energy to perfection, thus fulfilling the requirement to break through to the Almighty level!”

Master Gao sounded excited. As a treasure appraiser, nothing pleased him more than discovering a priceless treasure with his own hands!

“Double the effect of the Yellow Springs Root!” an onlooker exclaimed, while others from the crowd exhaled sharply in surprise upon hearing this.

At the moment, the jade box had become the center of everyone’s focus. No one could tear their eyes from it.

“Right now, both sets of the Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid will be auctioned together. The bottom price for the defective version is 50 crystals, and no bid can be less than five crystals! As for the perfect version, the bottom price is 100 crystals, and no bid can be less than 10 crystals! The bidding starts now!” Master Gao proclaimed, clearly in high spirits.

After all the twists and turns so far, the Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid had finally ignited desire in everyone’s heart! This was especially the case for the ninth-grade fairies, who had been in prolonged stagnation. They now regarded it as the turning point of their lives, and all of them joined in the bidding.

Both the defective and perfect versions were being intensely fought over. After some time, the price of the defective version had been raised from 50 to 100 crystals! As for the perfect one, its price had shot up to 500 crystals from its original price of 100!

And... The price kept rising! At first, many artists were only watching the fun, without caring much about the auction. Also, most of them did not have enough crystals with them and could only watch as the price skyrocketed, having no choice but to quit the bidding halfway through. This caused many of them to be sick with remorse, realizing that they had missed a golden opportunity.

A while later, both sets of the Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid had been auctioned. The defective one was sold at a high price of 150 crystals. As for the perfect one, its price shot up to an extremely high price of 800 crystals!

The Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid was a middle-grade spiritual elixir. Normally, the low-grade spiritual elixirs were worth 10 crystals, the middle-grade were worth 100, and the top-grade were worth around 1,000.

However, a middle-grade spiritual elixir like the Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid was sold at the sky-high price of similar top-grade elixirs! So, it was obvious how extremely sought-after the elixir liquid was!

Even then, this price was such because the auction house had kept the auction secret on purpose, not making it known to the public. Otherwise, it would have attracted even more people’s interest, and the price could have risen up to 1,000 crystals!

The defective liquid was purchased by a ninth-grade fairy, while the perfect liquid was sold to Gongsun Wuxie, the wealthy young lady. Although the auction had officially ended, everyone was still caught up in the excitement of it all.

“Master Gao, is this spiritual liquid still on sale?” one of the martial artists who did not manage to purchase it asked. Several others asked this same question, as everyone was clearly unwilling to reconcile that they had missed this chance.

Master Gao looked over to guest room number two, then said, “It’s better to let the owner of the spiritual liquid answer this question...”

Instantly, all eyes were riveted on the guest room, where Su Yu was. Fairy Ling’s eyes glimmered as she thought... The owner of the spiritual liquid is really in there!

Hu Wangui was startled upon hearing this and asked, “What? How could it be him?”

Fei Hang and Yu Linglong were shocked too, and Fei Hang exclaimed, “It’s Su Yuxian!”

They could not have imagined that the owner of the final item was the unknown shopkeeper of a small elixir store, Su Yuxian! At that moment, a ferocious light flickered in Hu Wangui’s eyes, and his heart was beating wildly.

All he could think at that moment was... This person must be gotten rid of!

The effect brought about by the Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid was too overpowering. Once it was refined on a grand scale, it would certainly draw an insane amount of profits.

They had gone to great lengths to oppress the Red Blood Palace, but now it had a chance of retaliating! This unknown brat, who came out of nowhere, had overturned their victorious outcome!

Hu Wangui was very decisive. So, after giving it only a moment’s thought, he, along with the three people around him, charged toward Su Yu.

At the same time, Fairy Ling laughed with delight, then said, “You’ve finally shown yourself!”

Then, with a flash of her gorgeous shadow, she also charged toward guest room number two. Judging from her mannerisms, it appeared that she was about to capture Su Yu and question him about the whereabouts of Heartbroken Zither Grass!

Following their leads, some ill-intentioned people used the chaos as a shield and charged toward guest room number two as well, all with the hopes of seeing the expert who had recovered the Heart Refining Mortal Dust Liquid with their own eyes!

All of a sudden, the place erupted in complete chaos!