

World 1521

Chapter 1521: Guidance Book: Unlimited_4

“Discovering the ruins of the Purple Cloud Palace will definitely attract the people from the Ascension Sect to pry into the matter. If I am present, they won’t dare to show up, so I will hide in the shadows next and see if I can lure out some of the less intelligent cultists.”

Chen Mobai gave a reason, and Zhuang Jialan nodded, indicating understanding.

“This is Zijing’s Cyan Treasure Pot. Inside, I have placed a Formless Puppet. If you encounter a situation you cannot handle, release the puppet, and a strand of my Divine Split within it will be activated...”

In the past, Hua Zijing had opened a Bronze Pot in the Treasure Trove, which is an extremely precious storage artifact from the Immortal Gate.

This time, Chen Mobai requisitioned it for his use.

“Yes, Chief of the division.”

Zhuang Jialan nodded solemnly and took the Cyan Treasure Pot.

After arranging matters here, Chen Mobai went to the nearby Extreme Cold Sea Area.

There was a possibility of mining Water Mist Ice Crystals there.

Chen Mobai could also take this opportunity to launder these resources. Whether for Yan Bingxuan or Chen Xiaohei, it would serve as a foundation.

Of course, what he actually did was find a deserted iceberg, apply a talisman to conceal the surroundings, and tapped on the Turtle Treasure to return to Eastern Wilderness.

At Giant Tree Ridge, he inquired about recent events.

The main task was to set up the Heavenly Communication Device and establish a connection. Although E Yun and the others were guided by his strategic direction, they nonetheless fumbled a bit, as this world lacked previous experience in this area.

Besides that, King Zhou Shin brought this year's Five Elements Essence.

With the previous ones, it was just enough for him to condense a whole stream of Primordial True Qi, and there would be excess.

“Sect Leader, Brother Zhou also said when he came that at Flying Dragon Pool, two disciples who took the Foundation Establishment Trithings have broken through their bottlenecks and achieved Foundation Establishment.”

Gu Yan delivered the Five Elements Essence and also shared this good news.

“Excellent, excellent, this way I can instruct the Alchemy Department to start collecting materials and manufacture it on a large scale.”

Chen Mobai was very pleased. The materials for making one Foundation Building Pill could produce more than ten sets of Foundation Establishment Trithings. Distributing a set of Foundation Establishment Trithings to each of the Five Elements Sect's previous true inheritors from the Flying Dragon Pool would at most cost the materials of one batch of Foundation Building Pills.

If half of these people could achieve Foundation Establishment, then the Five Elements Essence that Chen Mobai harvests each year would at the very least condense two or three strands of Primordial True Qi.

If he spared no expense, it is estimated that within ten years, he could completely condense the Primordial True Qi.

Thinking of this, Chen Mobai felt that his hope for Nascent Soul Formation was growing ever stronger.

He checked the time and saw that there were only twenty-three days left until the Beidou Conference began. He briefly provided some pointers to E Yun and the others from a user's perspective regarding the communication matters, then left Giant Tree Ridge.

Of course, before heading to Northern Abyss City, he didn't forget to stop by the Tianpeng Mountain Sub courtyard.

"You can see if there's a chance to get a discarded satellite magic artifact from the sky. That would significantly speed up the efficiency of setting up the Heavenly Communication Device—not just by a little."

After an intimate moment with Qing Nu, Chen Mobai talked about the recent matters of the sect, and she offered her thoughts.

"I'll ask my friends at the Sky-Net Management Bureau when I have time."

Magic artifacts orbiting outside Di Yuan Star are nodes of the Sky Curtain Ground Network Formation, but they can become damaged over time due to the constant exposure to the essence of the sun and moon as well as the impact of cosmic tides.

Some can be repaired, but others, due to high costs, are simply scrapped and replaced with new ones.

"How are the disciples that Zeng Woyou and his disciple have been cultivating? I plan to have them mass-produce the Foundation Establishment Trithings."

"They are just about usable. Let them refine it here. I can supervise alongside. This way, if any unexpected situations arise, I can assist."

The words of Qing Nu made Chen Mobai very grateful.

The next day, Chen Mobai issued the Sect Leader's instructions to Zeng Woyou to start the refinement of the Foundation Establishment Trithings.

Zeng Woyou immediately went back to the sect to prepare the materials.

Yan Jinye, on the other hand, stayed behind to practice under the guidance of Qing Nu.

After the handover of the three treasures of Foundation Establishment, the prestigious position of head of the Alchemy Department is to be transferred from Zeng Woyou to Yan Jinye.

“Then I’ll leave first.”

On this day, Chen Mobai bid farewell to Qing Nu on the mountaintop.

“Hmm, once you get to the Beidou Conference, don’t forget to collect those medicinal herbs.”

Qing Nu reminded him, referring to herbs related to the Lingyuan Pill, Golden Liquid Jade Pill, Water Element Golden Core Pill, and Infant Binding Three Spirits Medicine.

Because she knew Chen Mobai was about to undergo Nascent Soul Formation, Qing Nu was somewhat worried and wanted to refine a complete set of Infant Forming Spirit Medicine for him.

Chen Mobai memorized all the main and auxiliary ingredients she mentioned.

However, he felt that it would be impossible to collect them all at once.

Still, he held onto that hope.

What if they were all truly available?

Upon arriving at Northern Abyss City, Chen Mobai first visited the mountaintop to check on the Golden Sun Spirit Tree that had been watered with the Water of Ten Thousand Transformations.

Originally, this Spirit Tree should have had its level elevated by him through Pulling Seedlings to Promote Growth, but before that, when Zhuo Ming came to take care of it, he discovered the Spirit Tree had started to show signs of leveling up on its own.

Furthermore, this intent grew stronger and more intense after being watered with the Water of Ten Thousand Transformations.

Chen Mobai thought about it and decided to give it a chance.

After all, the spiritual value of a Spirit Tree induced to level up forcibly would have no chance of leveling up again.

As Northern Abyss City was going to be the central hub for his grand vision of the Five Elements Sect, a Rank-4 Spirit Vein might not be its ultimate limit.

If this Spirit Tree holds the potential for Rank-5, then it would provide him one more option for anchoring a Fifth Grade Spirit Vein in the future.

Under his Listening with Empty Valley Echo, the Golden Sun Spirit Tree was releasing a strong aura of growth.

The Earth's Spiritual Energy of Northern Abyss City was being absorbed by it continuously, and with the harmony brought by the Water of Ten Thousand Transformations, it began to blend with its natural energy, promoting the growth of its trunk and the lushness of its branches and leaves.

Chen Mobai could listen and feel that every moment, the Golden Sun Spirit Tree was growing larger.

The bottleneck that originally limited it no longer existed under the efficacy of the Water of Ten Thousand Transformations.

It was steadily progressing toward Rank-4.

Chen Mobai estimated the time and diluted the remaining Water of Ten Thousand Transformations, giving it to Yuan Chiye to water on schedule while he was away.

In the following time, Chen Mobai was at the mountaintop refining the Five Elements Essence.

With the help of Tuśita Fire, he easily condensed the second complete stream of Primordial True Qi.

Beyond the Primordial True Qi, he did not neglect his Pure Yang True Qi either.

Just when he had almost finished condensing the second stream of Pure Yang True Qi, a visitor from Kong Sang Valley arrived.

“I didn’t expect the great True Person Mingwen to honor us with her presence. I’ve kept you waiting.”

Upon seeing the guest, Chen Mobai could not help but greeted politely.

“Not at all, not at all...”

Aside from notifying about attending the Beidou Conference at East Yu, True Person Mingwen also came to purchase a batch of Spirit Rice, elixirs, and other supplies.

In the Ruins where they had just settled down, all the cultivated Spirit Fields were used to plant Pure Bamboo, so items like Spirit Rice could only be purchased from the Five Elements Sect.

Luckily, Chen Mobai was not a profiteer, allowing Yuan Chiye to sell at normal prices, and since the Eastern Desolation Plateau had been successfully developed, the price of Rank-1 Spirit Rice had dropped to an unprecedented low.

Kong Sang Valley was surprised at not having to bleed money as they expected, and combining all these factors, they realized that Chen Mobai, the Sect Master of the Five Elements Sect, was indeed a man of genuine integrity rarely seen in the Tianhe Realm.

Chapter 1522: Star Heaven Dao Sect

While True Person Mingwen was purchasing and collecting Spirit Rice, Chen Mobai was also taking stock of the Five Elements Sect's assets.

This time going to the Beidou Conference, it was necessary to bring some special products from the Eastern Wilderness as bargaining chips for exchange.

Resources such as Spirit Stones were to be used to make up the difference in value, so they were also extremely important.

After all, it is rare to find two resources that are completely equivalent in value.

Chen Mobai cleared up the inventory of the Five Elements Sect and his personal assets. Over the years, thanks to the continuous development of the Eastern Desolation Plateau, Northern Abyss City had accumulated quite a lot.

Moreover, since the core of the Spirit Treasure Pavilion of the Five Elements Meridians is now here, there was a stockpile of nearly fifty million Spirit Stones.

However, the majority of these stones were of middle to lower grade.

At the Beidou Conference, the default trading currency was top-grade Spirit Stones.

In the end, Chen Mobai exchanged three thousand top-grade Spirit Stones to place into his own Domain. Of course, he also took some middle and lower-grade ones for any unexpected needs.

Within these, one thousand of the top-grade Spirit Stones were from his own personal reserve.

Because he had used quite a few for upgrading to a Fourth Grade Spirit Vein and for nurturing the Purple and Green Double Swords, among other things.

Beyond the Spirit Stones, he did not touch the remaining Rank-4 resources of the Five Elements Sect.

He only brought with him Return to True Elixirs, Appearance-fixing Pearls, and five Rank-4 Immortal Peach Fruits.

Zhou Shengqing knew the chances provided by the Beidou Conference were rare and even suggested that Chen Mobai bring along sect specialties like Everlife Tree Fruits, Qingyang Fire, and Fourth Order Longevity Wood.

But Chen Mobai just smiled.

He had already prepared the Elixir Scripture of Longevity which, to this side of the Tianhe Realm, was extraordinarily precious.

This updated version of the Elixir Scripture by Qing Nu made the alchemy recipes on it seem like genuine ancient formulas.

If he encountered someone who knew its value, this Elixir Scripture would be a priceless treasure.

Or rather, the items Chen Mobai brought, if needed, were almost all priceless treasures.

The day of True Person Mingwen's departure arrived quickly.

Chen Mobai followed her to Kong Sang Valley within the ruins.

During that time, Zhou Shengqing was somewhat uneasy and followed them.

However, it turned out that his concerns were unnecessary.

Elder Muqin seemed even more aged, and the aura of decay on her body made Chen Mobai feel like he could possibly even kill her himself.

“I’m afraid I’ve made Sect Master Chen laugh.”

Elder Muqin, upon seeing Chen Mobai who followed True Person Mingwen, nodded slightly with her wrinkled face and then took the Clear Bamboo Hat handed to her by Yi Chenghan.

After donning this Magic Artifact, strands of Pure Qi fell down, hiding her face and also covering all the signs of her decay.

“We’re troubling the elder for this trip.”

Chen Mobai spoke very courteously to Elder Muqin who nodded slightly in return, then took out a lush green Bamboo Raft.

As it caught the wind, the verdant Bamboo Raft transformed into a Flying Artifact capable of accommodating four or five people standing.

Elder Muqin stepped onboard first, followed by True Person Mingwen.

Chen Mobai immediately kept pace.

Besides the three of them, there was also a familiar face, Xiao Lingri.

“Regarding the opening of a subsect in the ruins here, the situation needs to be reported to Brother Ku Zhu. After going to the East Barbarians, she will leave.”

True Person Mingwen explained, and Chen Mobai nodded in understanding.

“Sister, please take good care of Master,” Yi Chenghan said with a salute from below, addressing Mingwen who nodded in response; then the green Bamboo Raft turned into a streak of green light, shooting into the sky.

On the Bamboo Raft, Elder Muqin sat at the front, with her aura hidden by the bamboo hat, unclear if she was in meditation.

Chen Mobai casually struck up a conversation with True Person Mingwen.

“If it weren’t for Sun Bathing Sea’s intervention, Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace would have already been trampled by our Kong Sang Valley...”

In the midst of their conversation, they naturally came to speak of the recent major trends in the East Barbarians, with True Person Mingwen’s tone full of hatred.

“What a pity.”

To this, Chen Mobai sincerely uttered these two words.

Their Five Elements Sect and Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace were now irreconcilable mortal enemies.

If Kong Sang Valley could kill Golden Wind Ancestor, then he would be spared much trouble.

After all, even with the strength of their Five Elements Sect, if they wanted to kill the army of cultivators from Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace led by Golden Wind Ancestor while laying in wait in the Eastern Wilderness, they would surely have to pay a heavy price.

And moreover, no matter what,

Kong Sang Valley gave Chen Mobai a lot of time for his Nascent Soul Formation.

“It’s also the fault of the second senior sister, who fell into the Demon Path and cultivated the Corpse Dissolution Technique, drawing the Jiutian Dangmo Sect to our doorstep, forcing Brother Ku Zhu to endure the punishment of Seven Swords Piercing the Body.”

“If it wasn’t for brother’s severe damage to his vital energy, seeing a chance for strangulation, Baiwu Ancestor of Sun Bathing Sea wouldn’t have created the present situation,” she continued.

“Those people in the East Barbarians are all sly and treacherous, not like the forthright people in the Eastern Wilderness led by Sect Master Chen,” True Person Mingwen said, causing Chen Mobai to feel somewhat embarrassed.

He was only adhering to the most basic moral principles of being human.

Under his example, the sect disciples in Northern Abyss City followed the same ethos.

Moreover, with the requirement for anyone wishing to reside in Northern Abyss City to sign a declaration not being rogue cultivators, True Person Mingwen also followed the market rules set down by the Five Elements Sect in her transactions there.

This left her with the impression that the locals of the Eastern Wilderness were of better character than those in the East Barbarians.

“Since Kong Sang Valley is still under siege by Sun Bathing Sea and Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace, why did Elder Muqin lead you out to establish a subsect in the ruins?”

Chapter 1523: Star Heaven Dao Sect_2

Chen Mobai asked another question that had been weighing on his mind for a long time.

“Despite the fierce attacks by the two sects, the core of our Kong Sang Valley’s Mountain Protection Array is the Fifth-Order Pure Bamboo. Adding to that the hundreds of years of setup and optimization by Master, it has already reached the power of a Fourth Stage Pinnacle. Only Nascent Soul Complete Cultivators could possibly break the array...”

When True Person Mingwen spoke of this, she was full of pride.

As the top Rank-4 Array Master from the East Barbarians, Muqin left a Large Formation that, with a Nascent Soul guarding it, need not fear Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace and Sun Bathing Sea at all.

“Impressive.”

After hearing this, Chen Mobai gave a thumbs-up.

“The main reason for coming here to establish a branch this time, is because Master feels his time is running short and wants to leave a seed for our Kong Sang Valley lineage in the last moments of his life.”

“The initial choice of the Eastern Wilderness was because someone from the Starry Sky Commerce Guild told us that Yan Shaoyin of Back to Sky Valley failed his Nascent Soul Formation in their East Yu, and they needed a new power to enter the Eastern Wilderness to balance against your increasingly powerful sect.”

“Moreover, if our Kong Sang Valley were to establish a branch in the Eastern Wilderness, they would be willing to provide all kinds of necessary resources and even hand over the Ten Thousand Acres of Coiling Dragon Spirit Rice to us.”

“Although Back to Sky Valley is weak, it still has a foundation of eight thousand acres of medicinal fields. If we could take over these, we would be able to establish a firm footing in the Eastern Wilderness right away.”

“Unfortunately, the Starry Sky Commerce Guild did not know that your sect’s Zhou Shengqing Ancestor has already reached Nascent Soul Formation.”

At this point, True Person Mingwen also sighed.

If there were no Nascent Soul Cultivators in the Eastern Wilderness, given that Elder Muqin, even in a crippled state, could restrain Golden Wind Ancestor and Baiwu Ancestor, he would be able to intimidate and clear the field.

However, no one expected that the Five Elements Sect could hide so deeply.

After hearing this, Chen Mobai's eyes also took on a slight chill.

His favorable impression of the Starry Sky Commerce Guild decreased once again.

However, from their perspective, a unified Eastern Wilderness is indeed not conducive to business.

But since they have calculated to this extent, future cooperation with the Starry Sky Commerce Guild needs to be carefully considered.

Now, however, he still has to attend the Beidou Conference, so this account can only be temporarily kept in mind.

Thinking of this, Chen Mobai spoke up again: "For this Beidou Conference, will the other three Nascent Soul Ancestors from East Yi attend?"

After hearing this, True Person Mingwen immediately shook her head: "Now, the three major sects in East Yi dare not cease their efforts first. Before the outcome is determined, the Beidou Conference matters cannot influence them."

It's clear now that Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace and Sun Bathing Sea want to keep Elder Muqin suppressed while he has suffered severe damage to his vital energy.

After all, Golden Wind Ancestor does not have much lifespan left, and Baiwu Ancestor is even more aware of the terrifying potential of a Sword Cultivator once they grow.

If no action is taken now, when Elder Muqin's cultivation advances further, then from here on, East Yi will be able to breathe through him.

This is something Baiwu Ancestor cannot tolerate.

After all, in his view, as long as Golden Wind and Muqin died, East Yi would be his world.

Now, not only is the dream shattered, but he may even have to bow down to others.

Therefore, seeing the flaw in Elder Muqin, he could no longer hold back.

Once action is taken, before a more powerful external force that surpasses both sides intervenes, according to the custom here, they must fight to the end of life and death.

After hearing this, Chen Mobai asked another question: "So, are the Beidou Conference qualifications of these three being wasted just like that?"

True Person Mingwen shook her head: "No, that won't happen. As long as they have an invitation and can prove they are a Nascent Soul disciple or relative, they can still enter the Beidou Conference."

After hearing this, Chen Mobai nodded lightly.

That's good.

He was thinking whether he could exchange a Fifth-Order Sun Holy Fruit with Sun Bathing Sea.

If Baiwu Ancestor isn't attending the Beidou Conference, then it should be Zhu Jun, whom he had dealt with before, who would take his place.

After all, she is also at the pinnacle of Core Formation and needs the Three Lights Divine Water for another attempt at Nascent Soul Formation.

Next, having no more questions, Chen Mobai fell silent and began to sit on the bamboo raft, refining his Pure Yang Spiritual Power.

True Person Mingwen also took out a Spirit Stone and began cultivating, but her foundation was clearly not as strong as Chen Mobai's.

When she finished her cultivation, Chen Mobai was still meditating with his eyes closed.

The bored Mingwen called her disciple Xiao Lingri over and began instructing her in cultivation.

Chen Mobai was actually not fully devoted to cultivating, as there were strangers all around him.

Perhaps also considering his presence, True Person Mingwen and her disciple did not discuss the true secret techniques of Kong Sang Valley when they communicated.

Since the ruins between the Eastern Wilderness and East Yi have mostly been settled by cultivators from both domains, they did not encounter any strong demonic beasts this time.

Even without the need for Chen Mobai to take action, Xiao Lingri, a late-stage Foundation Establishment cultivator, resolved them all.

About three days later, they entered the East Yi Territory.

The terrain here is quite different from the Eastern Wilderness. Chen Mobai noticed that the land gradually became lower, and the mountain ranges were more spiritually appealing, and the waterways were more extensive, as if he had arrived at a Plain Water Township.

In comparison, the Eastern Wilderness is a highland area.

Chen Mobai quietly observed, recording the landscape he saw in the sky onto the blank map of Turtle Treasure.

After half a day of flying over East Yi, they put Xiao Lingri down on a desolate hill devoid of spiritual energy.

Chapter 1524: Star Heaven Dao Sect_3

Chen Mobai had no idea how Xiao Lingri would find her way back to Kong Sang Valley, surrounded by Xuan Xiao Taoist Palace and Sun Bathing Sea, but there must be a protected Teleportation Array in place.

But this Teleportation Array definitely wouldn't be on this barren mountain, after all, he was a foreigner and would not be allowed to see it.

"Sect Master Chen, since Master is a Nascent Soul Cultivator, using the Large-scale Transmission Array in Golden Crow Immortal City could easily expose us, so we must traverse the mountain ranges between Eastern Yi and East Yu."

As they set off on the bamboo raft once again, True Person Mingwen spoke with an apologetic tone.

Chen Mobai simply nodded in understanding.

The land between Eastern Yi and East Yu was separated by vast mountains and could be considered part of The Barren; it was home to many poisonous creatures and ferocious beasts that even Golden Core Cultivators might accidentally perish to if not careful.

Especially since the advent of the Large-scale Transmission Array, most cultivators from the two territories preferred to spend Spirit Stones rather than trek through the treacherous mountain ranges in the name of frugality.

However, he soon realized,

The route the bamboo raft was taking seemed to be a safe one; as they traversed, they barely encountered any powerful poisonous demons or beasts.

“This route was established over a thousand years by Kong Sang Valley before the construction of the Large-scale Transmission Array, and it was one of our initial safe channels for interacting with East Yu and even the East Land,” True Person Mingwen explained as she noticed the puzzlement on Chen Mobai’s face.

“I see, but is it okay that I know about this route?”

With his query, True Person Mingwen couldn’t help but smile wryly and shake her head.

“Ever since the construction of the Large-scale Transmission Array, even we in Kong Sang Valley no longer use this route. It’s only because of Master’s sensitive identity that we still travel this way.”

Meaning, this was a route exclusive to Nascent Soul Cultivators.

As Chen Mobai contemplated this, he quickly detected a strange and malevolent aura rising from a valley below, transforming into a dark red surge of demonic energy.

But before the demonic energy could rise further, the verdant bamboo raft shimmered with an even more crystalline green light, darting away thousands of miles in an instant.

After a few flickers, the dark red demonic energy had been left far behind.

“That was a Rank-4 Dark Purple Scorpion, a sting from which could cause even a Nascent Soul Cultivator’s body to collapse. Without Detoxification Medicine, the heart and mind would gradually perish amidst the intense pain.”

True Person Mingwen explained, and Chen Mobai was astounded by her words, realizing this place truly was full of treasures.

Such a high-grade poisonous scorpion could be used to refine an Elixir in the Immortal Gate, which stimulates the enhancement of Divine Sense.

Unfortunately, in the Immortal Gate, the Alchemy Recipe for refining this Elixir only goes up to Rank-1 or Rank-2 because they can't cultivate Rank-3 or higher scorpions artificially.

And wild ones are considered protected Spirit Beasts, so they cannot be killed for their medicinal parts.

Subsequently, Chen Mobai witnessed many more bizarre and frightening poisonous creatures and demonic beasts, yet the bamboo raft demonstrated the formidable power of a Rank-4 Magical Weapon.

This was a Flying Artifact refined from Fourth-grade Superior Pure Bamboo, with such swift speed that even among Rank-4 artifacts, it was at the forefront.

Mostly encountering Rank-3 poisonous creatures and demonic beasts below, they chose not to stop and engage but to rapidly activate the bamboo raft, avoiding them all.

Approximately seven days later, they finally crossed the immense mountain range and entered the territory of East Yu.

Here, the terrain was vastly different from the Plain Water Township of Eastern Yi, with colossal mountain ranges thrusting into the sky, cloud-wreathed and imposing a sense of grandeur and raw power.

Chen Mobai could see that these mountain ranges were imbued with deeply buried Spiritual Energy, revealing buildings constructed from white stones climbing the mountains, forming various villages.

Among some of these majestic mountains, the villages turned into forts and small towns.

He could even detect people in plain blue attire, accompanied by various poisonous insects, moving across the terrain, harvesting all kinds of fruits, vegetables, and the like.

"These are humans living in East Yu. The mountainous separations have prevented them from forming nations; they regard the cultivators of Star Heaven Dao Sect as Immortal Masters."

“Due to the geography, it is difficult to cultivate rice and the like here. However, after tens of thousands of years of evolution, the locals have developed a coexistence with the poisonous beasts, attaining some self-defense abilities.”

“Every so often, Star Heaven Dao Sect sends people to help expel uncontrolled poisonous creatures with their spells and to take away those with a Spiritual Root to teach them the ways of cultivation,” explained True Person Mingwen with a brief overview of the local customs in East Yu, prompting Chen Mobai to nod in understanding.

As their bamboo raft flew over a mountain peak, they were spotted by several young men and women in blue attire with headdresses, who while cheering, dropped to their knees in deep reverence.

Here, the common folk worship cultivators as true Immortals.

Realizing this, Chen Mobai considered the immense merit one could accrue by enlightening these people towards a civilized society.

But that was merely a thought.

After all, East Yu was under the sole dominance of Star Heaven Dao Sect, a superpower in the East Continent second only to the Holy Land.

With seven Nascent Soul masters, Chen Mobai even wondered whether the First Origin Dao Palace’s current strength matched theirs.

After another three days traversing the skies, they arrived in front of the tallest mountain they had encountered.

This was the most majestic Divine Mountain Chen Mobai had ever seen in his life!

Chapter 1525: Star Heaven Dao Sect_4

The enormity is incomparable, blocking the view far away, soaring into the clouds as if it directly connects to the outer space.

The mists around the mountain peak swarm about, much like a sheer layer of white gauze gently draped over. Midway up the mountain, there exist dense and sky-reaching forests where Chen Mobai feels even the entirety of Giant Tree Ridge could be placed within with room to spare.

What shocked him the most was at the mountain summit, which appeared as though a Great Divine Power Wielder had sliced off the top, leaving behind a vast and boundless platform.

Majestic and solemn stone-made halls spread from the mountain's peak center outwards, and as they approached the brink of the summit where abyss beckoned, a towering colossal city wall curved into a circle, guarding all those within the stone city at the mountain's top.

Within the stone city, at regular intervals, stone pillars etched with various star patterns stood erect – three hundred and sixty-five in total, forming a complete ground-based star map at the mountain's top.

The highest seven stone halls, like seven brilliantly shining stars, twinkle with dazzling starlight even in broad daylight.

This must surely be the abode of the seven Nascent Soul cultivators from the Star Heaven Dao Sect.

“On ordinary days, only three Nascent Soul Cultivators are stationed at Star Pillar Mountain. With the Beidou Conference being held, I wonder if the other four have returned,” said True Person Mingwen as the bamboo raft flew towards the stone city atop the mountain.

Having followed Elder Muqin here numerous times, she was quite familiar with both the Star Heaven Dao Sect and the Beidou Conference.

For instance, the Great Elder of the Star Heaven Dao Sect, known as Elder Star Pole, reached Nascent Soul Complete a long time ago and is said to have always been seeking an opportunity for Divinity Transformation.

He even went beyond East Continent through Taixu Piaomiao Palace; his current status is unknown.

The youngest Nascent Soul Cultivator, honored as Star Fire, formed his Nascent Soul just sixty years ago. It is said that he has condensed a wisp of Star Divine Fire, one of the most powerful True Fires in the Tianhe Realm. Refined to its extremity, it could even transform into Immortal Fire, a formidable Divine Skill capable of granting Ascendance.

While the two were conversing, a bright silvery starlight had already flown out from the mountain's peak and arrived in front of their bamboo raft.

"So it's Daoist Mu Qin from Kong Sang Valley. It seems this time, from the East Barbarians, only you have come."

The bright silver radiance dispersed, revealing a middle-aged man with white hair and beard, sporting a slightly plump figure.

Chen Mobai immediately recognized him as a Nascent Soul Cultivator.

"Greetings to Daoist Elder Xing Chen, it seems like you're the one overseeing the Beidou Conference this time," said Mu Qin with a calm voice, showing no trace of the usual frailty or age-weariness.

"Hahaha, my fellow Daoist, you're mistaken. The Great Elder has returned this time, and I am merely helping with the errands," Elder Xing Chen replied with a laugh, taking the invitation handed to him by Mu Qin and opened up a gateway of starlight above the mountain peak grand formation, inviting them to enter.

Throughout, he didn't cast a single glance at either True Person Mingwen or Chen Mobai.

After the trio entered the Star Heaven Dao Sect, Elder Xing Chen vanished from sight.

"Sect Master Chen, my master and I are going to Black Stone Street to rent two cave dwellings. Would you like to join us?" asked True Person Mingwen.

Coming to the Beidou Conference, the Star Heaven Dao Sect would not arrange accommodations; perhaps they want the disciples from the lower sects to take this rare opportunity to make a good profit.

“I’ll look around first and will contact you later,” said Chen Mobai, intending to move freely. Mu Qin and his disciple had anticipated this; one needs verification to enter, but leaving requires none.

“Sect Master Chen, if you wish to leave with us, you can inform me,” True Person Mingwen offered a contact talisman. Chen Mobai nodded and then the three parted ways.

Before coming here, Chen Mobai had heard from Zhou Shengqing about the Beidou Conference.

This is considered a resource exhibition and sale event by the Star Heaven Dao Sect.

The precious resources collected throughout East Continent by the Starry Sky Commerce Guild every sixty years will be displayed for sale here.

The entire event will last for forty-nine days.

Every seven days, the Star Heaven Dao Sect will put forth a supremely precious spiritual object for sale.

Among them will be the Three Lights Divine Water!

When Chen Mobai and his party arrived, there was still half a month until the official start of the Beidou Conference.

Generally speaking, apart from the people from the Holy Land Major Sects, most of those who received an invitation would arrive in advance.

This is because in addition to what’s offered for sale by the Star Heaven Dao Sect, they also need to exchange the resources they have on hand.

“Esteemed senior, do you need a guide? I am He Sui, an Inner Sect Disciple of Star Heaven Dao Sect. I am well-acquainted with every aspect of Stone City,” said a young man wearing a star-colored robe with a gentle face who walked over to Chen Mobai, who was standing on the street, lost in thought, and introduced himself very politely.

“What’s the price?”

Chen Mobai did indeed need a guide and couldn’t help but ask. Upon hearing the question, He Sui’s face brightened with joy as he held up a finger.

“One Top-grade Spirit Stone. During the Beidou Conference, I am at your service, at your behest at any time.”

That expensive?

After hearing this, Chen Mobai couldn’t help but curse inwardly at the exorbitant prices of the Star Heaven Dao Sect.

However, those who could attend the Beidou Conference would certainly not care about the loss of a Top-grade Spirit Stone.

He was no different.

So, Chen Mobai nodded in agreement.

“Can it be exchanged for intermediary and Low-grade Spirit Stones?”

Chen Mobai asked. He Sui hesitated for a moment, then nodded, and Chen Mobai gave him one Intermediate-grade Spirit Stone as a deposit.

“I want to refine an Ancient Elixir Method. Please take me to the place where medicinal ingredients are sold and traded.”

“Senior, please follow me to Wood Stone Street,” said He Sui.

Upon hearing this, He Sui promptly led the way.

Before long, they arrived at a street filled with the scent of herbs. Walking into it, Chen Mobai found that both sides of the street were lined with a wide variety of different Metal Stone Medicinal Substances. There were herbal medicines with spiritual value as well, but they were not as predominant.

Upon inquiry, he learned that East Yu had many elixirs, but the main ingredients for the elixirs were mostly minerals, forming a unique part of the Star Heaven Dao Sect’s Alchemy System.

After hearing this, Chen Mobai nodded, then told He Sui to leave while he prepared to check out each store one by one.

However, He Sui indicated that he would wait at the entrance.

Chen Mobai thought he was worried about being cheated, so he did not say much, entering the first shop to start checking the list provided by Qing Nu using his Divine Sense.

In this shop, he found two types of auxiliary medicines he needed, both of Rank-2. He inquired about the prices, but he did not make a purchase right away.

Next, he visited a few more shops and indeed found another auxiliary medicine. The price differences weren’t significant, but every little saving counts.

“Do you know anyone who is familiar with the prices of these medicinal materials?”

Chen Mobai asked He Sui after walking out of the fifth shop.

“There is a senior sister, but it also requires the expenditure of Spirit Stones.”

After asking for the price, which was two Top-grade Spirit Stones, Chen Mobai thought it over and decided he could not afford to waste time here, so he agreed.

Before long, a female cultivator with ordinary features but an outstanding figure followed He Sui over. Her name was Lu Huixin.

After negotiating, Chen Mobai gave her a list and asked her to help look for the medicinal ingredients listed on it.

Then, Chen Mobai went towards the end of the street, where only barter trading was possible.

However, as soon as he entered, he encountered an unexpected person.

A cultivator with an aged face, slightly greenish-black eyes, and a faint aura, almost completely devoid of vitality.

Yan Shaoyin!

He didn't die despite his Nascent Soul Formation failure?

Chapter 1526: Grass Hall

According to the customs of the Tianhe Realm, after the Nascent Soul Emergence, if the Nascent Soul Formation fails, it generally means certain death.

Could it be that Yan Shaoyin got a bottle of Three Lights Divine Water?

Chen Mobai could only think of this possibility.

“Do you know this person?”

Chen Mobai pointed to Yan Shaoyin, who was talking with a stall owner, and asked He Sui beside him.

“This person is named Yan Shaoyin. He was recruited as a Guest Elder by our sect’s Commerce Association because he can refine some Rank-4 alchemy recipes.”

“A few years ago, he rented a Fourth-Grade Cave Dwelling from Purple Star Square to attempt Nascent Soul Formation. He even triggered a heavenly sign, but unfortunately, due to his weak foundation, he collapsed midway.”

“But he’s said to be a Supreme Elder from a small sect outside East Yu, with some reputation. Before his Nascent Soul Formation, he exchanged for a counterfeit Three Lights Divine Water, so although the breakthrough failed, he still managed to save his life.”

He Sui glanced at Yan Shaoyin, actually recognized him, and introduced everything one by one.

“What is counterfeit Three Lights Divine Water?”

Chen Mobai heard a term he was unfamiliar with and couldn’t help asking again.

“It’s an inferior product of the genuine Three Lights Divine Water. Its Dan poison content is far beyond the standard. Although cultivators can save their lives by taking it, their Spiritual Power Realm will be eroded, and barely one-tenth of their vitality will remain.”

Upon hearing this, Chen Mobai’s eyes brightened.

Dan poison excessive!

That’s what he fears the least.

However, if there are side effects that erode Spiritual Power and vitality, even with the Vermilion Phoenix Facing the Sun technique, he wouldn't dare to use it.

But Chen Mobai has already memorized this counterfeit Three Lights Divine Water in his mind.

At this moment, he also understood why Yan Shaoyin looked pale and lifeless, as if his life was short.

But for some reason, seeing Yan Shaoyin in this state, Chen Mobai actually felt a faint sense of pride.

It was a conspiracy he orchestrated single-handedly, patiently setting up for so many years, all progressing according to his plans.

Although Yan Shaoyin did not die, making the outcome not so perfect, after thinking carefully, such a state of him could be even more advantageous for the Five Elements Sect to unify the Eastern Wilderness.

Chen Mobai then inquired further about the cultivator running the stall from He Sui, learning that he was Shen Changlong, a Golden Core Mentor from Star Heaven Dao Sect specializing in Body Forging.

Shen Changlong had already reached the Third Rank Peak of Body Forging using precious resources like Coiling Dragon Spiritual Rice, but his cultivation of Spiritual Power was slow, still far from achieving Perfect Core Formation.

At this moment, Yan Shaoyin was standing in front of Shen Changlong's stall, examining a pale blue herb with bright silver veins.

"This is a Rank-4 Sky Blue Silver Light Herb. You've almost looked at it three times now, either trade or go away, don't hinder my business," said Shen Changlong, a cultivator with a face full of scars, speaking gruffly to Yan Shaoyin.

"What a pity, if it were the previous me, I would have traded with you for sure, but now it's useless to me."

After hearing this, Yan Shaoyin shook his head with regret and put down the Sky Blue Silver Light Herb in his hand.

“Boss, what do you need in exchange for this herb?”

A familiar, smooth voice rang by his ear; Yan Shaoyin shuddered, then turned his head to look at the newcomer.

A youth with black hair like ink and a refined demeanor was also looking at him. The moment their eyes met, the youth showed a gentle smile and nodded slightly at him.

“Master Yan, long time no see.”

After hearing Chen Mobai’s words, Yan Shaoyin’s lips moved for a long time, but eventually, he also responded.

“Sect Master Chen... What a coincidence...”

After hearing this, Chen Mobai handed over a Return to True Elixir to Shen Changlong.

“I have never heard of this elixir; I need to find a Daoist friend from Dao Morale Sect to confirm it.”

Shen Changlong was running the stall here during the Beidou Conference to exchange elixirs that could enhance the Spiritual Power of those in the late stage of Core Formation with the Righteous Cultivators of the entire East Continent.

However, the Return to True Elixir that Chen Mobai had brought out for the trade was not one of those well-known elixirs around here.

“Fellow Shen, this pill is called Return to True; I achieved Perfect Core Formation by consuming four of these. This Sky Blue Silver Light Herb might not even be worth one pill,” Yan Shaoyin suddenly said.

Shen Changlong knew of his accomplishments in alchemy, but the cultivators of the Tianhe Realm are very cautious, so he still requested to make a trip to the store of the Dao Morale Sect.

“Sect Master Chen, if the elixir is genuine, I will cover the appraisal fee,” said Shen Changlong, after which Chen Mobai nodded; after all, he had nothing to hide.

However, when he and Shen Changlong left, Yan Shaoyin stood still and did not follow.

Chen Mobai glanced at him but did not say more.

This, after all, was the Star Heaven Dao Sect, where even Nascent Soul Cultivators must obey the rules and cannot engage in deadly magic duels.

Letting Yan Shaoyin disappear from his sight, Chen Mobai followed Shen Changlong to the end of the street.

To his surprise, it was a thatched cottage. Inside, a few cultivators dressed in Daoist robes were attending to the coming and going Golden Core cultivators.

Chen Mobai even spotted a Nascent Soul Superior wearing a Purple-Gold Crown, with a dignified appearance.

But even he, upon entering the thatched cottage, cast a spell to clean the dust off himself before daring to step inside.

Chen Mobai had previously inquired with He Sui.

He learned that this was the Eastern Earth Holy Land, the Dao Morale Sect’s Grass Hall, also a one-stop shop for selling, refining, and appraising elixirs.

Chapter 1527: Grass Hall_2

Even when surveying the entire Tianhe Realm's Five Continents and Four Seas, the reputation of Grass Hall is one of universal respect.

After all, Dao Morale Sect's Huashen Zhenjun is one of the few Sixth-Order Alchemists, even vaguely holding the title of the number one alchemist in the Tianhe Realm.

And within the East Continent, the Grass Hall is the undisputed authority on elixirs.

"Please come this way, the two of you."

A young Daoist boy, having heard their conversation, immediately guided them to a partitioned area on the side.

Inside sat a woman clad in a moon-white Daoist robe, with an ordinary appearance and a simple demeanor.

She was indeed a cultivator from the Dao Morale Sect responsible for appraising elixirs within Grass Hall.

Chen Mobai, not daring to probe too deeply into a fellow disciple of a holy land, roughly sensed her presence and felt her cultivation level was no less than his own, seemingly a cultivator who has achieved Perfect Core Formation.

It is truly worthy of the Dao Morale Sect, that even the alchemists sitting in regular attendance possess such cultivation levels.

While he was mulling this over, the woman in the Daoist robe had already taken the Return to True Elixir, and then with her pale hands, she created a cocoon of luminescent white light that interwove around the elixir like silk threads, enveloping it completely.

After half an incense stick's time, the luminescent white light dispersed.

“The elixir has no issues, indeed it can be used to enhance the spiritual power of a cultivator in the Core Formation Late Stage.”

Upon hearing this, Shen Changlong’s face showed a mixture of surprise and joy, but there was still one more crucial thing that needed appraisal.

“May I ask Fellow Daoist, what is the quality of this elixir?”

In the Tianhe Realm, although the measurement of Dan Poison in elixirs is not as precise down to several decimal places as it is in Immortal Gates, there is indeed a general rating system.

For instance, pseudo Three Lights Divine Water is an elixir refined with too much Dan Poison.

And according to the Dao Morale Sect’s standards, the quality of elixirs can be classified into Superior, Middle, and Lower grades.

Superior Quality is the standard for sales at Grass Hall, Lower-grade is the bottom line for cultivators to consume, and Middle-grade lies between the two.

Shen Changlong had already decided that as long as it met the Middle-grade standard, he would make the exchange.

“The elixir quality is... exquisite.”

But at this moment, the hesitance in the woman’s voice emerged as she spoke.

“Ah? What is exquisite quality?”

Shen Changlong doubted his own hearing, for he had never heard of an exquisite quality elixir in his entire life.

“This Return to True Elixir is Danless Poison; according to the standards of our Dao Morale Sect, it can be categorized as exquisite quality.”

Upon hearing the woman’s words, Shen Changlong gasped sharply.

Not only him, but even the Daoist boy who accompanied them, along with He Sui, all widened their eyes in disbelief.

Especially the former.

As a disciple of the Dao Morale Sect, he was even more aware of the prestige carried by these two words, ‘exquisite quality.’

If it was a common low-level elixir, it would be one thing, but for a Third Rank Superior Grade elixir to be Danless Poison, even among the Alchemy Grandmasters of the Dao Morale Sect, it would depend on their condition and require being in a very fortunate state to possibly refine one.

“May I ask which master refined this Dan?”

When the Dao Morale Sect’s woman handed back the Return to True Elixir, she asked with some curiosity.

Shen Changlong immediately looked towards Chen Mobai, who smiled slightly and casually made up an excuse.

“This elixir was something I found in the sect’s treasury; it might be a work left behind by a senior from the past.”

It’s better to keep the existence of Qing Nu hidden until the Five Elements Sect has enough strength.

After all, people here are unpredictable.

Upon hearing Chen Mobai's comment, the woman's gaze flickered slightly, but she didn't say much, merely nodding.

Shen Changlong, extremely pleased, handed over the Sky Blue Silver Light Grass to Chen Mobai, who upon receiving it, immediately asked the woman to appraise it as well.

Seeing this, Shen Changlong's face turned shades of green and white, but this was the norm in the Tianhe Realm, and he didn't feel it appropriate to say anything.

"This Sky Blue Silver Light Grass is only fourth-grade lower class; compared to this exquisite Return to True Elixir, you might need to compensate for some price difference."

After the woman's appraisal, Shen Changlong's frown grew even tighter, but in this place, he dared not be presumptuous.

"Sect Master Chen, I don't know how many Return to True Elixirs you have, but I'm willing to exchange this to compensate for another one," he said finally.

With gritted teeth, he took out a bottle of something.

"This is the Star Light Spirit Liquid from the Star Heaven Dao Sect, it's a Body Refining Spirit Liquid, compatible with any cultivator, and is also one of the three ingredients of Three Lights Divine Water."

Seeing him produce this, He Sui's expression was one of shock.

Yet Chen Mobai didn't know the origins of Star Light Spirit Liquid, so he handed it over to the woman for appraisal.

"Fourth-Order Spiritual Liquid, Middle-grade quality, can be used to repair any bodily injury, and if the body is perfect, it can enhance the Body Refining Technique."

After hearing the woman's appraisal, Chen Mobai thought about his own Longevity Dao Body, which had still to break through the Third Rank Peak for some time, and wondered whether the Star Light Spirit Liquid could help him break through this bottleneck?

"Brother Shen, please!"

Chen Mobai took out the second Return to True Elixir, smiling as he made the exchange with Shen Changlong.

But Shen Changlong followed suit and gave it to the woman for another appraisal.

"Quality—exquisite."

Hearing the same evaluation again, the unease Shen Changlong had felt about parting with the Star Light Spirit Liquid vanished.

And the people from the Dao Morale Sect were confirmed that indeed someone had refined a batch of Third Order Dan that were all of exquisite quality.

And it wasn't just a fluke, a single lucky pill.

Chen Mobai and Shen Changlong both left Grass Hall with smiles on their faces.

After they parted ways, Chen Mobai entered Grass Hall once more.

He met with the Daoist boy who had shown them the way earlier, and inquired if there were any top-ranked medicinal materials for sale here.

Chapter 1528: Grass Hall_3

"Fellow Daoist, our Dao Morale Sect only accepts top-ranked herb materials,"

the Dao boy said with quite a bit of pride.

In addition to assisting with the identification of elixirs, the Grass Hall also undertakes the refining of elixirs for others and sells elixirs practiced by its own disciples.

The disciples of the Dao Morale Sect are mainly alchemists, so the consumption of herb materials each year is tremendous.

This leads to the Dao Morale Sect, despite having the largest medicinal fields in the East Land, still having an extremely high demand for various herb materials, especially top-ranked ones. Each is like a turnip in a hole—if the self-cultivated ones are used up, one can only wait for hundreds to thousands of years.

Therefore, this results in the Grass Hall only accepting herb materials and never selling them.

After hearing this, Chen Mobai felt quite regretful.

He then inquired about how the undertaking of elixir refining is handled.

“Fellow Daoist, our Grass Hall has a list of the scope of elixirs that we undertake to refine. Those not on the list cannot be refined,”

the Dao boy said as he took out a jade slip and handed it to Chen Mobai, which was that list.

Chen Mobai took it and glanced at it, only to find that the highest rank of elixir listed was merely Rank-3.

This left him somewhat disappointed.

He had originally thought about whether he could gather a batch of materials for the Coagulation Infant Pill and have the Dao Morale Sect help with the refining.

After leaving the Grass Hall, He Sui, who was with him, lightly coughed and asked a question.

“I wonder if the senior has found a place to stay?”

Chen Mobai shook his head, and He Sui immediately started to describe the Spiritual Vein Cave Dwellings in Stone City.

Among them, the highest rank available for rent is a Fourth-Grade Spiritual Vein dwelling.

However, the price is also very expensive — a single Top-grade Spirit Stone per day.

Whereas for a Rank-3 cave dwelling, a Top-grade Spirit Stone can cover a residence for two months, which is about the same time as the Beidou Conference.

Generally, cultivators with more modest wealth would choose Rank-3 cave dwellings.

Chen Mobai considered, if he wanted a Fourth-Grade dwelling, then during the Beidou Conference, he would nearly have to spend the profits of nearly half a year from his Little Nan Mountain Shop.

That would be a bit too expensive...

“Senior, if you wish to reside in a Fourth-Grade cave dwelling, it just so happens that my elder brother’s Master has one that is vacant and can be a bit cheaper,”

He Sui spoke again at this time, apparently setting this up.

“I’ll consider it. Can you help me find that friend I mentioned earlier?”

Instead of agreeing right away, Chen Mobai asked about the missing Yan Shaoyin.

He Sui nodded after hearing this.

“Please wait for a moment, senior. I will inquire with the brother in charge here.”

About half an hour later, He Sui came back and brought some news to Chen Mobai.

“Previously, Guest Elder Yan Shaoyin lived in a Fourth-Grade cave dwelling, but after failing his Nascent Soul Formation, he moved into a Rank-2 dwelling, renting it for sixty years at a time, probably intending to wait there for death.”

From Fourth-Grade to Rank-2?

The drop was too steep.

Chen Mobai felt that if he were in Yan Shaoyin’s shoes, he would definitely not accept this.

Under the guidance of He Sui, they soon arrived at the outskirts of Stone City.

The closer to the center of Star Heaven Dao Sect’s cave dwellings, the more vigorous the Spiritual Energy.

The Seven Nascent Soul Cultivators’ dwellings are surrounded by Fifth-Order Spiritual Energy, and the central area of Stone City surrounding these features Fourth-Grade dwellings.

Stretching out a large circle further are Rank-3 dwellings.

And on the very outskirts, there is Rank-2, lower-grade Spiritual Energy.

Even Qi Cultivating Disciples of Star Heaven Dao Sect start off enjoying Rank-2 Spiritual Energy.

This kind of treatment caused Chen Mobai to marvel at the super power of the Tianhe Realm.

At the doorstep of Yan Shaoyin's dwelling, He Sui knocked on the door.

Sometime later, the door was opened.

Recognizing the two people at the door, Yan Shaoyin's face showed a look of resignation as expected.

"Is Sect Master Chen coming today to finish me off?"

Yan Shaoyin's tone was tragic, conveying despair, yet there was also a kind of relief intertwined within it.

"Ah, senior, one must not engage in conflict within Stone City. Even if there are grievances, wait until I find a way to take him out of the city..."

He Sui, interpreting Yan Shaoyin's words as Chen Mobai actually intending to take action, was greatly startled. In the midst of trying to stop him, he also proposed a compromise to secure Chen Mobai.

"What do you mean by that, Master Yan? Although we may not be friends, we are long-acquainted colleagues. Seeing you here elicits a feeling of homecoming joy, so I specifically sought you out wanting to catch up on old times. How could you suddenly slander me with baseless accusations?"

As he said this, Chen Mobai's face was filled with displeasure, and he turned to leave.

He Sui was confused by this scene but immediately followed his principal customer and left as well.

Yan Shaoyin's brows furrowed even more deeply upon witnessing this.

But seeing Chen Mobai's receding back nearing the corner, he promptly called out to stop him.

“Pardon me, Sect Master Chen. I judged you unfairly with my narrow mind. Please, come inside for a chat.”

Hearing these words, Chen Mobai paused.

“You should go back today. I’ll have a talk with Master Yan, and you can find me here tomorrow,”

Chen Mobai told He Sui, who left without hesitation after hearing these words.

After all, with Chen Mobai being a Golden Core Cultivator, if he truly decided to take action, He Sui would certainly not be able to stop him.

The disciples of Star Heaven Dao Sect possessed that much judgment.

Shortly thereafter.

Chen Mobai had already followed Yan Shaoyin into the secluded Rank-2 stone courtyard.

Chapter 1529: Grass Hall_4

“Master Yan, why don’t you return to the Eastern Wilderness to take a look? Without you as the pillar, Back to Sky Valley seems to be on the verge of splitting.”

Chen Mobai pretended to be unaware as he asked.

“Sect Master Chen, there’s no need for us to beat around the bush. You are certainly aware of my situation,” Yan Shaoyin said with a look of misery, prompting Chen Mobai to pour himself a cup of tea after listening.

“How effective is the counterfeit Three Lights Divine Water?”

“My cultivation level has been basically ruined, and the spiritual power I’ve managed to recover contains Dan Poison that I can’t get rid of. But if I stop cultivating, my essence, qi, and spirit will continue to deteriorate and death will come even quicker.”

Yan Shaoyin did not conceal his condition; the counterfeit Three Lights Divine Water had allowed him to survive the failure of Nascent Soul Formation, but the price was dreadful.

He could only wait for death.

Now he was just getting by, living each day as it comes.

“Master Yan truly understands the human heart. As long as you don’t show up in the Eastern Wilderness, our Five Elements Sect will always fear you,” Chen Mobai said with a slight smile after listening.

“Not at all, not at all. With Sect Master Chen’s great talent and vision, you are bound to unify the Eastern Wilderness sooner or later. My presence makes no real difference.”

After the failure of his Nascent Soul Formation, Yan Shaoyin had time to rethink past events and soon found the Alchemy Recipe provided by Chen Mobai for cooperation highly suspicious.

He also approximately guessed why Chen Mobai would do such a thing.

But even if he had figured it out at the time, he would probably have followed the path arranged by Chen Mobai.

“Is the Infant-Feeding Elixir of any use?”

Chen Mobai asked another question; this Infant Forming Spirit Medicine had enabled three individuals from the Immortal Gate, including Nangong Xuanyu, to succeed in Nascent Soul Formation, indicating its efficacy. However, he was unsure if the one refined by Yan Shaoyin, after his improvements, had any issues.

“It can help in nurturing the emergence of the Primordial Infant Dao Seed. It was with the help of this Elixir that I was able to induce the Foundation Establishment Sign, but regrettably, due to a shallow foundation, I couldn’t cultivate it robustly. It failed to integrate the Spiritual Energy of the sign and transform to a Nascent Soul.”

Yan Shaoyin’s words greatly pleased Chen Mobai.

With this, the Infant-Feeding Elixir left behind by Yan Shaoyin was obviously also useful for him.

“Master Yan, may I inquire if you wish to return to the Eastern Wilderness?”

Chen Mobai continued to ask, but this time, it was with the intention of sweeping clean the final remnants of the Eastern Wilderness.

Primarily to bring Back to Sky Valley under the control of the Five Elements Sect, so that in the future, the Eastern Wilderness would truly be united.

“The fallen leaves return to the root; naturally, it is my wish. Besides, with my current situation, I cannot negotiate any terms. Sect Master Chen, just command me as you will,” Yan Shaoyin said with a wry smile, nodding in a sign of complete surrender.

“As long as you lead Back to Sky Valley to join the Five Elements Sect, I am willing to have you oversee the Alchemy Department. After you pass away in meditation, your memorial archway can be placed in the halls of the Five Elements Sect.”

This proposal would make Yan Shaoyin the eternal sinner of Back to Sky Valley, yet it would leave a path of survival for all its disciples and even allow their legacy to spread within the Five Elements Sect.

Moreover, if the disciples were well indoctrinated in the future, there is the possibility of rebirth under a different guise, with the line of Back to Sky assuming power within the Five Elements Sect.

“Sect Master Chen, do you think I am such a great person?”

Yet Yan Shaoyin shook his head and said just that.

To sacrifice all that he had to help the Five Elements Sect assimilate all of Back to Sky Valley's heritage—this was not the nature of a Tianhe Realm cultivator.

Since he was about to die anyway, better to leave a good reputation in the Eastern Wilderness.

"If you do it, the issue with the Dan Poison from the counterfeit Three Lights Divine Water in your body might not be unsolvable," Chen Mobai said, striking Yan Shaoyin with a statement that left him agape.

"Really...?"

With trembling hands, Yan Shaoyin set down his teacup, asking incredulously.

"In the past, I met an Abnormality in the Ruins..."

Chen Mobai continued with the same excuse he had told Zhou Shengqing and the others, then produced an exquisite Return to True Elixir and handed it to Yan Shaoyin.

"Absolutely the work of a Rank-4 or higher Alchemist..."

As the top Alchemist of the Eastern Wilderness, Yan Shaoyin had great confidence in his Alchemy; even the Star Heaven Dao Sect was willing to make him an Guest Elder.

However, as an Alchemist who had personally refined the Return to True Elixir, he knew intimately the challenges of its recipe.

Even in his eyes, having made several dozens of batches, he was not sure he could produce such an impeccable Elixir.

Only a Fifth-Order Alchemist could do so.

Or perhaps even higher than the fifth rank.

At this moment, Chen Mobai took out the Elixir Scripture modified by Qing Nu.

Having already looked over the contents, Yan Shaoyin, upon receiving a nod, immediately started to read.

He only looked over the recipes he possessed, but his hands began to tremble as he discerned the pinnacle of Alchemy within them.

“Sect Master Chen, are you implying that this senior might have a way to remove the Dan Poison from my body?”

After putting down the Elixir Scripture, Yan Shaoyin, filled with hope, asked.

“I cannot guarantee this matter, but if there is someone in Tianhe Realm who can solve your problem, other than the Huashen Zhenjun (Deity-Transcending True Monarch) of Dao Morale Sect, then perhaps it would be this senior, the Abnormality.”

Chen Mobai kept on spinning his tale, and Yan Shaoyin, who saw a glimmer of hope with no other way out, did not hesitate.

“In the future, Sect Master, whatever tasks you require of me, just command me.”

Chapter 1530:

With the hope of survival, Yan Shaoyin immediately changed his previous stance of preferring death over submission.

Chen Mobai smiled and asked him to reach out his hand, then he performed the Flame Lighting Technique, letting Yan Shaoyin experience the elimination of toxins from his spiritual power and the lightness of being cleansed of impurities.

“As long as you maintain your cultivation level without exceeding Foundation Establishment, this technique of mine can last a year or two. However, to completely solve the hidden dangers in your body, we need to target those toxins deep within your bones...”

Chen Mobai’s Flame Lighting Technique, if Yan Shaoyin could practice it persistently, might one day purify and resolve his issues.

But most of Yan Shaoyin’s body has been remodeled by the pseudo Three Lights Divine Water, making the Dan Poison a part of him, which is why the spiritual power he cultivates now also contains Dan Poison.

Even for the Immortal Gates, this is considered an intractable disease, only a master of the Medicine Way like the Three Extremes Sage could possibly cure it thoroughly.

“Thank you, Sect Leader.”

After experiencing the miracle of the Flame Lighting Technique, Yan Shaoyin had no doubts about what Chen Mobai said.

Or rather, besides this, he saw no other hope for himself.

“Why didn’t you purchase the true Three Lights Divine Water?”

Once their relationship was settled, the atmosphere became much more relaxed, and Chen Mobai voiced an uncertainty that had been weighing on his mind.

“Star Heaven Dao Sect itself doesn’t have enough for their use; even though in principle Guest Elders can exchange for it with merits, it’s like a carrot dangled in front of a donkey, impossible to obtain by someone like me.”

“If outsiders want the Three Lights Divine Water, the only way is through the Beidou Conference, but that too is a compromise forced by the pressure of the Holy Land on Star Heaven Dao Sect, mainly competed for by the Nascent Soul Seedlings of superpowers.”

“I was able to purchase a serving of pseudo Three Lights Divine Water only because I have been refining elixirs for the Starry Sky Commerce Guild for over a hundred years, and they valued my efforts. Even if I had the qualifications to buy, I couldn’t afford it!”

Yan Shaoyin said with a face full of sighs.

“Back to Sky Valley sits on eight thousand acres of medicinal fields, almost monopolizing the entire alchemy industry of the Eastern Wilderness; their accumulation of Spirit Stones could probably match what the other six major sects of the Eastern Wilderness had combined before. With such wealth, you can’t afford a serving of Three Lights Divine Water?”

After hearing this, Chen Mobai was somewhat surprised.

“Alas, Sect Master Chen, you’re not aware. Although Back to Sky Valley has significant holdings in the Eastern Wilderness, it has barely withstood the wasteful spending over the years. Most of the sect’s reserves were spent on my Nascent Soul Formation, otherwise I wouldn’t have moved from a Fourth-grade Cave Dwelling to the edge of Stone City waiting for death after failing to form my Nascent Soul.”

After hearing Yan Shaoyin’s words, Chen Mobai felt somewhat embarrassed since the matter of Nascent Soul Formation was significantly pushed by him.

“The largest of these transactions was the exchange with Sun Bathing Sea for the Rank-5 Sun Holy Fruit; using ten of the sect’s Rank-4 herbs, including a Superior Quality Rank-4 Earth Fire Red Lotus, and facilitated by the Starry Sky Commerce Guild, they barely agreed to the trade.”

Hearing this, Chen Mobai finally understood that his acceleration plan not only crippled Yan Shaoyin but also emptied Back to Sky Valley’s coffers, which took thousands of years to build.

Whether it was the Golden Liquid Jade Pill, Return to True Elixir, Nirvana Dan, or even the Infant-Feeding Elixir, even for these major East Wilderness Sects, each failure in refining would be a severe blow.

In recent decades, Yan Shaoyin had refined these not just once for the sake of Nascent Soul Formation.

If it weren't for the Five Elements Sect sharing half the burden, they would've probably been bankrupt by now.

But even so, now they are nearly penniless, probably the poorest Nascent Soul Ancestor of any sect.

"Can you still refine elixirs now?"

Thinking of Yan Shaoyin's expertise, Chen Mobai couldn't help but ask.

"Because there is Dan Poison in my spiritual power, I can only use an external flame to refine elixirs. Rank-1 and Rank-2 elixirs are manageable, but for Rank-3 or above, without control over the Dan Fire, the failure rate is high."

Yan Shaoyin spoke honestly, not wanting to embarrass himself when Chen Mobai might take him back to refine elixirs later.

External fire refers to the use of burning wood, Earth Fire, and the like.

Chen Mobai's Tusita Fire would also count.

Thinking of this, Chen Mobai nodded slightly.

He then inquired about the Beidou Conference, wanting to know what kind of price he would need to prepare if he wanted to obtain the Three Lights Divine Water.

“It’s hard to say, Sect Leader, as you know the nature of the auction depends on who needs it most. Moreover, after each transaction, Star Heaven Dao Sect does not disclose the reserve price, plus I’ve never had the qualifications to officially participate before, I’m an outsider.”

Yan Shaoyin shook his head, careful not to speculate and potentially influence Chen Mobai’s judgment.

“It seems I need to find someone from Star Heaven Dao Sect to ask.”

Upon hearing this, Chen Mobai thought of He Sui.

The next day.

When He Sui arrived, he saw Chen Mobai walking out of Yan Shaoyin’s courtyard, with the latter following behind like an attendant.

Seeing this scene, He Sui couldn’t help but be slightly stunned, but still approached respectfully.

As long as there was no homicide, it was acceptable.

“Senior, where would you like to go for a stroll today? Over at Crimson Moon Square, an ancestor of our sect has recently refined a Fourth-grade Magical Weapon and is currently infusing it with Star Essence to awaken it; it’s open to the public. If you’re interested, I can take you to see it.”