

Ancient ST 2341

Chapter 2341 - Demon-Refining Thunderbird, Good Item: Blood Strengthening Pellet

This Thunderbird was the purebreed of an ancient species. It was certainly great but not incredible. Qing Shui could kill it instantly using the Stellar Transposition. Yet, he suddenly thought that it might be better not to kill it.

Activating his spiritual sense, the Divine Weapon Flying Sword appeared in front of Qing Shui.

Rule of Nine Continents, Art of Pursuing!

Go!

Qing Shui used the Divine Weapon Flying Sword in a way so fast that it was beyond description. It was as if the attack was unavoidable.

Pfft!

The sword penetrated the wing of Thunderbird instantly and made a terrifyingly loud scream. This was just the beginning as the Flying Sword continued piercing through the Thunderbird continuously. Qing Shui used the Nine Continents Mountain and made continuous strikes.

The current Nine Continents Mountain was daunting, it was able to crash and injure the Thunderbird when the Shield Attack appeared. Painful screams of the Thunderbird were heard while its feathers fell down ceaselessly.

'It's about time', Qing Shui thought. He then took out the Demon Refining Furnace and used the oppression.

The Thunderbird let out a high-pitched yell when it saw the Demon Refining Furnace, as if it saw something frightening. However, it was already too late. The Demon Refining Furnace expanded immediately and oppressed the Thunderbird. Next, it appeared in the Demon Refining Furnace.

The Demon Refining Furnace shrunk and fell into Qing Shui's hand. He had a look at the Thunderbird which was as big as an egg now. Then, he started the refinement. It had been ages since he last refined. The Demon Refining Furnace upgraded a lot in terms of the realm. It was much stronger in refinement now. It was able to oppress completely.

Of course, a treasure would be based on strength and it could not oppress all levels of strength. The stronger the opponent was, the stronger the power of repulsion. If one could not handle the power of repulsion, he would suffer huge damage.

Qing Shui realized it was getting dark so he entered the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal and continued his journey on the next day.

The Demon Refining Furnace was stronger now so Qing Shui did not have to get involved in the normal refinement anymore. However, it would require a longer time. Qing Shui was not worried about time. He had the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal after all. He had plenty of time and nothing to do.

Ten days later in the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal, Qing Shui looked at the Demon Refining Furnace. The Thunderbird had vanished entirely, leaving behind a violet pellet the size of a walnut. It was crystal clear, giving out a tempting and fresh fragrance.

Qing Shui took the pellet out and observed it using the Heavenly Vision Technique.

Blood Strengthening Pellet, able to increase the amount of some special bloodline. The increment depended on the strength of the target bloodline. The stronger the blood was, the smaller the increment. The increase would be from one to five percent.

Qing Shui was rather excited as he found out that Demon Refining could produce an item like this. It was definitely a good item despite the small increment. How many purebred demonic beasts were required in refinement to complement for the little increment? Moreover, the outcome was not absolute. The Blood Strengthening Pellet would not be produced each and every time.

Qing Shui thought of his demonic beasts. The Golden Scaled Dragon Elephant had 18% of primordial blood now. He wanted to upgrade the blood of the Golden Scaled Dragon Elephant so that it would become stronger. Also, there was the Dark Phoenix, Dragon Spider, the Dragon Slaying Beast, the Diamond White Tiger King...

It seemed like he needed to refine the Ancient Purebred Demonic Beast now. However, they were all very strong and powerful. Plus, there were only a few of them. If they were from a tribe, there must be someone scary and daunting. If he had refined their offspring, they would probably seek revenge.

Qing Shui gave the Blood Strengthening to the Golden Scaled Dragon Elephant. He was confused to find out that the increase was only 1%.

There was 19% primordial blood now. 20% was the first critical point which could increase its strength greatly. However, the strength increment for 19% was relatively low. Primordial blood was daunting. It was ranked within the top ten or higher among all of the others.

The Dragon Slaying Beast ate the heart of Golden Primordial Bear and awakened the primordial blood previously. Yet, it was so thin that it was negligible. Using the Blood Strengthening Pellet should be able to increase its primordial blood.

Qing Shui made an Origin Essence Pill out of the remaining items. It was meant for strength improvement. It would neither increase the blood nor change it.

Qing Shui shook his head. Hopefully, the Dragon Slaying Beast and the Golden Scaled Dragon Elephant would become powerful with primordial blood in the future. He wished that they would achieve the level of the Golden Primordial Bear, which would absolutely be able to overturn the world with only 70 to 80% primordial blood.

Nevertheless, this was just an idle thought. If he could find enough purebred demonic beasts in the future, they might not be able to fully absorb them after frequent usage. There was only a one percent increase during the first time. Qing Shui was afraid that the subsequent ten intakes of Blood Strengthening Pellets would be one percent as well. It was totally possible that it might even become immune to it and showed no other changes.

It was always great to have a wish. As for the outcome, he should not overthink it. He should be happy with the slightest increment. Things should never be forced and a man who was contented would be a happy man. He had enough now. It was unnecessary to pursue perfection in everything. Moreover, there was nothing perfect. Even 100% was not the highest limit. There were 200% and even 300%.

Bailan City!

The next day, Qing Shui arrived at Bailan City. It was a big city with no domain present. Since the Demon King Domain involved the whole region, there were cities inside it. A city could be very big and was divided into several small towns. Some were divided according to the direction: North, South, East, and west.

The noblemen were usually in some special cities. A common city had one or even two noblemen.

As for Bailan City, there was one nobleman staying here. The nobleman was a person with the highest status in a country after the king. Though there were many noblemen in a country, the land of a nobleman was so vast that one could hardly imagine. Along Qing Shui's journey to Bailan City, the land he traversed belonged to the nobleman in Bailan City.

The nobleman of Bailan City had the surname Lan. He was apparently a powerful Demon King who had ruled the land for three hundred years. In the Water Nation, the noblemen were not very outstanding and had no ability to compete with the Water Emperor. Hence, they remained in the same current state for their whole lives.

As soon as he arrived, Qing Shui realized that Bailan City and Heishui City were like the ancient and modern worlds respectively. Bailan City's flourished environment was greatly ahead of Heishui City's.

The infrastructure here was much more classy. Along the walkway, the size of the buildings, the width of the streets, arrangement on the road, outfits of pedestrians, and the types of beast vehicles here were totally on a different level.

Auction house!

After a short walk, he saw an auction house. It looked like an extremely presentable auction room with a spacious place. Most importantly, it was crowded outside the shop; there were many high-end beast vehicles with strong demonic beasts. The vehicles were luxurious and the beasts were ferocious. They seemed to have survived countless battles.

Qing Shui wanted to check it out since he had nothing to do. Perhaps he could bid for some useful items like the Divine Weapon Crystal or a Divine Square Cauldron.

"Sir, please show your invitation card," The beautiful waitress at the door said in a formal tone.

"What? You need an invitation card?" Qing Shui replied in surprise.

"Yes, our auction house is only open to certain people," The waitress answered with a smile.

"Do you mean that I can't even enter without an invitation card?" Qing Shui asked.

Chapter 2342 - Bailan City, Auction House, Golden Jade

“Do you mean I can't enter without an invitation card?” Qing Shui asked.

“Not necessarily. For example, you can let someone who possesses an invitation card to bring you in, or you can show some special items for auction, or even show your powerful martial strength. You can get in with any of those methods,” The young waitress said, full of courtesy.

That sounded good, he could discard the option of finding someone to lead him in since he knew no one there. Getting an item for auction, that probably required something precious which would profit the auction house. They would then give away the invitation card as a reward. Qing Shui had many items available for auction in the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal like the Yin Yang Duality Swords. He had gathered a lot of things over the years. He could take out the pills and he had many techniques too.

“How do I show off my powerful martial strength?” Qing Shui asked with a smile.

“There are five rounds. You can get an invitation card when you win three rounds in a row.” The young waitress pointed at a building next door. It was like a fort. A very huge one. There was a battlefield with a platform and place to give away the invitation card. There would be different grades.

That was a way to add restrictions by the auction house. After all, it was a confined place. While it was relatively spacious, it could not bear the large crowd.

Qing Shui thought it over and took out some pills and forged products, “These things can be auctioned. Get someone to verify them and see if I qualify. Also, help me exchange some money for the auction.”

The young waitress certainly had no idea of the value of these items. She simply smiled, “A moment please, sir!”

Qing Shui nodded and stood there, observing his surroundings.

“This is the Fifth Young Master of the Lan King. He is indeed good-looking and a genius. I heard he might become the next king.”

“The Fifth Young Master is strong and great. He is one of the strongest among people his age in this Bailan City.”

“He is so excellent and one of the strongest. Apparently, he is not the greatest one, though,” Someone continued.

“There is no runner-up in martial arts. The Lan Clan is very strong, but other forces are not any weaker. They have many young talented people. It is hard to be the one leading far ahead of others. It is good enough to be one of the strongest. Approaching the late stage, it is tough to break through even once. Perhaps, one would never advance a single step for the rest of his life.”

Hence, those who had achieved the breakthrough by chance could easily win against warriors of a similar level. Yet, this was a tough step. Moreover, the leading bird would get shot first. The more talent one had, the easier he could lose his life.

Qing Shui listened to the discussions while watching a man walking down from a luxurious beast vehicle. The man seemed lively at his youthful age, looking handsome and bright. His eyes were bright, his armor in golden outline was mighty and elegant.

Two beauties stood by his side. They were tall and slim, looking graceful with curvy, seductive bodies. It would be shameful for a man from a big clan if he did not have a few decent-looking women. The Fifth Young Master was the cream of the crop in Bailan City. He definitely would not lose in the women aspect.

Hugging one of them on each side, he approached the auction house.

“Welcome, Fifth Young Master!”

“Why do you only come now? I’ve been waiting for you, Fifth Young Master.” Several young men walked to him happily, obviously from the same gang and they seemed to hang out together frequently.

“The bid hasn’t started yet, right? Why are you in a hurry? Come on, let’s get in. I heard there is good stuff this time.” The Fifth Young Master laughed. His hands squeezed the perky asses of the two women, making them pout shyly.

“Fifth Young Master is still so chicly. These two ladies looked different from the ones from three days back. You’re fast.” A young man smirked while observing the two women beside the Fifth Young Master.

“Young Master Fan, women are like clothes. We have to change them whenever we don’t feel like wearing them anymore. You are more thrifty. You don’t change your clothes even after some time. Girl, you are lucky to follow Young Master Fan.” Fifth Young Master looked at the woman beside the young man.

The woman was beautiful with an extraordinary otherworldly look. She was tall and lean with a subtle elegance. She seemed to be indifferent to everything but her charm was absolutely great. She stood quietly beside the young man like a snow lotus.

The woman kept silent which the Fifth Young Master seemed to be used to. He made a remark that it was uninteresting and then entered the auction house.

Qing Shui stood in the sideline for just a while. Many people entered one after another; each of them was a man of high status and identity. They were either members of royalty, noblemen, or ministers. Doubtless, some belonged to some big clans and forces.

After a moment, the young waitress hurried over, followed by a middle-aged man. “Sir, this is our Liu executive. He wants to talk to you.”

“Hi, Liu executive. I’m Qing Shui!”

“Mr. Qing, we have seen your items and they are great. How about we talk over there? The seat in the auction place is ready. We will bring you over before the bid begins,” The man said with a smile.

“Alright, I’ll listen to you.”

Following this Liu executive into the auction house, the man said immediately, “Sir, we like your items very much, especially the medicinal pills. I wonder if you’d like to auction them, or...?”

“If you like them, you can buy them straight away and I’ll refrain from auctioning them. It is just fitting as I’m lacking the money for bidding.” Qing Shui smiled. The warriors' world did not use gold and silver as money since they were meaningless to them. Strong warriors never lacked that kind of money.

In the warriors' world, a special golden jade was used as money. This item was full of spiritual sense. It could speed up training and be widely used. Qing Shui had some golden jades but he was afraid that he could not afford some great items. Hence, he sold the medicinal pills to the auction house.

"This is great. I thank you on behalf of the owner. We shall offer 50 million golden jades, how about that?" The man offered.

Golden jades were valued in pieces like the copper cash in the past life. Yet, it was not the copper cash here. The shape of a golden jade was different. Golden jade could be irregular in shape. It was valued based on the content of spiritual sense in a single piece of golden jade.

Qing Shui knew the value and the purchasing power of the golden jade here, and 50 million was a good amount. The price offered was absolutely reasonable. He reckoned it was the same price if he auctioned them.

Thus, he nodded and said, "Okay!"

"There's one thing I want to discuss with you. If I have insufficient money during the auction, could you please help me to produce the missing amount? I would repay with my items. I guarantee that you'll be satisfied." Qing Shui smiled.

"Absolutely no problem."

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Qing Shui entered the auction house. Inside was a closed room; only distinguished people could enjoy the privilege.

The auction house was grandly decorated, glittering in gold. There was a Bone Beast upon entering the main door. This was an ancient battle beast. However, there was only the skeleton left now. Initially, Qing Shui thought it was a carved demonic beast statue but he only realized then that it was a real demonic beast without its flesh and skin. It was so complete with its remaining skeleton.

The grand hall was crowded and bustling at that moment. There were at least ten thousand men standing in a semicircle, surrounding the front stage. That was where the auctioneer stood. There were many rooms on the second floor and only notable people were qualified to enter the rooms.

Chapter 2343 - Void Wolf Leather, Obtained the Treasure Pagoda

Qing Shui took out the Constitution Nurturing Pill. He thought it was a relatively great item. He knew that this item was an extremely precious item outside.

Constitution Nurturing and impurities cleansing were the most important in a warrior's cultivation.

Impurities cleansing could eliminate the body's toxins and make the body purer. This increased the body's constitution and talent, making the training faster and strength higher. It could cut off part of the trainer's hidden illnesses and contaminants. The amount of elimination depended on the extent of impurities cleansing.

Meanwhile, Constitution Nurturing stabilized the foundation and warmed up the meridians. Through nurturing, the Origin Qi became more pristine and stronger. A trainer's foundation was the most crucial, just like how a skyscraper's foundation was the most vital part. Otherwise, it could never stand tall.

The same thing applied to a warrior. The foundation determined the extent of training. If the foundation was unstable, a talented man's growth would be stumped sooner or later. Thus, constitution nurturing and impurities cleansing were mandatory. Qing Shui knew that these bottles of Constitution Nurturing Pills would be sold at high prices.

The auction house's offer to him was high, but they did not suffer any loss. They even made a fortune off it.

At this moment, an elder and a beautiful woman walked up the stage. An auction could never go without a woman.

The woman was mature, wearing a red, body-hugging robe, which outlined her wonderful figure perfectly. Her thin waist and round ass were asking for trouble. The two mountains on her chest were especially round and perky. Many people drooled over her alluring figure.

Lan City's auction house had a powerful background. Otherwise, many people would plan to get this woman.

The woman had a charming and seductive face. She was mature and inviting. This was a woman who could ignite your inner fire instantly. She could seduce you with a single look or a tiny gesture. This was an eternal beauty.

Qing Shui also noticed the other side of her. This woman's strength was similar to Chi Yang, about 1.5 trillion Dao. Without the Heavenly Vision Technique, Qing Shui would never know this woman's strength.

The elder was ordinary with his strength at Martial King level. He looked friendly and plump, his tiny eyes were full of smiles. At that time, he stood on the auction stage and bowed to his surroundings.

"Welcome to the Lan City's auction house. I'll skip the rules since I know nobody wants to listen to that. This time, we have some good items. Everybody, please look forward to seeing them. Without further ado, let's see the first item!" The plump elder gave a hand signal.

A woman walked from the backstage, holding a dish-like object which was covered with red cloth.

She placed it on the auction table. The elder revealed the cloth without saying a word. It was a folded beast skin which was about more than ten meters square when it was opened up.

"This is a Void Wolf's skin. Everyone knows about the Void Wolf, right? It can make a leap into the sky. An outfit made out of its skin can make one invisible. Furthermore, one can escape the present location at once with this. This is a great, life-saving item. This Void Wolf Leather is around ten meters, more than enough to make a suit. The bid starts from 20 million golden jade. Each increment must not be less than one million. The bid starts now!" The elder explained in one go.

"30 million golden jade!"

As soon as the elder finished his line, someone started with 30 million golden jade. Qing Shui was perplexed with how many wealthy men there were. He had only 60 million golden jade now and he originally owned 10 million of them. Initially, he thought he was considered a millionaire, but now he was made to realize that he was poor when compared to other people present.

“32 million!” Not long after, a middle-aged man said.

“40 million!” The first man said again.

This man was the one Qing Shui saw at the entrance. He was the Young Master Fan.

The middle-aged man made a clenching gesture. He stopped his bidding.

“40 million once, 40 million twice, 40 million thrice, deal! Congratulations to this gentleman for getting the Void Wolf Leather. Now, you can make the payment at the back. You can also go when the auction is over,” The elder smiled.

“Alright, moving on to the second item now. This item is a little special so watch carefully.”

Then, once again, a waitress held a dish and walked up the stage. It was also covered with red cloth. The elder pulled the red cloth away, displaying a small pagoda to the audience.

Qing Shui gaped. Wasn't that the treasure pagoda?

“We have no idea of this item and its usage, but my client insists for me to auction it. Our auction house will put up some strange items for auction as well. Plus, the client has some other items for sale. This is just a bonus. The bid starts at 100 thousand, each increment must not be less than five thousand. Those who are interested, you may begin now.” The elder said with a smile.

Qing Shui was definitely getting this. Though he did not know about the usage, this item was surely the most precious treasure and he must not miss it.

105 thousand!

Qing Shui made a bid. He sounded languid as if he was not really interested.

“105 thousand, is there any higher price?” The auctioneer continued.

“105 thousand once, 105 thousand twice, 105 thousand...”

“200 thousand!” At that moment, another voice was heard.

Qing Shui's heart skipped a beat. Who was it? Could it be that he knew the value of this little pagoda too? If the others really knew the usage of this little pagoda, he could not even obtain it with 10 million golden jade.

Qing Shui was not a thrifty person. He would buy it without any hesitation if he had 10 million. After all, this kind of item was actually invaluable. Even the golden jade could not compare to it.

Qing Shui looked at that person. It was, surprisingly, the Fifth Young Master. Qing Shui felt speechless, but he said it, “500 thousand!”

The audience began to discuss.

“This little pagoda is obviously unattractive and useless but there is really a fool who bids for it. What a spendthrift.”

“Fifth Young Master, it seems like someone is fighting with you.” A young man laughed.

“It is an auction. It is clear that it is only interesting with some competition. One million.” The Fifth Young Master doubled the price.

Qing Shui did not expect to go against the nobleman upon his arrival. Still, he did not back down, “Five million!”

Psst!

A lot of people withdrew a cold breath.

“What a wealthy fool. Who is this? Does he not know that he is opposing the Fifth Young Master?” A bystander said. He sounded extremely happy.

“Dear Fifth Young Master, who is that silly kid? He doesn’t take you seriously!” A woman beside the Fifth Young Master chuckled.

“Forget it. I don’t want it anymore. This thing doesn’t even look nice. Let’s not fight for it. This man probably just wants to make Young Master spend more. He knows you won’t let it go. Let’s not fight for it and let him be the one who spends a fortune. It is meaningless to fight here and there are more great items coming up next. We don’t have to waste it here,.” Another woman said softly.

“Elder sister, you are so kind. Young Master pampers you so much. I’m very kind too...” The previous woman hugged the Fifth Young Master and said in a coaxing voice.

“Okay, let’s listen to Yuan`er. Little girl, learn from Yuan`er next time.”

“Five million once, five million twice, five million thrice, deal! Congratulations to this gentleman for winning this little pagoda.”

“Fifth Young Master gave up. That is something unexpected and rare, but the man in that room is probably getting into some trouble.”

Chapter 2344 - Heavenly Fate Treasure Pagoda of Violence and Endurance, Breaching 100 Million

“Fifth Young Master gave up. That is something unexpected and rare, but the man in that room is probably getting into some trouble.”

“Indeed. It has been ages since someone went against the Fifth Young Master like this. Interesting.”

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Qing Shui was indifferent to the chattering. He was not afraid of anyone in the Demon King Domain, let alone Bailan City. After a while, a waitress sent the little Pagoda to Qing Shui. Qing Shui placed the money at the auction house earlier on, so they would deduct the price from it.

Heavenly Fate Treasure Pagoda of Violence and Endurance!

After owning it, one would double their attacking power and endurance.

The description was brief, but Qing Shui was extremely surprised and bought it straight away.

Powerful energy formed within Qing Shui's body. Attacking power had always been Qing Shui's weakness, but now it had been greatly improved. Though it was still insufficient, it would be terrifying in a Berserk Dragon Fist. Qing Shui felt like this fist technique was getting more important now.

It was the ability of the Nine Animals Mimicry Technique which only Qing Shui could make use of to such a daunting level. The current Berserk Dragon Fist could reach 4000 trillion Dao already.

Qing Shui had only less than 5000 trillion Dao now, including defense, Battle God Halo and formations. This attack was considered very powerful, but it was only limited to the Berserk Dragon Fist. The others were still rather weak, but Qing Shui believed that they would catch up one day.

This kind of treasure pagoda only increased the final attacking power and had no effect on Qing Shui's defense. Nevertheless, endurance was doubled and it was wonderful. It was about the lasting power which was related to the body.

The item was really worth the price of 5 million. He was satisfied to obtain it with this amount of money. He was determined to get this item regardless of the end price.

At this moment, the third item was revealed on the auction stage.

"This is a treasure sword. It is said to have been owned by a saint in ancient times. Although it suffered minor damage, it is still considered magical. You can have a look first." The aged auctioneer explained.

Then, the alluring woman in red carried this sword and began to let the crowd observe it.

For sure, they started with the people in the rooms. This woman was too seductive and enticing, but she was also a woman with thorns.

Bang!

A fat guy was flung out from a room and fell onto the first floor's hall. The alluring woman said only one phrase, "Get lost!"

"Brainless guy. He probably wanted to take advantage of her. I wonder how many guys have done the exact same thing." A young man said with a smile.

"A hundred and thirty five." A man sounded serious.

"Haha, you are better in numbers. Of course you would remember this, Young Master Chu."

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Soon after, the woman came near Qing Shui while holding the sword. Qing Shui wondered about her identity and why she worked here, but it was only suitable for someone who had the strength of hers.

An aromatic breeze was felt. It was neither a heavy nor a mild scent, but it was tempting. This was a strong fragrance, making people lose control easily.

"Sir, please have a look." The woman brought the sword closer to Qing Shui.

Her voice was enticing and seductive; it was soft and teased one's soul.

“Sorry for troubling you!”

“It's my job to do so.”

Qing Shui smiled and looked at this sword which was worn out and plain. It was heavy and thick, with a length of four meters and a width of two inches. It was neither big nor small.

This weapon was great from what Qing Shui found out with the Heavenly Vision Technique. It was weaker than the God Striking Whip. Both of them were damaged but there was a big difference. However, it was qualified as a Divine Weapon. Besides, he did not have to own this weapon.

Qing Shui nodded, implying that he was done. He would bid for it if possible, but seeing how this kind of item was the most popular, it would probably be unrealistic.

After some time, the old auctioneer said, “Starting from 40 million, each increment must not be less than 8 million. The bid begins now!”

Qing Shui was perplexed that the lowest bid was 40 million. This sword would probably go above 100 million.

“80 million!” Immediately, a man said.

“This is Minister Jin!” Someone shouted.

Qing Shui did not know about Minister Jin, but the man looked charismatic in his middle age. Wearing a golden robe, his eyes were full of spirit, giving out a sense of fierceness. This was a strong man, and a man of powerful status.

Minister Jin was implying his determination to get the item so that others would give up for him. Also, he showed his sincerity by doubling the price.

“100 million!” A man who was wearing a white robe and also looked slightly aged said.

“Haha, I knew Minister Bai would stand out. These two had been fighting for so many years. He would increase the price even if he couldn't win against Minister Jin,” Someone said as he laughed instantly. Apparently everyone was familiar with these two men.

“It has breached a hundred million. What a good item. It's a shame that we are unable to compete,” A man sighed and said.

Qing Shui gaped in surprise. This item could really make a great sum of money.

At that time, the old auctioneer on the stage said something, “I'm sorry to inform this but just now, the seller said that he won't trade this item for money anymore. He wants some life-extending pills or recipes. It shouldn't be lower than fifty years.”

At his words, many people were stunned. Fifty years. That was not a small number. Besides, life-extending pills were the most precious. At that moment, Qing Shui called upon the waitress to get a bottle of lifespan pills. Simultaneously, many people passed over their recipe or pills to the waitress.

Qing Shui obtained the sword eventually. It did not even have a name. Qing Shui threw it into the Realm of Violet Jade Immortal with no hesitation. If the others could not make use of it, he would use the Hundred Treasure Chest then.

Minister Jin and Minister Bai stared at Qing Shui's with unknown thoughts.

“Where does that young man come from? Such a generous man, he is neither afraid to offend the Fifth Young Master nor Minister Jin and Minister Bai.”

“This man is not simple. To be able to offer life-extending pills, that is not a small amount.”

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The subsequent ten items did not interest Qing Shui, but the others had a great competition. He was almost dozing off.

This time, the item being carried on the stage was rather big. Qing Shui took a glance and laughed to himself. It was surprisingly the Divine Weapon Stone.

“Divine Weapon Stone, a magical item which is able to increase the quality of weapons. Yet, it requires a really great blacksmith. Thus, one has to be very cautious. Otherwise, he will lose his weapon by mistake.”

There was such a slight chance that once used, the weapon would be basically spoiled.

However, people would make a bet as long as there was a chance because when successful, the advantage was obvious.

Qing Shui would not use the Divine Weapon Stone to upgrade the level of weapons. The Divine Weapon Flying Sword had yet to achieve complete levels. If he could, he would upgrade it first.

“Starting from 5 million, each increment must not be less than 600 thousand.”

“8 million!” The one who started was the Fifth Young Master.

Qing Shui smirked silently as soon as he saw the Fifth Young Master; it seemed like he had to undergo a fierce fight with this man today.

Qing Shui did not reply immediately. He reckoned someone would come out to compete. The more the merrier.

“10 million!” Minister Jin spoke.

“12 million!”

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That was also happening at once. It was fine to leave this item. Great things would not depreciate. Its usage was wide and the effect was great. Unfortunately, the risk of failure was too high.

Chapter 2345 - Fifth Young Master of Bailan City

This Divine Weapon Stone was very big and most importantly, the quality was good. It was natural that Qing Shui wanted it too. In just a while, the price became 12 million.

“13 million!” Fifth Young Master spoke again this time.

Nobody said a word this time. While the Divine Weapon Stone was nice, the failure rate was too high. Once failed, the weapon or armor would be lost. A bad item needed not to be upgraded and a good item one could not bear to lose.

The Divine Weapon Stone was of little value but with a high failure rate. There were still some items that could increase the success rate. Once succeeding, it could bring the weapon or armor to another level. That one level was very crucial.

Hence, some people would fight for it. There were many who could afford it, but many of them stopped offering when the Fifth Young Master spoke again. Now that many were aware that the Fifth Young Master was annoyed, they reckoned they would be hated by the Fifth Young Master if he lost in the bidding again.

The Fifth Young Master of the Dukes which belonged the largest force in Bailan City. Hence, many people gave up since there was no need to offend him just for a Divine Weapon Stone.

“13 million once, 13 million twice, 13 million.....”

“20 million!” At that time, Qing Shui spoke again, helplessly.

This time, a lot of the audience appeared interested. It was fair to have an unbiased competition here. One should not oppress others with his identity. Otherwise, how could the auction go on? No one would bring his items for auction here again if it were so. It would be better to just sell it with the starting price.

Usually, when a big shot wanted something, they would come to the auction. Many people were wary of their identities, but they would offer reasonable prices directly. Hence, the rest would not continue bidding and the seller would not suffer any loss. That showed the manner of the big shot as well.

Hearing Qing Shui speak, people felt that he was here to disgrace the Fifth Young Master. The first time could be a coincidence, but this time, Qing Shui remained silent initially. Later on, nobody else was competing but he spoke out. Besides, he gave a big sum of money that had surpassed the Fifth Young Master’s offer greatly.

The Fifth Young Master was in deep grief. Did he lack any money? Uncontrollable anger arose as he redirected his evil eyes towards Qing Shui. The Fifth Young Master was the popular man in Bailan City. It was unknown why he did not head to the room but occupied a small piece of land to show his precious status.

At that moment, many people noticed his angry face which was disfigured. This was a shameful moment. He had never been humiliated like this before.

“20 million once, 20 million twice, 20 million.....”

“40 million!” The Fifth Young Master said just before the bid ended.

This time, everyone could see that the Fifth Young Master wanted to fight for his dignity. In fact, he thought the price would not exceed 20 million. Now, he couldn't care less. He would be depressed if he did not win against this man.

Qing Shui frowned. It was upsetting to meet a situation like this. The Fifth Young Master was probably insane. Even if Qing Shui increased the price by another 20 million, the opponent probably would still not give up easily. It was pointless then.

Still, Qing Shui wanted this Divine Weapon Stone a lot. Though he was unsure of the number of Divine Weapon Crystals he could use, around 200 of them should be fine judging from its size.

However, since he met someone crazy, Qing Shui definitely did not want to follow the insanity. He remained quiet upon hearing the Fifth Young Master.

"40 million once, 40 million twice, 40 million thrice! Congratulations to this gentleman for winning the Divine Weapon Stone."

The Fifth Young Master obtained the Divine Weapon Stone but he could not sense the slightest joy. He kept feeling uneasy. It was as if he had swallowed a frog. He kept silent with a cold face.

The next item was revealed. It was something even more depressing to the Fifth Young Master. This was another Divine Weapon Stone and it was one and a half times bigger than the previous one...

"This is a larger Divine Weapon Stone than the previous one, starting at 10 million, each increment should not be less than 1 million. The bid begins now!" The old auctioneer said.

"11 million!" Qing Shui said softly.

Many people backed off as Qing Shui spoke. This man had competed with the Fifth Young Master. Still, there were people who went for it.

"15 million!"

The previous one was about 15 million at its normal price then this one should be around 30 million at its normal price.

The previous one was sold at 40 million to the Fifth Young Master. In that case, this one would probably be around 70 million. Of course, the previous one was a special case, not meant to be used for a rough price estimation.

"30 million!" Qing Shui said once again.

"40 million!" The Fifth Young Master said at the moment.

"50 million! If someone offers a higher price, I will concede." Qing Shui said with a smile.

However, nobody said a single word. The Fifth Young Master did not want it even for 40 million. He only wanted to annoy Qing Shui.

Qing Shui did not care about the price. He could sell some Constitution Nurturing pills in the worst scenario. Hence, 50 million was not considered expensive.

There were a few good items next, two of them were weapons with the price of more than 100 million. There were many wealthy men in this Bailan City apparently. Still, the price was worth paying for. It could increase a lot of battle strength after getting the items.

The Divine Weapon Stone that Qing Shui got could use 300 Divine Weapon Crystals, it was good. However, he had no Divine Square Cauldron so he could not upgrade the realm of Divine Weapon Flying Sword at present.

Qing Shui stopped getting other items after that and the auction soon was finished. After checking out, he left the auction house and headed to the nearby resthouse. He was going to stay overnight here. Perhaps he would stay in this Bailan City for several days.

Before Qing Shui reached the resthouse, he was stopped by a few men.

“Brother, you’re not bad. Nobody has ever bullied me, Lan Xi, like this. Why did you go against me?”

The one who stopped Qing Shui was the Fifth Young Master, who was staring daggers at Qing Shui now. Qing Shui thought the Fifth Young Master was good-looking and bright when they first met. Although he looked slightly lusty, it stopped right there and Qing Shui did not feel bad about him. Yet, now that Qing Shui took a good look at his eyes, Qing Shui realized that he was too narrow-minded and could not go far.

“The auction house did the auction fair and square. If the others are forbidden to bid once somebody asks for it, what is the meaning of an auction? Besides, why would I go against you? Who are you anyway? I don’t even know you.” Qing Shui asked in return.

Qing Shui’s statement was obvious, implying that the Fifth Young Master was nothing and Qing Shui had no reason to fight with him. Qing Shui did not say it clearly but that was what he implied.

The Fifth Young Master’s eyes became more gruesome, “Nobody has ever been so gullible in Bailan City.”

Qing Shui smirked, “There will be people like you everywhere. Well of course, life will be tasteless without people like you. You’re descendants of the Duke, right?”

The Fifth Young Master was about to get angry, but he said, “Yes. Why, are you afraid? It’s too late now!”

“Hah, so sad. If there’s no Dukedom, what would you be in Bailan City? Have you thought about it?” Qing Shui said with a smile.

“This is none of your business and your assumption is nonsense. Luck is also a strength. It is my strength to be born as a descendant of the Duke. Haven’t you heard that some people are born to own more than what a lot of men struggle their entire lives to get? It is useless to envy or get jealous.” The Fifth Young Master added in disdain.

Chapter 2346 - Fifth Young Master, Disposed Of

Qing Shui was amused, listening to the Fifth Young Master. Being envious and jealous? He really wasn’t. He wondered what it was about the Fifth Young Master that he would be envious of. Plus, he was not someone who would simply get envious.

"If you have nothing else then you'd better withdraw. I'm just passing by this place. I don't want to get upset with anybody," Qing Shui shook his head and said.

"You think you can leave so easily after messing with our Fifth Young Master, huh? Hand over the items you've got today and we can consider letting you go," A small man beside the Fifth Young Master said.

Qing Shui did not say anything but simply stared at the Fifth Young Master.

"Stop looking. Our Fifth Young Master does not want to kill anybody so it's your advantage to just give us the items. You won't get such a luxury anymore if you make a noise," The previous man said again, sounding extremely arrogant.

"I really don't know how you have managed to survive till now. Fifth Young Master, yes? Since you don't want to manage your dog, let me help you."

Qing Shui raised his hand as soon as he finished talking. He slapped and threw the person away. The man was flung several tens meters away with his neck slanted. Qing Shui did not want him to die. If he wanted to, the man would have been dead even if he had ten lives.

"Okay, great. You dare to hit the men of the Dukes." The Fifth Young Master said with an insincere smile.

"You really are pitiful, thinking that I'm afraid of killing you. I've said it before. The Dukes that you're so proud of are nothing to me. If I kill you, your family would have to apologize to me instead. If you don't believe me, I will gladly show you." Qing Shui held out his hand and attacked.

Clash!

Clash!

One of The Fifth Young Master's arm and leg broke instantly.

"Go! Kill him!" The Fifth Young Master looked pale and shouted loudly.

Soon, many people surrounded the place. There were a lot of men on the Fifth Young Master's side, many of them dashing to Qing Shui. Qing Shui killed a great half of them with no effort. The remaining ones stopped in their tracks, knowing that they had encountered someone difficult today.

Soon after, the men of the Dukes came. The Fifth Young Master got his arm and leg broken by somebody in front of his territory. If this news spread out, the Dukes would lose their faces entirely. This time, the people who came were great warriors. Qing Shui watched the opponents with a smile, looking extremely calm.

"Who are you and why did you hurt the Duke's man?" A handsome man asked.

"Seventh Uncle, kill him! Kill him!" Lan Xi yelled out loud.

Qing Shui made another strike from afar and two loud snaps were heard again, "If you make another noise, I will break your d**k."

That statement was very powerful and silenced Lan Xi's immediately. Broken limbs could be treated, but once a man's treasure was broken, his whole life was considered finished. He dared not to take the risk.

The man, whom Lan Xi called Seventh Uncle, was extremely enraged. His eyes were blazing with fire. How reckless was that? to break another arm and leg of his nephew directly in front of him. The man dared not act carelessly.

"I don't care who you are. Just take my advice. The Dukedom is nothing. You can take it as I'm boasting but you can have a try. As for the consequences, you will have to bear with them." Qing Shui looked at the Fifth Young Master.

"Sir, I wonder where you have come from. Can you show me something, or else I can't justify myself when I return." The man frowned a little.

"You can try, but I can't guarantee your survival if you do." Qing Shui looked at the man. He wanted to settle for both sides as there was nothing as good as that. It was impossible to not pay the price.

The man hesitated, but he still nodded.

Qing Shui said to the man, "Come on!"

The man was not too kind this time. He nodded and posed a starting gesture. Then, he took out a willow leaf-like knife. It was as translucent as jade. There were three haloes of different colors; azure, white, and green.

They were the energies of wind, holiness and vitality.

The man's aura changed. He became profound and deep. This change made Qing Shui's eyes brighten. This man had good strength and he seemed stronger than Chi Yang. Apparently, this man was great in the Dukedom.

No wonder he was quite confident. He indeed had that qualification. However, he was still much weaker than Qing Shui, especially after Qing Shui got the Heavenly Fate Treasure Pagoda of Violence and Endurance. He could simply fool the opponent without using The Divine Weapon Flying Sword and Stellar Transposition.

Swipe swipe swipe!

The man waved his Saber once but he performed three Saber Qi.

Three Perfections Treasure Saber!

Qing Shui's eyes brightened, he did not expect the opponent to have an item like this. He held out his hand as the opponent was swinging his weapon.

With Qing Shui's current strength and sight, he grabbed onto the opponent's wrist. Then, his hand advanced abruptly and tapped on the man's chest, making the man vomit fresh blood and back off. The man's saber was dropped during this and Qing Shui swiftly grabbed it.

The man was terrified to death. One move, and he received severe injuries. Perhaps, the opponent had already gone easy on him. His instinct said so, and his instinct was always right.

The Fifth Young Master was extremely frightened when he saw the battle. Seventh Uncle was the cream of the crop in the Dukedom. He was among the top five or even top three. Yet, he could not even stand

against a single move by the opponent. What was the background of this young man? Why would he even get in trouble with this man?

Qing Shui walked to the Fifth Young Master.

“Don't kill me! I'm wrong, I won't ever do that again. I'll give all these items to you!” While talking, the Fifth Young Master took out the items he got from the auction. Though his arms were broken, he could still get the items out of the Interspatial Silk Satchet.

“I won't kill you. It would just soil my hands to kill someone like you. However, everyone has to be responsible for their actions.”

Qing Shui pointed a finger at the Fifth Young Master who then gave a loud scream and looked as pale as ashes. He had lost all his cultivation. The Fifth Young Master was a genius. He was quite good at training even though he was no match for Qing Shui. But now, he was useless trash. In the future, he would not even stand a place in his family.

A big clan was merciless. Useless trash would not be tolerated. If he was born to be useless, it would be fine. However, he was once a genius. A reckless genius who tormented so many men. Now, he would be shamed for countless times in later days.

Putting these aside, he could not face it himself. For a strong warrior, his cultivation was more vital than his own life.

“Remember, if the Dukes come to me next time, I don't mind wiping all of you out and make the Lan Clan disappear.” Qing Shui said lightly. He kept the Divine Weapon Crystal and walked to the resthouse in front.

The Dukes did not come again, but Qing Shui overheard something at the door at night. He stayed in a resthouse near the auction house.

“Who's that?” Qing Shui asked quietly.

“It's me. Can I come in?” An alluring voice was heard.

Qing Shui was perplexed as the voice sounded familiar. After a moment, he knew it was the mysterious female auctioneer at the auction house. He wondered why she came here at night. He definitely would not think that she was here to offer herself.

“Come in!” Qing Shui did not lock the door.

The woman was wearing the same red gown. Her thin waist and thick bottom looked even more charming under the light. This woman was so enticing, but she had a fluctuating soul. She was not a virgin. Qing Shui could sense that she had intercourse with several men.

Chapter 2347 - Water Nation Imperial City, Crystal City, Widow Qing

Qing Shui perceived with his spiritual sense that this woman did it with more than five different men recently. Qing Shui frowned uncontrollably. This woman either practiced the Yang Collective Technique or she was simply an easy woman. Either way, Qing Shui did not fancy that.

"Anything?" Qing Shui asked.

"Don't be so serious, mister. I have come to make friends with you brazenly. You are making me feel awkward," The woman said shyly.

It would be wonderful if this woman were a virgin or if Qing Shui did not know her condition. After all, this woman was very beautiful. Plus, she was very seductive. At that moment, she looked even more charming. Unfortunately, it appeared a bit disgusting to Qing Shui once he knew her true self.

"Go back if you have nothing important. I have things to do," Qing Shui did not want to continue the conversation.

"Aren't I pretty?" The woman secretly cursed Qing Shui for being coolheaded.

"The surface looks good," Qing Shui said.

"Don't you want to have some intimacy with me?" The woman sounded enticing. Adding to her expression and gestures, a faint aura infused into Qing Shui's body.

Charm Art!

Qing Shui smiled; that was a child's play. The slightest bit of fondness toward this woman was gone, "A thousand men must have slept with you already."

The woman changed her expression, "Don't think you are unrivaled in Bailan City just because you beat the Duke's men. I'm here for a trade and since you don't like my body, I'll use something else."

Qing Shui smiled even more, but he was surprised inside. It seemed like the auction house was strong and did not take the Dukes seriously. What did that imply? It showed that the auction house was not any weaker than the Dukes.

"Oh, I know the Dukes are the strongest in Bailan City. As for your auction house, I don't reckon it's stronger than the Dukes. I wonder what are you gonna trade for?" Qing Shui asked.

"We need your medicinal pills. Are you interested in coming to the auction house? We will satisfy all your criteria." The woman blinked her charming eyes to Qing Shui while talking.

"Not interested. Also, I ran out of medicinal pills. It's getting dark so I'm going to rest." Qing Shui yawned and said.

"I'm very sincere," The woman said.

"Being sincere doesn't mean you can force people into a difficult situation. Now please go back," Qing Shui said.

The woman hesitated. Seeing her, Qing Shui had a second thought and took out two bottles of Constitution Nurturing Pills, "I don't get this item all the time. Its ingredients are precious but the success rate of refining it is very low. These two bottles are for you. Take it as my appreciation for the auction house's help today."

Qing Shui did not like this woman but he did not hate her either. After all, everyone had his own freedom. She was unrelated to him whatsoever. She was free to play with anyone she wanted.

The woman accepted the pills, "Thank you, but please leave this place soon. I'm afraid that the auction house will act against you. They want to get your recipes."

"Thanks for the warning."

Qing Shui was not afraid that the auction house would come for trouble. He would have them loose a massive amount of blood if they dared to come.

The night passed in peace. The next two days were peaceful too. On the third day, Qing Shui was prepared to head to the Water Nation's Imperial City. He could only know the actual situation of the Demon King Domain once he reached there. Perhaps, he would make some special encounters.

Nine Continents Steps!

Qing Shui did not want to have any more problems. He knew someone was tailing after him. It should be either the man from the auction house or the Dukes. They would never expect Qing Shui to have the Nine Continents Steps and vanished instantly beyond their stalking regions.

He disappeared completely at once and left the men in disbelief. Initially, Qing Shui had always been under their eyes but he had vanished entirely.

Qing Shui did not want to mess with these people anymore. He was here to feel the strength of the Demon King Domain and see if he could collect some treasures, increase his experience and strength. The Demon King Domain might only be a stepping stone.

The benefit of this visit was great and the experience was crucial. If one stayed still in the same place, his strength improvement would slow down. This time, if he did not come to the Demon King Domain, he would not have gotten the Heavenly Fate Treasure Pagoda of Violence and Endurance. At least, the chance of getting it was so small that it was negligible.

With Qing Shui's current strength, though he might be able to top the Demon King Domain, he would probably be weaker in the Middle Three Regions. Thus, he wanted to go to the Water Nation Imperial City and check out the actual powerful warriors.

A month later, Qing Shui had finally arrived at the Water Nation Imperial City.

Crystal City!

Qing Shui only realized how beautiful a city could be upon his arrival. The buildings and floor were built with a kind of crystal stone. This stone was only available in the Crystal City. It was extremely hard and gave out a subtle halo which was truly dreamlike.

This city was one which was exclusively in dreams. It had a vibe of a kingdom in a dreamland. Everything was reflected in a world free from any speck of dust, regardless whether it was the best vehicle on the streets or the birds and demonic beasts in the sky. Everything seemed to be a lot prettier.

Though pretty, the city was quite large. Besides, Qing Shui felt a sense of oppression as he arrived. The feeling was subtle but the cultivation seemed profound.

Qing Shui spent a short period to feel it carefully, his eyes brightening. He knew it in his heart that this should be the guardian Divine beast of the nation. He heard of it as he went on. Rumor had it that the Water Nation's guardian Divine Beast was an incredibly powerful Crystal Dragon.

It was said to be a real Crystal Dragon which had been guarding the Water Nation for many years.

Besides the Crystal Dragon, it was rumored that the inner city of the Imperial City had a huge guarding formation. It could protect the place and a very large region around it.

This formation could reverse the attack as well as give protection. If you used one percent of energy to attack, it would be countered with several folds of the energy. It was extremely daunting.

Qing Shui did not feel very lonely, despite being by himself here. However, with the approaching new year, seeing people who came out with their families, he started missing his family members. However, Qing Shui had yet to find a suitable spot to fix the Five Elements Divine Flag. So, he could not go home. Otherwise, he would waste a lot of time again.

The Water Nation's Imperial City was so beautiful, Qing Shui reckoned that he could really fix a spot here. Perhaps, he could settle down here later. It was not only beautiful but also full of spiritual Qi. The strength was also great. He knew that there were many forces in the Demon King Domain and the Water Nation was definitely one of the stronger ones.

There was the Water Nation, Gold Nation, Fire Nation, Earth Nation, Wood Nation and some big Sects here. Yet, most of them were attached to a nation while some others existed as nations. These were mostly the bigger Sects.

Qing Shui's eyes flashed suddenly and spotted a familiar silhouette from afar. He knew he would not get the wrong person, so he followed the figure. Then, he was stunned.

This was a woman who looked like a married lady. He sensed it from first sight. It was not shown through her body but the natural aura.

Her face was so pretty that it outshined all the women throughout the world. Her body figure had no difference from a teenage girl. Yet, she was fuller on some body parts, especially for the perky chest which stretched out her clothes wide and tall. The solid vision was so vivid, the perky bamboo-shape was exceptionally impactful.

She was tall and lean, about 1.7 meters tall or more. Her long, straight legs made her seem not like a married lady at all. The most beautiful thing was her face. The dark eyes were like stars and moon. Yet, these eyes were very cold. This was a kind of indifference that came from the soul.

Widow Qing, this woman was surprisingly Nalan Qing. Qing Shui stared at her in extreme surprise.

Chapter 2348 - The Water Emperor's daughter, Nalan Qing.

Qing Shui certainly did not expect to see her here. Though it hadn't been long since they parted, they were practically unrelated back then, so meeting now felt like such a stretch.

In this dreamlike city, such a beautiful person had an unspeakable allure, standing there with unparalleled gracefulness.

It was as if she felt something that made Nalan Qing look at Qing Shui's general direction, before she opened her mouth in surprise. She was in disbelief. She never thought that she would see this man again.

Women were strange creatures. They were unable to resist the notion of fate. It was as if the words that Nalan Qing said previously had not disappeared. In fact, Nalan Qing had felt that their previous encounter was a final farewell and that there was no hope of another meeting.

"Ms. Qing, we meet again. I don't know if you remember what you said the last time..." Qing Shui was pretty happy that he met an acquaintance here, if she could even be counted as one. It was natural to feel happy, meeting familiar people in foreign places. It was one of life's three great joys.

"Of course I remember. Come on. I'll treat you to a drink," Nalan Qing's face was very soft and delicate. It was Qing Shui's first time seeing this woman with such a gentle side.

Qing Shui followed as Nalan Qing led the way. Stepping on a clear crystal-like ground surface, accompanied by a beautiful person, Qing Shui felt a kind of indescribable satisfaction at that moment. It was a unique experience of its own.

"What made you come here?" Nalan Qing asked, glancing towards Qing Shui.

"There is not much hindrance in the lower three regions any longer, so I came to the middle three regions to train while exploring more of the world at the same time. Do you live in this Crystal City?" Qing Shui questioned, smiling warmly.

"Yes, I live here. I did not fathom that I would ever bump into you here." Nalan Qing still felt surprised about the coincidence.

"I've been here in the Water Nation for quite a while, though I really never thought that you would be here. Oh, right... you live here." Qing Shui felt surprised at the coincidence too.

"Sister-in-law, who is this?" A voice suddenly called out.

Right after Qing Shui finished speaking, a group of men walked over, led by a young and good-looking man. He was dressed in a white robe and carrying a long sword. His laid-back attitude did not cause a bad first impression. Instead, it had some sort of charm.

"Beiyuan Maji, whom I talk to is none of your business. Leave me alone," Nalan Qing coldly replied.

"You're my brother's woman. It seems like ever since my brother died, you no longer want to stay with the Beiyuan Clan," The man jokingly said, finding joy in the way Nalan Qing eyes sparked with anger.

"What an animal," Qing Shui exclaimed.

"Where is this wild thing from? Do you even know who she is? If you are trying to take advantage of her, you wouldn't even know how you died. Scram while you can. I don't want to deal with you right now." The man had self-control and would not be easily angered.

"Who she is does not matter whatsoever. What is important is that you people get out of my vision right now. Stop interrupting our drinking session," Qing Shui said with all seriousness.

“Hahaha!”

Beiyuan Maji laughed. He laughed till his eyes began to tear before looking at Qing Shui, “You’re such a joke. This woman here is the Water Emperor’s daughter, my brother’s girl, and my sister-in-law. Yet, you still asked us to scram before taking advantage of the Water Emperor’s daughter and my brother’s girl.”

Qing Shui turned to Nalan Qing in surprise, “You’re the Water Emperor’s daughter?”

“Sure enough, it’s a man who knows nothing. A foolish man like you is trying to take advantage of Nalan Qing. Such a beautiful woman, do you know how many men are eyeing her? Not even a prominent figure, just a country bum trying his luck with her. It’s just too funny,” Beiyuan Maji guffawed until there were tears rolling down his face.

Qing Shui rubbed his nose. He didn’t think that someone would ever call him a country bum.

Upon seeing Qing Shui’s awkward expression, Nalan Qing’s eyes softened. She faced Beiyuan Maji, “If you’ve had enough, you can leave now.”

“Nalan Qing, you are a princess who has already been married out. To our Beiyuan Clan of all things. Since you married one from our family, you are now one of us, and you should never be linked to anyone else. But now here you are, hooking up with a stranger. If such news spread, it will surely bring shame to the royal family.” Beiyuan Maji said, winking.

“What are you to try and lecture me.” Nalan Qing’s cold glare caused Maji to shrink backward.

Tyrannical, Nalan Qing was simply tyrannical.

Beiyuan Maji did not rage but simply laughed, “The Nalan Clan now is not like what it was in the past. Without our Beiyuan Clan, your father wouldn’t have a good end sitting on that throne.”

“Qing Shui, let’s go for our drink now.”

Nalan Qing lightly said, completely ignoring Beiyuan Maji.

Qing Shui felt something. It seemed like this woman was not particularly happy. He knew previously that this woman was of high status, but he did not think that she would be the Water Emperor’s daughter. Unfortunately, it seemed like there was an internal conflict over power in the Water Nation, and this conflict seemed to be growing larger day by day.

Upon seeing Beiyuan Maji’s attitude just now, Qing Shui knew that the Water Emperor’s power was somewhat weak. If not, Beiyuan Maji would not have dared to disrespect Nalan Qing like that.

Beiyuan Maji looked at their departing back views with a twinkle of mischief in his eyes, before leaving with his group.

“Do you have to deal with that person every day?” Qing Shui asked.

“More or less,” Nalan Qing replied.

“Why don’t you kill him off?”

“Killing him will bring much inconvenience to the Nalan Clan. I don’t want to bring trouble to my father.” Nalan hesitated for a bit before saying.

“Does your father know the situation that you are in?” Qing Shui continued asking.

“He doesn’t know. If he did, he would kill Beiyuan Maji and begin attacking the Beiyuan Clan without hesitation,” Nalan Qing said as she shook her head.

“Sounds like what a good father would do,” Qing Shui nodded.

“He has always been a good father. You don’t need to say it,” Nalan Qing snapped.

“A good father isn’t one that gives his children position or status, but one who gives love instead, and is willing to do anything for their children. Parental love is selfless and it cannot be melted. Even beasts are willing to fight to death for their children, even more so for humans. You are still young. Wait until you have children and you will know,” Qing Shui nodded, full of experience.

Nalan Qing’s eyes widened upon hearing this guy talk about this so calmly and peacefully. Her husband had died. Even though she was simply unmarried now, her marriage had sealed her fate. She was widowed in the Beiyuan household. The fact that she was in the Beiyuan Clan meant that she still hadn’t done it.

In the beginning, Nalan Qing knew the situation. Although it was a political marriage, the Water Emperor still allowed her to make her own decision. At that time, Nalan Qing had happily agreed. The reason why she acted happily was to let the Water Emperor know that she was willing.

But she would never have thought that just before the ceremony, she would already be a widow. After her “husband” had died, the Water Emperor was constantly breathing down her neck and questioning her about the matter of marriage, but she had expressed that she did not want to think about such things for now, so it dragged on till now.

Chapter 2349 - Widows Receive The Most Attention

“Everyone has their own experiences. Heaven is fair. If it gives more of this, it will give less of that,” Nalan Qing casually said.

As they talked, they eventually reached the entrance of the hotel.

Exquisite Water!

This was the name of the hotel. The name was not domineering, maybe even a little delicate, but business here was booming. The entrance of the hotel was packed, lined up with high-class beast carriages, many of them were ones used for battle. These beasts displayed the multi-purpose role that they played in this world.

The two of them found a private room. Nalan Qing was well-known in the Water Nation. Her widow status and her title as the Water Nation’s most beautiful person made everyone notice her when she walked in. Even her companion Qing Shui was also looked up and down.

“Look! It’s the first time Widow Qing is seen out with a man. Furthermore, it is a young man!” Someone said in shock as they entered.

"It really is! The man is also really handsome with a graceful temperament!" A woman immediately said.

"Miss Jikang, you'd say any man is handsome..."

.....

Upon entering the private room, all outside sounds were shut out. Nalan Qing let Qing Shui order, but Qing Shui declined and instead asked her to.

Nalan Qing casually ordered some specialties. It was a pretty good hotel with fantastic dishes amongst its specialties. For example, there was the Scarlet Pig Trotters with their golden glow and exquisite smell, each bite would bring out a mesh of freshness and fragrance.

This was a pig trotter that only this place had. Other places did not have such a dish, and for this, the preparation was superb.

There was also a Rain Mushroom dish which looked like the Enoki Mushrooms from the past, but the taste was so unique that Qing Shui felt like planting some and catching some Scarlet pigs to rear for their trotters.

"How is it? Not bad, right?" Upon seeing the way Qing Shui ate the food, Nalan Qing already knew.

"It's not bad, really not bad. Although it's not like the things I've cooked, it is pretty decent," Qing Shui answered, voice muffled as he ate.

Though Nalan Qing still heard it, she thought nothing of it. She picked up the wine and poured some for Qing Shui and herself.

"Try this wine. Though it is comparable to ordinary Fragrant Wine, it is a lot worse compared to the Fragrant Wine that you've brewed before." Nalan Qing said, lifting up a glass of wine.

Qing Shui could already smell the fragrance of the wine and lifted his wine glass, clinking it with Nalan Qing's before downing it in one go.

"It's alright," Qing Shui said.

However, this time, Nalan Qing did not comment. This man was definitely at the apex of wine brewing.

There was a moment of silence when Qing Shui ate a few mouthfuls before raising his head and looking at Nalan Qing to say, "I initially planned to stay in the Water Nation for a while, just to gain some experience and to scout the strength of the top powers in the Demon King Domain. I never thought that I would meet you here. No matter how you cut it, we are still friends. I'll help you, alright?"

"Help me? Help me with what?" Nalan Qing looked at Qing Shui, confused.

"In any case, I feel that something unexpected has happened to the Nalan Clan's power, but I don't know exactly what went wrong. How about you tell me, and I'll help you restore it?" Qing Shui suggested.

"That's enough. Stop joking around. Today I'm treating you to wine. Enjoying the wine is what we're doing now," Nalan Qing said. She only took Qing Shui's words as a gesture of concern.

"Looks like you don't believe what I said. Forget it then. Let's enjoy the drinks!" Qing Shui sighed.

After eating and drinking for the better part of an hour, an entire table of dishes had gone into Qing Shui's stomach. They also drank quite a bit before exiting the hotel.

"Are you still living in the Beiyuan residence?" Qing Shui asked after thinking for a moment.

"Nope. I have my own place," Nalan Qing replied.

"Then I'll depend on you. I have nowhere to stay ever since I arrived here," Qing Shui said with all seriousness.

"I'll find you a hotel. What about the one we just went to?" Nalan Qing said.

"I want to live with my friend, not in a hotel," Qing Shui laughed and said.

Nalan Qing knew that the "friend" he was referring to was her, but were they really friends? They had previously only met each other twice, and barely exchanged much. She stared at Qing Shui, perplexed by his way of thinking.

Qing Shui felt somewhat uncomfortable with her staring. He continued, "Your place should be big. I also don't have any other intentions. I mean, your place shouldn't only have you, right?"

"I live there alone, and the place isn't big," Nalan Qing responded.

Qing Shui was stunned for a moment, before saying, "I'm not taking a no for an answer, so please let me see it for myself."

He wanted to help this woman while scouting the strength of the Water Nation in the meantime.

This time Nalan Qing did not oppose. The distance to her place was not far so it was not long before they reached it. Her place really wasn't big. It was a small manor, but the location was good. It was quiet and exquisite, with only one yard, but all the needed facilities were all there—a small pond with some greenery and two pavilions.

"This place is not bad. It even has two pavilions. Just let me stay in one, how about that? It'll be a waste if one is vacant anyway," Qing Shui talked while surveyed the surroundings.

Nalan Qing had never heard such an excuse before. This was too shameless...

"Do you know that there would be many rumors if widows are around?" Nalan Qing said while looking straight at him.

"I'm open-minded. I'm not afraid that my reputation would be tarnished," Qing Shui said seriously.

Nalan Qing wordlessly stared at Qing Shui for a while, before speaking, "I don't want to be the object of gossip."

Qing Shui smiled lightly, "Sister Qing, no matter what you do, you will be the center of people's gossip. You can't live a lonesome life just because of this."

Nalan Qing looked at this man who had already addressed her fondly many times barely after a day. She rudely retorted, "Why can't I live a lonesome life?"

“...Do you really want to live like this?” Qing Shui looked at her quizzically.

“What is it with that look?” Nalan Qing felt a bit panicked after being looked at like that.

“I will analyze it step by step for you. You are a woman, even though you can be said to be a maiden now. Anyway, humans have the natural ‘seven emotions and six desires’, such as kinship. You have your parents and all, but as time passes, they will start to age. Your siblings will each go their own ways and start their own families, having generations of grandchildren after them. But as for you, you will be all alone and will start to feel lonely...”

Nalan Qing felt a bit embarrassed after Qing Shui’s explanation.

“You are still young. Around us, couples are getting married, having children, and when they grow old and are unhappy, they can just divorce. If something happens to one half of the couple, it would also be a divorce. It’s a common occurrence.”

“If I leave the Beiyuan Family, then the Nalan Clan and the Beiyuan’s family relations will be...”

“A country or a family’s bond cannot be decided by a woman’s decisions. Diplomatic ties can be useful, but they hold no true power,” Qing Shui said simply.

“I know that, but I won’t be able to face my father...”

“Am I not here to help you? Tell me how the situation is now, or you can bring me to see your father. I can help you either way,” Qing Shui said earnestly.

Nalan Qing gazed at Qing Shui and asked, “You’re not joking?”

“I wouldn’t make light of such matters.”

Chapter 2350 - The Beiyuan Clan Being Cuckolded?

Although Qing Shui had already said that he would not joke about such matters, she was still hesitant. Saying that he wasn’t joking did not mean that he could solve the problem. Strength was still the most important factor. She believed that he was still too young in her heart. She could only shake her head in disappointment.

“Do you think that I’m not strong enough?” Qing Shui laughed as he said.

“Thank you for your sincerity, but you’re still young.” Nalan Qing was still immensely grateful for Qing Shui. Having such generosity was not easy.

“Miss Qing, your strength is now at 850 billion Daos, you are a strong presence in the younger generation.” Qing Shui immediately brought up Nalan Qing’s strength.

If he could directly talk about her strength, it meant that he was stronger than her. That left Nalan Qing surprised since she was quite powerful herself.

“I don’t want anything bad happening to you. If something did occur, too many people would be harmed,” Nalan Qing said, looking at Qing Shui.

Qing Shui frowned as it made sense. If they brought down 1000 enemy soldiers but lost 800 of their own men, it would be not worth the battle. However, upon thinking about his numerous strategies, such a situation would probably not happen, especially with the Nalan Clan having a lot of strength of their own.

In the Water Nation, Qing Shui could feel a strong presence. It was probably the aura of the Guardian Beast, which was also the Crystal Dragon mentioned in folktales. He asked, full of confusion, "Is the Water Nation's Guardian Beast, the Crystal Dragon, not controlled by the Water Emperor?"

"The Guardian Beasts have a transcendent position. No one can control it. They merely protect the nation. If it isn't nation-threatening, and not from other national level existences, they wouldn't step in," Nalan Qing stated.

This Qing Shui understood. Since it was as such, he felt more relieved. As long as the Crystal Dragon did not make a move, he had a chance. He was still fearful that the Crystal Dragon would be controlled by the enemy, and that its unknown strength would be a factor.

"That's good. As long as the Crystal Dragon doesn't make a move, I still have the upper hand. The main thing is that I have no idea just how strong the dragon is," Qing Shui voiced his concerns.

Nalan Qing did not know where Qing Shui found so much self-confidence. Just how strong was he?

"I know that if I don't display my strength, you would not feel at ease." Qing Shui smiled.

Qing Shui brought Nalan Qing up into the air and mustered all his might. 4 trillion Daos of strength simply stunned Nalan Qing. At a certain point, increasing one's strength was an uphill task. Just a little gap in strength would result in a unilateral slaughter. Qing Shui's strength was five times her own. It was simply inconceivable...

At this moment, Nalan Qing was finally convinced. Qing Shui laughed and said, "You can relax now. I still have other cards up my sleeve. I'll let you have a feel."

Qing Shui's weakening ability caused Nalan Qing to be stunned for a while until she came to her senses. She was starting to have a bit more faith in Qing Shui.

"Was that not enough?"

Qing Shui unleashed his divine weapon flying sword and his increasing power, causing the negative impacts on Nalan Qing's body to disappear.

Nalan Qing could fully believe in him at last. This power, together with his weakening ability and ability to reduce damage, would cause the opponent's strength to be depleted by more than half - meaning that someone with 8 trillion Dao of strength was no match for him.

Nalan Qing stared at Qing Shui eccentrically to say, "You're a monster!"

"Miss Qing, please explain to me what the current situation is. Is it just the Beiyuan clan or are there more?" Qing Shui questioned.

"Why do you want to help me?" Nalan Qing curiously glanced at Qing Shui.

“If I say that it’s because you are beautiful and I like you, would you believe it?” Qing Shui asked.

Nalan Qing looked at Qing Shui and said, “I don’t know!”

“Seems that you have quite a lot of self-confidence. Maybe it’s fate. If we were at the Fragrance Shack, I really don’t know if I would help you. But it’s different here. After the first meeting, to meet again is simply fate. The moment I saw you, I felt comfortable, as if you were my long-time friend, or maybe even my confidant.” Qing Shui beamed.

Qing Shui’s words caused Nalan Qing to feel a bit unnatural. It had been many years since such words were ever spoken to her, just because she was the Beiyuan clan’s woman. The Beiyuan clan was a powerful presence. Additionally, she maintained a cold facade and few could remain calm around her.

“That’s enough. You don’t need to overthink this,” Qing Shui said upon seeing her stony expression.

“Fine. I’ll tell you. The strong individuals in the Nalan Clan were all poisoned. I don’t know if it was the Beiyuan Clan’s doing or not, but I feel like it is somehow related to the Beiyuan Clan. Not long after, the Nalan Clan may be wiped out by force, and once it happens, there will naturally be other powers ruling the Water Nation.”

“If I remembered correctly, only dukes can fight for a place on the throne,” Qing Shui said, not understanding the situation.

“The Beiyuan Clan have dukes. There are more than a hundred dukes in Crystal City, each with their vast swathes of land.

“If that’s the case, it’ll be easy. I can cure their poisoning,” Qing Shui said with conviction.

“Besides poisoning, they still have another card up their sleeves. The Nalan Clan has been on the throne for a long time, so they’ve benefited greatly. Other clans have been left in the dust so the opponent has already linked up with many other dukes. Their plan—to split resources equally, such that each clan would receive more than under the Nalan Clan’s rule. Hence their plot to exterminate the Nalan Clan,” Nalan Qing spoke about things she held close to the chest.

“What about the Beiyuan Clan? At least their relations with the Nalan Clan are not bad, unless they are two-faced?” Qing Shui asked.

“The Beiyuan Clan has the most princes. If my guesses aren’t off, this whole matter is led by the Beiyuan Clan.”

“What are the origins of the Beiyuan Clan?” Qing Shui asked out of curiosity.

“Their ancestors have the blood of the Beiyuan snow fox,” Nalan Qing replied.

“Okay. Since this is the case, let me meet your father one of these days. I’ll cure every poisoned individual in the Nalan Clan.”

“Great!”

“You don’t suspect that I’m an enemy who, in the disguise of curing, could poison them even further? I could be getting close to you just to cheat you of your money and beauty.” Qing Shui rubbed his nose and looked at Nalan Qing.

“The end result would not be worse anyway. With your strength, you wouldn’t even need to deceive me. I wouldn’t be able to resist,” Nalan Qing said straightforwardly.

Qing Shui was going to live there anyway so Nalan Qing had no other choice but to depend on him. But on the second day, news had already spread like wildfire. The city’s widow had a man stay over for a whole night. The city’s most beautiful woman finally got a man...

All sorts of news had spread like wildfire. Such news had left the Beiyuan Clan embarrassed. No matter if Nalan Qing was a wife of the Beiyuan Clan. With this instance, she had cuckolded the Beiyuan Clan regardless of her widowhood.

On the second day not long after the news had spread, Beiyuan Maji brought people over again, blocking the door of Nalan Qing’s house.

“Nalan Qing, you’d better come out!” Beiyuan Maji shouted, voice filled with anger.

Nalan Qing and Qing Shui walked to the door where they saw the numerous people gathered outside, all led by none other than the Beiyuan Maji that Qing Shui had just met.