

Unfathomable 171

Chapter 171

Spirit Spring City, in the main clan building.

A large number of Zhang Clan members were being noisy. They all had solemn expressions on their faces while discussing the next plan of action. People like Zhang Zhi were here as well, he had left Moonlight city to help Zhang Dong. By the time he was going past the Zhang Clan main base, the others had already been returning here on their large flying ships. He met up with them half way and escorted them back to the main Zhang Clan city.

The Zhangs weren't the only family here, the Huo Clan, as well as the Feng Clan elders, were all here. Their juniors were resting in other areas together with people that got injured. The individuals here were vaguely familiar with each other. The Zhang Clan members could not deny Feng Liena and Huo Qiang participation rights in this discussion as they had quite a heads up over them in cultivation. It was known that the two were on good terms with the Patriarch, so they mostly everyone agreed to let them participate.

"How is Elder Jin's condition?"

Zhang Zhi asked while looking to the side to some of his family clan elders that were wearing white medical robes.

"He is stable, his body has fully recovered but..."

The person responding was quite an old looking doctor, his white beard reached all the way to his navel.

"But?"

Zhang Zhi narrowed his eyes while frowning, he didn't like the tone of that reply.

"There are no injuries on the grand elder's body, but he still isn't waking up, he is in a coma, we don't know why..."

The old man's forehead started glistening with sweat while he was answering the sole core formation elder from their clan. He was just a simple foundation establishment elder and didn't know what was wrong with Zhang Jin.

"It was that Yang Kai... he did something with the old man's soul!"

Huo Qiang spoke up while slamming his fist down on a nearby table, the table not being able to contain the force and cracking into several pieces. The other people in the vicinity quieted down, while Feng Liena shook her head along with the other two core formation cultivators that were next to her.

Huo Qiao stepped forward while coughing into his hand while trying to get the attention away from his rowdy young master.

“Yes, Yang Kai from the Dark Palm Sect performed some kind of demonic technique on Zhang Jin. Luckily the Zhang Patriarch managed to return your Elder’s soul... I think. We will probably need to wait for him for a more throughout explanation.”

The Zhang family members’ eyes gleamed slightly at the mention of their favorite Patriarch, but then they remembered the situation they were in now and went back to their gloom.

“He told us to gather here, has there been any word of his whereabouts?”

The Huo elder posed the question that was on his mind, he was still apprehensive about coming here instead of the city his clan was located in. He couldn’t go against his young master’s orders though, so he followed him here.

“We tried contacting the Patriarch, but he is out of range of the communication treasure, he must have been traveling in the opposite direction of the city...”

Another side elder chimed in, the communication jades that people were using in this world had a limited range. The one that the Patriarch had was already an upgraded product. But even it wasn’t able to cover the whole area of the Azure Dragon empire that they were in, things like satellites that furthered the signal didn’t exist in this world yet.

There were devices akin to telephone towers, but they were placed by the governing sect and they would need to get their approval to use them which wasn’t possible.

“Is that so...”

“Think we’ll have to wait for Senior Dong to arrive, I trust that he will arrive just as he promised.”

Feng Liena’s sweet voice was heard from the side, the woman was sitting down with a couple of her family members. The old granny from the wind clan was already sending communications towards their own city. The information about the Dark Palm sects further movements was paramount, for now, they didn’t get anything substantial besides some rumors that didn’t go anywhere.

“That’s a given, Senior brother wouldn’t lie, if he said that he would be here he will.”

The red-haired Huo master spoke out with a cheerful tone, but this didn’t change the atmosphere in this large room. The biggest question on the mind of the people here were the Patriarch’s whereabouts. Also if he was still alive and if he was strong enough to go against this behemoth of a sect himself.

At this time, somewhere in Dark Palm Sect territory, the man that the people of Spirit Spring City were longing for was busy dodging more Qi attacks.

“You old doo-doo heads never give up, do you?”

He chucked a spear of concentrated lightning Qi at the group behind him. Three of the elders instantly reacted, they placed themselves in a triangle formation with one person on top and two on the bottom. The air rippled and an energy shield appeared, the moment the golden spear of lightning collided with the barrier, the golden light vanished and the attack faded.

The quintet of old nascent soul monsters had been chasing this man for a couple of days now. They had gotten used to his attack patterns and knew well how to deflect or defend them by this point. The long chase was slowly getting to them though, they were people that had a short fuse.

The man kept egging them on with strange insults and they couldn't shorten the distance at all which put the group at a deadlock. Zhang Dong that was fleeing couldn't escape but the five elders couldn't catch up to him either. They all were nascent soul cultivators and even with Zhang Dong's Qi reserves getting lower he could still flee for quite some time and his pursuers knew this.

"We must seize him!"

"This farce has been continuing for far too long!"

Matt moved his attention forward and looked at his system window. He set up a waypoint for a certain location and was rushing towards it. If his plan worked well, then he wouldn't have to flee anymore and these five stooges would be dealt with, or at least busy with something else.

His enhanced vision picked up on a large structure. It was a large wall akin to the one that you would see back in China back on his mother planet. It was much wider and larger though and had large lookout towers spaced out through it.

'There... I'm close to the border... time to give those acting skills of mine another go...'

"TIS I GRAND ELDER WU MING, LET ME THROUGH!"

At a time like this, he wished he had the cash shop, buying skills that would help him get out from situations like these would make things much easier. Still, the teleport feature would be enough for now he just needed to make his next action stick.

He flew past the large wall and ignored the lookout towers as they still belonged to the Dark Palm Sect. The people on the walls recognized him and didn't activate the protective formation as Wu Ming was quite a famous sect elder. What he was looking for was a similar type of structure that was just one kilometer away from this wall.

"STAND WITH ME, BROTHERS AND SISTERS, LET US DESTROY THIS WEAK DEMON SUBDUING SECT. THE TIME HAS COME TO ERADICATE THESE WEAKLINGS. FOR THE DARK PALM SECT!!!"

His voice filled the whole area, anyone far and wide could hear his proclamation of war against the Demon Subduing Sect. He was still wearing the Dark Palm elder robe of Wu Ming and still had his appearance. He had flown to the bordering area of the two sects that were opposing each other. He wasn't sure what the deal with these two powers was, but he didn't care. The important thing was that the other party was a similarly strong faction and they were hostile with the people that were chasing him.

The four elders that were hot on Zhang Dong's heels noticed that they had reached all the way to the border area without even noticing. He had annoyed them all well enough for them to not notice where they were headed.

"What is that person doing..."

"Oh no... he still has Wu Ming's appearance! Quick stop him!"

There were some other Dark Palm members stationed here. This was the place that Elder Zhu was afraid of getting sent to when his spirit stone theft came to light. Not far away there was a nascent soul elder from the Dark Palm sect, he felt that there were people from his faction here so he decided to see what this was all about.

The same thing was happening on the other side on the Demon Subduing Sect's side. There was an elder in the nascent soul realm stationed on guard duty. He snapped out of his cultivation trance as he noticed someone powerful going past the border between them and the Dark Palm sect.

"What is this? You dare break the armistice?"

The whole place started buzzing with sound. Everyone on the Demon Subduing Sects side shouted out while pointing at a Dark Palm cultivator with salt and pepper hair. The man in question stretched his hand out while gathering a large amount of spiritual energy in front of it. In no time a large blade of wind formed, it shot forward right at the wall and collided with the protective formation that was activated by the other side the moment they heard the man's loud booming voice.

What followed was a barrage of multiple wind blades that caused the defensive formation that was able to defend against early-stage nascent soul attacks to buckle. Matt was using cultivation attacks uncharacteristic to his cultivation method as he didn't want the Demon Subduing sect to recognize him by them later on. The Dark Palm sect already knew that he was all about lightning, but not like these two forces trusted each other to believe any kind of info that they shared.

"Multiple nascent soul elders from the Dark Palm Sect are attacking us, send help immediately!"

A request for help was sent out the moment the enemy was spotted. The people here weren't prepared for such a huge attack though, their walls were barely holding up against one of the enemies old masters, what would happen if all of them joined in. The nascent soul master that was on the defending side managed to arrive in the nick of time.

"Divert all power to the defensive formation, we must last until the main sect sends help! We can't let this wall fall!"

The man diverted all of his spiritual essences into the formation while placing himself at a certain spot that acted as its core. He was only one person and the other side had six people of his caliber, the only thing he could do was to burn through his Qi and hope that help would come in time.

The five people that were on Zhang Dong's toes finally arrived, only to see their target kicking up quite a storm. Part of the defensive wall was already broken, the people on the other side were all frantically powering their defensive formation to last through this barrage.

"Happy to see you brothers and sister, don't worry I've already started with our planned assault!"

The five looked at the Wu Ming imposter and were about to shout back at him, but before they could the man's voice boomed out again.

"I WU MING FROM THE DARK PALM SECT WILL TRY TO GET TO THIS FORMATION FROM UNDERNEATH. YOU, MY FELLOW SECT MEMBERS, CONTINUE THE ASSAULT FROM HERE"

Again his voice was heard by anyone within a ten-kilometer radius. The moment he finished his sentence his body blurred and he dived into the rocky ground below while spinning like a bayblade. In mere moments he was gone leaving these five old people here, the group just looking at the partially damaged formation wall and the hole in the ground.

“What? ...”

“We must catch him and discuss the situation with the Demon Subduing sect, he won’t be able to get past this formation alone and now he can’t run!”

The leader of the group spoke up, not sure what the man was trying to achieve. If they apprehended him they could simply clear things out with the other party, they weren’t fools so they should see it their way.

“Wait... he... he vanished? I can’t feel his Qi anymore, how can this be!”

The five looked at the hole beneath them, just a second ago they could clearly feel the man’s spiritual signature. But now, there was nothing.

“He couldn’t have just vanished, just like his disguising technique he must have used something to hide his presence, find him!”

Two of the elders dived right into the hole, he couldn’t have gotten far and his disguise was just a third rate skill. This other technique shouldn’t be a problem either is what these elders were thinking.

The two returned after a minute, their heads lowered one of them scratching his neck.

“He... he wasn’t in the hole... it didn’t even go in that deep...”

Chapter 172

Spirit Spring City.

Zhang Xue and Zhang Liu weren’t invited to the discussion that the elders were having so instead they were sitting in one of the rooms at their estate. The two were direct descendants of the previous Patriarch and now were the disciples of the current one. Their living expenses were covered by the clan and they had many servants along with a large mansion.

The siblings weren’t alone though, people like Huo Kong, Feng Nuana were also here. Besides those two there were some other male and female cultivators of the younger generation around. Some from the Huo Clan while others from the Feng Clan that were accompanying their respective young lords.

Zhang Xue had invited them to over to stay in their guest house. The two other clans were placed in various locations of the main clan estate, but some had gathered here while they waited for word to arrive from their elders. Nuana and Kong, in particular, were people that these two Zhang clan members had gotten to know during the testing period. Liu was a bit hesitant about inviting the Feng Clan girl, but the small sister of the Feng Matriarch was slowly growing on him.

“When do you think that the elders will come to a conclusion? They still treat us like little kids!”

Huo Kong said out while leaning up against a wall with his hands crossed.

“Don’t think they can come to a conclusion without Masters approval...”

Zhang Xue gave an answer while offering some tea to Feng Nuana and some of her friends. The group of girls was sitting around a table, tea in white porcelain cups was spread out on it. The short girl had braided her hair into twintails as they were looking light pink as always.

“This is quite fine tea... and this honey goes well with it...”

Nuana proclaimed while sipping on the drink, the tea back home wasn’t as good as this, she wanted to ask how they managed to get it to taste like this but the timing was a bit off.

“Your master... are you really the disciples of that honorable person?”

Everyone looked at Zhang Xue that just smiled and nodded, the person in question was, of course, Zhang Dong that made a good impression on the juniors in this room.

“He was so admirable, how he delivered swift justice to that Yang Kai!”

The boys from the side perked up and joined in at the conversation. They all were there and managed to wake up just in time to behold Yang Kai’s demise. They saw that dastardly Dark Palm Sect member vanish into fine particles. The image of the white-haired cultivator that had saved them was etched into their mind, they would never forget his gallant figure till they died.

The conversation shifted to the Zhang Patriarch, the kids started wondering about just how strong he was in reality. The young cultivators started asking Xue and Liu about their master. They were barraged by many questions ranging from how tough their training was all the way to what sort of boots the Zhang Patriarch liked to wear.

“Do you think your master could give me some pointers...”

Huo Kong asked Liu, the animosity from his voice that he used to have long gone. The red-haired youth had seen how righteous this man was while protecting Feng Nuana and was now seeing him in a new light. That he was the older brother of the woman that he had a thing for also was a big factor.

“Master giving pointers? I’m not sure he is versed in fire techniques that much. But he is a master of hand to hand combat!”

Zhang Liu stifled a laugh while trying to think about what his master would do. He was feeling quite proud about being his pupil, everyone in the room was looking at him with sparkles in their eyes. Having a mentor that was at the nascent soul level was something that these youths had been dreaming every day.

This peaceful atmosphere didn’t last for long as it was interrupted. While they were chatting, they heard a loud thud and the sound of pottery being broken. The loud noise was preceded by a flash of light coming from a large side closet. This was also the place that Zhang Xue stashed most of her tableware and her tea sets.

This closet was to the side and there was no entrance to it from anywhere besides the room it was in. The people in the room looked at each other, wondering why there was a flash of light and a shift in spiritual energy coming from there.

“Is it a mouse or a rat?”

The girls backed away slightly, the most logical conclusion was that some kind of spirit beast sneaked into the closet and was kicking up a racket. It also could be some kind of intruder that was hiding in there before they entered the room. Due to this suspicion Huo Kong and Zhang Liu reacted in unison while nodding at each other.

The two youths slowly shuffled their feet towards the sliding door, the people behind them quieting down. Kong placed his hand on the door ready to slide it open, Liu was on the other side his hand raised and ready to deliver a devastating blow to anyone that might have been spying on them. The people behind them gulped as Liu nodded, this prompted Kong to slide the door open his fist also raised the tension in the air high.

The moment they slid the door open cracked and broken teacups and saucers poured out. Inside was no assassin or demonic mouse beast whatsoever. There was a peculiar person that the people here were already familiar with. The man was wearing a characteristic white robe that had armor parts like metallic gauntlets and shoulder pauldrons. Yes this was the Zhang Patriarch, Zhang Dong had used the system’s teleportation method to appear here where his disciple Zhang Xue was.

‘Blasted thing teleported me into a closet.’

There he was, stuck in a small space barely large enough to support his height and width. He had a large white pot on his head that was slightly cracked. Shattered pieces of what looked to have been expensive tea sets were riddled all over the floor and were falling out from the broken shelves behind him.

The people in the room were stunned, Huo Kong and Zhang Liu were shocked and stopped mid-movement their fists raised in the air. Matt looked at the two youths that were standing in front of him with one of his eyes. The other was covered with the pot on his head, he slowly removed it and placed it to the side only to see it tumble down into the rest of the broken pottery.

“M-master?”

Zhang Liu spoke out while lowering his fist, Zhang Dong moved his hand upwards just showing his palm in a way that indicated that he didn’t want the youth to speak.

“You see... your Master placed many teleportation arrays around the Zhang Clan to have a way of escape... but I was in the middle of a dire battle with five nascent soul cultivators. While activating it the spiritual energy from the fight must have interfered with my technique and I ended up here...”

So he said, the people in the room just stared while his deep voice filled their ears.

‘Did it work? Why are they being so quiet... should I just leave?’

Matt’s palms became sweaty and his introverted personality started acting up due to being gawked at by a group of people. This felt a lot more intimate than speaking out to a large crowd that looked more like a big blob from the distance. In this situation he was starting to feel nervous as people that he knew were staring him down.

“Ah, well then...I’ll just...”

“Master!”

“It’s really the Zhang Patriarch!”

“How stunning, he is even more handsome in person!”

“Teleportation? That’s a nascent soul for you, how fearsome!”

The kids in the room quickly moved forward all in awe about this man. They were just discussing this frightening master and he was fighting five nascent soul cultivators at once. He didn’t look like he was injured so he must have made his escape, or even managed to slay some enemies in their eyes.

Zhang Xue moved over to where Zhang Dong was standing and together with her brother gave her master a bow.

“Disciple Zhang Xue greets Master!”

“Disciple Zhang Liu greets Master!”

Matt had the urge to scratch his neck after the two acted so formally. Before he could react the siblings looked behind them, glaring slightly at the people in the room. The youths picked up on the cues almost instantly and quickly bowed to the senior member.

“We greet you honorable Senior!”

Everyone started bowing and showing their respect before him, this show of honor only made Matt want to get out of this room sooner. Even during these two years he didn’t really get used to this respect that these people showed him. He had what you might call a case of imposter syndrome, feeling like he didn’t deserve all of this due to how he gained this power of his.

“It’s fine, you can relax.”

Matt wanted to sigh, but before that, he looked at his two disciples his voice sounding solemn.

“How is your grandfather doing? Did you arrive without any problems?”

Xue’s and Liu’s smiles quickly turned upsidedown after they heard the question. Xue lowered her head down while Liu stepped forward to give his master the bad news.

“Grandfather hasn’t awoken, the physician said that he is in a coma and when he will awake is unknown.”

“Is that so...”

Zhang Dong nodded slightly and then looked to the side.

“Could you guide me to where he is now?”

Xue nodded and moved in front of her Master.

“Follow me, Master. Uncle is resting in his own residence, other members from the family are tending to his needs.”

Xue in front, Zhang Dong in the middle, and Zhang Liu in the back. The three white-haired cultivators went out, the other people in the room were silent and had enough tact to know what this was a family

matter. They somehow knew who they were talking about, the man in the black suit of armor was also seen at Jade Grass City.

Though after the door closed, the people that were left inside became quite chatty. Huo Kong and Feng Nuana decided to report this to their family members, the man that everyone was waiting for to arrive has finally shown up. He would probably be the answer to this predicament they were facing and the only person that could realistically protect them.

After leaving the room, Matt continued walking after his female disciple. Grandpa Jin was resting in the same mansion that Xue and Liu were living in, it was quite large and housed a lot of the core family members from the main branch. Their arrival didn't go unnoticed, Zhang Dong's appearance was widely known and soon enough the whole place was abuzz.

"The Patriarch has returned!"

"Quickly send the information to the elders, the leader is back!"

Word of the glorious leaders return quickly echoed through the entire main clan base. The first ones to be alerted were the people that were holding the meeting of the elders. Almost instantly all of them stormed out, not even waiting for their Patriarch to arrive. Everyone was far too stressed, they needed answers about what they were going to do. They needed to know if Zhang Dong, the man that had already shown that he could work wonders was confident in achieving a new one.

On the other hand, while people were storming towards him Zhang Dong was standing before the large mansion that supposedly his grandfather was resting. The area he was in was a large outside garden, the problem wasn't in that though. For some reason there was a massive gathering of people here and even though they came in various shapes and sizes, they all seemed familiar in some way.

"These are direct family members that had come to pay their respects to Grandfather."

Zhang Xue spoke out while alerting them to the Patriarch's arrival. The people moved to the side, knowing that this was the clan leader as well as their family member.

"Greetings Senior Uncle dong!"

"Greetings Patriarch!"

Matt moved his head over to Liu slightly as he asked.

"Why are they all here and why do they feel so familiar..."

Zhang Liu looked to the side with a solemn expression at the question but answered promptly with a slight sigh.

"They are all related to us and have a similar upbringing as you Master has, they...they are all related to Grandfather..."

Matt looked between Liu and the crowd, there were well over a thousand people there. And quite a lot of them had similar facial features to Zhang Jin's. He put two and two together, his mouth gaping wide at the realization.

'How many kids did this old bastard have!'

Chapter 173

Matt looked at the masses of people that parted to the sides. He placed his thumb and his index finger on his glabella while closing his eyes.

'What is this...'

He didn't feel like talking so he just moved forward, his destination the room that Zhang Jin was resting. He could feel the piercing gazes of all these family members each one feeling like a little prick to his soul. Thankfully he had his tranquil will technique, which saved him from losing his cool.

'Am I directly related to all of them?'

The garden he had to go through had a nice brick road and even a small bridge, a clear spring with koi fish was right under it. Due to the size of the whole area, the uncomfortable walk continued. The people that parted for him came back together the moment he walked forward. They all kept their eyes on Zhang Dong's wide back as if they were expecting him to produce a miracle just as the rumors said. He could even hear the younger ones whispering, not aware that an expert of his level had enhanced hearing.

He finally arrived at the door but before he could open the gates that would save him from this uncomfortable situation they sprung open themselves. Inside he saw more people, the most glaring thing about them was that they were all of the female gender and varied by age. It didn't take a genius to figure out who these women were.

'That's quite the varied range of tastes you got there gramps...'

One of the ladies moved forward, she looked quite refined. She had pure black hair that hung over her shoulders from the front as well as in the back. Her facial features were soft which made her look like the gentle type. Even though she was hiding it, he could tell that she was wearing quite a bit of makeup. Her age was unknown to him, but he wouldn't be surprised if she was over a hundred. She gave Zhang Dong a bow of respect before speaking out.

"Lord Patriarch, please save my husband!"

'Husband? So is this his wife? ... at least the official one?'

He peeked behind the woman and could see some of the other women's eyebrows twitch the moment she proclaimed Zhang Jin as her husband. This was probably his main wife while the rest were mistresses, from what he knew this wasn't anything out of the ordinary. Powerful men tended to have a couple of mistresses here and there, even children with them. The main wife was the one with the most power, she was mostly the one that tended to the house matters. Sometimes she even decided on the budget and who got hired.

While he was thinking about his reply another lady stepped up, this one looking younger. She was taller with a 'wilder' look compared to the first one. Her hair was long and crimson and fashioned into a long ponytail. The woman moved opposite the so-called main wife and greeted him as well.

"Please nephew, save your grandfather!"

The first woman squinted momentarily at the red-head, probably due to her acting too familiar with their Patriarch. Matt had spent some time in this city but his quarters were far away from Zhang Jin's mansion. His grandfather had tried inviting him for a family get together here and there but he always refused. He didn't like spending time with other people that he didn't know. Even back in his old life he mostly found himself in the corner of a barbecue while the other family members were talking.

'Nephew?... is she my aunt?'

He looked between the two women, he already realized that there was some kind of faction rivalry going on here. The ladies split into mostly two groups and stood behind the ones that came forward. One went with the courteous approach while the other went with familiarity, he wasn't sure what was going on here but for some reason he really wanted to give his old grandpa a punch.

The two women looked at the man in front, his face was emotionless as always. They took the hint and didn't press him, the Patriarch was known to be a man of few words. They took a small step back and just waited for him to reply.

"Um, where is grandfather located, bring me to him I'll see what I can do."

His two disciples were right behind him but they didn't speak up. Besides the two women that greeted him everyone else was keeping quiet, probably afraid to step out of line.

The main wife's character used a chance to slip forward and guided Zhang Dong to the room that Zhang Jin was being kept. It was a similar place to the one he was in after the secret ground ordeal. He was lowered in some kind of special spirit water that had various healing and nourishing capabilities that the clan was famous for. Thankfully he wasn't naked and was wearing something to cover his nether regions. After seeing the group of wives and children in the back, Matt was surprised that the pair wasn't ground into dust by now.

Even if the nature of this was quite peculiar, he was still worried about the man. He wasn't sure if his healing abilities were up to par. He was limited to the cultivation manuals he had procured from the secret ground and the ones he stole from the Dark Palm sect. The added knowledge explained some points, but it wasn't perfect by any means.

He moved towards the man that looked to be situated in what looked similar to a hot tub. He had some kind of breathing apparatus covering his mouth and nose and he looked to be asleep. The whole tub had a healing formation imbued into it, something that he came up with thanks to his holy elemental dao.

"Hm..."

The other people like the wife and the mistresses moved back, some nursing staff did the same. They watched as their Patriarch rubbed his chin and circled around the grand elder that was in a coma. The sleeping man hovered up which gave the women in the room a scare. They soon realized that this was the doing of their leader, he was now in the nascent soul which made sense.

Zhang Jin was moved to a nearby bed his body wasn't dropped onto it though but remained hovering in the air. Tiny golden needles flew out from Zhang Dong's spatial ring and embedded themselves into the old man's body. He looked like a pincushion as the tiny needles lodged themselves into all of his acupoints from the front as well as from the back in one go.

The people looked on from the side in awe as Zhang Dong reached out with his finger. A tiny bolt of golden electricity shot out, the tiny arcs of light flew towards those needles that were sticking out. Everyone had to stop themselves from gasping, not wanting to disturb a master at their work and in fear that they would be blamed if they caused a blunder to occur.

The light show didn't take long as everything was finished within a minute's time. The acupuncture needles were retracted into Zhang Dong's spatial ring and Zhang Jin's body got lowered back onto the soft bed below. The white-haired man rubbed his chin and took a step forward, his hand going to his grandfather's wrist as he checked for his vital signs.

'Nothing seems to be wrong with his body... his soul looks stable as well...'

He was sure to examine Zhang Jin with his appraisal skill, he had used before right before he returned his soul and it had the weakened status. Now on the other hand, there was nothing and his system wasn't telling him that there was anything wrong with him.

'Could there be another reason that he isn't waking up? He couldn't be... no...'

Matt squinted with his eyes and moved over to the bed and was standing in such a way that no one could see Zhang Jin. He leaned down first and checked the man's breathing then went for the eyeball test, checking if it would react to outside stimulus.

"Hey, gramps... are you just pretending to be in a coma..."

He whispered into Zhang Jin's ear after going through more tests. The moment he spoke out he noticed a really faint reaction, that proved his point.

"Is it because you don't want to face all those concubines and mistresses that are gathered here..."

He felt an even stronger reaction from his good ol' gramps after whispering that into his ear. He wanted to give him a good smack right at that moment. The guy even suffered through that healing procedure to keep his act up. He would rather get poked with needles than face all the kids that he sired outside.

'I bet they are all here as their lively hood depends on his life...'

He thought to the large group. Zhang Jin was the top dog in this clan right after him and had a lot of cash. Even though he was a massive pervert and a horndog he always took responsibility for his actions. All the children that he sired were welcomed into the clan in one way or another. Some as servants, some as regular clan members, and in between. It all depended on their potential and also on the social standing of the mother.

'Makes sense, if he dies most of them besides the main wife could be evicted from the clan if they have no backing...'

He leaned back and returned to the small group of women that came forward with questions.

"Patriarch, is there a way to save my husband?"

Asked the wife.

"Great Nephew, will hubby be okay?"

Matt looked between the two women that soon turned to each other, if looks could kill then both of their heads would be exploding now.

'Ah, I feel sorry for these people... well at least they have food on the table...'

He squinted again while looking to his no-good casanova of a grandfather and made a decision. He pulled out a dagger, it looked plain but the sharpness of its blade was paramount.

"There is a way to save him, but the procedure will be painful..."

"Due to the dastardly demonic arts of the Dark Palm sect an excess of Yang energies has gathered in his body, this will cause long-lasting damage to him unless the problem is resolved."

The people gasped, this sounded serious but the Patriarch seemed to have something in mind so they listened.

"I will need your help in the procedure, but I need you to steel your resolve as it won't be for the faint of heart!"

The two women stepped forward without thinking for long, giving a quick nod.

"As the consort it is my duty!"

"Anything if it will help hubby!"

"Master, can we also do something!"

Zhang Liu and Xue stepped up, quite eager to be of use to their master and help their grandpa.

"I'm afraid that the scene will be too gruesome for your young eyes, this procedure involves..."

He stopped himself and looked at the motionless body of Zhang Jin, then back to the group of people.

"We must remove the excess yang energies from his body, there is only one way to do it in this situation as we have no time. We must sever the part that makes him a man as it produces the largest amount of yang energies!"

He did a slicing motion with the sharp dagger in his hand while the group of people took a second or two to process the information. Zhang Liu almost instantly leaned forward and guarded his nether regions by instinct. The women took a step back, even the two main wives were taken aback by this revelation.

"Yes my two disciples it's better if you step back, you don't want to see this. Don't worry he is in a coma right now, so he won't feel any pain and I will heal his wounds right after. Be sure to not let anyone inside the room, even if you hear some strange noises..."

Everyone besides the two women left the room and the two were given instructions to spread their hubbies legs so that Zhang Dong could perform the operation.

"Is this the only way Patriarch..."

"Don't worry aunty, I'm quite handy with a blade it won't even leave a scar. Grandpa already has a wonderful family, this is a small setback in the grand scheme of things."

He moved over to the bed that Zhang Jin was in while smirking to himself.

“Now please spread his legs and remove the cloth that is covering his orbs, we will perform this swiftly so that he can recover!”

The two women looked at each other and nodded. They knew that having a eunuch as a husband would probably mean that their charm wouldn't work on him anymore. Still, it was better than him remaining in a coma forever or dying. They also couldn't really refuse the request of their Patriarch so they complied by spreading the legs of their hubby.

Matt could see that Zhang Jin's whole body began sweating profusely. He even noticed that his eyebrows started twitching the moment those two women grabbed ahold of his legs.

“Now, remove the cloth and I'll perform the operation, one swift move is all it will take!”

The sharp dagger glowed with golden light and looked like it was now heated up and ready for the strike. The people in the room knew that the moment that weapon came in contact with Zhang Jin's junk it would sever it in a fraction of a second. The windup came, one of the women grabbed the cloth covering Jin's man bits and was ready to pull it to the side.

“NOOOOOOOOOOOOOooooooo STOPPPPPPPPPPP...”

Before Zhang Dong could swing his dagger his patient jumped up into the air, his hands going towards his legs to protect his little feller that he was proud of.

“I'm sorry Dong'er... please show this old man mercy, I was in the wrong!”

Matt just rolled his eyes at the man that was clutching his groin, the two women in the room baffled to the quick revival of their husband that looked to be fine and dandy now.

Chapter 174

The people from the outside heard a loud scream and they instantly knew that it was the voice of their grand elder, Zhang Jin. The people that were standing right outside wanted to charge in to see what was going on. Before the women could make a move they were blocked by Zhang Xue and Liu that stood in front of the door.

“Halt, Master said that he didn't want to be disturbed!”

The young man shouted out while flexing his cultivation level slightly. This making everyone stop in their tracks. The women dropped their heads and moved back, they couldn't go against a direct order of the Patriarch nor his direct disciples.

Back inside the room, Zhang Jin was curled up in a fetal position his hands grasping for his family jewels. Sweat was covering his whole body after he almost became a eunuch. He turned to his wife and his mistress, they were looking at him funny. He then glanced at his grandson that was deadpanning at him, his eyes slightly squinting the dagger still in his hand.

“Oh...ohhhh... it's a miracle!”

He quickly straightened himself out and stood up from the bed. He started laughing while flexing slightly to show that he was fully recovered.

“Dong’er you sure are the greatest healer in our clan!”

He looked all cheery and fine, you wouldn’t think that this man was on the death’s door just a second ago. The two women knew that something was wrong, even taking their Patriarch’s healing Dao into consideration the reaction was far too overblown. Before they could barrage their naughty hubby with questions they saw a large hand moving between them.

“Okay, this has continued long enough, let me have some time in private with my grandfather.”

The two looked at Zhang Dong and couldn’t do anything besides bowing as they left. The cogs in their heads were already turning though, they wouldn’t just let Zhang Jin off like this, he had to be punished. The people outside saw the two leave and started asking questions, they rejoiced to the news of the grand elder’s recovery but also had to wait as the Patriarch had ordered no one to come in.

“Okay you old fart, stop pretending we both know that you were already awake the moment I walked into this room. This isn’t the time for this, tell me what the hell happened back in that city. Also, why did you lie to me?”

Matt crossed his hands over one another and glared at Zhang Jin. He was still mad that they didn’t inform him about the dangers of going to the Dao festival. Though he also never told anyone that he was close to reaching the nascent soul level. The lack of communication between the leaders of the clan had caused this blunder and he was also at fault here.

“Yes, this Zhang Jin made a huge mistake...”

Zhang Jin went down to his knees or at least he tried, some kind of strange repelling force kept him from doing so. This was Matt who wasn’t in the mood to watch a two-hundred-year-old grandpa kowtowing before him.

“This...”

Zhang Jin’s eyes bulged as he stared, he could feel it, this was a nascent soul level of power. When did his grandson become this strong, was he hiding it from them?

“Yes, I’ve reached the nascent soul realm recently. This is also the reason why you are alive now.”

Zhang Jin only regained his senses not too long ago. The people around him didn’t say anything as they were more concerned about his health. He was also weakened, almost close to being in a crippled state. He had noticed that a huge number of his offsprings and concubines had shown up. These people were being kept off the main estate where he only had his main harem members.

The old man was keeping most of his side kids out of sight, not really wanting any infighting to break out between his huge family. But now they were all here and he wasn’t sure how to handle this situation, he even heard his harem members fighting outside his room. He was in the middle of coming up with a plan of action, before his grandson walked in and now they were here.

“Did you think I’d cause some huge scene there?”

Matt rubbed his neck while thinking.

“Well, that might be true I’m not good at those formal gatherings... But still, you should have said something! I could have made some precautions, I could have been there sooner!”

Matt made sure to move his barrier around the whole room, not wanting all the other clan members to hear him shouting at the grand elder. He in response just stood there, just with some cloth covering his legs which made Matt’s eyebrows twitch a bit. He gave out a sigh while looking at his grandpa that barely made it out alive.

“There is no time for this, get dressed we don’t have much time. I might have bought us some time but the Dark Palm Sect will be at our doors soon enough, we must get ready.”

“I’m sorry Don... no Patriarch, it won’t happen again!”

The old man cupped his fist while doing a small bow, his expression resolute. He then felt his grandsons hand on his shoulder as he got closer.

“Well, uh... good to have you back old man, don’t you go dying on me... but, please put some clothes on you old fart!”

Matt threw Zhang Jin a robe that was to the side, he had enough of seeing his grandpas bulge for a lifetime. The old man got dressed and Matt finally received the scoop on what happened during the Dao festival. Everything from the reason why Zhang Jin withheld information. The reason being that he was afraid that Zhang Dong’s soft nature would cause some kind of offense against the sect. All the way to the fight with Yang Kai that was the cause of the whole predicament.

“So that’s what happened...”

He rubbed his chin, he wasn’t that angry at his grandfather. His reasoning wasn’t so far fetched as him being there might have escalated things sooner, if that Yang Kai wasn’t there in the first place nothing drastic would have happened. He also wasn’t mad about his disciple stepping up to help his friend, even though that led to more things going astray in the process.

“I need to speak with Qiang and Liena...”

After getting the gist of what happened he decided to go through with his plan. He walked out first, his two disciples were still keeping guard. He nodded at the two siblings while walking through the door.

“The Grand Elder has recovered, you may enter the room at your own discretion. Xue, Liu let us depart.”

Matt walked away without looking back, he could hear some women shouting. Unbeknownst to him a power struggle was happening on the Jin side of the family. The women were clamoring to treat their hubby and leave a good impression. This whole ordeal only reinforcing Matt’s opinion about harems being too much of a hassle.

When he got outside the people were already kneeling with the path open. The reverence that these people were offering him was off the charts. He just increased his pace to get out of this uncomfortable situation, luckily his mental technique was keeping him relaxed. When he was about to leave the garden he could feel someone coming, someone in the great circle of core formation and they were being followed by others.

“Senior Brother!”

“Senior Dong!”

“Patriarch!”

“Honorable Leader, you have returned!”

Out of the frying pan into the fire, now he was faced with all the influential figures from his clan. Besides that there were also the Huo and Feng Clan people with them. Everyone was staring at him, he could tell by their piercing gazes that they were here for some answers.

“Um, let us move to a more quiet location first, then we will discuss the plan of action...”

Everyone nodded and they returned to the same place that they were previously in. Matt was surrounded by people from the elder generation from all sides. It just showed how much they were relying on him now, everyone even showed up to escort him to the meeting room and didn't just send their retainers for that task.

At the meeting room, he stood at center stage, all eyes were on him. If this happened two years ago, he would probably be a staggering mess but things were different now.

“Fellow Clan members, people from the Huo and Feng families, we face a big dilemma.”

“Do we stay and fight, or do we leave and try to escape?”

“Before I make a decision, I would like to hear your thoughts on this.”

He moved his hands behind his back, wondering what these native cultivators thought about the whole thing.

“Patriarch, do we have any other options than fleeing?”

“Yes, how can we oppose the Dark Palm sect...”

“Maybe we could seek refuge in one of the other large sect territories?”

“You fool, you think the other sects will just take us in and risk offending the Dark Palm sect?”

“Even if they allow us to stay, we will be nothing but slaves!”

“I say we fight!”

The conversation of the Zhang Clan members was mostly leaning towards escaping in some way. The only person that was for staying and fighting was Zhang Zhi. The other clans didn't have much to say, they didn't dare give input to someone that was at the nascent soul level even if they were given permission. The only ones that said something were the young Hou clan lord and the Feng Matriarch.

“I say that we stay and fight, it would be shameful to run.”

Huo Qiang was down for a fight, as long as he had his senior brother to back him up he felt like they could do it.

“I trust that Senior Dong will make a just decision, the Feng Clan will stand with the Zhang Clan.”

Feng Liena took a follower's stance, in her eyes the man called Zhang Dong would make the right decision and she would put her faith in him.

Matt nodded a couple of times, the opinions varied. It looked like the older people in the room were more inclined to flee or seek some kind of compromise, while the younger people like Zhang Zhi and Huo Qiang were all for fighting it out. Some of them like Feng Liena were unsure and left the decision to him.

Matt moved his hand up into the air, everyone in the meeting room quieted promptly.

"I have heard your opinions, now let us discuss something."

"Firstly, I have managed to dispatch two of the nascent soul elders from the Dark Palm sect, Wu Ming is dead and the man called Zhu has been crippled and won't be a problem anymore."

He gave a short recap of what he was doing for the past few days, mostly just giving information about the state of the sect they were going against.

"The problem lies in the lack of information, we don't know how many nascent soul cultivators the sect has. For now they might be busy with the Demon subduing sect, but there is no way of telling when they will knock on our doors."

The people in the room were quite happy to hear that their leader managed to take out two nascent soul elders from the Dark Palm sect. One was even in the middle stage which gave them much hope for the future. Though their morale plummeted after they heard that the enemy was able to send out five other nascent soul monsters from which their Patriarch had to flee.

"I think that there must be a limit to how many nascent soul elders the Dark Palm sect can realistically send out."

"That is true, they can't leave their main territory unprotected. If the other sects found it out, they would surely organize an invasion of their own."

"If we manage to hold out the initial attack, or even defeat some of those Grand Elders, we might not have to lift a finger afterward."

"Yes, but what if the other big sects decide to crush us along with the Dark Palm sect..."

Another discussion occurred, it wasn't a far stretch to think that if they managed to hold out for a while news to the other sects would spread. They might organize an attack to squash out a weakened enemy. Still, they could do nothing and just be at their enemy's mercy with no hope of winning.

"But Patriarch, how can we hope to last the brunt of their attack. Do you feel confident in battling five nascent soul cultivators, what if they bring more?"

All eyes were on him, it would be reassuring if their biggest fighter could just massacre their enemies but his chances of winning were slim in their eyes.

"I...I'm not sure... but I might not be the only one battling them..."

Zhang Dong glanced at Feng Liena and Huo Qiang, the two not sure what this was about.

“But first, we must create an official alliance with our allies... this isn’t a battle of the Zhang Clan, we are all in this together. I wish for us to come together not as a coalition of clans, but as one sect... I wish to create a sect that will seek independence!”

Chapter 175

“You wish to create a sect?”

The people looked at Zhang Dong with question marks hovering above their heads. What was the point of creating a sect at this moment, that could even anger the other party even more?

“I know what you are thinking, but I assure you that it’s something that must be done! I need everyone to swear an oath the sect so that we know who we can trust in the future.”

‘At least that’s what says in my faction menu... I must change the name of the Zhang Clan to the sect first...’

Matt needed to change the faction to a sect and then let the other clan’s join. He didn’t think they would abandon their clans and join the Zhang clan, but if he made a sect then they could keep their old family names.

The people murmured with each other, creating a sect wasn’t such an easy thing. The structure was different than a clan, for one thing, mostly anyone could join it without having to marry into the family. Most sects used some form of binding contracts to combat this, some didn’t bother.

The people quieted down and started thinking, most of them were surprised, not sure what to think of this. Still, the proposal had some merit to it, it would be hard to trust the other clans if all of them weren’t under the same banner. While the Zhang members were all on board as it was the proposal of their Patriarch, the others were skeptical, Huo Qiao was the one to speak up first.

“You want us to swear allegiance to you? But how can we do this without our Patriarch’s approval? This isn’t something that the people in here can decide upon.”

In Huo Qiao’s mind, there was still time to turn back. The people that were mostly involved in this fiasco was the Zhang and Feng Clan, their Clan might still have a way out of this if they just backed away. Their young master acted rashly, if they paid a fine then perhaps they would be left out of this.

“What can the Huo Clan even hope to achieve if we ally together against the Dark Palm sect, besides Senior no one can hope to contend with a Grand Elder from that sect.”

The people started murmuring again, Huo Qiao was making sense. What could cultivators below the nascent soul level even hope to achieve here, they didn’t even have any defensive or offensive formations nor treasures to aid them in the battle. The Zhang Patriarch was the only person that would be able to do anything. The rest would mostly just stare from the distance while being crushed under a nascent soul master’s overwhelming aura.

“Qiao what are you even saying, If Senior brother wants to fight, we will fight!”

Huo Qiang looked at his bodyguard, Qiao in term frowned at his young master’s words.

“You should be thankful that our Patriarch is giving you this offer!”

Zhang Zhi shouted out while staring at Huo Qiao with murder in his eyes.

“Calm down you youngsters.”

Feng Maling stepped up to the stage.

“I can understand the young Huo lords eagerness, but you should think this through. Besides the Zhang Patriarch, none of us will be of much use. The sect war potential is far greater than ours, we wouldn’t even be able to handle their core formation experts...”

The old woman looked at Zhang Dong, her showing deep concern.

“I ask you, can you defeat them all by yourself? Wouldn’t it be more realistic to evade this battle and hide till the time is right?”

Matt rubbed his chin while listening, those were valid questions. The other didn’t really add much to the plate, it would probably be better to hide everyone and run. Maybe he could sneak around and take out the nascent soul fogies one by one. The problem was that they were now at full alert and his disguise was ineffective against nascent soul cultivators. His other plan was patched together hastily and he would have probably chosen to run if he didn’t manage to sack that spirit stone mine.

“Who said that I would be fighting alone?”

He looked at Huo Qiang and Feng Liena once more, it was time to reveal his plan to them.

“What if I told you, that I can help brother Qiang and sister Liena reach the nascent soul realm within the month, maybe even faster!”

The two people that were mentioned took a step back, their eyes blinked fast and their brows raised and curved.

“The nascent soul level within a month’s time? This is no laughing matter, Zhang Patriarch! How can we believe such a thing to be possible!”

Feng Maling felt like her intelligence was being attacked, how could this young man claim to be able to heighten the cultivation level of their Matriarch within a month. How could reaching that realm be so easy?

“Senior Brother ... are you speaking the truth?”

“Senior Dong, how?”

Feng Liena and Hou Qiang looked at the white-haired man, their trust in him was the highest from the people gathered here so they were willing to believe in their claim.

“Everyone, please be silent for a moment.”

Zhang Dong raised his hand up, as the people in the room became awfully chatty after his proclamation. He knew that he needed to present some evidence that would pull him over to his side and he had just the thing for that.

He asked for both Core formation experts from the Huo clan and Feng clan to come on over, Zhang Zhi was also invited. He then surrounded the group of five with his shield and blocked out anyone from peeking inside which raised a few eyebrows in the room. He pulled out a manual, it was golden from the outside and the calligraphy was at the highest level as he wrote everything down in it himself.

“Elder Maling, elder Qiao could you take a look at this and tell me what you think...”

He handed the book to the old woman, the bodyguard with the mutton chops walked over he was also curious about the whole ordeal, was this booklet the answer? The old woman started reading, while the elders in the room wondered what was happening behind that barrier. The old woman’s hands started shaking, eyes bulged out in surprise, and her jaw-dropped in awe.

“T-this is... h-how... w-where did you get this...”

Huo Qiao snatched the book from the old elder ladies’ hands, wondering what all the hubbub was about. He soon realized that what he was holding was something unfathomable. This here manual he was holding could cause a disaster to happen, as it was actually Zhang Dong’s nascent soul cultivation manual, the same one that was in the immortal perfect grade.

“This... w-where did you find a legendary technique like this... is this really an immortal grade cultivation technique! This Dao is so deep...”

His eyes went bloodshot and he wanted to grab this manual and bolt it for the exit. It took some mental fortitude for him to calm down but his forehead was dripping with sweat.

“Yes, that is my cultivation technique and it’s immortal ... perfect grade!”

The others gasped in surprise, an immortal grade was already a big deal, but this was even the highest level an immortal graded cultivation manual could reach, truly the stuff of legends.

“C-can I see it?...”

Feng Liena moved closer along with Huo Qiang, eager to take a look at the manual.

“If the other sects find out about it... the whole empire will be at war! This can never leak outside this room or we will all die a miserable death!”

The old Feng elder shouted out, everyone here knew that if any news got out this here place would be swarmed by any half-decent sect. Probably the Azure Emperor would be at their doorstep, they would all be dead by association. The small group of core formation experts started sweating, panic in their eyes.

“Please stay calm, as long as the word doesn’t go out we will be safe. I showed you this to prove a point, I will procure similar cultivation manuals for both sister Liena and brother Qiang. You must understand there is a huge difference between a heaven grade cultivation manual and an immortal one...”

Matt started giving people the rundown. He explained that there was practically no danger in ascending to this higher realm if you had a fitting immortal grade manual. There would be no danger, they just needed time to advance.

“I will also supply them with the required spiritual energy to make the leap... they just need to study the manuals I will hand them and create their nascent soul...”

He moved his hands behind his back and nodded, the other people in the barrier looked to the Zhang Patriarch with vacant expressions in their eyes. No one knew where this man got this manual, but that explained how he had gotten to this level this fast. It was widely known that if the cultivation manual was of a higher grade then cultivation went smoothly. On the other hand, if it was of a lower quality, you could even end up with crippling yourself or shortening your life span.

“B-but h-how? You have more cultivation manuals like this one...”

He was half lying when he said that he had manuals for the two. He needed to use his system and combine some manuals to get something for his two friends first. He could exchange spirit points for crafting points, but first, he needed to know what the two were actually cultivating in, thanks to his analyzing technique that wouldn't really be a problem though.

“I don't, but my Master does... He allowed me to go through with this plan, but he imposed a condition of you joining the sect that I will create.”

He had to somehow explain how he was able to acquire all those rare techniques, the easiest way would be to create a hidden master figure.

“Your Master?”

The Zhang Clan members had some reports of the Patriarch's 'Master's' sighting back in Moonlight city, but the man was mostly a mystery.

“Yes, my honorable Master, Wei Hung!”

Matt had to strain himself to not make his lips twitch or not to chuckle while saying that name. He went with this friendly doctor persona as he was already presumed to be his hidden Master by his own clan.

“With that, I want you all to swear an oath to join my sect! I have chosen Sister Liena and Brother Qiang to be the next Grand Elders of the new sect together with me! Time is of the essence, this chance is a once in a lifetime opportunity for your clans!

The people from the Feng and Huo clan's looked at each other. That manual was indeed unfathomable, if they were getting a similar one for free was there any reason to refuse? These people were quite simple, they weighted the pros and cons of each situation and then decided on the best path.

This was an immortal grade manual the Zhang Patriarch was speaking about, this was indeed a once in a lifetime chance for them to make it big. The Dark Palm Sect was a terrifying foe, but they knew how strong the Zhang Clan Patriarch was while only being at the early stage of the nascent soul. He was able to easily dispatch someone at the middle stage, they of course knew that that cultivation manual had something to do with it.

“Do you really need to ask? The Feng Clan will stand with the Zhang Clan and join the new sect as their eternal allies!”

Feng Liena was the first one to step forward, her head bowing before Zhang Dong as she accepted the offer. Huo Qiang followed suit, smacking his muscular chest with his hand while laughing.

“Haha, do you even need to ask, I and the Huo Clan will stand with you, if you get me into the nascent soul stage, that old fart won’t be able to deny me anyway!”

Everyone agreed, one Zhang Patriarch wasn’t enough to win this, but if they had three cultivators of this caliber their chances of winning skyrocketed.

“Well, if we all agree, then I would like to ask you for opinions about the sect’s new name.”

Matt took away the barrier that was blocking the view, the people outside were then promptly informed that their elders had decided to join with the Zhang Clan. They only needed to choose a name for their new sect.

Matt rubbed his chin as he wasn’t sure what to name his new faction. He was criminally indecisive when it came to picking names and mostly went with silly sounding ones. This would be the name of his main faction from this point on, he couldn’t just name it the broccoli sect for the laughs, he needed something official-sounding.

“Names, how about we name it after Senior’s glorious name then?”

Feng Liena smiled as she gave her opinion, Huo Qiang was also for this.

“Yes, how about the Big Dong Sect? Sounds very fitting!”

If Matt was drinking something at this moment he would probably spit it all out after hearing that name.

“Hm, how about Grand Dong Alliance instead?”

“That also sounds very promising...”

The people in the room started proposing names, but for some reason, most of them had the word Dong in it, together with an adjective mostly to do with large and big things.

“Huge Dong Sect!”

“N-no please don’t...”

Matt just facepalmed at all the names, the thought of changing his own name being a lot more enticing at this moment.

Chapter 176

People on the Patreon voted for the sect name, so no blaming me.

Also check out my second novel that I began writing [The Runesmith](#)

“Oh, maybe we should include the Patriarch’s master into the name as well!”

“How about we name it Hung Dong Sect?”

Matt just stood there while his allies discussed nonsensical names for his new faction. He didn’t know why they wanted to put his name into this, but this was getting out of hand.

‘Think I’ll have to choose one... unless I want to be part of the Huge Ribbed Dong sect or something...’

He mentally facepalmed, he had come up with some names beforehand but was hesitant in choosing one. He wanted input from the people that would be joining it.

'Okay, whatever let me just go with that one...'

He coughed into his hand to get everyone's attention, the people that saw the immortal level manual were in high spirits. The others were more curious but still eager.

"It would seem overbearing if the sect includes my name in it, I'm not the sect the people in it are."

The people nodded, it would be kind of pretentious if the sect was named after one man. Though in their minds there was nothing wrong with it, mostly a sect depended on their leader's power to actually get anywhere.

"So I've been thinking. Our sisters from the Feng clan wield the Dao of air and wind, our brothers from the Huo Clan the Dao of fire and immolation. We from the Zhang Clan are primed for the Dao of the water and streams...if we are just short of one, the Dao of the Earth..."

"But alas, we can't have it all. So my idea would be to name our new faction, United Sect of Elemental Dao... or United Element sect for short."

The people in the room rubbed their chins in contemplation, this did sound a lot better than their proposals. It was also the proposition of the only nascent soul cultivator in the room, so the people in here didn't feel like they could chime in.

"United Elements?... I like it... We do stand united!"

Huo Qiang nodded while holding up his fist high into the air.

Feng Liena nodded while smiling, but a bit saddened that her proposal of naming the new sect the 'Big Dong Sect' was refused. She tried not to show it, but she did a small pout while nodding.

"Senior Brother Dong's naming choice... I will agree with it as well."

Matt turned to Feng Liena, he felt a bit sadness in her tone.

'Hey there now, do you really want me to run around with a sect that is just a synonym for a big pecker girl?'

He couldn't explain what his name meant back in his home language, the people might be speaking English here but he knew that it was the systems doing and he was just getting an automated translation. The people also heard him talking in their home language that wasn't English, so sometimes things were lost in translation. He couldn't really learn this language, the system even translated all the books so he had no reference point to go off.

"Okay, great. With this, the name is set!"

He clapped his hands, the moment the name of the faction was created he received a prompt.

The Zhang Clan faction will be changed to United Sect of Elemental Dao, do you agree? Yes/No

He clicked the 'Yes'. The whole faction page didn't really change, he still had the same resources and the same cities that he had under the Zhang Clan. This was also the reason that he wanted to keep the old faction going and feared that he might have to restart everything with no passive spirit points coming in.

"Well then, I would like to welcome everyone into the new United Element Sect"

The most important people were Liena and Qiang, the only cultivators in the great circle of core formation. He peeked at their status, but it didn't change much, they were still being shown as part of their own clans.

'I guess they will need to make that oath, the Zhang Faction was widely known and already had members even before I got here...'

He kind of knew how this should work, the system recognized when people were joining the Zhang Clan, so it should work in this situation.

"Hm..."

He turned to Feng Liena first, the girl was all smiles.

"Then repeat after me..."

"I pledge allegiance to the United Sect of Elemental Dao, and to the people for which it stands, one Sect under the Dao path, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all..."

He tried recalling some oaths from the countries back earth that he knew, this one was quite popular and widespread so he used it while changing some words here and there. The Feng Matriarch didn't have any problem in remembering her lines, cultivators of her level already had close to photographic memory.

The moment she ended her oath he could see her faction name switch from the Feng Clan over to the United Element sect that he just created. This made him sigh out in relief, the first part of the next step had worked and he could now move into the next stage. Huo Qiang was the next, his status window also updating to the new sect faction.

"Good... now the rest of you..."

The people perked up after seeing the Zhang Clan Patriarch going to the two and letting them take the oath before him. This would be quite the honorable moment in their lives, they could boast that a mighty nascent soul master let them take an oath before him at a critical juncture of the sect creating process.

"Why don't you all just do it at once, otherwise this will take too long..."

Matt wanted to get out of here now, he had said most of the things he wanted to. He needed to get Qiang and Liena to the medallion space and hand them the cultivation manuals. Even before that, he needed to activate his crafting abode and actually create them first. So going through this large group of people and having them recite the pledge of allegiance would be a time-waster.

'Why did they all start frowning?'

He could see the old farts in the room get moist eyes and look saddened by his proclamation. They looked like kids that got denied their favorite ice cream. They hesitated at first but soon recited the pledge that the new Sect leader told them. The person that was most hesitant was Huo Qiao, the man still being loyal to his own clan and thinking that this sect idea was a bit hastily constructed. He still recited the oath though, the sight of the immortal grade manual still engraved in his mind.

“Let’s not prolong this any further, Brother Qiang, Sister Liena my clan members will lead you to a hidden treasure that my clan... our sect is in possession. Wait for me there, I will be with you as soon as I procure the technique.”

Matt looked at the Zhang Clansmen that were standing in the room, they nodded and moved forward.

“Lady Liena and Lord Qiang, please follow me, I shall guide you there.”

One of the elders stepped forward, guiding future nascent soul cultivators was quite the honor.

“We will await your return then, Senior Dong.”

“Don’t make us wait too long though, Liena gets lonely fast!”

Huo Qiang laughed while receiving a swift kick to the shin from the Feng Matriarch in question. The sight of the tanned girl’s furrowed brows and kick making Matt hold a laugh. The woman turned around and covered her face with a fan, knowing well that she did something rude in front of Zhang Dong.

“Ah, excuse me Brother Dong... I’ll be leaving first...”

Since the secret ground ordeal, she was trying to act more refined, but sometimes her old tendencies could be seen. Qiang in return just shrugged and followed after the woman, the elder guided them to the Dimensional Regalia where they could cultivating in peace.

Matt exited out of the meeting room after telling the people in there to pass on the information that the clans will be uniting under a new sect. He also spotted Zhang Zhi on his way out, the man looked depressed for some reason, but he made nothing off it. Later on, it would come to light that he felt dejected that he was left out from the Grand Elder discussions. He also didn’t get to pledge his allegiance to the new sect leader like the other two core formation experts.

Back in his own room, Matt flopped face-first onto his large king-sized bed. He remained motionless, just trying to clear his head.

‘I’m not fit to be the leader... this whole situation is barely holding on by some duct tape...’

He pushed himself off that bed and then double smacked both his cheek.

‘No, I must get my act together, that’s not how a leader thinks. If I don’t keep it together everyone here will die or will be enslaved...’

While he was pumping himself up he heard a knock on the door, followed by a familiar voice.

“Master, it’s me and Xue... may we enter...”

He rose up from the bed and straightened his robes out, he was slowly getting tired to having to act like a master cultivator. His image had to be kept though, who would respect a leader that was acting too familiar with anyone or goofy like he sometimes did.

“You may enter.”

He heard the large door open and the two walked forward, they had their heads lowered as if they were here to get punished.

“What is it my disciples?”

The siblings didn’t look up to him but immediately went down to their knees, their heads lowered in quite the deep bow.

“Disciple Liu has come to seek forgiveness!”

“Disciple Xue is also here to seek guidance and repent for her actions!”

Matt looked at the two youths down on the floor, he could only see the back of their heads and the two were really faceplanting into that cold floor.

“Yes, I heard about what transpired at Jade Grass City...”

He had gotten a report about everything by Zhang Kuo, with a long formal letter of apology to boot for not informing him about the Dao festival. He wasn’t mad at the two, no one could have predicted that some young master would try to capture the old potato granny. He thought that the report was a joke at first, but the target turned out to be Feng Maling.

He just scratched his head and leaned down. He was in the middle, Liu was to the right while Xue to his left. He placed his hand on their heads and gave them some headpats.

“Why are you kneeling, you did nothing wrong. Standing up for someone is nothing to be ashamed off!”

Xue didn’t really do anything wrong in the first place, the one in hot water was Liu who one-shotted that Dark Palm disciple. By cultivator logic, he did a stupid thing though. He implicated the whole clan and set them on the path of destruction. If he remained seated the only one hurt would have been the people from the Feng Clan. Yang Kai was aiming for them, going by the standard thought process in this world it was natural to let Yang Kai nab the granny and his disciple to beat up Nuana.

“But Master, this is all my fault... if I didn’t...”

“If you didn’t help your friend she might be dead now. There is no reason to believe that the Dark Palm sect wouldn’t have found anything else as an excuse to attack us.”

Zhang Dong cut Liu off as he was talking, not really thinking he did anything bad moral wise.

“You might have hastened this situation... but this would have happened sooner or later.”

He knew that the Dark Palm psychos would find an offense with them sooner or later. They were an up and coming clan and would be gaining more prestige and power with each passing day. It was hard to tell how long they could hide before the war started, but the moment that sect found out that he was a nascent soul cultivator would be the start.

“I’m glad that you came to support your brother Xue, he is lucky to have a sister like you.”

The two looked up and saw a smiling Zhang Dong, he looked a bit different today. It was rare to see their Master show any type of emotion, mostly he faced them with his back while explaining things. Or just used that painful technique to insert his knowledge into them before promptly shooing them away.

“M-master!”

They both shouted out in unison, Xue getting teary eyes while Liu gave him an intense stare of appreciation. If he looked in his disciple window he could see that the devotion of these two disciples had reached the apex at this point.

Chapter 177

Matt felt uncomfortable, those kids had those puppy dog eyes and were worshipping him like some kind of diety. He on the other hand didn’t feel like he deserved this. If his communication skills were better then maybe this whole fiasco wouldn’t have occurred and he would have years to cultivate himself and the whole clan into a great strong sect.

“That being the case, you need to alert your Master if you are facing odds like that!”

“I will give you two something with which you can contact me without the use of a communication jade...”

“Still, even though what you did was noble it was incredibly stupid, you endangered your whole clan and people close to you!”

Even though Matt agreed with the moral choice that he made. It was only that, the boy had no plan besides beating up that enemy in front of him. He didn’t think about the master behind him, or that he was putting everyone there in danger by proxy.

“Y-yes Master, I did a great disservice to the clan...”

The young man that was all smiles after hearing the prise just a second ago went back to frowning.

“If it would be any other situation you would be punished severely, but we don’t have time for such things now.”

“Go see if you can help the other elders with the evacuation of the regular folk, you too Xue.”

The clan for the past two years had been expanding, they created a large system of tunnels under the city for situations like this. They would have various traps along with being more or less a maze. This was to evacuate people and if someone decided to chase afterward they would find it hard to get through.

This was the time to use it, the low-level cultivators and non-combatants were useless and more or less dead weight in this situation. They needed to be evacuated so that the warriors in the city had less to worry about when the Dark Palm Sect finally arrived.

“Yes, Master!”

The two didn’t stay for much longer, they agreed with everything their glorious master said. Matt started thinking that if he told them to jump off a cliff they would probably do it without even thinking.

“This devotion might be a double-edged sword...”

He shook his head, this wasn't the time to think about the consequences of being too devoted to one person. He needed to make those blasted skills! He activated his crafting abode and appeared withing the large area, various smelting devices all over the place along with some weapons that weren't quite finished.

“I need to get this over with quickly and then use the nascent soul weapon I got from Wu Ming to advance my cultivation!”

He headed to the spot where the skill combination device was. He already knew what kind of cultivation method the two used thanks to his analyzing skill, and it was something that they had taken from the secret ground. He had copies of those manuals right here along with his own that would be used. Before he started he quickly glanced at the two booklets as if checking if he really took the right thing with him.

The Sylph Empress Cyclone Manual [Heaven High Grade]Flame Emperor Pure Yang Manual [Heaven High Grade]

“Okay, these are the ones... who comes up with these names...”

He arrived at the technique combining contraption that looked like a large desk with many small drawers in it. He placed the technique that Feng Liena used in first as the base, then his own Divine Golden Lightning Nascent Soul one was placed as the supplementary. This would produce a better version of her manual, but it depended on how compatible the two were with each other.

“Hope this works... what kind of name will this produce though...”

The Sylph Empress Cyclone Manual and Divine Golden Lightning Nascent Soul Manual are 69,420% compatible...

He looked at the compatibility percentage, it wasn't super high but it wasn't low either.

“Well, it's above 60%... almost 70% that's still good... guess I'll need to spend some points to improve it...”

Matt stared at the crafting screen, if he left it as it is the technique would end up an Immortal early graded one. But he didn't want it to just remain at the bare minimum. He started adjusting the sliders and clicking some options, the divine part of his own cultivation method wasn't very compatible with this, this was the first thing he dropped and focused on combining the lightning and wind components.

“I am using two types of Dao's with my own cultivation, so it shouldn't be a problem if she has that too... lightning and wind should be compatible...”

The options were clicked, he favored increasing the attack and speed of this technique dropping most of the defensive options in their favor.

“You don't need defense if you can dodge everything... but can't overdo it...”

The base manual was already focused on speed and long-ranged attack, he was just min-maxing a bit to give it even more power in that regard. In the end, after all the options were chosen and the technique

was upgraded he remained with a manual in the immortal middle grade, but the advance grade for it was quite good at an A.

“Even with just this... I need to spend over 25 million points on this... will I have enough points to further their cultivation to the maximum so they can breakthrough?”

He started sweating, this was close to a quarter of his whole spirit point pool. He could exchange the points at a 1 to 1 ratio for crafting points so at least he didn't lose out in that regard.

“Here goes nothing...”

He activated the machine and saw it glowing. It took a minute for the rumbling to stop and the large drawer in the middle popped open with a green looking manual.

Ascended Storm Phoenix of the Thunder Winds Cultivation Manual. [Immortal Middle Grade] This powerful immortal cultivation technique combines the Dao of lightning and wind to create powerful storms that consume anything in their path. The Soul-Beast fashioned from it will be a Storm Phoenix.

“Okay... that sounds nice...quite the long name there...let's move on to Qiangs...”

He pocketed the green manual and absorbed the knowledge from it into his system library. The next one in line was the Flame Emperor Pure Yang manual. He just replaced Feng Liena's old manual with Qiang's and looked at the options that were given.

Flame Emperor Pure Yang Manual and Divine Golden Lightning Nascent Soul Manual are 54,666% compatible...

“Worse but still not that bad... this is going to cost a lot more...”

He knew that Qiang was a close-range fighter that liked to use his large frame to overpower his opponents with large swings. So in contrast to Liena's speedy build, Qiang's came out quite tanky.

“Hm, does that make him the Tank of the party and Liena the backline caster? Guess I would be the all-around DPS or something?”

The cost of it all was even higher than what he had to spend on Liena's, costing him over 40 million in one go.

“Well, they are immortal techniques... I'm lucky that mine is in the perfect grade so it lowers the cost substantially.”

He tried to see how much points he needed to upgrade a heaven graded technique to the immortal grade before. Without any good techniques to base it of, he would need to spend over 100 million points to just get it to the early grade. Though all things considered, that was still a low cost. The other sects would probably throw their spirit stone mines at him if he told them he could fashion them one for that price.

“Ah, the hard life of a rich person.”

The new manual popped out in the middle, steam rising from it.

“Nice red color... these booklets have quite the cool designs...”

Plasma Ifrit Of The Perfect Yang Path Manual [Immortal Middle Grade]This forbidden cultivation art combines the pure Dao of Yang with the chaotic lightning energies to produce a destructive force. The Soul-Beast fashioned from it will be an Ifrit composed of red plasma energy.

“Oh? Plasma! That one is neat... might be even cooler than mine...”

He imagined a large devil made from plasma energy fighting together with Qiang, next to it a wind Phoenix kicking up storms and in the back a golden dragon bringing in the pain.

“Yes... this could work...”

He had spent over half of his spirit point reserve but had managed to create two really good cultivation manuals. He absorbed the knowledge from this one to his library as well, later on, he could try using them as bases and fashion some nascent soul techniques for his two companions.

“I need to give them these two manuals and then cultivate on my own... I also need to remake the grand formation, it won’t hold against those old nascent soul farts.”

He remembered the large wall at the border, that thing could take some damage even though he was using attacks that weren’t the strongest. They were still at the nascent soul level, he looked at this spirit point counter and would need to save some to upgrade the formation, and the biggest issue was the power source.

He exited his crafting abode and headed towards the clan’s pocket dimension. He could hear people running around, the citizens were getting informed and evacuated even now. They all felt shocked that they had to leave, but they also felt reverence to the clan that was actually helping them evacuate in the face of danger.

Normally sects or clans didn’t care about the general populace. When the Cheng Clan was fleeing from Moonlight city they took their core members and escaped. If the Zhang Clan turned out to be tyrants wasn’t something they were concerned with. The citizens from Spirit Spring City would remember this, their trust into the clan and now sect was going through the roof while they all evacuated.

Matt appeared in the medallion space and saw Feng Liena and Huo Qiang. The problem was that the two were bickering again, he wasn’t sure why but the two didn’t get along too well. He wasn’t sure what it was about, but he thought that it might have something to do with Qiang proposing to her once while having a hundred wives.

He was just in the time to behold Liena dancing around with the fans that he had gifted her, producing cyclone like winds that Qiang was finding hard to block.

“Hey you two, what are you doing!”

When the tanned girl saw Zhang Dong appear she stopped in her tracks, she was in the middle of her battle technique so she kind of fell on her butt afterward. This caused Huo Qiang to burst out in laughter.

“Hah, serves you right you violent woman!”

“Who you calling violent, you muscle brained pervert!”

The girl glared at the red-haired man, he in turn just smirked and shrugged. Matt quickly got between the two, his hand going down to help the gyaru up from the ground. This pocket dimension didn't look too great after he was done training, a lot of the ground was mostly destroyed and dusty from all the craters.

"You two... here Sister Liena let me help you."

He reached out his hand towards the lady, their eyes met. The moment they did Feng Liena's expression changed, she started fidgeting and her gaze focused on the hand that was presented to her. An uncomfortable silence followed where the lady just stared at the large manly mitt, only snapping out of it when Zhang Dong called out to her again in that deep manly voice.

"Is something wrong? Are you hurt anywhere?"

She finally snapped out of it and grabbed his hand, the moment she was pulled up to her feet Matt could have sworn that he could hear a sound akin to 'doki doki'

Matt might have been a dense person, but even he knew what this was. The woman was clearly interested in his and this wasn't anything getting acted out like at the secret ground. She was showing clear signs of a maiden in love, this revelation only causing Matt to stutter in response before his tranquil mind calmed him down.

"U-uh... right... I've got your cultivation manuals from my master... he said that he would help me out this once but he won't be helping us in the coming battle..."

'Hey, don't stare at me with those big blue eyes, this isn't the right time for this!'

Chapter 178

At a faraway location, you could see destroyed walls and chunks of rubble everywhere. It looked like a large battle took place, craters and cracks in the hard rocky ground were seen everywhere.

Up in the air, six people were floating on one side, they were looking in the distance where a group of five was staring at them from afar. Compared to the area around them these groups of people looked fine. They were glaring at each other but they were keeping their distance, both sides retreating.

"I propose a ceasefire... I think no one here wants to engage in an all-out war..."

The man speaking was Elder Wan, the strongest cultivator from the group that was previously chasing after Zhang Dong. After he attacked the border wall that belonged to the Demon Subduing Sect a fight broke out. The members from the Dark Palm Sect weren't here to fight their long-standing rival though, but after the misunderstanding, they had to stay to explain themselves before this got out of hand.

"You want us to believe that someone disguised themselves as Wu Ming to sew discord between our sects? Aren't you just afraid to attack!"

An elder man that was at a similar level as Elder Wan shouted out. He was holding onto a large saber and his face was full of scars. The Demon Subduing sect was a virtuous one and had a bad opinion of the Dark Palm faction. There were a lot of rumors that they were a demonic sect, but there wasn't any substantial proof. The two factions clashed here and there, but none were confident enough to go into all-out war.

“Don’t try my patience Fan Ping, we from the Dark Palm Sect never turn our tails and run, but this was clearly a misunderstanding!”

The man named Wan shouted back at the other five people, his eyes going bloodshot after the others accused them of being scared.

“Please calm down, we will retreat to our side, there is no reason for this fight!”

The old woman cultivator from the Dark Palm side floated between the two shouting leaders. She gave Fan Ping a small bow and whispered some words into Elder Wan’s ears.

“We can’t fight the Demon Subduing sect while that cultivator is on the loose.”

“He was strong enough to defeat Wu Ming, we must retreat!”

“We must alert the Sect Leader and the council!”

Elder Wan listened, his sect member was saying the truth. They couldn’t let an unknown rogue cultivator run amok in their lands, he was the priority. They needed to go to their top bras and also examine the places that the enemy was seen before.

“My junior sister speaks the truth, we will reimburse you for the damages to your broken formation and wall.”

Fan Ping stroked his beard while looking at the opposing faction. He knew that if they continued this fight deaths would be unavoidable. Taking some spirit stones for the destroyed walls and formation was a win in his mind. There was no reason for the two forces to clash here, everything did seem kind of fishy.

‘They are probably telling the truth... but who was that man that caused this... we need more information...’

His eyes gleamed in a cold light while he looked down, this might have been something trivial but there was also a chance that it could lead to something.

“Fine...pay up and let’s be done with this!”

The other side threw spatial pouch with spirit stones inside, there was enough to cover the costs. The two sides turned around and flew away, still they left more than one nascent soul elder on each side, just in case. The man named Fan Ping took out his communication jade afterward, he had to make some calls...

.....

Back in the Dimensional Regalia.

Huo Qiang had his mouth wide open, drool running down his chin, his hands trembling as he was staring at the red manual in his hands. Feng Liena was right next to him, her eyes were sparkling and she had a similar dumbfounded expression as her fellow cultivation brother next to her. The thing that snapped them back to reality was the cough from the white-haired man opposite them.

“I think you stared at them long enough... we should get on with it, time is of the essence!”

The two cultivators looked between their colorful manuals and then back to Zhang Dong. Their hands began shaking, the aura that was coming off these two booklets was unfathomable.

“S-senior B-brother are you sure we are allowed to read this?”

“Y-yes, t-this is just too much...”

Matt chuckled a bit, the two cultivators were acting like little kids. Their eyes were sparkling like a child that had received a toy for Christmas that they were waiting for long time.

“It’s fine, you must cultivate this and quickly reach the nascent soul level, we don’t have time!”

He moved over to Huo Qiang, his finger outstretched.

“For this reason, I will have to hasten the process... first, let me impart you the knowledge.”

He had the Impartation of Knowledge skill, he had leveled it up to the pinnacle so he could force 100% of the techniques information into a given target. Though that what it was, information everyone was different and it would depend on them on how fast they could digest it. He placed his index finger on Huo Qiang’s forehead and activated the skill, the red-haired man twitched as his mind was filled with the Plasma Ifrit Of The Perfect Yang Path knowledge. Matt also included knowledge about some of the Dao’s that could be useful.

“W-what...?”

The man backed away and grasped his aching forehead, the pain subsided fast. He could then feel that somehow he knew the cultivation method now.

“S-senior Brother... this!”

“Yes, I can directly transfer the information of the techniques, it would take too long if you study it yourself. Keep the manual, for now, sometimes it helps to reread it yourself.”

Huo Qiang quickly opened the booklet, he started reading and it was just as Zhang Dong said. He already knew everything that was written down here, but there still were some pictures that could come in handy if he got stuck. Qiang looked between the cultivation manual and Zhang Dong, his eyes going bloodshot.

“Huh?”

Before Matt could react he found himself in a bear hug. The man that was hugging him was larger and more muscular than him, plus he had a thing for not wearing much to cover his chest. He was now getting bearhugged by a buff dude that was wearing a tiny vest that was exposing his hairy chest.

“Hey, calm down, let me down!”

“You are my sworn brother for life, Uooohhhh!”

The man roared out while Matt pushed up against his face and slowly forced him away.

‘God damn... use some deodorant dude...’

He pushed him back and due to him being in the nascent soul level, Huo Qiang was flung into the distance and tumbled a couple of times before coming to a stop. He was still laughing out loud while clutching the red cultivation manual like a starving man clutching some bread.

“S-senior Dong...”

Matt looked back, a Feng Liena with sparkles in her eyes was standing there. She fidgeted like a small child while hugging the manual against her large chest.

“Can I also receive your finger technique?”

“My finger technique?”

Matt looked down at his finger then back to the busty lady. She had closed her eyes and stuck her forehead out while looking up to him. He sweated slightly after misunderstanding what she meant and then placed his finger on her forehead. He imparted her knowledge for the Storm Phoenix cultivation technique. She gave out quite the cute low pitched sound during the process, then squatted down on the ground while holding on to her head.

“W-was it that bad?”

He was someone who got used to the headaches thanks to his system. He wasn't affected by it anymore but it seemed that other people like Liena weren't that resistant. He took the time that Liena was organizing her thoughts to peek at her status.

Name :	Feng Liena
Age :	42
Faction:	United Sect of Elemental Dao
Cultivation :	Core Formation [Great Circle 3%]
Potential :	B+
Trust :	78%

“Similar potential to my disciples, eh?”

“Only 3% progression this will cost a lot...”

He could see that she was under his new faction, the process could move forward now. He brought up his faction window, he had an option to search for people that were in it. He typed up her name and could see a similar status screen like the one he used for analyzing people. He selected her cultivation and was given the option for increasing her progress but this wasn't all.

This member has a high trust rating, it's possible to remove impurities in their cultivation, do you wish to start the process? Yes/No

Just like everyone else who used weak cultivation methods, people built-up impurities in their bodies. For instance, Zhang Jin that used a really low graded one had his progress halted at the early stage of

core formation. It took a lot of resources to push him into the middle stage along with remaking his original cultivation manual.

'Nice... didn't know this option existed!'

Matt knew that the two were studying lower graded techniques, so even when they reached the next realm some of the impurities would remain. This would lower their power level in some way.

"Senior Dong?"

Feng Liena was already off the ground and had realized that she already knew what was written in the manual she was holding. She wanted to thank Zhang Dong that made it possible but found the man staring intently in her direction while poking at the air.

"Ah... huh?"

Matt snapped out of it, the system window appeared directly in the line of sight of Feng Liena and made it look like he was staring at her with passion in his eyes.

"Ah sorry..."

"N-no it's fine..."

The awkwardness didn't last for long as Huo Qiang appeared from the side, his loud voice alerting the two to his presence.

"Ha, this cultivation technique is great... An Ifrit Soul-Beast, everyone will bow before my might, long live United Elements Sect!"

"Let us cultivate now, I can't wait!"

Qiang was ready to drop down into a lotus position and get to it, before he could go through with it Zhang Dong spoke out.

"We need to do something before that... if we do it normally this is going to take far too long, please take this first..."

Zhang Dong took out a round object, it looked like a marble that fit nicely into Feng Liena's hand. The woman looked at the item that was handed to her. It looked quite ordinary, a normal orb made from glass without any major features.

"Could you hold on to that and head behind that building..."

The woman looked at him for a moment but nodded. She believed that this item probably did something great and decided to follow the instructions. Though, why she was to go behind the building was a mystery.

"Are you in a safe spot Sister Liena?"

"Yes, Brother Dong."

"Okay, this might feel strange so please bare with it..."

Liena wanted to scratch her head, what was she supposed to bare with. Was this glass orb that she received some dangerous spiritual treasure.

“Something strangeeeeeeeee?”

She screamed out, she started feeling pain all over her body. She could feel that something was happening, her whole body spasmed as she dropped down to her knees.

“Please bear with it, it should be over soon!”

She heard Zhang Dong’s voice from the distance and followed the instructions. She clenched her teeth while the strange feeling took over her body. Besides the pain, she started feeling nauseous as if she was coming down with stomach flu. She couldn’t hold it in as vomit shoot out of her mouth covering the ground with black like ooze.

The whole process took about five minutes and left a large puddle of black goop behind. Liena felt really weak but refreshed at the same time. The black stuff that came out of her body had a foul odor and she instantly knew what this was.

‘Impurities! All of this...?’

She felt stronger her body was cleansed, her cultivation path reinforced by this strange glass bead that had shattered into pieces while she was going through the process. While she was trying to get a grip on the situation she heard Zhang Dong shout out.

“If you head back there is a hot spring you can use, you probably need a change of clothes after that.”

She realized now why he told her to go behind the building. She had a foul odor to her and looked like a mess, she needed a change of clothes. She smiled a bit and then moved towards the area where the springs were. During this time Huo Qiang received the same treatment his loud shouts could be heard all around the floating island in the pocket dimension.

Chapter 179

Huo Qiang was on the ground in a pile of black goop, breathing hard. His muscular body twitched after the transformation and he was already feeling a lot stronger.

‘Surprisingly his trust in me is even higher than Liena’s...’

Qiang was but a simple cultivator, you gave him some treasures and cultivation manuals as gifts and he would treat you well. This wasn’t over though, this was only the cleansing of impurities process he still needed to increase their cultivation level. He took out one more of those glass beads which were just regular glass. He was using them to hide how this process was working, hoping that the two would attribute their change to the balls of glass instead of his system.

“Ohhhh... Senior brother...t-this is!”

While Matt was looking at the status window and thinking about dumping spirit points into Qiang’s cultivation the man in question started charging at him. He opened up his arms wide and his face was all smiles, he was clearly going for another hug. Problem being, that he was covered in black sludge that stunk like dung.

“Hey, get back, you stink!”

Huo Qiang came to an abrupt stop as he hit something akin to an invisible wall. His nose was squished and his hands spread almost in a T-pose.

“Brother, let me give you a hug, you have gifted me so much and I can’t ever hope you ever repay you!”

He started squirming and pushing against the spiritual wall that Matt had formed with his Qi. He was so frantic that he even started biting it but wasn’t able to make it budge even an inch.

“Calm down... the process isn’t even over yet...let us just get on with it...”

He didn’t think that he could reason with this man, his eyes were bloodshot and he was looking at him like he was a juicy piece of meat. He promptly clicked Qiang’s cultivation option and started dumping points into his cultivation.

“W-what is happening?”

The man covered in black sludge backed away while looking at his own hands. He could feel his power rising, his muscles twitched and his core spun around as it exuded more and more power. Even when a cultivator entered the great circle of a realm, it wasn’t the end. There was still space to improve, both of them could still boost their cultivation to the maximum and at 100% of it, they would reach a tipping point referred to as the half step point.

This was a moment at which the cultivator had the highest probability of reaching the nascent soul level. Most people couldn’t push all the way through to that point though. If they tried to push onward they would mostly not be able to reach the higher realm and the only thing waiting for them was a backlash and cultivation regression.

Huo Qiang felt power rushing into his meridians. The Qi that was going into his body was incredibly pure and it caused him to tremble in excitement. The Flame core that he was using spun around and started expanding, it burned at an incredible rate even making the man’s body exude steam. He looked like a ripe tomato which caused Matt to hesitate momentarily.

‘Well... that looks peculiar... good that I tested it with him first... guess when I go over to Liena I’ll insert the points slower...’

At the end of the procedure, Huo Qiang collapsed to his knees, his body was bulging and radiating strength. With time this subsided and the irritated muscles went back to their normal shape.

“I... This power...”

Huo Qiang roared out and bolted forward, he had his core formation cultivation pushed into 100% and had all of his impurities removed. He felt fantastic and he wanted to test out his newfound strength. This of course meant that he needed a target, which was Zhang Dong.

The same transparent shield appeared between the two, the red-haired man waiting for this moment. He gathered all of his fire Qi into his right fist that shone in a crimson light.

“Take this, Flame Emperor’s Pure Yang Destruction Fist!”

The attack flew forward and there was a massive explosion that rattled the whole floating island. Feng Liena was washing up at the moment, the water in the spring splashed in her face and made her hair wet.

“W-what is happening, are they fighting?... why is Qiang this strong?”

Matt raised his eyebrow as he saw a bright red fist coming for him, he placed the same transparent Qi shield that had about the same defensive power as a regular nascent soul cultivator in the early stage. He watched as the fist continued to push against this barrier, the man that the fist belonged to shouted like a madman while inserting all of the Qi he could muster into the attack.

‘...Crack...’

“Hoh?”

Matt raised his eyebrow as he felt the shield cracking slightly, but before it could give out Huo Qiang finally run out of steam. He suffered a small backlash from using too much Qi and his fist fractured in a couple of spots.

‘Geez... why did he need to go that far...’

He fell back onto his back, his fist shattered but his spirit not broken. He looked up into the air, the hand that was fractured held up high into the air. He looked at the blood that was flowing a grin plastered all over his face.

“Ha Ha Ha! I heard it... it cracked! My attack reached you!”

Matt moved over to the laughing muscle head, he was apparently satisfied that he managed to cause a slight crack to the shield that was at a nascent soul level.

“You sure are an idiot... but that’s not necessarily a bad thing.”

Zhang Dong moved out his hand towards Huo Qiang who in response leaned forward and grabbed it. He helped his red-haired friend up to his feet and used this chance to insert his holy Qi into the fractured fist.

“You should really wash up, you smell like a Sludge Beast’s asshole.”

At that remark, Qiang moved up one of his armpits and gave it a whiff. He then looked back at Zhang Dong and gave him a shrug, not really seeing a problem there.

“This is the smell of a warrior Senior Brother, nothing to be ashamed of!”

“Yeah sure... could you and your ‘warrior’ smell go washup and then cultivate, we really don’t know when the Dark Palm sect will be here.”

At about this time Feng Liena appeared again, she was wearing a different robe and her hair was flowing behind her back while being slightly wet.

“Brother Dong, what was all this racket?”

She looked at Huo Qiang that was standing next to Zhang Dong, the foul odor that was coming of the buff cultivator could be smelled from even here. She came to a stop and realized that Huo Qiang had gone through the same process as she did, but he was also much stronger than before. She thought that Zhang Dong had to have done something to him besides the cleansing process, as she had gone through with it like him but her power level didn't go up this much.

"Ah, we were just finishing up here, I will help you advance your cultivation now as well."

Matt turned around to Feng Liena that was looking quite lovely with those loose hanging wet locks. His eyes wandered all over her body which probably didn't go unnoticed.

"Hah, you see this Liena! I could take you out with a pinky now!"

Qiang laughed while walking forward and towards the springs to wash up as well. The woman cultivator glared the man with no tact and just turned her head to the side while snorting. Matt just rubbed his head wondering why these two never got along with each other.

"You two... you will be the next Grand Elders of our sect..."

Qiang still laughed and Liena still snorted back, the two were clearly at bad terms which would be hard to fix. He felt like he would have to mediate things between these two in the future.

'Hope they don't start fighting at critical points...'

"Well then, let us get on with it Sister Liena..."

Feng Liena stood tight next to Zhang Dong, they were an arm's length away from each other. The foul odor was gone replaced by a perfume that smelled like cherries.

"I am ready Senior Brother!"

She looked resolute, she closed her small fist and jumped slightly forward. The problem was that when she did that, it caused her voluptuous mountain peaks to bounce. This delivered a critical hit to Matt's psyche as he suffered a massive mental attack.

"Tranquil Mind don't fail me now!"

He gulped and then coughed into his hand, he had a pair of sparkling blue eyes in front of him that belonged to quite the tanned beauty. He placed his hand on the girl's shoulder as if he was going to insert the Qi by hand. He was totally not taking advantage of the situation, he was far too much of a gentleman for such things. He only wanted to mask the fact, that he was doing it with the faction option of his system.

"Okay, I will begin the process now... this might feel strange..."

He started inserting spirit points into Feng Liena's cultivation. The percentages rose slowly as he didn't want the woman to suffer through the whole process just as Huo Qiang did. Her reaction was different that was for sure as instead of screams she started giving off some sensual moans.

"Oh...Senior Brother Dong...t-this f-feals s-strange...ahhhhh~"

Matt raised his brow and started sweating slightly. He looked down at the fidgeting woman that started panting. Her face was all red and she was giving out various lewd sounding sounds. He even wanted to pull his hand back for her to take a rest, but before he could do that she grasped his forearm while leaning forward.

“S-so much spiritual energy...uhhhh...”

She held his forearm with both her hands to support herself. Her legs were shaky and she felt like she would fall down if she didn't do this. This caused Matt's mind skill to go into overdrive as due to this lean, she could see quite a bit of tanned cleavage.

‘Why do they wear those robes with so much space cut out...’

He gulped, even more, his heart racing as he tried to calm his little brother down. He was still a man and even though he had gone past his virgin phase, his dating experience was almost zero. The fling with the merchant daughter happened way to fast, which resulted in him not gaining much from the ordeal.

‘I am but a rock in an empty field... nothing can phase me... I am one with the world...’

He chanted while closing his eyes, but he still needed to open up to click the blasted system window.

‘Yes... everything is one... everything is...boobs...yes massive and bouncy...wait no ‘

The moment his eyelid rose he got a glimpse of more bountiful cleavage. His eyes opening wide while the woman leaned forward even further, so close that he could even smell her shampoo.

‘Noo... I will get through this... I must... don't you get exited down there...’

He really didn't need excitement now, this would cause quite the loss to face, he would be able to face this woman down the road if she saw him pitching a tent. He decided to insert the rest of the points in one go even though they were only a bit over 50% done, this caused a drastic change to Liena's disposition.

She screamed out loud and just fell face-first into Zhang Dong's chest. She panted, even more, her hands and cheek resting on his broad chest, and those squishy lumps pressing into him as well.

‘Noooooo! Not like this!’

In the end, Matt couldn't deny his carnal desires and something bloomed down low. His little brother expanded forward like a mighty sword that stood resolute, demanding a worthy battle. The only thing he could hope for is that the woman wouldn't notice it while being in that strange state of Qi absorption.

‘My brother... why did you fail me in this time of need?’

Chapter 180

He stood there, motionless, his eyes shut and his fist clenched. He had a woman leaning up against his chest, her heart rate erratic, her pants echoing throughout the closed of space.

‘I push away all negative distractions, allowing me to find clarity in my actions. To find peace of mind in this time of need...’

He chanted a mantra to calm himself down, but to no avail, his lower half had decided to stand up like a pillar pointing towards heaven. He couldn't just push Feng Liena away so he waited like a gentleman would, with his rear end pushed back in an awkward way.

"Oh, this feeling... Senior Brother, this is wonderful!"

She finally recovered and looked up, the coast looked to be clear as she didn't notice the trouble brewing down low.

"Ah yes Sister Liena, this increase in cultivation should help you reach the nascent soul level in no time! I think you should find yourself a peaceful spot here and cultivate, no one will bother you."

Feng Liena finally noticed that she had gotten really close to Zhang Dong. Her body was pressing against his which made her blush slightly, but then she noticed that something was off. Something was poking her, her thighs in particular. She moved her gaze down wanting to see what the large thing that was poking her was.

Zhang Dong sprung to action a glint in his eye. He could see her moving her gaze down for a peek, he quickly placed his hands on both her shoulders. This made Liena change the trajectory of her gaze and look up to meet Zhang Dong's eyes. By grasping her shoulders he picked her up from the ground, then she was spun around and placed down in one quick move.

"I think you should really start cultivating... I set the Dimensional Regalia to let you both out whenever you wish... so I'll be seeing you two later..."

He moved back and before Liena could turn around he was gone. She blinked a couple of times before heading out to find a spot where she could digest the new cultivation method.

Matt appeared outside, the treasure item next to him and the coast clear.

"Think she didn't notice anything..."

He glanced down, his little brother looked quite angry and ready for some action. For some reason, he wasn't calming down even though he was activating his tranquil mind technique.

'D-did I overuse that technique or something... why won't it go down...'

He leaned down as standing up straight was becoming a bother, luckily after some time passed he started calming down. He almost thought that he would have to give himself a punch as the last result. Maybe his little brother noticed his intentions and decided to give up this time around.

'Whew... okay enough of this I need to cultivate my physique and reinforce the formation!'

There was barely enough space for Qiang and Liena in the Dimensional Regalia so he decided to progress his body in his crafting abode which could block out his aura as well. He slipped inside and was greeted by a familiar sight of scattered ingots and smelters.

'I should clean this place up once in a while...'

He had obtained some weapons from the nascent soul elders that he fought so he didn't need to fashion his own this time around. He decided to keep Wu Ming's sword as his own had broken down during that fight. The other weapon that he had procured from that battle could be used though.

He took it out, it was a large black glaive. It was nice and long and had some strange patterns of the bent bladed part at the end. Matt spun it around above his head a little bit while having some fun.

'Hm, maybe I should have gotten some glaive related techniques... this one looks nice...'

He chuckled and places the weapon down while he himself sat in a lotus position. He had absorbed a vast amount of weaponry by this point but after the sacred ground event, he was rusty. The strange cube pushed his bodily cultivation to the apex of core formation at that time.

"It should be fine, let me get this over with..."

He placed his hand on the large sharp-bladed part of the glaive and activated the technique. His Qi resonated with the metals that the weapons was made of this making it glow with a reddish light. He could feel the particles and the Dao of what this item was made of slowly moving towards his digits. The sensation went further in going through his arm and then to his chest the feeling was slightly similar to goosebump.

"This is going to take a while..."

He had to spend an hour or two when he was absorbing core formation items, but this one was at the nascent soul level. He could feel the Dao getting absorbed by his physique but this was a whole new metamorphosis. He couldn't rush it, getting a cultivation backlash or regressing was not something that he could afford.

....

While Matt and the others were preparing for their next battle the news of what happened in Jade Grass City was spreading throughout the Dark Palm Sect area.

The main sect area wasn't located in a city, in particular. It was a removed area that was surrounded by ten large peaks. These were named the Harmonious Peaks and each one of them was owned by a Grand Elder of the sect. The Death of one of these elders caused a big scandal, this elder was Wu Ming.

Wu Ming wasn't the only elder that got hit though, Elder Zhu that was crippled also suffered bringing the number of peak masters down to eight. There were ten grand elders and ten Harmonious peaks, but now two of them were gone which brought the all-around battle prowess of this sect down a peg.

Four from the group of people that were chasing Zhang Dong had returned back to their own peaks by this point and awaited further instructions from the sect leader. This man was living in a huge building in the central part of the sect. The Harmonious mountain peaks stood all around this place acting as barriers.

"Lord Guanyu, this all information we have on the matter, the Grand elders have returned after failing to apprehend the mastermind."

A core formation master was reading something down from a large scroll while looking at another man that was sitting on a large throne-like chair. The man's name was Yang Guanyu and he was the Dark

Palm Sects leader. Just as his son Yang Kai he had a gem embedded in his forehead. It was even larger than the one his son had, it was pulsating with a deep purple light.

“Call those idiots over!”

The man grumbled while leaning back. He was quite lanky, his whole face covered with wrinkles. He had a topknot of white hair coming out from behind his head, the front part shiny and bald. His hands were large, the digits long with sharp fingernails that looked like they could rip someone’s throat clean off. Even though he looked like a skinny old man, the aura he was giving gave everyone the chills.

“So my stupid son is dead, his killer still alive...”

The man that was in the room was gone, Guanyu looked in a certain direction of this meeting room his eyebrows furrowing.

“Tell the council members that I will handle this myself, there is no need for them to act!”

The shadowy figure that was sticking close to the walls didn’t reply, vanishing the moment the sect leader spoke out.

“Those old bastards, only whining when they feel threatened.”

He leaned on his chair and supported his chin with his hand as he sighed. He was the sect leader, but there were other people close to his level in this sect. This was mostly called a sect ‘reserve’ a hidden group of old monsters that had been long forgotten by the world.

This was something that every sect did, when an old sect master or grand elder retired they would go into hiding. They would spend most of their life cultivating and trying to prolong their life, waiting for a time when they would be needed by the sect. They were old monsters all at the nascent soul level, but they were all running low on life energy.

People like this would never leave the main sect area of their given sects. They would be there acting as the last defense if any other powers decided to attack. This was also a big reason why fights between other powerful sects didn’t lead to anything. It was hard to tell if those hidden elders were still alive which prevented takeovers from happening.

Yang Guanyu couldn’t deny these elders, he had to resolve this situation before the body count increased. In the past years they have been suffering setbacks. First, the secret ground fiasco where they lost one of their grand elders. Now another one was dead, the second one crippled and useless. Even worse than the dead elder was someone that was at the middle stage of the nascent soul which was hard to reach.

“We greet the Sect Leader!”

The grand elder’s starter arriving one by one, soon four of them were here as one of them remained back at the border region to keep watch. In total there were eight active grand elders, three of them were placed at strategic locations at the borders with three other powerful sects.

“Everyone listen, you all got the reports, the relation between this Zhang Clan and this mysterious cultivator is very probable.”

“That clan’s sin is high and it must be eradicated along with all of its allies. It is unlikely that the hidden master will come to aid this clan, but a small chance exists.”

“The other large sects are watching our movements so we must be swift, as we speak a new teleportation formation is being created at Jade Grass City.”

“It will take a week before it is finished. Select two grand elders to bring that clan to justice.”

The sect leader started talking, the grand elders just kept listening not seeing many holes in the plan. Thanks to the teleportation gate they would be able to return to the main sect if something happened while they were away.

“Sect leader.”

One of the elders raised his hand as he asked for a question, only continuing after Yang Guanyu gave him a nod.

“What if that master appears at that Zhang clan location, he defeated Wu Ming on his own, two grand elders might not be enough to contend with him.”

Guanyu just nodded and snorted.

“The other elders will wait by the teleportation gate, if that cultivator appears you will wait for me to arrive, I will take care of him personally...”

The man squinted with his eyes and looked at the four people that trembled slightly. They knew how powerful their master was, if he made a move then there was no reason to fear the enemy.

“The council will guard the main sect and activate the defensive array if something happens, it is highly unlikely that the other sects will react.”

“But... keep an eye out for the Demonic Subduing Sect, their movements have been strange...this is all!”

The grand elders nodded at their leader and moved out. They would make preparations of their own in the wake of this battle. They knew that this Zhang Clan and its allies were good as dead and that strange master would probably not appear. It was something that needed to be done though, rumors were already spreading as the citizens of the city and even their sect members were left alive to tell the tale.

The most likely answer for Guanyu was that this nascent soul cultivator was long gone. Apparently he reacted only when his so-called disciple was being attacked, the following destruction was probably something he did in a fit of rage. He even tried to push the Demon Subduing sect into a fight with them. Probably to gain some time and cover his tracks, which worked out for him in the end. The sect couldn’t find him anywhere and had to be wary of the other powers.

“After we finish eradicating those bugs we will find that man and show him why the Dark Palm Sect shouldn’t be trifled with!”