

The Gate 501

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Chapter 501: Ruan Clan's Power

Ning Cheng internally criticised this slimy old fox. Just when he was about to talk, a woman wearing a light purple robe came out.

However, even Ning Cheng could not help but secretly give praise in his heart; she really was quite the beautiful woman. A pair of crescent moon shaped eyes that seemed to speak volumes gave a stunning impression over anyone who laid their eyes on her for the first time. With a plump and full bosom, packed tightly within her robes and only revealed her white neck, made any person who gazed at her to think of how amazingly white her skin might look like under her dresses.

She even had a tall figure, if Ning Cheng stood directly in front of her, he would only be a few centimetres taller than she would. At the same time, her cultivation was also significantly higher than Ning Cheng's, and by the looks of it, most likely was in the Celestial Gatherer Realm.

Just a glance at this girl would be enough for anyone to realise that she was a well-cultured and educated young woman. Ning Cheng honestly did not know why Ruan Cheng wanted to expose his daughter to him in such a manner.

"Mingshu, this is Ning Cheng. Most likely, he would accompany you to the Time Wilderness. After entering the Time Wilderness, you must focus on the main objective and try to stay close to Ning Cheng. Take care of not making small mistakes that would end up costing you big, do you understand?" Ruan Cheng spoke out in a very soft tone; evidently, he doted upon his daughter a lot.

"Father, your daughter understands." Ruan Mingshu replied with grace as if she understood every word that came out of Ruan Cheng's mouth without a shred of misunderstanding.

After Ruan Mingshu answered her father, she slowly walked over to Ning Cheng and gave a gentle bow in ceremony before speaking, "Senior Apprentice Brother Ning, please look after me."

In Ning Cheng's view, Ruan Mingshu projected a very humble and modest picture and did not look like the type that wanted to rebel against her father's words or engage in open flings.

"My cultivation is not as good as you. It should be me addressing you as Senior Apprentice Sister, or rather hope that Senior Apprentice Sister could take care of me." Ning Cheng quickly replied with a very polite tone.

Ruan Mingshu gave a smile but did not refute it.

"Well, that's that. Three days later, we will go to the Orchid Borough Celestial River's main planet, the Orchid Borough Star. Ning Cheng, you can either live with us or by yourself." Ruan Cheng spoke while gently nodding towards Ning Cheng.

Ning Cheng quickly spoke up, "Manor Master Ruan, are we not going to participate in the Lesser Thunder Star Try-outs?"

“Haha, my Ruan Clan already has two quotas to enter the Orchid Borough Celestial River. So why would we need to participate in the selection here? You think too little of my Ruan Clan.” Ruan Cheng gave a laugh while speaking.

Ning Cheng did not feel pleased in the heart with the apparent arrogance shown by Ruan Cheng. With such people in their own territory, no wonder the Celestial Lord could not take control of the entire situation.

However, since he was now teaming up with the Ruan Clan, he quickly spoke up, “In that case, I will come back to this place three days later. I still have a few things that I have to deal with.”

“Oh, no issues then.” Ruan Cheng also gave the nod before he turned to Ruan Mingshu and spoke, “Mingshu, you accompany Ning Cheng and show him around. Remember not to snub people. I’m going to rest for a while.”

“That’s not needed, not needed.....”

Ning Cheng did not have the time to refuse when Ruan Cheng had already made his way to his backyard and soon disappeared.

“Senior Apprentice Brother Ning, I’m not very familiar with the Thunder Enforcement City, I hope that Senior Apprentice Brother Ning does not mind it.” Ruan Mingshu spoke out in a whisper-like voice like a well-cultured woman while standing just a step behind on Ning Cheng’s side. Apparently indicating that she would follow Ning Cheng’s lead.

Ning Cheng waved his hand and spoke, “I can move around by myself. Senior Apprentice Sister Ruan can rest up. After three days, I will come back to this place as promised to the Manor Head.”

Ruan Mingshu showed a smile before shaking her head but not leaving. Showing her intentions of following Ning Cheng.

Ruan Zhuo, standing at one side, quickly spoke up, “Brother Ning, Little Miss Mingshu takes the words of Manor Master extremely seriously. Since the Manor Master has told her to accompany you, then she will accompany you.”

Ning Cheng could not help feel gloomy, making him think of ghosts. Ruan Cheng clearly stated that his daughter definitely was not obedient, yet this same daughter behaved in the complete opposite manner. It felt weird.

Since trying to convince her would not seem to work, Ning Cheng also put away the thought. He decided to find a place to stay before dealing with sending away Ruan Mingshu.

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The Thunder Enforcement City was a lot busier compared to the Ocean Gambling City. Just the shops themselves had a forest of cultivators, even Ning Cheng had never seen so many cultivators with Celestial Wheels concentrated in such a place.

Ning Cheng directly went to the largest Resting Pen before speaking to a server within the Resting Pen, “Give me a single room, I will be staying for three days.”

Saying that Ning Cheng then turned to Ruan Mingshu and spoke, "Senior Apprentice Sister Ruan, I plan on resting for a few days, you can go back first. We will see each other in three days."

The server had not yet spoken when Ruan Mingshu took the initiative to talk to the server, "Please reserve a double room for us, we two will stay there."

After she said that, she looked at Ning Cheng and spoke in an apologetic voice, "I'm sorry, Senior Apprentice Brother Ning, father has instructed me to stay with you at all times. I cannot go against my father's instructions. And Senior Apprentice Brother Ning, please do not address me as Senior Apprentice Sister, just call me as Junior Apprentice Sister Mingshu."

Ning Cheng opened his mouth slightly before closing; did these people want to spy on him? However, he did not reveal any of his secrets, except for his Spiritual Consciousness, which was slightly stronger. However, even if his Spiritual Consciousness were somewhat stronger than average if Ruan Cheng wanted to keep an eye on him, did it not also mean that he would end up invariably checking over his own daughter?

Although most cultivators were not exactly magnanimous, they usually refrained from living within the same room with the opposite sex, unless they had mutual feelings or some other thoughts. Moreover, even Ning Cheng did not want to entertain even half a point of view of sharing his living space with Ruan Mingshu.

"Can..." The server hesitantly tried to clarify things with Ning Cheng.

Ning Cheng just waved his hand and spoke, "Just do what she says."

Even if they want to put him under surveillance, so what?

"Junior Apprentice Sister Mingshu, I am going to buy something, Junior Apprentice Sister Mingshu can stay here and rest, while...."

"I naturally will accompany Senior Apprentice Brother Ning. I rarely come out to roam around in the Thunder Enforcement City, so I would also like to take this chance to roam around for a bit. Maybe I might not have such a chance in the future." Ruan Mingshu spoke with a kind smile.

"Ok, I want to go take a look at the Void Battleships." Ning Cheng spoke with a nod.

Seeing Ruan Mingshu showing no intention of leaving his side, Ning Cheng added another question, "Do you know about the location of the Lesser Thunder Star's selection for the Man Lun Starry Skies' Try-outs?"

"Father said that we don't have to participate in the qualifying rounds in the Lesser Thunder Star, we can directly head to the qualifying rounds for the Orchid Borough Celestial River." Ruan Mingshu looked at Ning Cheng with a confused look and tried to explain.

Ning Cheng spoke up, "It's not that I want to participate in the qualifying rounds. It is just that I have two friends here who are participating in the selections in this place. I just wanted to go meet with them."

Ruan Mingshu gave a smile, "It's a little late for that. The selection rounds for the Lesser Thunder Star have already ended. The selected cultivators had already left the Lesser Thunder Star a few days ago. It was also because of this that my father anxiously wanted to find someone to help me."

When Ning Cheng heard Ruan Mingshu's words, he immediately understood the underlying reason why the Ruan Clan showed such a favourable side to Ning Cheng. It was all because of the timing. If they had enough time, they could have looked for a more outstanding person; however, because of the timing differences, they had to settle with someone like him.

"The friends who I want to find are named Jing Wuming and Lan Ya. Can you help me look them up and see if they were selected?" Ning Cheng ignored the underlying implication of Ruan Mingshu's words and asked directly.

"Please wait for a moment." Ruan Mingshu sent the information through her communications pearl.

When Ning Cheng and Ruan Mingshu walked out and neared a merchant house, the communications pearl in Ruan Mingshu's hand lit up. Ruan Mingshu looked at the communications pearl in her hands before showing a smile and speaking to Ning Cheng, "Looks like congratulations are in order, both of your friends passed the Lesser Thunder Star Selections and are on their way to the Orchid Borough Celestial River."

Ning Cheng also felt relieved on hearing both Lan Ya and Jing Wuming's selections. It was a good thing that both of them managed to leave the Lesser Thunder Star; otherwise, since he had already offended the Ocean Gambling's Premier Casino, it would not bode well for the two of them to stay in this place.

"What would the two guests like to purchase?" Ning Cheng and Ruan Mingshu had just walked into this Merchant House when a shop assistant greeted them with a smile.

"I want to see if you have any better warships." With Ruan Mingshu sticking close to him, Ning Cheng did not intend to buy anything else. He just wanted to buy a battleship before going back and resting.

The shop assistant immediately spoke up with enthusiasm, "Yes, yes... Whether you want a Domain Grade or a Celestial Grade one, we have them both in our shop."

"Celestial Grade huh, what's the price for the best Celestial Grade Battleship you have?" Ning Cheng knew that the battleship that Lan Ya purchased was only an ordinary Domain Grade Battleship; however, it was already much more advanced compared to his 5-Star Battle Disc Sifting Orchid, which barely had much use in this part of the starry skies.

The shop assistant on hearing the words 'Celestial Grade Battleship' turned even more enthusiastic while speaking, "We definitely have Celestial Grade Battleships here, from Basic Rank to the Apex Rank. Of the Celestial Grade Battleships, we also have Speed Type and Combat Type, which type does this friend need?"

Ning Cheng thought for a moment before replying, "I need one with speed, with at least some decent combat capabilities."

Ruan Mingshu suddenly spoke from the side, "If you want to purchase Combat-type Warships then don't buy from this place, This place only has fake goods; if you want something combat oriented, you should head to a technological planet to purchase. However, the Orchid Borough Celestial River does not have any real technological planets; therefore, I suggest you do not waste your money here."

“This Little Miss is just talking nonsense. Our Apex Rank Celestial Grade Battleships can even go up against the starry skies’ beast horde.....” The shop assistant on hearing Ruan Mingshu say that their battleships were not good immediately cried out in injustice.

Ruan Mingshu asked calmly, “Oh, then let me ask you something, is your best Celestial Grade Battleship equipped with Radium Light Arrows? Or does it contain those Flowing Sky Cannons, or at least the Sky Locking Optical Equipment?”

The shop assistant opened his mouth and hesitated for a long while before speaking, “It does not; however, we also have Starry Skies’ flying weapons here. Even if this friend has no intention to buy our warships, you can buy the Starry Skies’ flying weapons, which are definitely not slower than the battleships.”

“Oh, what Starry Skies’ weapons do you have in this place? Let me take a look.” Ning Cheng knew that what the shop assistant referred, as Starry Skies’ weapons were, in fact, a reference to the True Cultivation Weapons, which needed either Starry Skies’ Essence Force or an equivalent Spiritual Source in tandem with Spiritual Consciousness to drive it.

The best weapon that he had used in the True Cultivation World was a True Artefact. However, after entering the starry skies’, Ning Cheng had no idea about the higher ranked weapons.

“I have a Best Quality True Artefact here, along with a low-grade Airship.....” The shop assistant very much wanted to sell to Ning Cheng, to the point that his tone had even fallen to the level of ingratiating.

“Do you have anything better?”

“Only the Orchid Borough Star will have those higher level treasures that you seek. Our merchant house is already the highest level of merchant house you will find in the Thunder Enforcement City. If you can’t find what you want in this place, you won’t find it in any other shop on this star.” The shop assistant felt somewhat disappointed. From the looks of it, he understood that conducting business no longer was possible.

“Well, I guess that’s it. Just give me one of your best Celestial Grade Battleships.” Ning Cheng spoke without even bothering to choose from the selection. He speculated that once he stimulated the Twin Wings of the Heavenly Clouds, his speed could at least compare to a Celestial Grade Battleship.

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Chapter 502: Meeting Jing Wuming Again

“5 billion Blue Coins, Apex Rank Celestial Grade Battleship.” The shop assistant enthusiastically brought out a black warship and presented it to Ning Cheng and Ruan Mingshu.

To be honest, this battleship looked much more advanced compared to the one Ning Cheng obtained from the Scarlet Robed Young Noble. Moreover, since Ning Cheng now had access to a considerable amount of money, spending 5 billion Blue Coins did not mean much.

“Even a true Apex Rank Celestial Grade Warship would not necessarily come in 10 million Blue Coins. If you are not in a hurry, you can wait until we reach the Orchid Borough Star before buying it. There you can even buy a Celestial River Grade Warship.”

Ning Cheng took out a Blue Card and passed it to the shop assistant, who looked somewhat worried, "I'll take this battleship. You can deduct the 5 billion Blue Coins from this."

Regardless of whether Ruan Mingshu made sense with her words or not, Ning Cheng did not hesitate to pay for the battleship. When he reached the Orchid Borough Star, of course, he would buy a better battleship than. A proper warship meant a higher chance of keeping his life intact, while a poorer quality battleship only served for meagre options. As such, there was no need for him to save Blue Coins.

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Ruan Mingshu did not have even a half-point view in regards to Ning Cheng's actions, especially since Ning Cheng showed no inclinations to heed her advice. After returning to the rest stop, she still behaved like a well-behaved woman, without even mentioning anything about what happened previously. As for whether Ning Cheng wanted to heed her advice or not, she did not seem to care about it.

Ning Cheng also did not want to have a deeper connection with the Ruan Clan. As such, on reaching the rest stop, he immediately headed to his room and put down several restrictions. Years of experience told him that Ruan Mingshu had no reason to live with him in the rest stop, which made him reluctant to talk nonsense with this woman.

As for what Ruan Mingshu had in mind, Ning Cheng also did not want to know about it. His deal with the Ruan Clan would end the moment he obtained the Perpetual Moon Pill.

As Ning Cheng sat in his room, his Spiritual Consciousness scoured every inch of his body from the inside to outside several times; however, he could find even a shred of a Spiritual Consciousness Tag. According to Lan Ya, after he killed that Scarlet Robed Young Noble, he should have some sort of a mark on him; however, how could he not find it?

Even if the Scarlet-robed Young Noble's father was a Celestial Lord, he could not be a lot stronger than his Starry Skies' Sea of Consciousness.

Just as Ning Cheng started heading towards paranoia, someone touched the restrictions he placed on the door, followed by the soft voice of Ruan Mingshu, "Senior Apprentice Brother Ning, can I come in?"

What does she want? Just living in a double room with a lone man would already give rise to many suspicions; did this woman now wanted to stay in his place?

"Come in." Ning Cheng opened the restrictions over his room; he, anyway, was not afraid of Ruan Mingshu.

"Junior Apprentice Sister Mingshu, do you want something from me?" Ning Cheng asked while standing up.

Ruan Mingshu gave an apologetic bow to Ning Cheng before smiling and speaking, "I'm sorry Senior Apprentice Brother Ning. I did not want to disturb you. However, the Time Wilderness is a huge deal. So I wanted to take the opportunity to discuss it with Senior Apprentice Brother Ning."

Ruan Mingshu wore a pale red top, with her hair flowing casually over her back, completely different from how she looked outside. Her robes also no longer covered her body completely, and at the very least, her robes now exposed a deep valley under her white neck.

A faint aroma reached Ning Cheng's nose, making Ning Cheng suspect that this aroma originated from the deep valley beneath her neck. A small silvery necklace wrapped around just below her neck further enhanced her elegance and demure beauty.

"Oh, Junior Apprentice Sister Mingshu, please have a seat." Ning Cheng showed a smile and offered Ruan Mingshu a seat.

Ruan Mingshu kept staring at Ning Cheng for a long while, before she finally opened her mouth and spoke, "Senior Apprentice Brother Ning, although the Time Wilderness is filled with treasure, danger also lurks inside almost everywhere. This is not a Mystical Place for experience and training, one can fall at any time and at anywhere inside. Although Senior Apprentice Brother Ruan might have mentioned that entering the Time Wilderness is a voluntary affair for you, it is, however, a completely different affair for my Ruan Clan. At the same time, there are also a few things that I can't hide from Senior Apprentice Brother Ning."

Ning Cheng gave a smile, "Junior Apprentice Sister Mingshu. You think a bit too much. Since I volunteered, it has nothing to do with the Ruan Clan. As to whether I can use the selections for the Orchid Borough Celestial River to enter the Time Wilderness, it is an entirely separate matter."

Ruan Mingshu still sported a light smile over her face, "My father might have mentioned that I had taken a liking to a cultivator named Zhao Yanxing and that one of your tasks is to keep an eye on me. However, the fact is that my father misunderstood the situation, as it was the other way round. Zhao Yanxing was the one who has taken a fancy to me. I have no relationship with this person, nor do I feel anything towards him."

Seeing Ning Cheng just listening without showing any inclination to reply, Ruan Mingshu had to continue on, "Although I wanted to have a talk with you, I will follow my father's instructions and cooperate with you fully."

Ning Cheng replied with slightly hurried politeness, "Junior Apprentice Sister Mingshu, although I address you as Junior Apprentice Sister, I know that your cultivation is far better than me. I have only just advanced to the Celestial Novice Realm and do not even have a Celestial Wheel yet. The only merit to my name is that I possess a slightly stronger Spiritual Consciousness. Therefore, it should be me who has to fully cooperate with Junior Apprentice Sister, not the other way round."

"Are you really in the Celestial Novice Realm?" Since the time that Ning Cheng saw Ruan Mingshu, this was the first instance that Ning Cheng saw a slightly surprised expression over Ruan Mingshu's face.

"Yes, I really am a Celestial Novice." Ning Cheng smiled and spoke with a positive tone. "Truth be told, even I have no idea why Brother Ruan Zhuo chose me; as such, I can't guarantee if I am competent enough."

Ruan Mingshu did not show much of awkwardness after learning that Ning Cheng indeed was a Celestial Novice; at the same time, she also did not care too much about Ning Cheng's modesty. After discussing a few important things relating to their cooperation, including the problems about cultivation

deference, she finally decided to say her goodbyes. Only, after she left Ning Cheng's room, her face sported a soft smile.

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Three days passed by in a flash and during these three days, Ning Cheng did not leave the resting pen. Ruan Mingshu would occasionally come to exchange a few words with him but also did not move from the resting pen. Ruan Cheng seemed to have acquiesced to her daughter's way of doing things and did not come to look for Ning Cheng.

On the third day, Ning Cheng and Ruan Mingshu entered the Celestial River Class Battleship of the Ruan Clan.

After entering the Celestial River Class Battleship, Ning Cheng suffered a rude awakening as he compared the battleships he used previously, the one just purchased to the one where he currently stood.

Ning Cheng did not know anything about the combat methods or the capability of the Celestial River Class Battleships, nor had Ning Cheng encountered any of the various equipment and decorations inside the Celestial River Class Battleship. However, there was only one word that Ning Cheng could use to describe the current scene in front of his eyes, and that was 'luxurious'.

After the Celestial River Class Battleship entered the starry skies, it sailed so smoothly to the point that it felt stationary. Only facing some significant turbulence within the starry skies, which caused the Celestial River Class Battleship to sway slightly, could one sense it moving; giving one the feeling that the Celestial River Class Battleship was actually in flight.

Ning Cheng secretly made up his mind to purchase a better battleship in the future.

The Ruan Clan also treated him with sincerity. The room allocated to Ning Cheng not only had a variety of Spirit Fruits unique to the starry skies but also contained a range of fine wines. During this period, Ruan Mingshu only came to see Ning Cheng just once; later if Ning Cheng had any need individual personnel from the battleship came forward to serve.

On the ninth day of the flight, the battleship ended up surrounded by a flock of Three-winged Flying Bears native to the starry skies' region they were in, which allowed Ning Cheng to witness the combat capabilities of this true technological battleship.

These Starry Skies Three-winged Flying Bears were unlike the other ordinary demonic beasts found within the starry skies, as their wings did not appear in pairs, but as a trio.

At the same time, these flying bears liked to feast on the corporeal bodies of cultivators. If a Starry Skies Battleship without sufficient combat capabilities ended up encountering a swarm of these beasts, only a tragic end awaited it.

However, Ruan Clan's Celestial River Class Battleship clearly was not an ordinary Celestial River Class Battleship. As Ning Cheng stood on the deck, he witnessed the Starry Skies' Battleship spray out a dense silvery glow. The next instant, countless Starry Skies' Three-winged Flying Bears, dropped dead, pierced through by the silvery glow.

In just half-an-incense stick worth of time, Ning Cheng estimated that this one attack resulted in the deaths of at least tens of thousands of Starry Skies' Three-winged Flying Bears. Seeing such an outcome, the rest of the Starry Skies' Three-winged Flying Bears finally tasted fear and started to retreat. In just a few moments, the rest of the Starry Skies' Three-winged Flying Bears retreated without even a trace left behind.

"Quite fierce." Ning Cheng thought to himself. These bright lights were so powerful even without any infusion of laws. Once an ordinary cultivator ended up trapped by these bright lights, it would prove extremely difficult for them to escape unscathed.

"That was this Celestial River Class Battleship's Radium Light Arrow Rain. Do not look at how powerful that attack is, in fact, it is costly. Just one volley will use up many Green Coins. Moreover, these flying bears actually are not that powerful and lack independent courage. If there were even a single decisive flying bear leading the swarm, we would not have had such an easy time." Ruan Mingshu's voice promptly sounded next to Ning Cheng.

Ning Cheng asked with a doubt-tinged voice, "I felt this Radium Light Arrow Rain as a mighty move wait, doesn't it mean that these Starry Skies' flying bears are also mighty?"

"Mighty?" Ruan Mingshu shook her head, "They are just a group of low-level flying bears and are not really powerful. As for this Celestial River Class Warship's Radium Light Arrows, they are just a low-level configuration. In the more advanced Celestial River Class Battleships, Starry Skies Class Battleships, all of them are equipped with Flowing Sky Cannons, Sky Locking Lights....."

After a slight pause, Ruan Mingshu continued, "The Radium Light Arrows would only show a limited suppression over these Starry Skies flying bears if they did not retreat and ended up concentrating together. In the end, it would not be impossible for them to break through the defensive line of this Celestial River Class Battleship."

Ning Cheng did not know much about the starry skies' anyway; as such, he could only listen to Ruan Mingshu.

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One month later, the Ruan Clan's Celestial River Battleship stopped outside a huge blue planet. This planet was the Orchid Borough Celestial River's Premier Planet, the Orchid Borough Star. As the people of the Ruan Clan lead the way, Ning Cheng simply had nothing to do and easily entered the Orchid Borough Star's Main City.

The central city of the Orchid Borough Star did not have the name Orchid Borough City but went by the name of Revolving Jade City, named after the Orchid Borough King's most beloved concubine.

"Senior Apprentice Brother Ning, the Orchid Borough Celestial River's selection round is about a month from now. During this month, you can freely roam around the Revolving Jade City; however, do not cross others in this place. The people here are not simple at all, as they either have close relationships to a Celestial Lord or have a significant backer behind them." After entering the Orchid Borough Star, Ruan Mingshu deliberately warned Ning Cheng.

Ning Cheng gave Ruan Mingshu a strange look and asked, “Junior Apprentice Sister Mingshu, do you not have intentions of continuing to live with me?”

Ruan Mingshu showed a slight smile before replying, “Whether or not Senior Apprentice Brother Ning genuinely feels like living with me, I would still want to live together with Senior Apprentice Brother Ning. However, I feel that Senior Apprentice Brother Ning does not seem to like sharing a living space with me; moreover, since my father is not here now, we can differ to what Senior Apprentice Brother Ning wanted initially. I will be temporarily taking up residence in the Bright Gist Resting Pen. If Senior Apprentice Brother Ning wants, then you can come to the Bright Gist Resting Pen to find me.”

Ning Cheng naturally did not want to stay in the same place as Ruan Mingshu, as he always felt that this woman was a little eccentric and quickly left. What’s more, he now had a few things to accomplish, like finding Jing Wuming and Lan Ya.

“Brother Xiaocheng, why are you here?” Ning Cheng had just walked to the door of a merchant house when a surprised voice passed over.

Ning Cheng immediately recognised the speaker the moment he heard the voice. He quickly looked back and spoke out in surprise, “Wuming, I’ve been looking for you. Never thought that I would find you this easily.....”

Ning Cheng’s words came to abrupt halt, he frowned and looked at Jing Wuming’s pale face before he asked, “Why do you look so pale; no, that’s not right, why are you still hurt?”

Jing Wuming quickly drew away Ning Cheng, “This is not a place to talk, let’s find a place first.”

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Chapter 503: Imminent Peril

“Two friends, if you’ve just arrived at the Revolving Jade City, then please come to the auction and take a look. This auction definitely has a large number of good things, Thunder Flame Demon Glass, Fallen Sun Spirit Sand, Amethyst Heaven Mysterious Crystal, Heaven Seizing Treasure Grass... Things that you’ve never thought of, things you’ve never even seen.....” A crisp female voice interrupted the conversation between Ning Cheng and Jing Wuming.

It was a low-level cultivator selling a bunch of brochures. Ning Cheng did not feel much interested in visiting this auction and was anxious to ask Jing Wuming about what had happened.

“Sorry, we’re not going to the auction.... Wait....” After Ning Cheng finished, he suddenly stopped the woman selling the brochure and asked, “How much is it?”

“100 Blue Coins.” The female cultivator quickly replied.

Ning Cheng took out a hundred Blue Coins and put them in the hands of this female cultivator, took one of the brochures before pulling away with a somewhat confused Jing Wuming and quickly leaving the place.

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“What’s the matter? Did you have a fight with someone else? Does the Revolving Jade City permit such open fights?” After entering a random resting pen, Ning Cheng did not wait for Jing Wuming to explain before shooting out question after question.

Jing Wuming sighed and spoke, “Something happened with Lan Ya. If I can’t save Lan Ya quickly, she will turn into a slave.”

“What the hell is going on? Lan Ya is not a person who likes to cause trouble. How could she end up in such a situation?” Ning Cheng personally knew that Lan Ya did not like to cause trouble. If Lan Ya liked causing problems, why would she advise him against visiting casinos or the arenas?

“Lan Ya only told me that this matter might have something to do with the Scarlet Robed Young Noble’s father, Miao Pu, who’s been manipulating things from behind the curtain. You might not know who that Scarlet Robed Young Noble’s father is; he is a Celestial Lord.....” Jing Wuming thought that Ning Cheng had no idea about who the Scarlet Robed Young Noble was and tried to explain it to Ning Cheng.

Ning Cheng impatiently waved his hands and spoke, “I know who that Scarlet Robed Young Noble is. I was the one who killed him.”

“Ah...” Jing Wuming looked at Ning Cheng in horror, and it was only after a long while did he finally spoke up, “Lan Ya took the blame for you.”

Ning Cheng spoke up in a low tone, “If this matter really is related to the Scarlet Robed Young Noble, then she truly is helping me take the blame. However, that Scarlet Robed Young Noble is supposed to be someone from the Kun Zhuo Celestial River. How come his clan’s reach extends to the Orchid Borough Celestial River?”

Although Ning Cheng was fully aware that Lan Ya had not helped him take the blame, she and the Scarlet Robed Young Noble’s father shared a mutual hatred for each other. She had hunted the Scarlet Robed Young Noble through the void before the Scarlet-robed Young Noble finally perished. As such, his father certainly would not let go of Lan Ya.

“Lan Ya also learned about this later. She had a ring which belonged to the Scarlet-robed Young Noble, which contained a hidden Spiritual Consciousness Tag inside.....”

When Jing Wuming spoke those words, Ning Cheng came to understand as to what might have transpired. No wonder the Scarlet-robed Young Noble’s ring did not face destruction. That person turned out to be a sly bastard, hiding a Spiritual Consciousness Tag in a seemingly useless ring. Ning Cheng had ended up giving that ring to Lan Ya; however, he had never expected it to end up bringing harm to Lan Ya.

If it were now, as long as the ring contained even the slightest trace of a Spiritual Consciousness Tag, he would have felt it immediately. It was just that his cultivation was too low at that time nor was his Spiritual Consciousness up to the level it was currently.

“That’s right; I forgot to ask you, how did you come here? Lan Ya and I had come to see you and thought that something bad might have happened to you.” Jing Wuming once again remembered something and asked again.

Ning Cheng patted Jing Wuming's shoulder and said, "I came to participate in the Celestial Scryer Genius Try-outs. I will explain things to you in detail later. As for my current cultivation, it is the result of accidentally obtaining a few opportunities, which allowed me to quickly break into the Celestial Novice Realm."

Seeing Jing Wuming with an open mouth and a surprised look, Ning Cheng did not continue explaining his own matters and asked, "Don't worry about me and talk about Lan Ya now. Even if the Scarlet-robed Young Noble's father came here, he would not dare to do anything in this place. This is the territory of a Celestial River King, who would dare to do anything here?"

"Yes, yes." Jing Wuming reacted. "Lan Ya and I arrived here ten days ago. We both passed the selection round on the Lesser Thunder Star and paid our way here over a Celestial River Battleship. We had almost the same amount of Blue Coins with us; therefore, after a brief discussion, Lan Ya and I decided to head to the arena to earn some Blue Coins."

Ning Cheng on hearing those words felt speechless. Lan Ya had cautioned him from entering the arena, yet she decided to go to the stadium.

"The two of us had just walked to the entrance of the arena when two Celestial Shatterer Cultivators stopped us. One of the Celestial Shatterer Cultivators tried to molest Lan Ya and mentioned something about Lan Ya accompanying him to spend the night. Although his tone was disgusting, you could hear it even if you did not want to....."

When Jing Wuming said that, Ning Cheng finally understood something. Lan Ya had beautiful eyes; however, her looks were only ordinary, even her skin was slightly dark. Such female cultivators did not look truly outstanding within the starry skies. As such, if someone thought of voluntarily flirting with Lan Ya, Ning Cheng would never believe it. The only reason for doing such a thing was that someone wanted to deal with Lan Ya.

Sure enough, Jing Wuming continued, "Lan Ya turned instantly furious. She slapped the man immediately. However, none of us expected that the cultivator harassing Lan Ya would end up so severely injured by such a slap. The other person immediately started shouting like crazy, that someone was daring enough to publically strike others inside the Revolving Jade City....."

Lan Ya severely injuring a Celestial Shatterer Cultivator with just a slap, even a dog would not believe it if it heard such a statement. However, this place was the Revolving Jade City, as long as someone dared to lay their hands on another human, resulting in an injury, the only outcome for that person was ending up turned into a slave; unless the person in question had strong backing.

"Lan Ya ended up immediately restrained. At this point, a male cultivator with a pointed chin walked to the front of Lan Ya, spoke that he would buy Lan Ya, and then slowly torture her. After the man with the pointed chin left, Lan Ya told me that that man was the Scarlet-robed Young Noble's father, Miao Pu, a Celestial Lord. He should have followed the tag within the ring and reached this place."

Jing Wuming gave out a sigh, "I immediately went to the arena to raise some Blue Coins to save Lan Ya where I once again encountered the Celestial Shatterer Cultivator seriously injured by Lan Ya. However, I found that he did not have the strength of a Celestial Shatterer Cultivator, but a Celestial Gatherer Cultivator. Not only was he not injured, but there was also no sign of any injuries. However, he

immediately challenged me. Although I got injured while fighting him, he also had a hard time against me.”

“Do you know where Lan Ya is to be sold?” Ning Cheng anxiously asked. Jing Wuming’s injuries did not look too severe for now; the main thing was to get Lan Ya to safety as soon as possible.

“There is slave auction tonight at the Revolving Jade City’s Slave Auction Market. Also, I have received news that Lan Ya would definitely be on sale in that Slave Auction market. If no one buys her today, she will still be put on the pedestal tomorrow for auction.” Jing Wuming spoke with a decadence-laden voice.

“You mean that Lan Ya has already turned into a slave?” Ning Cheng asked in shock.

Jing Wuming shook his head and spoke, “Not completely, although Lan Ya has become a slave, there has to be an owner to take charge of her Spiritual Soul. Since no one bought her yet, it means that she still has no owner. At this time, Lan Ya should still be relatively safe and sound; however, after tonight I cannot guarantee much.”

Ning Cheng stood up with an anxiousness, “Wuming, you wait for me here, I will try to arrange for some money and return quickly.”

“How are you going to raise money?” Jing Wuming also stood up and asked; however, Ning Cheng had already stepped out of the resting pen and did not answer his question.

.....

Bright Gist Resting Pen, Ruan Mingshu stood at the reception counter and spoke to the server, “There will be a man named Ning Cheng who will come looking for me at night. Just send him up to my room directly.”

“I understand.” The server replied with the utmost respect. During his period here, he had come to an understanding that the people staying in the Bright Gist Resting Pen generally were not simple people.

Ruan Mingshu had just started climbing the stairs when Ning Cheng hurriedly barged straight to the Bright Gist Resting Pen’s counter and asked, “Is a female cultivator by the name Ruan Mingshu in....”

“Senior Apprentice Brother Ning, what are you doing here?” Ning Cheng’s words had not yet ended when Ruan Mingshu’s voice arrived in Ning Cheng’s ears. In fact, even she felt startled by such an unexpected visit. Properly speaking, Ning Cheng should be looking for a different Resting Pen in the Revolving Jade City. After finding a Resting Pen, he would have then come to see her later. However, she and Ning Cheng had only separated for a short while yet Ning Cheng returned to her doors this quickly, something definitely did not feel right.

“Junior Apprentice Sister Mingshu, since you still here, then it is for the best. I wanted to find you....”

Ning Cheng had again not managed to finish her words when Ruan Mingshu showed a smile before waving her hand and speaking, “Senior Apprentice Brother Ning, let’s go upstairs and talk.”

After the two people entered Ruan Mingshu’s room and without even waiting for Ruan Mingshu to activate the restrictions, Ning Cheng anxiously spoke out, “Junior Apprentice Sister Mingshu, I want to ask you for some help.”

Ruan Mingshu unhurriedly activated the restriction over the door before asking in a soft voice, "Senior Apprentice Brother Ning, please take a seat. If I can help you, I definitely will help you."

"I want to borrow some money from you." Ning Cheng did not hesitate and spoke out. Once Lan Ya turned into a real slave, it would all be too late.

A Celestial Gatherer Slave was an excellent 'material' and could cost up to 1 billion Green Coins. The reason why Ning Cheng came looking for Ruan Mingshu to ask for money was to provide against unforeseen contingencies.

"Oh, how much do you want to borrow?" Ruan Mingshu asked in a soft voice, without even a shred of impatience.

"However much you have right now, is how much I want to borrow. You can rest assured that no matter what, I will definitely return you the money in the shortest possible time." Ning Cheng spoke up quickly.

Ruan Mingshu also did not ask Ning Cheng why he wanted to borrow so much money. She just took out a lotus-like cloth bag from inside her ring, opened the cloth bag, before taking out two cards from inside it and handing it to Ning Cheng, "This is all the money I have right now."

A faint fragrant aroma rose, making Ning Cheng feel a little embarrassed as he received the cards. These two cards came from this lotus-like cloth bag, which obviously meant that it was Ruan Mingshu's private money.

"Thank you, I will definitely return it back to you in full. I'll be taking my leave now." Receiving the cards in embarrassment, Ning Cheng put them away and started to leave.

Seeing Ning Cheng quickly standing up and leaving, Ruan Mingshu asked, "Do you need any other help?"

Initially, Ning Cheng did not care much. However, after hearing Ruan Mingshu's words, his heart immediately jolted. The Ruan Clan was not a small force and is most likely even stronger than a Celestial Lord's power, maybe they could really help him.

"I have to deal with someone formidable. If you have an Image Card similar in strength to one belonging to a Celestial River King, please lend it to me. It would be for the best." The Image Card given to him by the Bright South Celestial River King allowed Ning Cheng to taste a slight bit of sweetness associated with having power; if he could obtain another Image Card of a Celestial River King, he would then have a way to get rid of that Celestial Lord permanently.

Ruan Mingshu showed the same soft smile as she spoke, "I do not have an Image Card of a Celestial River King; however, I have a Celestial River Class Array Disc."

[The Gate Of Good Fortune](#)

Chapter 504: Beautiful Woman

"Why did you come back so soon?" Jing Wuming on seeing Ning Cheng returning so quickly after leaving knew that it must have been an inconvenient matter.

"Why wouldn't I return once I raised enough money? Let's go out of the city now." Ning Cheng spoke while gesturing to Jing Wuming.

Jing Wuming hurriedly pulled Ning Cheng and asked, "Since you gathered enough money, let's go to the slave market aah, why are you going out of the city?"

"Didn't you say that the slave market starts its operations at night? It's not dark yet." Ning Cheng replied.

"What about going out of the city?"

"Come with me, and you'll find out."

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Three hours later, Ning Cheng and Jing Wuming hurriedly made their way back to the Revolving Jade City. Jing Wuming finally realised why Ning Cheng decided first to go out of the city, it turned out Ning Cheng unexpectedly had a very high level of attainments in regards to Array Formations. In just a short period, he managed to arrange seven to eight near Rank 9 Array Formations; these Array Formations included both Entrapment Formations and even Killing Formations.

If still in the Plundering Life Realm, Ning Cheng would have required at least half a month to set up these many Array Formations. Now that his cultivation had soared to the Celestial Novice Realm, it allowed him to cut short the time required to set up these Array Formations. Unfortunately, his Array Formation attainments still lagged behind his cultivation.

In fact, Ning Cheng did not intend to rely solely on these Array Formations to kill that Celestial Lord. For him, he needed those Array Formations to conceal the Grade 4 Celestial River Entrapment and Killing Formation Disc, which was the ace killer. Through a variety of low-level Array Formations, that would help hide the Celestial River Array Disc, Ning Cheng wanted to use them to lead the Celestial Lord step-by-step into the range of the Celestial River Array Disc. Because of this, he needed to arrange the other Array Formations in advance.

A Grade 4 Celestial River Array Disc was an expensive item; as such, Ning Cheng dared not tell Ruan Mingshu that he left her Celestial River Array Disc in the wild.

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The Orchid Borough Celestial River was not a prominent Celestial River in the Man Lun Starry Sky and belonged to the category of a minor Celestial River. Even the strength of the Orchid Borough Celestial River King, compared to the entire Man Lun Starry Sky, did not amount to much. Because of this, this entity paid massive importance to the Celestial Scryer Realm's Genius Selections.

The reason for all this was not to just choose a few true geniuses, but also to obtain the reward from the Man Lun Starry Skies. For a Celestial River King, receiving compensation from the Man Lun Starry Sky Emperor could immediately help him in catapulting his cultivation to new heights.

Although the Orchid Borough Celestial River did not fare well, overall, the slave market of the Revolving Jade City always remained prosperous. There were all kinds of slaves sold here. Moreover, during the period of the Orchid Borough Celestial River's Celestial Scryer Genius Selections, a lot more people passed through this section of the market to purchase slaves.

Ning Cheng and Jing Wuming just returned from outside the city and had immediately rushed towards the slave market. Even though they were fast, the two of them were almost late. When they reached the venue, all sorts of cultivators had already packed the area to the limit. Everyone was talking about either the quality of slaves or what kind of slaves they wanted to pick.

“Everyone....” A voice imbued with a powerful Celestial Essence sounded out in the Slave Auction Hall.

All the cultivators in the hall immediately quietened down after hearing that voice. At the same time, the entire room suddenly lit up brightly, illuminating every corner inside.

In the middle of the hall was a white jade platform towering over the people, with a middle-aged cultivator standing over it. This middle-aged man also had four to five vague Celestial Wheels behind him highlighting the man’s strength.

“A warm welcome to all the friends coming to the Revolving Jade City to attend our slave auction. Everyone is already aware that the Revolving Jade City’s slaves are heavily renowned even throughout the Man Lun Starry Skies. Well, without further ado, I believe that everyone already knows about the rules of our market. If you cannot afford the price and still bid for the goods, then sorry for you as the next slave on the platform here would be you. I don’t have anything else to say apart from this, let the slave auction start now.....”

Finished saying that, the middle-aged man immediately retreated from the white jade platform, giving way to a woman wearing robes that left little to one’s imagination

“Seniors, the first slave tonight is a Celestial Shatterer Cultivator, with a reserve price of 100 million Blue Coins. Fellow seniors, please place your bids.....”

After the woman finished her words, they brought out a dispirited cultivator with long hair to the open area over the white jade platform.

Ning Cheng felt slightly relieved in his heart; a Celestial Shatterer Slave had a reserve price of 100 million Blue Coins. As such, Lan Ya should not have a genuinely high price attached to her. However, he felt slightly vexed that the Celestial Lord might end up increasing the price sky high.

In his heart, he truly detested such places that auctioned slaves. These places only catered to shameless people that wanted to feed their vanity of feeling great. If he could, Ning Cheng would have immediately razed this place to the ground and abolish slavery altogether. Sadly, it was not possible. He was just a Celestial Novice Cultivator; compared to the entirety of starry skies, he was still a bottom existence.

Although Ning Cheng despised this entire procedure of selling slaves, the others did not share the same opinion. Even for an ordinary Celestial Shatterer Slave, with people trying to outbid each other, the price quickly surpassed more than 200 million Blue Coins.

No matter what Ning Cheng’s personal views of this auction were, he still felt that the grade of this auction was terrible. The cultivators had to rely on themselves to call out their own bids; as such, if one wanted to place bids, then one had no choice but to shout out.

“Xiaocheng, how much Celestial Coins did you bring? I have a few hundred million Blue Coins with me; however, I’m afraid that Celestial Lord will deliberately increase the price.” Jing Wuming whispered to Ning Cheng.

Ning Cheng gently patted Jing Wuming on the shoulder and spoke, "Don't worry, I believe that the Celestial Coins with us should be enough."

Whether or not it was enough, Ning Cheng knew that the few hundred million Blue Coins in Jing Wuming's possession would not cut it.

Finally, someone bought that Celestial Shatterer Cultivator at a price of 400 million Blue Coins.

After delivering the dispirited cultivator to its new owner, the woman wearing revealing clothes once again appeared with a bright smile, "Just now the Celestial Shatterer Slave was bought by a powerhouse for 400 million Blue Coins. Congratulations to senior for the purchase. Now we are going to auction a slave in the Celestial Novice Realm. This slave is a Grade 2 Celestial Array Master, with a base price of 500 million Blue Coins....."

This bid was a lot more intense than the last one, causing the price of this Grade 2 Celestial Array Master to rise sharply. In just a few moments, it quickly rose to 1 billion Blue Coins, before someone finally managed to buy him at a price of 2 billion Blue Coins.

Ning Cheng, only at this moment, came to realise that a slave with a speciality had a price at least twice that of a slave without a specialisation.

"Our third auction is a woman. Also, let me tell you beforehand, she definitely is a beautiful woman. Moreover, she just happens to have arrived at our doorsteps today. I am sure that as long as one was a man, they would definitely have some interest in this woman. I'm sure that once you strip this woman, she would turn out 10,000 times even better compared to stripping me....." This woman's voice carried a mysterious charm; at the same time, she did not have any sense of shame or honour as she spoke.

Some of the cultivators, who liked to hoot, immediately called out.

The scantily clad woman raised her hand, and the hoots in the halls immediately died down.

The next moment, a woman with long hair and a light blue robe stepped on to the platform.

The woman's eyes were a little wooden; however, it could not hide her peerless grace. Her messy long hair casually separated from the shoulders, before falling over her chest and her back. At the same time, her pure white skin created a stark contrast over anyone who laid his or her eyes on her.

With a slender body and a perfect figure, just like what that shameless woman described, no man could avoid not feeling attracted to her.

Ning Cheng did not act out on it; he just felt that this woman looked very beautiful. However, what Ning Cheng did not like about her was her thin lips, which reminded him of another woman, Zeng Jiyun. She had a similarly beautiful figure and the same slightly thinner lips. However, compared to Zeng Jiyun, this woman's lips instead accentuated her beauty.

"That's right; she has a Celestial Gatherer Cultivation. I believe, however, that her cultivation is secondary. Since everyone can see for himself or herself, I do not need to elaborate on things. The base price for this woman is 5 billion Blue Coins; however, each increase needs to be no less than 100 million Blue Coins....."

The words of this shameless woman had not yet ended, when the people immediately burst into a bidding war with each other, turning the hall into a noisy crowd. During all the noise, Ning Cheng heard the price quickly reach the level of 10 billion Blue Coins.

“Wuming, what’s the matter with you?” Ning Cheng had no interest in this woman. However, just when he was preparing to have a short discussion with Jing Wuming, he found Jing Wuming pale and even shivering, with his sights dead set over the woman in light blue robes over the stage.

“She is Shi Yulan.” Jing Wuming’s voice felt as if it came from the underground, utterly devoid of energy or life.

“So she is Shi Yulan? No wonder....” Ning Cheng spoke before thinking of something, “Wuming, didn’t you say that a Celestial River King had taken away Shi Yulan? How come she ended up in this place?”

When Ning Cheng said ‘no wonder’, it pointed to the fact that Jing Wuming still could not bear to give up on this woman; arguably, Wuming loved this woman to death. However, Jing Wuming cannot suffer blame for his actions. This woman simply was too attractive for her own good. No man could bear letting go of her hand. What’s more, there was once a time where she and Jing Wuming were genuinely in love with each other.

A faint bloody smell entered Ning Cheng’s nose, which allowed Ning Cheng to notice that Jing Wuming had clenched his fists to the point that blood came oozing out. From this, Ning Cheng could make out how deeply unsettled did Wuming feel in his heart, it was just too discomforting.

“Wuming, this woman took the initiative to walk away with someone else, which is tantamount to betraying you. This kind of woman is not worth your attention, nor do you need to care about her.” Ning Cheng put his hand over Jing Wuming’s shoulder and tried to reassure him once again.

“No....” Jing Wuming called out in a hoarse voice, even the corners of his mouth showed signs of blood, “She did not betray me. Those things are unimportant. The important thing is that I am seeing her turning into a slave in front of me, but I cannot save her. I hate it.....”

“20 billion Blue Coins....” The speed with which the price soared caused Jing Wuming to feel despair. Even if he sold himself, he definitely could not fetch 20 billion Blue Coins.

Ning Cheng forcibly held down Jing Wuming, whose body still trembled with despair and spoke out, “Wuming, if you want to save her, then I have the Celestial Coins.”

At this moment, Ning Cheng suddenly came to a particular understanding about Jing Wuming. If the person he once loved appeared on this stage, could he remain indifferent? Ning Cheng could not help but ask himself this question. He found that Jing Wuming and he were not that different from each other. From the looks of it, the two of them managed to become friends only because he and Jing Wuming had similar thoughts.

“Brother.....” Jing Wuming stood up with excitement.

“Hey, sit down. If you stand up, there are others at the back.....” Shouted a man sitting behind Jing Wuming. Apparently, Jing Wuming standing up had blocked his view of the beautiful woman.

Jing Wuming on hearing those words immediately returned to his senses as he grabbed his hair with his hands and spoke, "Xiaocheng, forget it. That money is for saving Lan Ya. We can't save Lan Ya if we save her."

"Whether you bid or not bid, the others will buy her. At that time, you no longer would have the chance to get her back. As for Lan Ya, don't worry, I have a way." From Ruan Mingshu, Ning Cheng had borrowed about 2 billion Green Coins; therefore, Ning Cheng now had approximately 5 billion Green Coins on him. He believed that using a few hundreds of millions of Green Coins would not create much of an impact.

"24 billion Blue Coins going for the second time, is there a higher bid?" The shameless female cultivator over the stage called out in a very bewitching voice.

The Gate Of Good Fortune

Chapter 505: The wilfulness of the rich

"24.1 billion Blue Coins...." Ning Cheng called out, which made Jing Wuming feel a rush of blood to his head. The price called out was something he could not even imagine.

Although he heard the price call out, his voice still trembled and his hands were visibly shaking.

"Haha...." A burst of laughter arrived, and everyone heard it. From the looks of it, Jing Wuming was a person with no money. Just adding a 100 million Blue Coins, everyone could see the fear covering his face. Did this person want to compete for the pretty woman with no money in the pocket? It was just asking for trouble.

Shi Yulan, still standing like a wooden statue over the white jade platform, on hearing Jing Wuming's voice suddenly looked up and looked at Jing Wuming with a face filled with disbelief. However, she quickly lowered her head again.

"25 billion Blue Coins. If you do not have the money, stay on the side and cool off. Don't just add a bit each bid just to give yourself the goose bumps." The cultivator, who initially bid 24 billion Blue Coins, immediately upped the price while looking at Ning Cheng's direction in disdain.

Jing Wuming also felt the ridicule in the voice; however, he did not dare to increase the price and looked at Ning Cheng.

Ning Cheng patted Jing Wuming on the shoulder and spoke, "Don't worry, I'm here."

If participating in bidding, one cannot feel afraid of losing grandeur, as losing momentum would only end up costing more.

"300 million Green Coins." Ning Cheng did not hesitate to add 5 billion Blue Coins to the previous price.

The hall immediately went silent; an increase of 5 billion Blue Coins at once was tantamount to taking the leading position. Moreover, it was just for a female cultivator; was such a price really worth it? Even if this female cultivator turned out even more beautiful, she was only a plaything in the end. With 300 million Green Coins, how many things could one accomplish with it?

However, it looked like the other cultivator felt determined enough to go against someone who bid 300 million Green Coins. After a brief shock, he quickly gave a snort and spoke, "30.5 billion Blue Coins."

Ning Cheng disdainfully spoke up, "If you don't have the money, then go to the side and cool off. Do not disgrace yourself in this place just to give yourself the goosebumps. 400 million Green Coins....."

"You...." The cultivator, who had just bid, did not expect to receive the same words he had previously spoken. Receiving the same exact sentence caused him almost to vomit out a mouthful of blood.

"What are you going to do now? This father bid 400 million Green Coins. Hurry up and bid a 40.5 billion Blue Coins. I guess that's all you've got to your name." Ning Cheng did not hesitate to retort, continuing the ridicule.

"400 million Green Coins. If there is no higher bid, this friend with such an angry face will win the bid for 400 million Green Coins. 400 million Green Coins going once are there no higher bids....." The scantily clad woman tried to agitate the crowd from the stage.

For someone like her, she felt more afraid that no one else would bid; even someone offering casual bids was a good thing for her.

"41 billion Blue Coins....." The cultivator clenched his teeth and added another billion coins. No longer sticking to the previous 500 million increase.

At this point, no third person wanted to increase the price. With the cost of a female cultivator with a Celestial Gatherer Cultivation reaching this point, this bidding war no longer remained just about this female cultivator. It was a battle of ego between the two cultivators at this point.

"500 million Green Coins." Ning Cheng spoke up in the same bland tone as if an increase in 10 billion Blue Coins was only a trivial matter to him.

The cultivator, who had just bid 41 billion Blue Coins, suddenly stood up and stubbornly stared at Ning Cheng.

"You don't have to look like that, just a wretched-looking tramp who lives by begging. To tell you the truth, it really is depressing to have an opponent like you. Just increasing the price by a few billion each time, even though I goaded you on to add a few hundred million. I guess you might not have it easy to earn this much money. I suggest that you do not try to wring yourself dry because of it." Ning Cheng did not feel any fear towards this cultivator and even shot back a retort at him.

When the cultivator heard Ning Cheng's words, blue veins immediately popped up over his forehead. This person unexpectedly dared to shame him openly. Just as he was about to continue to increase the price, he suddenly remembered something, his face that seemed on the verge of exploding from all the anger, suddenly turned into a smiling face as he spoke, "A wretched-looking tramp who lives by begging, eh? Let us see who the real wretched-looking tramp is. Did you think you could goad me into action, eh? This father will no longer increase the price today; let us see how you end up. Want to make a fool of this grandpa; did you think you could force this grandpa to spend more Celestial Coins, eh? Stop dreaming."

Ning Cheng looked, at most, a Celestial Novice Cultivator. He believed that Ning Cheng definitely could not bring out so many Celestial Coins.

Ning Cheng also felt a little relieved; it was not easy to let this idiot realise this point. Previously, he still had a slight worry that this bastard would keep fighting him. In case he did, what would he have used to redeem Lan Ya?

“500 million Green Coins, going for the third time. Since no one increased the price, congratulations to this friend, who bought this beauty for 500 million Green Coins.” The curvaceous woman leading the auction immediately dropped the hammer and congratulated Ning Cheng.

The next moment, a female cultivator brought Shi Yulan to Ning Cheng. The female cultivator held onto Shi Yulan’s detention card, apparently waiting for Ning Cheng to pay.

Everyone also kept staring at Ning Cheng; many in the hall even guessed that Ning Cheng might not be able to pay the money. After all, 500 million Green Coins was not something a Celestial novice Cultivator could take out.

Jing Wuming still shivered somewhat, to the point that he did not even look at Shi Yulan. However, he also kept his eyes peeled at Ning Cheng. He felt afraid that Ning Cheng might genuinely have no money to pay and would end up as a slave. If that were the case, he would instead turn himself in as a slave.

“This friend, please pay the 500 million Celestial Coins to claim this beautiful maid as yours.” The female cultivator spoke with a crisp tone while her voice also sounded genuinely understanding.

Ning Cheng also knew that it was just a facade, once established that he could not pay the money, he would never enjoy such an understanding tone the next moment.

Ning Cheng took out a 1 billion Green Coin card before passing it to this female cultivator with the words, “Take a look. If there are no problems, then deduct the money.”

Seeing Ning Cheng bringing out a card filled with 1 billion Green Coins, this female cultivator’s face immediately transformed into one of respect. This was the respect enjoyed by the rich, which was the same as the respect given to the strong in the starry skies. It followed the old adage that one must be a powerhouse to be rich. Without strength, no one can establish a foothold in the starry skies, let alone any talks about wealth.

Seeing Ning Cheng take out 1 billion Green Coins, and also left with 500 million Green Coins, Jing Wuming finally felt slightly relieved; however, he still did not talk to Shi Yulan.

Ning Cheng acted as if he did not care about it as he took Shi Yulan’s detention card and put it into her hand before sitting back down on the side. He did not speak. Moreover, Ning Cheng felt entirely disinclined to talk to a woman like Shi Yulan. The only reason he made some place on the side was to give that seat to Shi Yulan and let Shi Yulan and Jing Wuming sit together.

The reason he gave the detention card to Shi Yulan, instead of Jing Wuming, was that he knew that if he gave the detention card to Jing Wuming, it would only place Jing Wuming in an awkward position.

Shi Yulan put away the detention card and gave a respectful bow towards Ning Cheng, who just sat there and did not speak a single word to her from the beginning to the end.

Jing Wuming remained silent; Shi Yulan also remained silent, while Ning Cheng also did not choose to come out of silence.

During the next slave auction, the three of them remained silent. Shi Yulan did not even ask why they still had to stay in this place.

“The next item for auction is a Celestial Gatherer Female Cultivator with a reserve price of 2 billion Blue Coins. Each bid increase should at least be of a 100 million Blue Coins.....” After the woman wearing revealing robes spoke those words, Ning Cheng immediately perked up as he intently stared at female cultivator over the White Jade Platform.

It was because that woman was none other than Lan Ya. Lan Ya seemed to be in a better condition compared to Shi Yulan. Although her face looked numb, her eyes did not show any despair, nor did they betray any of her thoughts.

“10 billion Blue Coins....” Ning Cheng simply did not wait for someone else to bid, and directly called out a price. He was already ready to fight to the end and knew that a Celestial Lord was not a person who lacked money.

On hearing that voice, Lan Ya’s eyes immediately lit up and locked onto Ning Cheng’s direction. When she saw Ning Cheng, her eyes could not help but flash brightly before she forcefully converged it back.

Hearing Ning Cheng’s mark-up, the surrounding cultivators remained silent. Only a single thought went through their minds, and that was ‘looks as if this guy wants to go at it again’. Every time this fellow increased the price, it would always be in the range of billions of Blue Coins, how could the others compete with such a mark-up?

However, the happiest person within the entire auction hall was the shameless woman leading the auction. She just wanted to see the world turn even more chaotic, as she loudly cried out, “This friend once again bids 10 billion Blue Coins. This friend truly has an excellent vision. He just bought the best bed maid with 500 million Green Coins; therefore, I definitely believe that he knows his selection.”

A man with a big head, sitting in the front row of the auction hall, on hearing Ning Cheng increase the price to such a level felt shocked. A Celestial Lord had asked him to buy Lan Ya today and had provided him with 20 billion Blue Coins. In fact, not to mention 20 million Blue Coins to purchase a Lan Ya, it was enough money to buy four to five such ‘Lan Yas’.

However, neither he nor the Celestial Lord thought that someone would willingly pay such a high price to purchase Lan Ya. Moreover, this cultivator had even recently bought a female cultivator for a sky-high rate of 50 billion Blue Coins. How could he hope to compete against such a person?

“15 billion Blue Coins.” The man kept anxiously thinking about how to deal with the current situation, while simultaneously adding 5 billion Blue Coins to his bid.

“20 billion Blue Coins.” Ning Cheng adhered to his usual tradition, upping the bid in whole billions. As soon as Ning Cheng heard the man’s price, he immediately understood that the Celestial Lord must have sent this person on his behalf. Moreover, because this fellow only had a Celestial Gatherer Cultivation, the Celestial Lord should be, at least, at the Celestial Bridge Realm.

With Ning Cheng increasing the price once again, he also trained his Spiritual Consciousness at the man. What happened today might even end up in favour. Since the Celestial Lord had not personally come, it only served as icing over the cake.

“21 billion Blue Coins.” The man anxiously took out a Communications Pearl while increasing his bid.

“50 billion Blue Coins.” When Ning Cheng saw that the man had taken out a Communications Pearl, he immediately realised that he had to act decisively. Since the man took out a Communications Pearl, it indicated that this person did not have sufficient Blue Coins. If he waited for the Celestial Lord to appear, the Celestial Lord might end up bringing a lot of money, to the point that he might even end up without enough funds to continue.

The Auction Hall had measures that blocked the use of Spiritual Consciousness; however, it still could not stop Ning Cheng’s Spiritual Consciousness. While Ning Cheng quoted his price, his Spiritual Consciousness had already bypassed all the Restrictions, which were in place to specially blocked Spiritual Consciousness, before concentrating over the Communications Pearl in the man’s hand.

With the price reaching 50 billion Blue Coins, the auction hall once again went into an uproar. Everyone could still reluctantly accept the rate of 50 billion Blue Coins for the beautiful female cultivator. However, even this female cultivator standing over the stage reached the 50 billion Blue Coin mark, it was something they all felt as too outrageous. Could you not be so capricious with money, can you? Could you spend a little less money the second time?

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Chapter 506: Shi Yulan

Standing on the White Jade Platform, Lan Ya also looked at Ning Cheng in shock. For Ning Cheng to bid such an amount, how in the world did he obtain so much money?

“55 billion Blue Coins.” The man with the big head raised the price again.

Everyone knew that Ning Cheng’s next bid must be 60 million Blue Coins; this fellow was just too wealthy.

However, to everyone’s expectations, Ning Cheng did not put up any more bids. After a short silence, people immediately understood something; that is, in the previous purchase, Ning Cheng had pulled out a card with 1 billion Green Coins, and after using 500 million, it only contained 500 million in it. Now that the man with the big head quoted a price of 55 billion Blue Coins, it indicated that this rich fellow most likely had finally run out of money.

“I’m sorry....” Shi Yulan stood up and spoke out in a somewhat mournful tone. She understood that because this person ended up spending 500 million Green Coins on her, it led to Ning Cheng’s inability to save his friend.

Jing Wuming also looked pale, as he also thought the same questions. If he ended up saving Shi Yulan while turning Lan Ya into a slave, he would never be at ease throughout his life.

Lan Ya’s expression also dimmed, she knew that it was also the end of the road for her.

“55 billion going once, is there anyone with a higher price, 55 billion going twice, the bids are still open.....” The woman wearing revealing clothes standing over the White Jade Platform tried to encourage others with her bewitching voice while also glancing at Ning Cheng from the side. Showing that only Ning Cheng was actually stupid enough to shell out more money.

The man with the big head turned pale; he was ready to go into a bidding war with this Ning Cheng to gain some time to drag the Celestial Lord over. However, he did not expect that Ning Cheng would end up not increasing the price, which in turn ended up creating more anxiety for him.

“55 billion going thrice. Congratulations to this friend, you finally got what you wanted, a beautiful Celestial Gatherer Female Cultivator.” Although Ning Cheng did not put up a higher bid, this scantily clad woman still announced the outcome with an excited tone.

She had to be excited, in the end, this particular slave, who could only fetch a few billion Blue Coins at max in normal circumstances, sold for 55 billion Blue Coins under her watch. How could she be not excited about it?

Seeing a female cultivator coming towards him with Lan Ya, cold sweat started flowing down from the man with the big head’s forehead, in the size of soybeans. He only had 20 billion Blue Coins on him, how could he take out 55 billion? If he could not take out 55 billion, most likely he would be the next person auctioned off in this place.

“I’m sorry, but can you wait a little longer. I don’t currently have the 55 billion Blue Coins yet....” The man with the big head trembled. Although he felt incomparably anxious, he also felt a deep regret. Since he did not have enough money, he should not have placed his bid, waiting for the Celestial Lord to come.

“So it turned out that you intentionally bid to raise the price, aah. Could it be that someone else had sent you over to do their dirty work?” Ning Cheng did not hesitate to kick a dog when it was down. Although he spoke those words, he still felt a bit doubtful if the auctioneer would actually punish this fellow.

“Elder Sister Rong looks like he bid indiscriminately, and has no Blue Coins to actually pay up.” Seeing the man with the big head unable to bring out the Blue Coins, the female cultivator standing in front of him quickly spoke up.

Without waiting for the scantily clad woman to speak, someone immediately came out. A Celestial Bridge Cultivator directly grabbed the man with the big head and spoke out in a cold voice, “Daring to come to our auction to stir up trouble. Congratulations. You now don’t have to participate in the coming auctions anymore as the next item for auction is you.”

Ning Cheng also stood up and spoke to the scantily clad woman, “I had bid my price before this person messed things up. So, does it still hold?”

The woman giggled and spoke, “Since that person has already withdrawn, your bid naturally holds. As for how many Blue Coins you should take out, let us first confirm how many Blue Coins are on the person who just made the indiscriminate bid. You can then pay the remainder. Our auction house runs on fair and just principles, and we will never let our guests pay more than what is necessary.”

Ning Cheng just waved a hand, took out the card with 500 million Green Coins, and spoke, “I don’t care about the investigation. I will use my own 500 million to buy her.”

His tone immediately conveyed his bold and straightforward stance.

The people in the hall felt amazed; did money make people stupid, this aah. The woman presiding over the auction felt even more delighted over such a gesture. The female cultivator carrying Lan Ya had already arrived in front of Ning Cheng. She had no idea that because Ning Cheng did not care about the moment, she missed a chance to shoot for a higher price.

Ning Cheng also did not hesitate to pay the 500 million Green Coins and bought the still confused Lan Ya.

Just as the deal was completed, a man with a pointed chin hurried into the auction hall.

“He is Miao Pu, Old Help Star’s Celestial Lord.” Jing Wuming felt relieved as he whispered into Ning Cheng’s ears. He finally understood why Ning Cheng did not care about the tens of billions of Blue Coins and wanted to buy Lan Ya immediately. Turns out, Ning Cheng knew that Miao Pu was on his way.

“Ning Cheng, thank you.” Holding the detention card received from Ning Cheng, Lan Ya finally understood that she was free.

“What’s the need for ‘thank you’ between friends? Let’s go, that Miao Pu is already here, this guy is not easy to deal with.” Ning Cheng spoke and was the first to move out of his seat.

Miao Pu shot a cold gaze at Ning Cheng’s group before speaking up in a cold voice, “We will meet again.”

“You are right; we will meet again, pretty soon.” Ning Cheng also replied in the same cold tone. In the Revolving Jade City, Miao Pu was just a puny Celestial Lord who did not dare to do anything openly against him.

It was not until that moment that Miao Pu realised that the leader of these four people turned out to be Ning Cheng. This person even had the lowest cultivation among them; however, he currently had to save his own man right now. If he wanted to find trouble with Ning Cheng, he had to wait.

“It looks like that fellow did not find the Spiritual Consciousness Tag on you. However, the Scarlet-robed Young Noble also put a Spiritual Consciousness Tag under his ring.” After walking out of the auction hall, Lan Ya spoke out with slight fear in her voice.

“That’s not it. The Spiritual Consciousness Tag must have dispersed during my advancement.” Ning Cheng speculated that the Spiritual Consciousness Tag must have disintegrated during the time his Sea of Consciousness advanced to the Starry Skies’ Sea of Consciousness.

With the power of the Starry Skies’ Sea of Consciousness, a Celestial Lord was not qualified enough to put a Spiritual Consciousness Tag on him.

“Fortunately, that fellow did not have any extra Blue Coins, or else it would have turned bad.” Jing Wuming still felt distraught.

“Even if he had more Blue Coins, I still have some extra on me. I guess he just did not bring enough Blue Coins.” Ning Cheng gave out a casual remark.

“Xiaocheng, how did you know that the fellow did not have any extra Blue Coins on him? In case we had made a mistake, it would have ended truly disastrous for us.” Jing Wuming quickly asked.

"I heard the tremble in his voice, which led me to suspect that this fellow should not have enough Blue Coins on him. I guess that he was waiting for that Miao Pu to bring or send the money. Therefore, I just wanted to feel out his hand. Hope Senior Apprentice Sister Lan Ya would not blame me for this." Ning Cheng spoke with a smile. Since Shi Yulan was still standing by his side, he did not want to talk anything about his Spiritual Consciousness. In fact, he had long seen the message that the man with the big head had tried to send; otherwise, he would never have taken such a gamble with Lan Ya's destiny.

Lan Ya showed a smile and spoke, "I don't blame you. Without you, I would have been finished."

Although she had not spent much time with Ning Cheng, the time spent with him was also not short. During the time spent together, she came to understand Ning Cheng a bit. Which made her suspect Ning Cheng had many secrets. Ning Cheng had shown absolute confidence; however, as to why Ning Cheng felt such confidence, she also could not figure it out.

"Where are we going now?" With Lan Ya safe, Jing Wuming spoke while feeling somewhat overwhelmed.

The thing he wanted to do the most right now was to ask Shi Yulan as to why everything had ended up like this. He truly wanted Shi Yulan to come forward by herself and explain things to him. However, Shi Yulan did not say a single word since the moment they bought her. For him to take the initiative to speak with Shi Yulan, it would only serve to leave an indelible mark over his heart.

Before Ning Cheng rescued Shi Yulan, Jing Wuming's heart felt as if it went through all sorts of torture to the point that Jing Wuming even wished to replace Shi Yulan with himself. However, after Ning Cheng saved Shi Yulan, his mentality once again changed and he no longer knew what to do. Jing Wuming could not make a clear distinction if it were love, hate, or an intersection of contradictions.

Lan Ya had merely thought that Shi Yulan was just a slave that Ning Cheng had bought for himself; as such, she did not pay much attention to her.

"Wuming, do you have a place to live currently? Why don't you take her there first, and I'll head to the Bright Gist Resting Pen with Senior Apprentice Sister Lan Ya." Ning Cheng could discern Jing Wuming's torment, simply allowing Jing Wuming to take Shi Yulan away.

Not waiting for Jing Wuming to speak, Shi Yulan took the initiative to speak up, "I am already a slave. Wherever my owner is, is where I will be."

Shi Yulan had directed her words towards Ning Cheng; Jing Wuming opened his mouth but did not speak.

"Your master is Jing Wuming, who previously went by the name Jing Hao. I do not have a habit of buying slaves, so you do not have to follow me. If it weren't for Wuming, I would never have wasted any money on you." Ning Cheng gave a bland reply.

"Shi Yulan, I just want to ask you one thing. As for what you want to do in the future, it is not something I can control, nor do I want to take control...."

Jing Wuming found it difficult to speak; every word that came out of his mouth gave him the feeling that someone had hammered thousands of needles into his heart.

Only at this moment did Lan Ya realise that the reason why Ning Cheng purchased Shi Yulan was, most likely, that Shi Yulan and Jing Wuming shared an unusual past relationship. It definitely did not seem like a relationship between a master and a slave.

Shi Yulan calmly replied, "I already have a master. If you want to ask me anything, please ask my master directly."

Ning Cheng showed a sneer, "Shi Yulan, without Jing Wuming, me and you would have been just passers-by. You might think of yourself as beautiful, but it is merely towards Wuming. Wuming and I are brothers, which is the only reason why I chose to save you. If you think that you can separate the relationship between us with such words, then you still have a lot to learn."

Shi Yulan still sported a calm expression without any fluctuations. However, Ning Cheng's powerful Spiritual Consciousness had already allowed him to sense a faint aura of death emanating from her. This kind of death-like atmosphere did not target him but converged inside Shi Yulan.

Ning Cheng immediately realised that it was not something good. His hand immediately clamped down over Shi Yulan's shoulder, immediately slowing down Shi Yulan's circulation of Celestial Essence.

Jing Wuming just looked at Ning Cheng's actions; he did not speak nor did he make any moves.

"She wants to implode her meridians, so I stopped her." Ning Cheng on seeing Jing Wuming standing there silently spoke out a sentence.

"Please help her undo it. After this, we will have not have anything to do with each other." Jing Wuming spoke up with a hint of deathly tone; there was no sorrow more significant than the death of the heart.

Ning Cheng looked at Shi Yulan and spoke, "I will help you resolve it. If you want to continue enervating your meridians, I will not continue to treat it. From now on, you are not my slave. I do not have a habit of keeping slaves. Just go wherever you want to go."

Saying that Ning Cheng then spoke to Jing Wuming and Lan Ya, "If you have no place to live, go to the Bright Gist Resting Pen. I reckon it might turn out difficult to find a place to live in Revolving Jade City at this time."

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Chapter 507: Gratitude and Grudges Difficult To Distinguish

Ruan Mingshu didn't think that when Ning Cheng would return, instead of a single person, he would come back with three other people. Shi Yulan seemed intent on following the Ning Cheng trio, while Ning Cheng also had no way to drive her away. What's more, he knew that Jing Wuming still had a few questions in his heart; as such; Ning Cheng just pretended to not knowing anything about it.

"Junior Apprentice Sister Mingshu, these three are my friends, Jing Wuming, Lan Ya, and Shi Yulan. Because it is difficult to find a place to stay in the Revolving Jade City at this moment, I wanted to also ask you of another favour in helping me find two more rooms for them. If it is really not possible, then we'll try to find another way." Ning Cheng knew that the Ruan Clan needed his help, while his relationship with the Ruan Clan would also end after the try-outs.

At this time, he did not want to miss the opportunity to rope in the Ruan Clan for some side help. Previously, he didn't want to live in this place and just wanted to find Lan Ya and Jing Wuming. Now that he reunited with them, Ning Cheng no longer wanted to spend any extra time to look for a different place.

Neither Lan Ya nor Jing Wuming had thought that Ning Cheng would end up living together with a female cultivator, and a truly beautiful female cultivator at that. In their view, since Ning Cheng and this female cultivator were sharing a double room among themselves, it indicated that their relationship definitely was not an ordinary one.

Ruan Mingshu remained surprised for only a moment before she immediately reverted to her old self, "No problem; however, our Resting Pen's room will really be cramped with all of us in it. I can get another double room. Senior Apprentice Brother Ning can stay with me, while the three of them can stay in the double room next door."

Ruan Mingshu spoke up, and without waiting for Ning Cheng to reply, she continued on, "Originally, I could stay in a double room with Lan Ya and Shi Yulan as a trio; however, I have a few matters that need detailed discussions with Senior Apprentice Brother Ning at night. Therefore, things can only be arranged in such a manner."

Lan Ya naturally had no problems with such an arrangement. As for Shi Yulan and Lan Ya sharing a room amongst each other, it also posed no questions. Since Jing Wuming couldn't figure out the relationship between Ning Cheng and Ruan Mingshu, he also did not ask about why Ning Cheng and Ruan Mingshu chose such a living arrangement. Not to mention living together in a double room with Shi Yulan, Jing Wuming also hoped that Shi Yulan could take the initiative to try to explain things to him.

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"Senior Apprentice Brother Ning, please come in." After sending the Jing Wuming trio to the next room, Ning Cheng had just walked over to the door of Ruan Mingshu's room, when Ruan Mingshu took the initiative to open the restriction.

Ning Cheng took out two cards and handed them to Ruan Mingshu, "Many thanks to Junior Apprentice Sister Mingshu's help. I haven't used these cards. Therefore, I'm giving them back to you. Also, thank you for the help for the previous matter; otherwise, we would have no place to stay right now. As for that Array Disc, I will return it to you in two days."

Ruan Mingshu received the cards and put them away in her lotus pouch before smiling and speaking up, "Since we have already decided to cooperate with each other, such help is only natural. As for the Array Disc, don't worry about it."

After saying that, Ruan Mingshu asked a seemingly unintentional question, "Right, that woman called Shi Yulan, the one who stood next to your side, she truly is quite beautiful."

"Yes, she is beautiful. If there is nothing else, I'm going back for some rest." Ning Cheng didn't want to share much with Ruan Mingshu, especially the fact that he encountered that Miao Pu today.

Before meeting Miao Pu, Ning Cheng still harboured some confidence in killing Miao Pu. However, after seeing Miao Pu, Ning Cheng felt his faith falter a little.

Miao Pu's cultivation did not appear at the Celestial Bridge Realm; instead, it looked more as if his cultivation had already reached the Undead Realm. Even using a Grade 4 Array Disc in tandem with Jing Wuming and Lan Ya would be enough to get rid of Miao Pu. If Ning Cheng who had personally arranged the Array Formation, it would have still proven useful. However, this was not his Array Formation. Moreover, it was also just an Array Disc, which made Ning Cheng's chances of pulling through even lower.

"Ok, you go back and take rest. Although there are a few things that need discussion, I will come to find you later." Ruan Mingshu spoke out in her usual soft voice. Just as she had mentioned before, she had a few things that she needed to talk with Ning Cheng.

Ning Cheng did not feel willing to talk much about the current matter. At the same time, the Ruan Clan and he were not even close to each other. Moreover, Ning Cheng also had a few deep secrets, which should remain secrets. Besides, if the Ruan Clan discovered even one of his secrets, he would not have made it out of the Thunder Enforcement City alive. They certainly would not wait until now.

Ning Cheng had just returned to his room and hadn't even activated the Restrictions on the door when he heard Shi Yulan's voice, "Senior Apprentice Brother Ning, can I come in?"

Shi Yulan was Jing Wuming's former Dao Companion. For her to come to his room alone at this time made Ning Cheng frown slightly. However, he still replied, "Come in. However, I hope that the person you are looking for is Wuming and not me."

Shi Yulan quickly entered Ning Cheng's room and took the initiative to activate the Restrictions on the door.

"Take a seat. So, what did you come here to look for?" Ning Cheng pointed towards the chair in front of him and spoke.

Shi Yulan first gave Ning Cheng a respectful bow before speaking up, "Many thanks to Senior Apprentice Brother Ning for saving me twice."

Ning Cheng showed a faint smile before replying, "I just saved you twice. It's not much."

Shi Yulan let out a sigh internally. How couldn't she understand what Ning Cheng's words implied? That is, Jing Wuming had saved her life countless times already, and she still hadn't seen fit to even give that man a proper thanks.

Without continuing down the path of thanking Ning Cheng with words, she took the initiative to sit down before speaking, "My father's name is Shi Kuangsheng, and my mother is called Yu Molan. My father was a Devil Cultivator; however, my mother came from a famous clan and was a soft and quiet woman. During a battle within a mystical place within the Le Continent, my father met my mother and fell in love with each other at first sight. However, my grandfather hated my father as he was a Devil Cultivator and took the initiative to betroth my mother to Tan Xun, of the Le Continent's Tan Clan."

Shi Yulan's voice felt as if came from the distant horizon, so quiet that people couldn't even hear it unless they concentrated on her voice.

"The Tan Clan is one of the great clans of the Le Continent; even the Le Continent's most premier academy, the Kun Yun Academy, was founded and built by the ancestors of the Tan Clan. Every

Academy Head came from the Tan Clan, and it had enormous sway within the Le Continent. After Tan Xun saw my mother, he couldn't help himself. However, my mother already had my father in her heart and refused all of Tan Xun's advances."

However, the pressure from both the Tan Clan and the Kun Yun Academy was not something that my parents could go against. The Tan Clan wanted to force my mother to marry into their clan; however, my father managed to struggle enough to let my mother escape. However, my father was just a single person. A single person's strength remained meaningless in the face of such a behemoth and ended up eventually killed at the hands of the Tan Clan. However, by the time my mother managed to escape, she was already three months pregnant with me.

Shi Yulan seemed to have recalled all the hardships she had to face with just her mother as tears started welling up in her eyes. Even her tone had begun to turn slightly shaky.

"Because the Tan Clan couldn't catch my mother, they directed all their anger towards my father's and my grandfather's houses. They exterminated my grandfather's family, without even sparing the children or even the new-borns. They then burned my father's Life Essence with Yin Flames for 49 days, before he finally succumbed and died to the inhumane torment."

"My mother was devastated after hearing the news of my father's death and turned weaker and weaker each passing day. Finally, when I was seven years old, my mother also left me. I grew up in hatred, and I vowed to completely destroy the Kun Yun Academy and massacre that bastard called Tan Xun. However, my strength was still not up for undertaking such a task. Although I went down the path of a Devil Cultivator, I still had no realistic ability to eradicate the Kun Yun Academy. It was also at that time that I met Jing Hao."

"Jing Hao himself did not know about his own history. Although to the world he was Tan Xun's Disciple, he is actually the illegitimate son of Tan Xun. Moreover, he also had truly superior qualification; therefore, since Tan Xun was the Academy Head of the Kun Yun Academy, he naturally heavily favoured Jing Hao."

Ning Cheng took the initiative to help Shi Yulan pour a cup of Spirit Tea, as he vaguely started to connect the dots. Shi Yulan led a truly miserable life. If replaced by him. His means of revenge might not turn out much worse than Shi Yulan's way of doing things.

Sure enough, Shi Yulan continued with a mournful voice, "To destroy the Kun Yun Academy and eradicate the Tan Clan, after I met Jing Hao, I deliberately killed a few True Inheriting Disciples of the other great academies to rouse their anger and jealousy. Some of them were even the direct descendants of many important Academy Elders. This incident finally led to a public outcry. During the commotion, Jing Hao took me and fled to the Kun Yun Academy. To let the others know that I was in the Kun Academy, I deliberately leaked bits and pieces of my whereabouts that led to the Kun Yun Academy."

Ning Cheng couldn't help but give out a sigh in his heart. When Jing Wuming had narrated his side of the story, Ning Cheng had wondered as to who might have leaked the news. According to him, the fact that he took Shi Yulan into the Kun Yun Academy was a tightly guarded secret. No one else knew about it; however, as soon as they entered the Kun Yun Academy, it immediately became public. It turned out that Shi Yulan was the one who had leaked the information. It was just that this Shi Yulan used some

ruthless and unscrupulous means of killing a few unrelated people to instigate hatred. If he had been the one in her shoes, he definitely would never use such a method.

Shi Yulan showed a strained smile, "I achieved my purpose. I borrowed Jing Hao's hand to extinguish the Kun Yun Academy and even eradicate the Tan Clan while also taking out Tan Xun. I avenged myself; however, I also can't help feel sorry for Jing Hao. He was completely innocent in all of this. He even took me to escape into the starry skies. Not only did he save me many times, he even provided me with all the resources for cultivation. Because of this, spending one more moment with him was akin to another moment of torment for me."

"Every time he went in search of cultivation resources, I secluded myself to cultivate. However, the fact was, I did not dare to stay close to him. Sometimes I even thought that if one day Jing Hao ended up falling, I would also commit suicide. That way, this entire debacle would end. However, whenever he returned, the things I owed to him kept increasing. People are not trees and grasses, even someone wretched like me can feel tormented in my heart."

Ning Cheng remained silent; he did not know how to comfort the two sides.

"I took the True Spirit World; at the same time, I didn't want to venture out to search for resources. All to make Jing Hao understand that I was a selfish person and that he should leave me. However, that Jing Hao, he is just too stupid. He never even said a heavy word against me. Although it pained me to stay with Jing Hai, I also owe my life to him."

"It remained the same till the day Shang Mou Celestial River King met me and said these words, "I had a disposition that could even charm the dead. If I remained by Jing Hao's side, it would eventually bring harm to Jing Hao. He can take me away and give me the freedom that I desired, while also not hurting Jing Hao. I couldn't stand the daily torment anyway, even if Shang Mou Celestial River King had not appeared, I would have still tried to find the chance to leave Jing Hao.""

"But you shouldn't have taken Wuming's True Spirit World. Do you know what the True Spirit World entails? It entails countless lives." Ning Cheng still helped Jing Hao by putting in a word.

Shi Yulan spoke with an even miserable tone, "The True Spirit World does not belong to his Tan Clan; instead, it belongs to my Shi Clan. This was something my father had inherited. However, before he could even finish refining it, the Kun Yun Academy ended up killing my father. Unfortunately, I could not keep the True Spirit World with me. Currently, the True Spirit World is in the hands of that Shang Mou Celestial River King. The reason I took to the True Spirit World with me was not that it was something precious, but because it was the only thing my father had left behind."

"If that is the case, then why did you appear in the auction in the slave market?" Ning Cheng suddenly had a vague subconscious thought that the death of Shi Yulan's parents might have some relations to the True Spirit World.

"It was still because of the True Spirit World. I had initially thought that Shang Mou Celestial River King had truly taken a fancy to my looks. However, I was wrong. No, too confident in myself. Whether Shang Mou Celestial River King took a fancy to my looks or not, his real purpose, however, was definitely the True Spirit World." Shi Yulan clenched her fists tightly. The kind of unwillingness and resentment emanating from her was something that even Ning Cheng could clearly feel.

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Chapter 508: Concealment Artefact

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"I decided to follow Shang Mou and immediately left the Ocean Gambling City. He said that it was not safe to keep the True Spirit World on me and decided to keep it with him for my sake. In any case, I did not have even half a shred of ability to resist that man." Shi Yulan's tone also calmed down. Ning Cheng guessed that Shi Yulan must have already written down this vendetta.

"How did you come to the Orchid Borough Celestial River, before ultimately ending up in the slave market?" Ning Cheng asked doubtfully.

Shi Yulan's hands turned pale as she clenched them hard, "Shang Mou came to the Revolving Jade City at the invitation of the Orchid Borough Celestial River King, and he brought me here. In fact, he already made it out that I was a vengeful person and did not trust me enough to leave me behind in the Shang Mou Celestial River. I did not want to turn into a puppet and ended up using his name to sign up for the Man Lun Starry Skies' Celestial Scryer Genius Try-outs, which angered him. In front of many people, he decided to leave me in the slave market, without even a shred of mercy."

"Is Shang Mou Celestial River King still in the Revolving Jade City?" Ning Cheng asked with surprise.

He felt startled that Shang Mou Celestial River King actually came to the Revolving Jade City. As for Shi Yulan wanting to take part in the Celestial Scryer Genius Try-outs, he already realised that it was to save her life. To leave the Shang Mou Celestial River King, the only path was to reach the Man Lun Starry Skies.

Shi Yulan nodded, "Yes, he is indeed in the Orchid Borough Celestial River; however, he will soon leave the Orchid Borough Celestial River."

"I'm afraid that he won't let you go once he realises that the man who bought you was Wuming." Ning Cheng spoke with a frown.

Shi Yulan remained silent. She honestly did not have any place to go. If Ning Cheng drove her away, the next moment, she would once again fall to the hands of Shang Mou Celestial River King.

"For now just stay here and don't go out. Just go and talk to Lan Ya and keep her from getting out. Wait until the selection rounds for the Orchid Borough Celestial River begins, that Shang Mou Celestial River King should leave by then. Shang Mou Celestial River also has the same try-outs; as such, he can't stay here for long." Ning Cheng eventually decided to let Shi Yulan stay.

Shi Yulan did not say any thanks; instead, she stood up and gave Ning Cheng a deeply respectful bow before turning towards the door of Ning Cheng's room.

"Wait a minute." Ning Cheng stopped Shi Yulan, "Do you know any place in the Revolving Jade City that specialises in concealment artefacts?"

"There is a place called Ice Wind Merchant House. It is not a conspicuous place, but many people know it inside the Revolving Jade City. Moreover, that place contains some of the best concealment artefacts.

At the same time, the price for those artefacts are also very high; as such, ordinary cultivators would not even think of willingly going there even if they knew about the place.....”

Speaking until here, Shi Yulan subconsciously tried to take out a jade strip containing the map of Revolving Jade City from her ring. However, it suddenly showed a self-deprecating smile. Apart from the set of robes over her body, she did not have any other things. However, she continued to speak, “The Ice Wind Merchant House is located near the gate of the North City District of the Revolving Jade City. When you get there, just ask any local cultivator, and they will point it out to you.”

Ning Cheng nodded and spoke, “You go back and tell Lan Ya to not come out during this time. I’ll bring you and Lan Ya a ring tomorrow.”

Shi Yulan also did not refuse, in a city within the starry skies, without a ring and without a weapon; it would only result in death. To say nothing about participating in the try-outs in such a condition.

Shi Yulan had just left when Jing Wuming arrived at the door to Ning Cheng’s room.

Ning Cheng opened the restriction and let Jing Wuming come in. Jing Wuming had already heard Shi Yulan’s words, while Ning Cheng also knew that Jing Wuming had stood by the other side of the door to listen. Because of this, Ning Cheng had deliberately not activated the Sound Isolating Restriction over the door, all to let Jing Wuming hear the contents of the discussion. To clear the misunderstandings between two people, the first step was to make sure both parties knew what the misconceptions were.

However, between Jing Wuming and Shi Yulan, there were no misunderstandings at all. For both of them, it was a father’s vendetta; as such, Ning Cheng had no way to resolve such a situation.

“I heard it all.” After Jing Wuming came in, those were the first words he spoke.

Ning Cheng gave a sigh, “I don’t know how to help you. Since you and Shi Yulan had a very close relationship, you will have to figure out some way to deal with it yourself.”

Jing Wuming’s face no longer showed the torment and agitation that he showed before; even his tone had become calm and steady. “Xiaocheng, this is the end of the matter. There is no right or wrong about this matter. By all accounts, I should have killed her for revenge; however, I could not get down to doing such a thing. Her parents and her entire family perished at the hands of my Kun Lun Academy, and yet she did not lay a hand over me. The only thing I feel sorry about is the lost lives of brother and sisters of the Kun Lun Academy. I....”

“The dead are already dead, Wuming, I shouldn’t need to say any more of this matter. However, even if there were no Shi Yulan, the Kun Lun Academy would still have such a side; eventually, such a thing was bound to happen. If it were just general hatred and distaste, then it would have been fine; however, hatred wasn’t even an option, as even children were also not spared from death.” Ning Cheng gave out a deep sigh.

When he had gone to the Red Star Sword Faction for revenge, he took the initiative to allow the cultivators unrelated to the Red Star Sword Faction to escape. When the Kun Lun Academy destroyed her family, they did not even spare the children. What was more important was that the two sides did not have any enmity between them. Replaced by Ning Cheng, in the face of such evil actions, he would also not have chosen to endure it.

“Wuming, don’t overthink about it. I wanted to tell you something. I originally planned to ask you and Lan Ya for help in ambushing Miao Pu. However, I have seen Miao Pu’s cultivation, which should be at least in the Undead Realm. If we tried to ambush him, it would only prove extremely difficult. With the addition of Shang Mou Celestial River King in the Revolving Jade City, I suggest that you stay put in the Bright Gist Resting Pen for this month and do not casually venture out. If there is something else, wait till the selection rounds are over.” Ning Cheng’s tone turned more cautious this time. At this moment, many things were piling up over each other. In case of an accident, the few of them would not even have the chance to run away.

Thinking about a few more things, Ning Cheng added, “Give me the images of the two cultivators you and Lan Ya met in the arena.”

Jing Wuming raised his hand and drew out the images of the two cultivators, “It’s these two fellows. They shouldn’t be at the level of a Celestial Lord; however, I guess that that Celestial Lord had temporarily requested for their help during that time.”

“Also be careful. I will go into cultivation seclusion for the remainder of the month. From now on, I will leave everything behind and concentrate on cultivation. As for the matters related to Shi Yulan, you do not have to worry about it. Just like meeting someone new, she and I no longer have any past between us.”

As Jing Wuming finished, he slowly turned and left. As for whether he could genuinely forget everything or not, only the heavens could know about it.

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Ning Cheng did not really stay in the room to rest; he anyway could not cultivate in this place for a month. With the speed at which he now absorbed the starry skies’ Essence Qi, his progress in cultivation during the month would not even count as minimal.

Although he still disguised himself out of habit, his technique had ultimately come from Elder Sister Shu. However, Ning Cheng had never managed to see her again since the moment him, and Lan Shu separated.

With his current attainments in disguising, it was still too hard for him to hide in the Revolving Jade City. However, he also had a formidable Spiritual Consciousness; as such, using Spiritual Sense as a cover, it helped in changing his aura. However, it was only a temporary measure; therefore, what Ning Cheng wanted to buy now was a concealment artefact that could completely hide him.

If not for Shi Yulan’s words, Ning Cheng would never have heard of the Ice Wind Merchant Shop in the Revolving Jade City. Although the name ‘Ice Wind Merchant House’ sounded imposing, the place was not as good. Not only was it in a remote area, but even the building looked like a broken wooden shack put together by someone who had no sense of building a cabin.

After entering the broken wooden building, only then did Ning Cheng realise that this place still was relatively lively. There were at least eight or nine people huddled inside this small wooden building, and with various concealment artefacts displayed around in the viewing windows inside the wooden structure. An old man with a thick book in his hand sat behind a dilapidated counter and peered into the book with intense concentration.

As Ning Cheng came in, no one noticed it at all. Ning Cheng, like the rest of the people, immediately concentrated his gaze over the concealment artefacts displayed in the viewing windows.

Only when some cultivators selected a concealment artefact and had to pay for it did the people pay Ning Cheng a little attention. A concealment artefact on the level of a Best Quality True Artefact cost 500 million Blue Coins. Also, if a cultivator wanted to buy a concealment artefact on the level of a low-grade Dao Artefact, it would cost them 20 billion Blue Coins.

This kind of pricing was indeed costly, Ning Cheng thought to himself as he recalled Shi Yulan's words. At any other place, Best Quality Artefacts had a price between 100 million and 300 million Blue Coins; even the general cost of a low-grade Dao Artefact was around 10 billion Blue Coins. However, this place had directly doubled the prices.

The people around Ning Cheng had already picked their items and left; however, he still had not made any decisions.

"If you want to conduct a major business, I've got a middle-grade Dao Artefact here, do you want it? However, because no one has refined this middle-grade Dao Artefact yet, it would arbitrarily change the appearance of the first person who refines it. Moreover, if you end up being the first person to refine it, then even I wouldn't know if you stood there wearing a concealment artefact." The old man reading the book suddenly put down the book in his hand and spoke to Ning Cheng with a smile.

Ning Cheng did not feel too excited. He knew that he could not afford a middle-grade Dao Artefact. "Senior, do you see me as a person who could afford a middle-grade Dao Artefact?"

"If you don't have enough Celestial Coins, you can also exchange items. If you can get me something that makes me happy, I will exchange it with you." The old man spoke with surety.

Ning Cheng thought that this old man might actually be a Crafting Master. A Crafting Master usually possessed a fire-attributed main Spirit Root. Since he had many Fire Origin Crystals, he did not know if he could use it in this situation.

"How many Celestial Coins does this middle-grade Concealment Dao Artefact cost?" As Ning Cheng thought about the Fire Origin Crystal, he still could not help but ask a sentence.

"This Dao Artefact is slightly flawed; therefore, I will give you the lowest price. 10 billion Green Coins." The old man spoke with increasing interest.

Ning Cheng took out a Fire Origin Crystal, "I don't have that many Green Coins, only a piece of Fire Origin Crystal...."

The old man's eyes immediately lit up on seeing the Fire Origin Crystal in Ning Cheng's hand; without even waiting for Ning Cheng to finish his words, he eagerly cried out, "Yes, yes, you can exchange my concealment artefact with that fire crystal. Today, someone finally came up with something decent....."

Under anxiety, the old man even grabbed onto Ning Cheng's hand that held the Fire Origin Crystal.

Ning Cheng unhurriedly took back the Fire Origin Crystal and spoke slowly, "All my life's worth is this piece of Fire Origin Crystal. If I ended up exchanging it for just a concealment artefact, what would I do in the future, eh?"

Although he spoke those words with his mouth, Ning Cheng could not help but curse at this old man in his heart. This old fellow used the lure of a middle-grade Concealment Dao Artefact to exchange for good things. It definitely was not for sale as he indicated.

At the same time, Ning Cheng also realised the preciousness of the Fire Origin Crystals. Since he now recognised its potential, he now wanted to get a little more.

“I will also give you some Green Coins. Just name your price.” The old man cried out with even more anxiousness, as if afraid that Ning Cheng would just turn around and leave.

Ning Cheng reached out his hand and unfolded one finger at a time, “I need a weapon specialising in a head-on offence, a real Celestial River Class Battleship, a little pocket money and some good pills and medicines for cultivation. By the way, I am also planning to buy an Immortal Cave in the Revolving Jade City and find a few wives.....”

The old man’s face became a shade darker with every word he heard from Ning Cheng’s mouth.

The Gate Of Good Fortune

Chapter 509: Going to an auction again

“I only have so many Green Coins. I can give you this middle-grade Concealment Dao Artefact, along with a low-grade Long-sword Dao Artefact. Apart from that, I can give you 1 billion Green Coins. These are the most I can take out.....” As the old man spoke, he kept staring at the Fire Origin Crystal in Ning Cheng’s hand.

Ning Cheng felt genuinely surprised at such an offer. He had not thought that a Fire Origin Crystal would turn out this precious. After obtaining the Fire Origin Bead, Ning Cheng did not care much about the Fire Origin Crystals because of a lack of a Flame Spiritual Root. However, seeing this old man so attracted to it, Ning Cheng felt that he genuinely belittled these Fire Origin Crystals.

Ning Cheng raised the Fire Origin Crystal in his hand slightly higher and spoke, “That middle-grade Concealment Dao Artefact, plus a low-grade Long-spear Dao Artefact. Along with 5 billion Green Coins. Also, I need two rings, at least on the level of low-grade Dao Artefacts. If you can give them to me, you can have this piece; if not, then I will have no choice but to take this Fire Origin Crystal to auction.”

These two low-grade Dao Artefact rings were for Lan Yi and Shi Yulan.

“Yes, that’s perfectly possible....” The old man cried out, “I just happen to have a Treasured Thunder Spear, you can have it.”

As he spoke, a long dark spear suddenly appeared in his hand; although the spear looked very imposing, it did not emit even half a point of Spiritual Intelligence. However, Ning Cheng did not care too much about it. Using a Fire Origin Crystal to exchange for so many things had already made him unceasingly happy.

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Orchid Borough’s Premier Merchant House had no shortage of cultivators wanting to buy weapons, whether it was day or night. All because this store not only contained the best artefacts in all of the

Orchid Borough Celestial River, it also had the most advanced battleships available and the most complete pieces of equipment.

However, compared to daytime, there would always be fewer people during the night. As it was already close to dawn, people became even sparser.

At this time, a handsome young man walked into the merchant house. The young man had a wind-swept face long with a beard, giving him the appearance of a perennial wanderer among starry skies.

This person was none other than Ning Cheng using the concealment artefact. Even a person familiar with Ning Cheng would find it impossible to recognise the currently disguised Ning Cheng.

“This friend, what would you like to purchase?” The shop assistant immediately came forward and greeted Ning Cheng with a smile. He knew that cultivators like Ning Cheng, who perennially wandered the starry skies, were a straightforward bunch. At the same time, they were also the most difficult to deal with as customers.

“I want a Void Battleship, with fast speed and an even stronger combat capability.” Ning Cheng spoke with a hoarse voice.

“Friend, please come with me.” The shop assistant immediately brought Ning Cheng to a vast hall filled with all kinds of Void Battleships.

Ning Cheng did not know much about battleships, so he just spoke out what he knew, “I want a Celestial River Class Battleship, and preferably one that comes from a True Technological Planet. It would be best if it also had Flowing Sky Cannons.”

The shop assistant looked a little depressed as he replied, “A Celestial River Class Battleship with Flowing Sky Cannons installed, you will not find it on sale anywhere in Orchid Borough Star. If you truly want to obtain one, then this friend can go to the auction tomorrow. However, the price would not be low.”

Ning Cheng’s cultivation did not appear very high; as such, the shop assistant’s last words implied that if you wanted to purchase a high-grade starry skies’ battleship, you also needed to have enough Celestial Coins. Going to the auction would also warrant the same thing; moreover, the price there would be, at least, 20% greater even for regular items, let alone something as rare as a Celestial River Class Battleship.

Ning Cheng did not care about the shop assistant’s underlying meaning. He suddenly remembered the manual for the auction he had previously purchased. He quickly said his goodbyes to the shop assistant and left the Orchid Borough’s Premier Merchant Shop.

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Bright Gist Resting Pen. Lan Ya and Shi Yulan sat opposite to each other. They had no rings and were without weapons. Without Celestial Coins, even if they wanted to go out, they had no way doing anything.

“Ning Cheng said he would come.....” Shi Yulan spoke up with some difficulty. If there was another way, she really did not want to stay in such a situation.

Lan Ya gave out a sigh and said, "The last time I was this bankrupt, it was Ning Cheng who ended up giving me a ring. I didn't think it would end up like this again, alas."

"What happened last time?" Shi Yulan unexpectedly felt the mood to ask.

"The last time, I got myself caught in Void Incinerating Flames, almost got burned to death... No. It all happened because I carelessly entered that Bright Void Gorge... Wait, it was not because of the Bright Void Gorge. However, my ring really ended up destroyed by the Void Incinerating Flames....." Lan Ya did not seem to want to talk about these things. After all, she felt a bit embarrassed as she recounted it. It indeed was a journey filled with difficulties.

Shi Yulan looked at Lan Ya in amazement, "Senior Apprentice Sister Lan Ya, you mean that even your clothes got destroyed, then....."

Lan Ya's face turned slightly red as she replied, "I'm a perennial wanderer among the starry skies. Even if my robes got burned, I still have a good inner armour....."

Lan Ya herself found it somewhat embarrassing; the so-called inner armour was just a pair of undergarments.

The restriction on the door shook, which allowed Lan Ya to give out a sigh of relief. She really did not want to continue recalling that kind of an embarrassing scene.

"Wuming? Come in." Lan Ya called out before subconsciously shooting Shi Yulan a glance. She had already come to know about everything that happened between Jing Wuming and Shi Yulan. Two people with two separate yet intertwined tragic lives, the only phrase that she could use to describe them.

Jing Wuming looked a little pale and shook his head before replying, "I'm not coming in. There are two rings here, you can each take one."

With that, he put the rings in Lan Ya's hands.

"I don't want it, you can take it back. I already owe you a lot; I don't want to owe you more." Shi Yulan spoke out in a calm voice.

Jing Wuming did not take back the ring, "You don't owe me anything, nor do I owe you anything. That unfilial Jing Hao had already perished, and only Jing Wuming exists. Moreover, these two rings are not something from me but from Xiaocheng. Xiaocheng is very busy at the moment and has no time to bother about other things."

Jing Wuming finished before turning around and leaving, He did not want to linger here for even an extra unnecessary moment.

Shi Yulan kept looking at the Jing Wuming's back and did not move for a long time.

Lan Ya understood why Ning Cheng wanted Jing Wuming to deliver the rings. Ning Cheng wanted Jing Wuming and Shi Yulan to talk for a while by themselves; however, Ning Cheng's intentions were apparently lost on the two of them.

She put one of the rings in Shi Yulan's hand before pulling Shi Yulan aside and speaking, "There is no need to overthink about the things that happened in the past. This matter, anyways, does not have a right or a wrong."

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After Ning Cheng handed the two rings to Jing Wuming for delivery, Ning Cheng then returned to his room and immediately took out the Treasured Thunder Spear to refine. Although the Nirvana Spear proved helpful, Ning Cheng still could not make full use of it. After all, it was still a lump of unrefined material in the end.

This Treasured Thunder Spear was a low-grade Dao Artefact and was a Thunder Attributed Weapon. With Ning Cheng's current cultivation, it was enough to meet his expectations.

After refining the Treasured Thunder Spear, Ning Cheng held it in his hands, which immediately added a slight Spiritual Nature to it. The faint Thunder Lights wrapping around the handle made Ning Cheng feel very satisfied with the weapon. He did not spend his Fire Origin Crystal in vain; the things he traded it for brought him a few useful surprises.

Ruan Mingshu's room and Ning Cheng's room were right next to each other. Ruan Mingshu had just walked out of her room when she saw a faint Thunder Light flashing over the restrictions on Ning Cheng's place. She immediately felt startled; did Ning Cheng have a Thunder Attributed Spirit Root? People with Thunder Attributed Spiritual Roots were scarce; if such a person fell, it indeed would be pitiful.

However, she shook her head. The number of geniuses that fell in the endless starry skies' numbered in the billions. Not to say about Ning Cheng, even if she talked about herself, Ruan Mingshu, she still had no control over her destiny; unless one day, she cultivated to the degree that others needed to actually look up to her.

Just as Ruan Mingshu's Spiritual Consciousness fell on the restriction over the door, Ning Cheng immediately felt it. Ning Cheng immediately put away the Treasured Thunder Spear. He always felt wary of Ruan Mingshu; this woman just was too kind to him. If not for the cooperation agreement between them, it would have made him extremely suspicious of her motives.

After Ning Cheng refined the Treasured Thunder Spear, he had planned to immediately head out. The place that he wanted to head out naturally was the auction. Yesterday, he went to the slave auction market, and today he was going to another one organised by the Orchid Borough Celestial River. With so many Celestial Lords along with so many other talented cultivators gathered together from all reaches of the Orchid Borough Celestial River, the scale of this auction could never be small.

However, the only reason why Ning Cheng wanted to attend this auction was due to a single object, the Amethyst Heaven Mysterious Crystal.

The Amethyst Heaven Mysterious Crystal was what he needed to upgrade the Twin Leaves of the Radiant Heavenly Clouds, which Ning Cheng had refined into Twin Wings of the Heavenly Clouds. According to Ning Cheng's previous understanding, each upgrade of the Twin Leaves of the Radiant Heavenly Clouds would add an extra pair of bright lights to it. Currently, there were two pairs of

shimmering lights on his Twin Wings of the Heavenly Clouds. If he managed to add another set of bright lights, his Twin Wings of the Heavenly Clouds would definitely become a lot faster.

Because Ning Cheng saw the words Amethyst Heaven Mysterious Crystal, he ended up buying the auction manual for 100 Blue Coins. Now that he heard that the auction also contained a real Celestial River Class Battleship, he immediately decided to go see it.

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It was already the third largest auction held by the Revolving Jade City within the past month, and it certainly would not be the last one. The reason naturally stemmed from the gathering of many wealthy people from all over the Celestial River at the Revolving Jade City, which also implied the collection of many treasures from the entire Celestial River.

Ning Cheng did not secure a private room, not that he did not have the money, but because he still did not have the required status. However, Ning Cheng did not care about this. He also noticed that the size and scale of this auction were much larger than the slave auction that he attended yesterday. Every guest had a private space assigned to him or her. If they activated the Isolation Restriction within this area, the Spiritual Consciousness of others could not sweep in. It was equivalent to having a small private room to themselves.

However, only a few people would choose to isolate their seats, which was an indication of trying to hide 300 silver teals in that location. In any case, if one bid in the auction, the others would not have any evidence of who the person bidding was. At the same time, each person participating had a unique serial number assigned to him or her, which only the person attending knew about.

[TL Note: 'trying to hide 300 silver teals' is an idiom which figuratively means 'unintentionally revealing what one intends to hide']

Moreover, one did not need to yell out the bids, one just had to enter the price one wanted to bid in the machinations placed in front of their seats. The huge Array Formation Display at the centre would then display the highest bid. At the same time, once one successfully won the bid, no one would immediately send the things to you. Only the completion of the transaction would result in the delivery of the item to you.

Ning Cheng still used the disguise of a perennial wanderer amongst the starry skies. He also did not isolate his seat, and no one even knew him.

The auction had not yet begun when Ning Cheng's Spiritual Consciousness noticed Ruan Mingshu's entry into the hall. In addition to her, even that sharp-chinned Celestial Lord Miao Pu also appeared.

After waiting for another incense stick worth of time, a female cultivator wearing a very formal attire walked onto the main stage of the auction hall. This female cultivator first gave a respectful bow towards the audience before speaking up, "I will be presiding over this auction. I am Deacon Yu Ni from the Celestial Involution Chamber of Commerce. I hope everyone feels satisfied with the various treasures put on sale for this auction. The first treasure for auction is a beast egg of the starry skies' Thousand Rift Explosive Ape with a reserve price of 1 million Green Coins. Each bid increase must not be less than 100,000 Green Coins. Let the auction begin."

[The Gate Of Good Fortune](#)

Chapter 510: Can't Afford I

The Thousand Rift Explosive Ape was a tyrannical starry skies' demonic beast; however, a majority of the starry skies' demonic beasts were oviparous in nature. Moreover, to aid in the birth of such a starry skies' demonic beast, it must absorb a huge amount of starry skies' Essence Qi before its actual birth. Only after the oviparous demonic beast absorbed enough starry skies' Essence Qi, could it then begin the process of breaking out of its shell. Only after undergoing such a process would it possess truly superior combat capabilities.

If one had a Thousand Rift Explosive Ape's egg, then as long as the egg contained life, one could incubate it to breed the Thousand Rift Explosive Ape and let it recognise you as its master. As long as one had sufficient resources to train the Thousand Rift Explosive Ape to maturity, one could potentially gain a formidable helper in the future.

Because of all these factors, the price of the Thousand Rift Explosive Ape's egg quickly reached 10 million Green Coins, before someone finally bought it for 17 million Green Coins. The rate did not increase to an overly ridiculous level as the Thousand Rift Explosive Ape also had a noticeable weakness; that is, it was actually quite difficult for it to break out of its shell. At the same time, it needed a massive amount of resources for its cultivation.

Some of the rich cultivators, because of this drawback, would instead purchase matured starry skies' demonic beasts with slightly lower combat capabilities instead of spending money over the Thousand Rift Explosive Ape's egg.

Ning Cheng naturally would not bid; he anyway did not have much money and needed to be as thrifty as possible.

"The next item for auction is a Celestial River Bead....."

When Yu Ni spoke the words 'Celestial River Bead', it immediately caused a burst of discussion all around. Ning Cheng felt a little depressed on seeing this, as he did not even know what Celestial River Beads were.

Fortunately, Yu Ni also gave an introduction to it, "I believe everyone already understands what Celestial River Beads represent, these are beads meant to kill and refined by Celestial River Kings. It can create a powerful domain, bind the surrounding space, and then raze everything within that space into powder. This Celestial River Bead comes from a Heaven Seated Powerhouse. The reserve price is 50 million Green Coins, and each increase must be not less than 1 million Green Coins....."

Ning Cheng suddenly understood that this item was a generic equivalent to Soul Essence Beads. Although it might have some uses, Ning Cheng still dispelled the thought of purchasing it. However, the price of this disposable bead quickly rose to 150 million Green Coins. 'So much money, yet a pauper.' Ning Cheng thought to himself while giving out a dejected sigh within his heart.

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As the auction continued, many things changed hands. However, since the moment Ning Cheng entered, he had not yet purchased anything. He had a limited amount of Green Coins; moreover, the things

auctioned here often reached over hundreds of millions of Green Coins. If Ning Cheng bid on those items, although tempting, he would end up losing a lot of money.

“The next thing for auction is the Amethyst Heaven Mysterious Crystal, which is a treasure that can upgrade all kinds of natural feathered wing treasures, whether it is the Silver Star Wings or the Twin Wings of the Heavenly Clouds or even the Hidden Thunder Wings. If you want to upgrade any of them, you will need the Amethyst Heaven Mysterious Crystal. The Amethyst Heaven Mysterious Crystal’s base price is set at 10 million Green Coins. Each increase must not be less than 1 million Green Coins.....”

When Ning Cheng heard the words ‘Amethyst Heaven Mysterious Crystal’, he immediately sobered up. The reason for Ning Cheng to come to this auction was primarily due to the Amethyst Heaven Mysterious Crystal.

The starry skies always had significantly marked-up prices, the Amethyst Heaven Mysterious Crystal could only help his Twin Wings of the Heavenly Clouds upgrade to the level of three shimmering glows, yet even its reserve price was set at 10 million Green Coins.

Ning Cheng had not put in his bid when the price over the screen quickly soared and soon broke through the 30 million Green Coins before coming to a stop close to 50 million Green Coins.

Ning Cheng carefully spread out his Spiritual Consciousness. Since the price had risen this quickly, it showed that someone else also had the same thoughts as him.

Soon Ning Cheng found an acquaintance once again. It was that you woman named Ni Feng. When Ning Cheng had just advanced to the Celestial Novice Realm, he had ended up battling this woman. This woman also belonged to the Ocean Gambling’s Premier Casino; as such, he had not expected to see her in this place.

Ning Cheng became increasingly sure this woman wanted the Amethyst Heaven Mysterious Crystal, causing the unceasing increase in its price. She had a pair of Silver Star Wings, which explained her need for such a treasure to upgrade it. However, he had not expected this woman to live this long; unexpectedly, Wei Wu did not kill her.

Not to mention that Ning Cheng originally came here for the Amethyst Heaven Mysterious Crystal, even if he did not want the Amethyst Heaven Mysterious Crystal, Ning Cheng would not allow this item to fall into the hands of this woman.

Ning Cheng did not hesitate anymore and bid 50 million Green Coins. After the Amethyst Heaven Mysterious Crystal reached this price level, very few people chose to continue bid for it. This was already the upper limit of the price for the Amethyst Heaven Mysterious Crystal; as such, everyone understood that anyone proceeding with the auction was no longer someone with simple needs.

Ni Feng frowned, she was much more cautious with her actions compared to Ning Cheng. After placing a bid of 60 million, she did not use her Spiritual Consciousness to scan the surroundings. In this place, randomly sweeping out with one’s Spiritual Consciousness would only end up offending many people. If she ended up annoying a powerhouse, she might even die the moment she stepped out of the city.

Soon after, Ning Cheng placed a bid of 70 million; seeing that, Ni Feng finally gave up.

With the deduction of 70 million Green Coins, the Amethyst Heaven Mysterious Crystal also appeared in front of Ning Cheng. Ning Cheng quickly put away the Amethyst Heaven Mysterious Crystal feeling very satisfied in his heart. In any case, he had already accomplished his first goal for today.

“The next thing for auction is a Celestial River Class Void Battleship from a real technological celestial river, the Cinnabar Rice Celestial River. Although it is a basic-rank Celestial River Battleship, it comes equipped with Radium Light Arrows and a Flowing Sky Cannon attachment. Moreover, a True Cultivation Powerhouse has also re-equipped this Celestial River Battleship with a Grade 4 Celestial River Defensive Array Formation. The base price of this basic-rank Celestial River Battleship is set at 7 billion Green Coins, the price increase must not be less than 100 million Green Coins.....”

The words from the female cultivator immediately doused Ning Cheng’s happy mood, akin to throwing water over a fire. The Celestial Coins in his possession was not even at the level of the base price.

Someone quickly bought the Celestial River Battleship for 10 billion. Ning Cheng only had 6 billion Green Coins on him and as such could not even place a bid despite wanting to.

Knowing that the money in his possession could not help him in purchasing any of the other Celestial River Class Void Battleships, Ning Cheng started getting ready to leave the auction hall. Although Ning Cheng was a rich man compared to Jing Wuming and the others; however, at this auction, he was a downright pauper.

However, the following words from the female cultivator stopped Ning Cheng from leaving, “... I believe that many people here are about to participate in the Man Lun Starry Skies Celestial Stryer Realm Genius Try-outs. The item we now have on auction happens to be something related to this time’s try-outs....”

Not only did Ning Cheng feel drawn over by this sentence, almost everyone inside the hall immediately focussed his or her attention forward. This female cultivator did not speak wrong, most of the cultivators present here were going to participate in the Man Lun Starry Skies Celestial Stryer Realm Genius Try-outs.

“It is just a rough orientation map; however, I can tell you with certainty that this orientation map is of the Man Lun Starry Skies’ Premier Mystical Place, the Time Wilderness. As long as you can enter the Time Wilderness, this orientation map will prove extremely useful; perhaps you might even earn a hundred times more with this orientation map. The base price of this map is set at 100 million Green Coins, and the bid increase must be not less than 10 million.”

Ning Cheng thought that such a map would definitely incite many people into a fight to buy it; however, even after waiting for a long time, no one bid on it.

This definitely was something unusual, even if it were a rubbish item. With so many people in place bidding for other things, did they suddenly think that the price of 100 million Green Coins was too outrageous?

The face of the female cultivator, presiding over the auction, also looked slightly gloomy. She once again spoke up, “This map was something put together by a highly skilled person, if not for this highly skilled person.....”

The female cultivator suddenly changed her words and spoke out in a happy voice, "So someone did bid on it. 110 million Green Coins, are there any higher bids? 110 million Green Coins going once....."

The one who bid 110 million was none other than Ning Cheng; without any competition, he quickly bought the map.

After completing the transaction, Ning Cheng vaguely felt that something did not add up. He turned his head to the person sitting next to him and whispered, "Friend, why didn't anyone bid on that map? Isn't the Time Wilderness controlled by the Man Lun Starry Skies, is it not?"

The cultivator on hearing Ning Cheng's words, laughed before giving a reply, "The Revolving Jade City would always try to sell this map during every auction. Only a cultivator without any brains would buy that map from this place. To tell you the truth, you can find these kinds of maps everywhere within the main city of Man Lun Starry Skies. It would only cost 100 Green Coins, unlike the price here. I don't know which fool was it, but he ended up buying a map worth only a few thousand for 110 million Green Coins, ha-ha....."

Ning Cheng touched his face while giving out a deep sigh; he really had bad luck.

He stood up and was not willing to stay in this place for even an extra moment. What he wanted to purchase, he could not buy; however, what Ning Cheng did not need, he ended up cheated over it.

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After Ning Cheng left the auction, he did not return to the Bright Gist Resting Pen. He decided to head to the Revolving Jade City's arenas.

This was something that he had planned; moreover, Jing Wuming and Lan Ya had also encountered those two Celestial Shatterer Cultivators in this place. Now that both Jing Wuming and Lan Ya cannot leave the Bright Gist Resting Pen, Ning Cheng naturally could take a shot at obtaining revenge, if possible. At the same time, Ning Cheng also agreed with Jing Wuming; that is, if one wanted to grow stronger, then one had to fight all kinds of opponents.

The Man Lun Starry Skies had many geniuses, while Ning Cheng was still a tiny Celestial Novice Cultivator; even with a Sea of Consciousness many times stronger compared to average, he was still at a disadvantage. Moreover, there was also no way of improving his cultivation during this short period. As such, he had no choice but to hone his combat effectiveness through actual combat.

Ning Cheng had not been to the Ocean Gambling City's arenas; however, he found the Revolving Jade City's Arenas packed with a sea of people. Even with the auction still underway, it could not hurt the popularity of such places. Of course, the most popular attraction was the ever-popular Battle Rings; one could always find all kinds of spectators around these battle rings.

In addition to paying attention to the skills of the opponents fighting over the stage, one could even experience the one of a kind murderous aura. Of course, there were also cultivators who would come here with preparation to make money.

There were various levels of challenges in this place. As long as one was not afraid of death, as long as one felt willing enough to take up the risk, one could fight with any person, as long as they also felt ready enough to compete.

Ning Cheng took out the two Celestial Shatterer Cultivators' images, the ones who ambushed Jing Wuming and Lan Ya and asked the person guarding the entrance to the Celestial Forest Arena, "I want to visit their Battle Rings. Can you point me to them, please?"

Since that Miao Pu found these two Celestial Shatterer Cultivators to cause trouble in the arena, it meant that these two people were, at the very least, regular customers of this place.

"Oh, those are Gongxi Kui and Kirk from the 19th Battle Ring. Viewing ticket for 19th Battle Ring is 1000 Blue Coins, and a Challenge Ticket is 10,000 Blue Coins." The person in charge of reception came out and replied; there was no point in keeping such information private anyway.

Trying to find someone as famous as them in the arena just would not do them any good for concealing such information. As for the difference between the Viewing Ticket and the Challenge Ticket, one could only watch the fights with the Viewing Tickets; while with the Challenge Ticket, one could choose to either spectate or could even take the stage to issue challenges. If one could manage to beat the long-time ringmaster, one could claim 20% of the proceeds from that Battle Ring.

Ning Cheng took the Challenge Ticket and arrived at the 19th Battle Ring; he found a corner and sat down. Since Gongxi Kui and Kirk were the defending champions of the 19th Battle Ring, he definitely would see the two people. He first wanted to look at the two people's means before deciding to take the stage.

Ning Cheng had just sat down when whispers of the conversation between the two people entered his ears.

"Senior Apprentice Sister Lan Ya, we came out secretly, if Ning Cheng came to know about it, wouldn't he turn angry?" This definitely was Shi Yulan's voice; even if they were under disguise, Ning Cheng still could recognise her.

On the side of Shi Yulan, Lan Ya's hate-filled voice sounded out, "If I don't kill those two bastards, I can't sleep peacefully."