

Ancient ST 651

Chapter 651 - Prescription for the Heaven defying Fate Pill, Diamond Gigantic Elephant using the Demon Beast Advancing Pellet

Qing Shui was slightly worried since the success rate was only 10%. It was extremely low. In spite of that, he still planned to attempt refining it. He wondered what the limitations and restrictions to the Demon Beast Advancing Pellet were.

Qing Shui saw that there were enough medicinal herbs to refine three sets of Demon Beast Advancing Pellets. He just did not know if there would be only one or multiple pills if he was successful. However, there was an unspoken rule in alchemy that the higher the grade of the medicinal pill, the lesser the amount produced when succeeding.

Qing Shui was quite satisfied with this prescription. After all, all his demonic beasts were Mutated Beasts of Heaven and Earth, and there was definitely room for them to grow. Although the success rate was only 10%, Qing Shui still decided to gamble on it.

He finally placed his gaze on the last prescription and the following words appeared before him.

Fate Pill!

Qing Shui knew that it would be amazing just by looking at the name. When he saw the medicinal herbs in the prescription, Qing Shui was astonished. This was the oldest medicinal herbs he had ever required.

The youngest ones were also at about 3000 Year, with requirements for most of them to be at 5000 Year. Qing Shui even saw that it required the Flower of Life, Peach of Immortality and ingredients from high level Martial Saint Grade Demonic Beasts. They were all very valuable items, and most importantly, there were the words 'Mysterious Fruit'.

Qing Shui put down the prescription and once again looked at the box on the table. He saw that there were no "Flower of Life" and "Peach of Immortality". There were no high level Martial Saint level demonic beasts either.

"I can't get all the ingredients listed in this prescription yet. I can get the ingredients from demonic beasts if I were to pay a price for them, but it's almost impossible to buy or trade for the 'Flower of Life' and 'Peach of Immortality'. I thought of looking for them in those dangerous mountainous terrains or ancient forests, but it's far too dangerous. Therefore, this prescription is pretty much of little use. The reason I've brought it here today is to see if there's any way of replacing them with other ingredients. If we were able to find replacements, if successfully refined, even if the effects of the pills were lowered, it should still be pretty good." Yuan Su said, slightly embarrassed.

Qing Shui smiled and nodded, but thought to himself gleefully as he had both the 'Flower of Life' and 'Peach of Immortality'. As for the ingredients from high level demonic beasts, there's the Red Jiao. Qing Shui felt that even the heavens seemed to be helping him.

He took a look at the medicinal effects. With such precious ingredients, this Fate Pill would definitely be able to change a person's fate, allowing one to have rapid improvements and stand at the very top.

Effect: Cultivators below Martial Saint would be able to increase their strength to one to three countries. Cultivators above Martial Saint level would be able to have their strength increased to 500 countries or more, depending on their individual potential.

Prerequisite: Must be at least a Xiantian cultivator!

Restrictions: Only one could be taken in a lifetime!

In this moment, Qing Shui was truly astonished. If the effects were really as written, then this Fate Pill was truly heaven defying. It allowed a Xiantian cultivator to immediately reach Peak Martial King level, having his life changed completely.

This medicinal pill depended on the individual's potential to determine the effects, but even the weakest Xiantian cultivator would be able to reach Peak Martial King. However, at this point in time, Qing Shui still focused mainly on himself.

This was because, if a Martial Saint Grade cultivator were to take it, depending on the person's potential, he could reach a strength of 500 countries. Qing Shui have no doubt over his potential. If he could succeed in refining this, Qing Shui would be able to reach at least Grade Four Martial Saint ...

Shaking his head, Qing Shui force himself not to think of it too much. Otherwise, if he were to fail, the blow would be too heavy. Even now, Qing Shui could feel that his blood was starting to boil.

Qing Shui knew that it was primarily because he was at a crucial point that he especially wished for his prowess to be increased. This medicinal pill was extremely heaven defying but the ingredients were too hard to find. Even for Qing Shui who had a Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal, it would take him at least two years before he could gather enough ingredients to make a single attempt. Not many people could be like Qing Shui, to be able to utilise multiple times of his body's powers. Of course, it would be different for people with Divine Artifacts, but there weren't many who had.

Therefore, this Fate Pill was a heaven defying divine pill to those suited to take it. It was sufficiently powerful to be able to allow ordinary Martial Saint grade cultivators to increase their strength to 500 countries, bringing them from Grade Five to Grade Six Martial Saint level. It was not that easy to rise from Grade Five to Grade Six Martial Saint level. Each grade at the Martial Saint level had many people unable to progress to the next grade.

Qing Shui gave it some thought. Even if he were to let everyone in Qing Clan take one, it would still take him decades. To have more than ten or twenty members improve to Peak Martial King cultivators or Martial Saint level cultivators over that years was a feat unheard of in the World of the Nine Continents.

With a wave of his hand, Qing Shui kept the medicinal herbs and prescriptions in the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal. He then turned to Yuan Su and said, "Is it convenient to share what cultivation level those uncles of yours are at?"

"One of them is at Grade Eight Martial Saint, should be about the same as Uncle Di Xuan's level. The other two uncles can also reach Uncle Di Xuan's level under the enhancements of medicinal pills." Yuan Su felt a little helpless when she said this.

Qing Shui knew what she was thinking. After all, there was too much of a gap between their cultivation level and their opponents'. However, the Alchemist Sect should be able to sense that the Di Clan had strong external support. After all, an expert like Old Demon Ba had already died in the Di Clan.

Although there were still a gap in their abilities, Qing Shui was still especially happy. Earlier, Qing Shui knew that at least two, at max five could take part in the Fight of the Ultimate Life and Death. Qing Shui was originally worried about sending five of them since not many of them were at Grade Eight Martial Saint level...

Now, there should be enough of them and Qing Shui felt more at ease. He could only think of refining the prescriptions he had successfully. As long as he could reach the cultivation level that matched theirs, he would be able to deal with them in ease. As long as an expert of that level did not appear.

Just then, Di Chen and Di Qing walked over. Yuan Su waved and greeted them.

"Sister Yuan Su, are you guys done with your discussion?" Di Qing smiled, the four of them sat around the stone table.

Qing Shui was surrounded by three ladies of unparalleled beauty. The dream that he had in his previous life was now fulfilled. However, out of the three, Di Chen was the only one he loved.

"Qing Shui, do you think we'll die this time around?" Di Qing turned to asked Qing Shui, her tone was so casual that it was hard to tell what she was thinking.

"Why, are you already sick of living?" Qing Shui asked as he looked at Di Qing, feeling puzzled.

"I don't want to see that terrifying scene." Di Qing was not agitated by Qing Shui's words. She merely spoke with a hint of worry.

"Don't worry, trust me, nothing will happen." Qing Shui looked at Di Qing. This was her home. If anything were to happen, she would be very much aggrieved.

Di Chen's expression also appeared slightly perturbed. Otherwise, she wouldn't have tried to advise Qing Shui to leave previously. She did not think that the Di Clan would be able to resolve this situation properly, but there was nothing they could do to avoid it.

"Really? You're not lying to me?"

When people are at their frailest moments, even a single word of consolation would be able to let them feel at peace. If Qing Shui were to say something else altogether, it was likely that she would breakdown. After all, Qing Shui's strength played a huge part in this.

"Of course. When have I ever lied to you?"

...

At night, Qing Shui could not wait and entered the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal. He then cultivated his to calm himself down before he started studying the prescriptions.

Qing Shui started with the Demon Beast Advancing Pellet. He repeated looked over each type of medicinal herb listed in the prescription, then analyzed their medicinal properties.

After taking some time to study and to understand their medicinal properties, he remembered the different points of information such as which were easier to fuse, what properties they had after fusing, as well as which remaining medicinal herbs they would fuse better with. Qing Shui's memory was pretty strong now and could be said that he would be remember things with just one look. In fact, those who were at Martial Saint and higher would all have exceptional memory and would be able to remember things with a few looks, even if not with the first. It was because those who could raise up to the Martial Saint level were all considered the cream of the crop.

After making his preparations, Qing Shui started to refine the medicine. This time around, he was extra careful. It may be because there was a shortage of the medicinal herbs, or because the medicinal pill this time around was more valuable or more important.

He activated his Spiritual Sense!

He released his aura as a habit. Qing Shui felt that this would increase the success rate of his alchemy as well as increase the quality of the product.

Everything progressed smoothly, just as Qing Shui imagined. However, before he succeeded, Qing Shui did not dare let his guard down.

This time around, Qing Shui did not wish to fail in refining the Demon Beast Advancing Pellet. After all, there was only a 10% success rate after a demonic beast had taken this Demon Beast Advancing Pellet. Therefore, one additional pill meant one additional hope.

The Golden Flint Iron Cauldron started to give out a gurgling sound. Qing Shui calmly used the primordial flames to heat up the Golden Flint Iron Cauldron, ready to change the degree of the heat and proceed with the fusing of the medicinal herbs.

Suddenly, a bright grey-colored glow exploded from Qing Shui's Primordial Flames. Just then, a clear sound rang out from the Golden Flint Iron Cauldron.

Ding!

Qing Shui's Primordial Flames lowered down gradually until they finally disappeared. Qing Shui let out a long exhale. He had succeeded on his first attempt of the Demon Beast Advancing Pellet and it was considered to be a good start.

About one hour later, Qing Shui gradually opened the Golden Flint Iron Cauldron and noticed the two Demon Beast Advancing Pellets in it. They were the size of a baby's fist and were a crimson red, exuding a fragrance. There was a faint red glow around it, giving it an additional mysterious feel.

Qing Shui then gathered his focus to finish up with the other two batches, getting six Demon Beast Advancing Pellets in total. Qing Shui was very satisfied, but he was started to worry a little.

A ten percent success rate... It was likely that all six of them would go to waste...

Gritting his teeth, Qing Shui called for his Diamond Gigantic Elephant. The Fire Bird could not eat it and as it was at Peak Martial King level, so there's no use for it to take this. The Thunderous Beast was still in its growth stage and it was still young, therefore the pills could only be used by the Diamond Gigantic

Elephant. Moreover, if the Diamond Gigantic Elephant could advance in level, Qing Shui would also benefit greatly. It was killing two birds with one stone.

The Diamond Gigantic Elephant swallowed the first Demon Beast Advancing Pellet. Qing Shui watched as it savoured it. He looked in anticipation at the Diamond Gigantic Elephant, waiting for that moment of excitement.

In this moment, Qing Shui felt very conflicted. He hope that time would pass faster, but yet hope that it would go more slowly. To speak the truth, he was afraid that the Demon Beast Advancing Pellet had no effect.

Chapter 652 - Advancing successfully, Receiving help in a difficult time

It had eaten a Demon Beast Advancing Pellet, after the time it took for a joss stick to burn, the Diamond Gigantic Elephant did not seem to have any changes. If it was successful, it should have already reacted within this period of time. However, there was no reaction.

Qing Shui knew that it failed. Even though it had the effects of strengthening the Diamond Gigantic Elephant, it only had a 10 percent chance of doing so. Thus, it was normal for it to fail. However, there was still a feeling of disappointment.

There were six pills in his hand. From the time he started to analyze the recipe to the point where he refined the pill, it had been almost two full days, Qing Shui was worried that he had made a bad investment.

The Diamond Gigantic Elephant did not seem to feel anything, it just happily circled around Qing Shui. Its huge body was incomparably nimble, even though its potential was good, its current strength was too low. Thus in the recent battles, all it could do was to occasionally use the Vajra Subdues Demons.

After waiting for the time another joss stick took to burn, Qing Shui took out another Demon Beast Advancing Pellet and let the Diamond Gigantic Elephant consume it. He then waited patiently again, praying hard for it to work.

The time it took for a joss stick to burn passed again. Just when Qing Shui was feeling disappointed and was about to feed it another Demon Beast Advancing Pellet, the Diamond Gigantic Elephant's body suddenly glowed with a golden light.

Qing Shui felt excited. The Diamond Gigantic Elephant was indeed a mutated beast and had a high growth rate. The low chance of the Demon Beast Advancing Pellet working actually succeeded on the second try.

The twinkling golden light became a huge cocoon, wrapping the Diamond Gigantic Elephant up. Qing Shui stood happily by the side as he watched the changes of the Diamond Gigantic Elephant.

Afer he knew that the Demon Beast Advancing Pellet was successful, Qing Shui felt relief in his heart. Even if the rest of the Demon Beast Advancing Pellets failed, it was still worth it.

Prrrrttt!

After a loud trumpeting, the huge golden cocoon shrunk. To Qing Shui's eyes, it seemed that the body of the Diamond Gigantic Elephant had grown larger by a little. Its length was now 22 meters, its whole

body was covered in golden skin that looked like metal. It truly lived up to its name. After he felt the strength of the Diamond Gigantic Elephant, he laughed happily.

Its body's strength increased by about 300 countries and its defense was increased by about 500 countries.....

All its abilities were substantially raised. The Diamond Gigantic Elephant now had an attacking strength of 450 countries and the defense of more than 900 countries.

Under the effects of the Diamond Qi and Diamond Protection, the abilities of the Diamond Gigantic Elephant were raised by multiple folds. Its attack would reach the strength of close to 1000 countries while its defense would reach that of 1900 countries.

Its speed was also multiplied by several folds. Originally, the Instantaneous Diamond Evasion was already perversely strong. Now, it was enhanced significantly. Furthermore, with the Ferocious Diamond Attack, its attack would raise by another fold. The Diamond Gigantic Elephant could now unleash an attack with the strength of 2000 countries.

Although after displaying all its enhanced strengths and abilities, the Diamond Gigantic Elephant could barely match the strength of a Human Peak Grade Six Martial Saint and was only equal to a Grade Four Martial Saint Demonic Beast. When the Red Jiao was a Grade 8 Martial Saint, it had the strength of more than 5000 countries.

For Demonic Beasts, the distance between each grade of Martial Saint from Grade One to Five was the strength of 300 countries. It was due to this reason that Demonic Beasts were stronger than human cultivators. After Grade Five Martial Saint, the difference was the strength of 1000 countries, but that was just the starting point. Just like how an Early Grade Six Martial Saint had the strength of 2500 countries, the Peak Grade Six Martial Saint could reach the strength of 3500 countries. An Early Grade Seven Martial Saint had the strength of more than 3500 countries, the Peak Grade Seven Martial Saint could have the strength of 4500 countries. An Early Grade Eight Martial Saint had the strength of 4500 countries, the Peak Grade Eight Martial Saint could reach the strength of 5500 countries. Back then, the Red Jiao was a Peak Grade Eight Martial Saint.

Considering the attack of the Diamond Gigantic Elephant, it was difficult for it to take part in battles, but with its speed and defense, it would barely be able to do so.

Looking at the four remaining Demon Beast Advancing Pellets in his hand, Qing Shui prayed in his heart, one pill, just one pill out of the remaining four to succeed..... There was a strong belief in his heart, that it was for the best if he was successful in using them to strengthen the Diamond Gigantic Elephant.

This was a Heaven and Earth Battle Beast that was born to battle, it had perversely strong defensive skills, instantaneous killing techniques, tyrannical weakening abilities, and the single target 'Diamond Sword Qi' killing technique.

After breaking through, the Diamond Gigantic Elephant seemed to be more intelligent as it happily pranced around Qing Shui. Qing Shui was naturally happy as well. He stretched out his hands and fed another Demon Beast Advancing Pellet into its mouth.

What followed was another slow and passive wait that was filled with anticipation, It was a pity that after the time it took to burn two joss sticks, it did not break through. Qing Shui did not hesitate to feed it another pill.

After the time it took to burn one joss stick, there were no changes, and similarly after the time to burn two joss sticks. Qing Shui kept waiting till the time it took to burn three joss sticks but there were still no signs of breaking through.

There were still two pills. Qing Shui peacefully fed the Diamond Gigantic Elephant another pill. It was a pity that this pill failed again, but the success rate of 10 percent was just too low.

Qing Shui then casually fed it the last pill. This time, Qing Shui did not bear any hope, he just wanted to feed it the last pill and complete the task. He thought that he was already pretty lucky to have succeeded once.

Originally, Qing Shui planned to use the crystal produced by the Crystal Lion to enhance the effects of the Demon Beast Advancing Pellet. However, it was useless to increase the effects of this pill. The amount of strength the Demon Beast Advancing Pellet can increase was related to the Grade and growth of the Demonic Beast, thus increasing the effects of the pill would not make a difference.

After the time it took for two joss sticks to burn, there were still no changes. Qing Shui felt that this pill must have failed as well. Qing Shui massaged his head. At least one pill succeeded. He would then take some time to refine the 20% in strength he obtained from the growth of the Diamond Gigantic Elephant, as it was already considered a significant increase to him.

Just when Qing Shui was about to turn away, a familiar golden light suddenly appeared!

Successful advancement?

Qing Shui turned his head back to view the familiar scene, his whole body trembling in excitement. As long as the Diamond Gigantic Elephant advanced again, he would not have to worry about it being insta-killed. This way he could use the Vajra Subdues Demons as he wished without worrying.

In the past, he had to worry a lot every time he used the Vajra Subdues Demons, even to the point where sometimes, he did not dare to let the Diamond Gigantic Elephant out, in fear of it being killed in one move.

This time, Qing Shui stared unblinkingly at the golden cocoon enveloping the Diamond Gigantic Elephant, waiting for that familiar heaven shaking trumpeting sound.

Prrrrttt!

Qing Shui ecstatically felt the explosive improvements of the Diamond Gigantic Elephant. Its body's strength increased by another 300 countries, its defense increased by 500 countries.

Under the effects of passive skills like Diamond Qi, Diamond Protection, and Diamond Crossing Rivers, the Diamond Gigantic Elephant reached a terrifying defense of 3000 countries. When using Ferocious Diamond Attack, its attack was the strength of 3000 countries.

"Haha, this barely reaches the strength of a Human Grade Eight Martial Saint!" Qing Shui could not help but be ecstatic.

The most important improvement was the perverse speed of the Diamond Gigantic Elephant. Its abilities may not be strong, but Qing Shui was confident that with the supplementary techniques, it could execute a terrifying sneak attack. This was because the Diamond Gigantic Elephant had the Instantaneous Diamond Evasion. Therefore, within the defined area, it had a perverse instantaneous attack.

Currently, the Diamond Gigantic Elephant's body was 25 meters long. It looked even more robust and strong, looking incomparably mighty with the metal-like golden beast skin covering its whole body. When riding on the Diamond Gigantic Elephant, it allowed one to feel a sense of security.

Qing Shui truly did not have any hope for the final Demon Beast Advancing Pellet. It had even passed the time it took for two joss sticks to burn, thus he did not expect it to succeed.

It was truly too surprising because this breakthrough was particularly crucial. The Diamond Gigantic Elephant's strength of 300 countries and defense of 500 countries would be increased by several folds under the effects of Diamond Qi and Diamond Protection and its attack further increased by several folds under the effects of Ferocious Diamond Attack.....

Out of the six Demon Beast Advancing Pellets, there were two that succeeded. Qing Shui was very satisfied. It was fortunate that the Diamond Gigantic Elephant had a strong growth. Or else, succeeding even once would be considered very fortunate.

After eating a little, Qing Shui slept. He needed to be well rested because he had to refine the other medicinal pills. Prior to that, he had to refine the 20% strength he obtained when the Diamond Gigantic Elephant broke through.

This time, Qing Shui slept for 8 hours. It had been a long time since Qing Shui slept for this long.

Inner Sight!

He found the familiar gaseous mass. However, this was the largest he had seen. After all, the increase in strength this time was the largest.

The Diamond Gigantic Elephant had broken through twice, its body's strength increased by 600 countries, its defense increased 1000 countries, its speed and the other attributes had multiplied by several folds.

20% of that!

"Haha, that's significant, the increase in strength of 120 countries, defense of 200 countries, and a significant increase in speed of more than 50% of my original speed....." Qing Shui felt ecstatic.

Having such an increase in strength at this crucial juncture made him feel very happy.

After his rest, Qing Shui adjusted his mental state to its peak and prepared to refine that gaseous mass. He circulated the for a cycle before slowly activating the Nature Energy, State of Immovable as Mountains, Frenzied Bull's Strength..... circulating them to their peaks.

Shield Attack!

Break!

After the gaseous mass was broken by Qing Shui, a tremendous energy exploded in the inside of Qing Shui, instantly causing Qing Shui to feel an intense pain. It felt like his entire Dantian and meridians were falling apart.

As the berserk energy circulated his body, Qing Shui continued to look within himself and circulated the Ancient Strengthening Technique, slowly absorbing and taming that berserk energy for his own use.

A full day!

For an entire day, Qing Shui just sat there without moving, enduring the colliding energy and damage caused by that tyrannical energy.

When the energy surpassed what the body can withstand, it would cause continuous destruction to the body. However, Qing Shui's body was sufficiently tough, the toughness and resilience a characteristic of the Ancient Strengthening Technique.

After a day passed, Qing Shui slowly opened his eyes. The faint smile on his face showed that he was especially happy. He examined his current strength. His body's strength had reached the strength of 400 countries and the defense of 600 countries. Under the effects of the passively circulating Diamond Qi and Diamond Protection, he had the strength of 800 countries and defense of 1200 countries.

In the eyes of others, Qing Shui seemed like a Peak Grade 4 Martial Saint that focused on cultivating the body.

The strength of 400 countries... Qing Shui could not resist and started circulating the Nature Energy as well as all the other techniques that could raise his strength. He also picked up the Big Dipper Sword and Violet Gold Divine Shield.

Godly Force Talisman!

Divine Shield Talisman!

Swish!

He struck out with all his might using the Combination Sword Technique!

Chapter 653 - Gale Pellet, Descending Heavens Talisman

There was a distortion in the air and a pitch black shadow streaked through the air. Accompanying it was a horrifying sharp cry that seemed to pierce through everything.

Using his full strength, Qing Shui could unleash an attack with the strength of 2300 countries. Without the assistance of any external artifacts, he could achieve the defense of 1800 countries; if he used the Seven Star Armored Vest, he could have the defense of 3600 countries, it was a pity that it only lasted an hour. Furthermore, there was still the Godly Armor Shield.....

He was still lacking in attacking strength. However, with the Seven Star Armored Vest, he now had a decent defense, although it only lasted for a while. This time however, Qing Shui had a significant increase in speed. This caused Qing Shui to be especially happy. Speed determined everything as Qing Shui still had hidden weapons as his hidden ace.

He could not help but think of Yuan Su. He had met her multiple times and had received many significant benefits from her. Especially this time, just the Demon Beast Advancing Pellet was sufficient. Regardless of the importance of this pill to others, Qing Shui knew that he benefited greatly from this pill.

Furthermore, the Divine Marionette pellet was very tyrannical. Back then, he was 'given' the Divine Marionette pellet and Poison Scriptures by that red-clothed bandit that he killed. This caused Qing Shui to feel that he would never forget that a group of red bandits once existed.

It was also a coincidence that he chose to use the Divine Marionette pellet on the Diamond Demonic Boar. Back then, he did not expect that it would become as strong as it is today. Life is very wonderful and has many coincidences.

Thinking of Yuan Su's condition, he thought that, if she was willing, Qing Shui will help to treat her once this matter blowed over. Once she opened up her meridians and her cultivation reached the Xiantian realm, Qing Shui believed that with her talents in creating Alchemy Recipes, as well as the herbs that the Alchemist Sect provided, her abilities will rapidly soar. Perhaps she would not even require much time before she made a name for herself. This was a woman who was not inferior to Luan Luan and her Heart of Seven Orifices, just that she had a different innate gift.

Qing Shui temporarily stopped thinking about Yuan Su, he still intended to attempt to refine the remaining two Alchemy Recipes, hoping that they would bring an even greater surprise to him.

Gale Pellet!

The anticipation that Qing Shui had for this pill was not as much as what he had for the Demon Beast Advancing Pellet. However, he felt that the Gale Pellet was already quite perversely strong. it temporarily raised speed by one fold.

The ingredients provided also had three sets. However, he did not know how many pills would be refined in each attempt. He secretly hoped that it would succeed and that there would be more pills.

Qing Shui wholeheartedly prepared himself before attempting to refine the pill. With the increase in abilities, his concentration had significantly improved, which led to his Spiritual sense becoming stronger.

He placed in the Qiongsi Flower!

Millenium Heart Perforating Lotus!

The Core of a Gale Beast!

.....

Bang!

There was a dull sound of something exploding in the furnace. Qing Shui stopped speechlessly!

It failed, causing Qing Shui to feel helpless. After all, this alchemy recipe was only in the experimental phase. No one had ever succeeded before, thus, it could not even be confirmed if it was an actual alchemy recipe.

Earlier, Qing Shui was hoping that there to be more pills. Right now, Qing Shui only hoped that he would succeed. By just succeeding, Qing Shui would be incredibly happy. He stopped to examine the recipe before attempting to refine it again.

The consequences of failing to refine pills were quite severe. The ingredients would all be wasted, regardless of how precious they were. If the furnace was not an exceptionally good one, failure might even result in the furnace exploding.

One hour later!

Bang!

Another dull sound rang out. This time, Qing Shui was stunned for 15 minutes.

The second attempt failed. As long as it was a working Alchemy Recipe, Qing Shui would rarely fail twice. Qing Shui was now contemplating if it was even possible to succeed with this Alchemy Recipe.

He did not immediately attempt the final refinement and instead looked at the Alchemy Recipe seriously. One by one, he analyzed the properties of every medicinal herb in it before thinking through the refining process earlier.

Following that, Qing Shui started the refining again!

This time, Qing Shui was truly not confident. He made changes to what he thought was the problem, the order of adding the ingredients. In his second attempt, he had already changed the order of three of the herbs. This time, he changed the order of another three herbs.

The formation of an Alchemy Recipe originally required thousands or millions of experiments before succeeding. The innate gift of a demon-leveled character like Yuan Su was rarely seen. Even out of millions of people, it would be hard to find one.

The more he changed, the less confident he felt. After the first failure, Qing Shui felt that the problem in the sequence of ingredients was very obvious, thus, he made changes. After this round of changes, Qing Shui felt quite satisfied. However, he felt more uncertain of the refinement's success.

He casted off all stray thoughts in his head. Whether it succeeded or not did not matter. Actually, Qing Shui preferred pills that had a permanent effect, rather than these types which temporarily boosted abilities.

He attempted to refine the Gale Pellet once more. Qing Shui placed his hopes on the final Alchemy Recipe instead, the Fate Pill. Success or failure of the current situation would depend on it. Qing Shui would not allow that to fail as that would be a huge game changer for them.

After he calmed himself down, Qing Shui began to meticulously refine the Gale Pellet.

He raised his Spiritual Sense to its peak.

Everything followed a particular sequence. This time, Qing Shui was past caring about the success or failure, letting go of all expectations. He was just attempting. After all, it was not possible for him to keep succeeding forever.

Slowly, all Qing Shui's eyes could see were the medicinal herbs and their properties. They seemed to subtly merge within his vision and that was a very enjoyable subtle feeling.

Ding!

As the familiar sound rang out, Qing Shui awoke from that feeling. The primordial flames in his hands were extinguished and Qing Shui laughed happily.

He was happy not only because the refinement of the Gale Pellet succeeded. It was also because he discovered that his ability to refine Medicinal Pills seemed to have improved by a level, or perhaps it was his Spiritual Sense making a huge breakthrough.

That feeling was like a blind man suddenly being able to see. It was definitely a huge breakthrough.

Opening the Golden Flint Iron Cauldron, he discovered that there was actually five green-colored pills in there. They were about the size of soybeans, were mellow, gave off a jade-like glow and its smell was particularly strong.

After that, Qing Shui did not attempt to refine the Fate Pill. He refined the Pure Jade Pellet instead. Qing Shui had taken a large amount of herbs from Yuan Su the previous time. With Qing Shui's ultra high success rates, he would obtain a substantial amount of Pure Jade Pellets after completely refining all the herbs.

This time, he needed a large quantity of Pure Jade Pellets. As everyone in the Di Clan would need to carry poison antidotes, Qing Shui intended to give them the Pure Jade Pellets. Di Xuan in particular would definitely require a lot more.

Continuously refining pills, three days passed in the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal!

Qing Shui discovered that his ability to refine Medicinal Pills had increased significantly and his success rates of refining the Pure Jade Pellet had also greatly increased. That kind of increase in efficiency felt especially good.

Drawing Talismans!

Qing Shui still did not refine the Fate Pill. Instead, he chose to attempt drawing a new kind of Heavenly Talisman. Originally, Qing Shui intended to wait till he raised his 'drawing level' to the level of drawing bones before learning other kinds of Heavenly Talismans.

However, with this unforeseen situation, in addition to the increase of his abilities, he was already able to learn another type of Heavenly Talisman. The most important thing was that this Heavenly Talisman was very suitable for the current situation.

Although time was tight, Qing Shui still decided to give it a try!

Descending Heavens Talisman!

This was a kind of Heavenly Talisman that decreased all abilities. It worked in a way similar to the Godly Force Talisman and Divine Shield Talisman, just that the Descending Heavens Talisman decreased all the abilities in one go and was meant to be used against an opponent.

It was a Heavenly Talisman that reduces all the abilities of the opponent, a Grade One Talisman would reduce all abilities by 1%.

It may seem very little, but if a Grade Ten Talisman could be drawn, it could reduce all abilities by 10%. There were many advantages to cultivating the Heavenly Talisman. The multiple kinds of Talismans may not have much of an impact individually, but when layered together, they were still quite effective. Of course, when they were at a low level, they would not have much effect.

Ever since he cultivated the Heavenly Talisman, Qing Shui knew that it not only required plenty of high-grade materials, it also required plenty of time.

The most important thing was to not bite off more than one could chew. That was the reason why most people who choose just one or two Heavenly Talisman as their main focus, the rest were just supplementary.

A reduction of 1% may seem tiny but to experts with abilities of more than 5000 countries it was still substantial.

The image on the Descending Heavens Talisman was a huge flying beast. It was pitch black, robust and powerful. Qing Shui did not know what Demonic Beast it was, it seemed to be a Roc-like creature. From the drawing, a tyrannical air could be felt. A snow-white sword could be seen hanging above the flying beast. Its gentle radiance caused the Demonic Beast below to panic.

As he had achieved the level of drawing flesh and blood, Qing Shui could naturally see the uniqueness of the drawing when he looked at it. He quietly observed it. Qing Shui enjoyed seeing this level of drawings, it gave him the feeling like he was immersed in them.

This bird of prey was incomparably bold and powerful but Qing Shui felt that regardless of what it did, it would not be able to escape the sword. Although the sword did not look big, it was a sword that would kill.

It was dignified and solemn!

The sword resembled moonlight! Qing Shui felt that this was the key to drawing the Descending Heavens Talisman. It looked like he was going to have to put in some effort on that sword.

A day passed!

He has looked at the drawing for more than a day, never stopping to take any breaks. Only at this moment did Qing Shui slowly open his eyes and let out a long breath.

Following that was the lengthy process of drawing the talisman. Aside from drawing talismans, he would draw the 'Hundred Forms of the Tiger'. Occasionally he would take a walk around the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal while not thinking about anything, maintaining the state of a blank mind. Qing Shui felt particularly relaxed during those moments.

He was drawing non-stop every day, and slowly making improvements every day. He had already wasted countless of Talisman-shape Beast Skin, there was already a big pile of wasted Talisman materials.

Drawing Talismans was a cultivation path that burned through a lot of resources. It was a good thing that Qing Shui could afford to do so.

One month later!

Qing Shui focused wholeheartedly on the Talisman-shaped Beast Skin in front of him. He held the Golden Calligraphy Brush in his right hand and expertly drew the same image as the one in the Descending Heavens Talisman, especially that divine-like sword. A Descending Heavens Talismans was smoothly and naturally drawn.

Success!

His month of effort had paid off!

Qing Shui was currently consolidating what he learned and at the same time, preparing more to keep for future use!

He let out a long breath and happily put down the Golden Calligraphy Brush in his hands. He had only taken a month to draw the Descending Heavens Talisman. This was already considered very good but Qing Shui had already been drawing talismans for a significant amount of time. Furthermore, his talents in drawing talismans surpassed other people. The most important thing was that by drawing the Hundred Forms of the Tiger, he was able to raise his drawing abilities.

Chapter 654 - Using the 'Descending Heavens Taliman' to improve something perfect, Fate Pill Refined

A little more than a month had passed in the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal. Qing Shui held in his hand many successful 'Descending Heavens Talisman.' However, he hadn't tested out the might of these 'Descending Heavens Talisman' yet.

It was better to test it out on the Diamond Gigantic Elephant. He summoned out the Diamond Gigantic Elephant and quickly stuck a Descending Heavens Talisman onto it. What caused Qing Shui to be shocked was the speed at which the Descending Heavens Talisman flew out and stuck onto the Diamond Gigantic Elephant.

A strange light enveloped the body of the Diamond Gigantic Elephant, Qing Shui carefully inspected the abilities of the Diamond Gigantic Elephant. There was a decrease of about 30 countries of strength and 60 countries of defense.

2%!

Qing Shui thought about the situation in the past when he learned how to draw a Heavenly Talisman. Back then, he would immediately obtain the effects of a Grade Two Heavenly Talisman. Although the reduction of 2% was not much, it could still barely be used. It was very difficult to cultivate it to Grade Ten but Qing Shui was already at an advantage since he was able to start one grade ahead of others.

This way, for those with the abilities of 5000 countries, this talisman could reduce their abilities by 100 countries. If it only weakened the opponent abilities by 100 countries, those strong experts would not even bother about it, it was too insignificant. However, Qing Shui had the Emperor's Qi, Fiery Golden Eyes, and many other techniques. Thus, this 'Descending Heavens Talisman' could be used to further improve the scenario.

Putting down the things he had on hand, Qing Shui took a stroll in the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal. He then discovered that there was a bunch of three-inch tall 'grass.' This 'grass' was grown from those fiery-red seeds that he had obtained from the location on the treasure map.

It had actually blossomed and from the looks of it, it had already blossomed for quite a while. However, Qing Shui did not know what this 'grass' was. Recently, Qing Shui discovered a strange phenomenon, the Fire Bird seemed to be very interested in this 'grass' that looked like clumps of flames. It stood guard over it for a period of time every day. This was how Qing Shui discovered the blossoming of these 'grass'.

Could it be that these small 'grass' were related to the Fire Bird? Or perhaps this flame-like grass was very attractive to the Fire Bird, maybe it could allow the Fire Bird to raise its cultivation?

Putting all these aside, Qing Shui suddenly noticed that there was a snow-white porcelain bottle amongst the clump of medicinal herbs.

Porcelain bottle?

Qing Shui tried his best to recall. Soon, he remembered the origins of this porcelain bottle. Back when he was fishing in the Stellar Horse Lake, he had fished this up and had just casually tossed it into the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal. The events that followed caused him to forget about the existence of this porcelain bottle.

He only saw it again today after all this time. Qing Shui bent over and picked it up, it felt like jade and was slightly cooling in his hands. That gentle texture caused one to feel comfortable. The mouth of the bottle was tightly sealed.

Qing Shui gently shook his head!

De De.....

That was the sound of a solid object hitting the sides of the bottle. Qing Shui felt that it was the sound of Medicinal Pills, there was a slight hum amidst the tinkling sound.

He was not in a rush to open it. Instead, he examined the bottle carefully. There were no words on the bottle and the entire bottle was as clean as jade. There was not a speck of dust or any trace of defects on it. The bottle was simple yet it carried a pure type of beauty.

Open it?

Qing Shui hesitated, he was sure that there were Medicinal Pills inside. However, he hesitated because some Medicinal Pills had to be consumed in a short period of time after being unsealed. Qing Shui was worried that this was that kind of Medicinal Pill. Since he didn't know of its name and effects, he did not dare to use it. He might end up wasting it. Most importantly, it was fished up from Stellar Horse Lake, the Stellar Horse Lake was filled with highly toxic poison.

"En! Yuan Su."

Qing Shui thought about that woman who had an unsurpassed gift for Medicinal Pills. He felt that she might know what kind of pill this was or maybe the effects of this pill.

The strength of two was better than one, Qing Shui intended to find Yuan Su tomorrow before he opened the bottle. Once he verified that this Medicinal Pill was harmless, then according to its properties, he would consume it or let his Demonic Beast consume it.

Finally, Qing Shui began to refine the Fate Pill, this was the pill that gave Qing Shui the most hope. As long as this Alchemy Recipe succeeded, Qing Shui believed that he would have the ability to have a one on one battle with those experts with abilities greater than 5000 countries. Thus, Qing Shui had to treat this seriously, he had to succeed.

He had three blossomed Flowers of Life and he had collected several Peaches of Immortality. Additionally, he had the Red Jiao's core and bones, along with other materials that were of superior grades. The ingredients had all been completely collected.

Qing Shui felt that the heavens were helping him this time, thus he had a feeling that he would definitely succeed. This time, when he analyzed the properties of the medicinal herbs, he was even more serious than the time he analyzed the properties of the 'Gale Pellet'. He could not afford to fail this time.

Looking at the Alchemy Recipe, the Flower of Life and the Peach of Immortality were not the only rare ingredients. The most important main ingredient was the Mysterious Fruit.

The reward for unlocking the Sixth Level of Realm of Violet Jade Immortal included a Mysterious Fruit Tree. In reality, it only needed two and a half years of time to mature one fruit.

Mysterious Fruit: One fruit matures every 500 years. After consuming it, there is a 1% chance for an unexpected gain, such as the doubling of strength, defense, speed, breaking through a realm for a martial technique or being enlightened on the obscurity of the five elements.....

This was also why Qing Shui felt that the heavens were helping him. Aside from himself, the number of people who had these three ingredients were too few. All of this was thanks to the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal.

With his limited quantity ingredients, Qing Shui only had the chance to refine this once. Thus, Qing Shui had to be very careful. At this moment, he felt that the opportunity of having three chances before was luxurious.

There was a saying, happiness was relative. When compared to before, succeeding one time out of three was already a blessing. However, when comparing the second time against the first time, it was a disaster.....

Qing Shui steeled his heart. After he prepared all the ingredients, he picked up the third flower of the Flower of Life. This was worth two years of real time and in the time within the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal, that was 400 years of time.

Before this refinement, Qing Shui had ensured that he had enough rest, and that his spirit had recovered to its optimal state. If it had been earlier, he might have lacked confidence. However, after refining the Gale Pellet, he found that his abilities to refine Medicinal Pills had increased significantly. It was not just an increase in a grade, it was more like a jump of an entire realm. That feeling was as though he had absolute control of everything within his hands. He might not be able to do it perfectly but he had the confidence that he could succeed.

This was because of the earlier increase in Medicine Refinement Realm, a realm increase could be discovered but not sought. Of course, his confidence was only valid if the Alchemy Recipe was one that had a possibility to succeed.

This time, when Qing Shui refined the medicinal pills, it seemed strangely smooth. It was as though he had done it countless times already. His movements were not fast but it would cause one to feel that it is very smooth and natural.

At the start, he placed in five medicinal herbs, White Hundred Birds Flower, Redbud Flower, Chinese Redbud, Ghostly Grass, and Stardream Grass. The age of the herbs were all five thousand years.

Qing Shui controlled the primordial flames and made it half an inch tall. Refining medicinal pills required a lot of time and effort, the number of people who could use the flames of their body like Qing Shui were limited. Most Alchemists would choose to use the 'Earth Fire' or 'Stone Fire'. These were the people who were in a good situation; those with better situations could find some flames of the five elements to refine medicine. However, the flames of the five elements were elusive and couldn't be easily be found.

The flames of five elements could be found where the five elements were denser. This flame could increase the quality and the success rate of refining medicines.

Following that, Qing Shui added a medicinal herb every now and then, it was only when he used half the ingredients then he threw in the Mysterious Fruit Tree.....

Three days passed in an instant!

Qing Shui shut his eyes, the primordial flames was still half an inch tall and it gently roasted the bottom of the Golden Flint Iron Cauldron. There was a faint smile on his face, he looked relaxed and calm.

Suddenly, Qing Shui's eyes snapped open and he swallowed a Vital Essence Pill. 15 minutes later, a bright flame suddenly sprang out from his hands. Despite the flames being gray, it still seemed very gorgeous.

Ding!

Qing Shui released his breath but he didn't dare to relax yet. He was successful in forming the pill but it still needed to be nourished. The primordial flames started to slowly weaken, turning more gentle.

This carried on for a whole day before Qing Shui slowly stopped, he then just laid down and shut his eyes. His mind was already extremely exhausted, not sleeping for a few nights was a small issue but he did not even eat or drink. Furthermore, he had continued to maintain a large energy output. If it was not for the fact that his techniques were so mystical and could continuously replenish his Qi of the automatically. Additionally, he had the Yin-Yang Image in his sea of consciousness replenishing his spirit energy. If any of these two were missing, he wouldn't be able to withstand this.

He had focused his mind to a high degree and his strong spiritual sense was continuously active throughout this long period of time. This might have been the reason for Qing Shui's high success rates of refinement, or it might also be the effect of the Yin-Yang Image.

This time, he slept longer than before. When he woke up, a day had passed. He rose up to eat something, since it was best to just leave the refined pill in the Refining Furnace. Unless he took out his best quality Medicinal Pill porcelain storage bottle, it would be easy for the Medicinal Pill to lose its medicinal effects.

40 days of time had already past in the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal. He only had 10 more days of time before he had to go out. When he got back to the Refining Furnace, Qing Shui was a little excited.

This was the Fate Pill. According to the talents and absorbing abilities of the body, it could raise the bodies abilities by up to 500 countries. Although this was very attractive to other people but to Qing Shui, this was something that he would be willing to risk his life for.

Thinking of the Diamond Gigantic Elephant that broken through two grades earlier, every level up caused Qing Shui's eyes to go red with jealousy. It was a good thing that it was his Demonic Beast, thus he still felt happy.

Cultivation! Qing Shui recovered himself to an optimal state before circulating his Qi around his whole body. Qing Shui knew that this would be much more painful than earlier. Qing Shui even took out the Gold Needles, all 81 of them. Qing Shui knew that it was very dangerous but he still wanted to give it a try, he was very confident in his medical skills and the strength of his body.

This time, this was the biggest change that he would encounter thus far but at the same time, it was accompanied by an enormous danger. There were some people, who after consuming a Divine Heavenly Pill, discovered that their body exploded and ended up dying. This was the same for many heavenly treasures. Thus, it would require the Alchemist to separate out the medicinal strength and absorb it bit by bit. Another option was to refine it into a medicinal pill that would make it safer and easier to absorb. Although this might not result in an explosive increase in strength and a large portion of the medicinal strength may be lost, it would at least guarantee the safety of one's life.

Chapter 655 - Consuming the Ungodly Fate Pill, Skyrocket

His whole body was dominated by sheer imposing force as he sat cross-legged beside the Golden Flint Iron Cauldron. Qing Shui wrinkled his forehead and frowned. He knew that improving his abilities was definitely favorable, but it would take an extreme level of endurance to withstand the excruciating pain through this method. It might even cost him his life if he wasn't careful enough.

Having cultivated the art of [Rebirth], Qing Shui did not fear pain, but he feared that he might accidentally end his life right now. He still had a lot of things to accomplish and a lot of people he couldn't leave behind.

He had also prepared a Five Dragon Pellet on his side, which he could use to cure any poisonous effects. Not only that, the Five Dragon Pellet had another blasphemous ability of delaying the user's death by one full day.

The Five Dragon Pellet was indeed wondrous, due to its nature as an antidote and also its ability to extend the user's life by one day as long as the user did not suffer any injuries around the head, abdomen, inner organs and bones. However, Qing Shui's most valuable lifeline was none other than the Golden Buddha Aura Lotus floating in the middle of the lake.

Nonetheless, he still wasn't sure if the Golden Buddha Aura Lotus really possessed the miraculous ability of the Bones of the Living Dead. It was a legend that was passed down by generations, and was believed by almost everyone to be true. There were only a few people in the world who had seen a divine medicine that was as extraordinary as the Bones of the Living Dead.

Because of that, Qing Shui wanted to depend on his own effort to push through the pain during this very critical moment instead of relying on the Golden Buddha Aura Lotus. If the Golden Buddha Aura Lotus did not work as it intended to, the outcome would be dreadful.

At this moment, Qing Shui felt completely lost. He had no intention of dying - He couldn't accept being killed due to him not consuming the Fate Pill. If he had to choose between watching something bad happen to Di Chen and self-explosion, he would rather explode into oblivion and die a horrible death.

Although, he could not afford to lose his life as there were things he has yet to accomplish, he decided to gamble his life on the Fate Pill while believing in his own luck. There was no way he was that unfortunate to have refined a Fate Pill and then explode into oblivion after consuming it. Even ghosts would be pissed off by that unlucky turn of events.

Qing Shui promptly took out all his Golden Needles as a precaution to secure his own life. He was confident in his own medical skills and the tenacity of his physical body. If he wasn't, he wouldn't be deciding if he should consume the Fate Pill at this moment.

Even though the Fate Pill might be too much for his current ability, he would at least still be able to survive. If he happened to explode and die, the entire Di Residence would be affected as well as the effects of the explosion would still wipe away everything within its radius.

Why did this have to happen now? Was it a coincidence?

Qing Shui felt depressed. If he and Di Chen were still in Greencloud Continent, the Fight of the Ultimate Life and Death would not have happened. Was it triggered by Old Demon Ba's death? Or was it triggered by the passing of the powerful old man from the Di Clan?

He would only feel worse if he kept thinking about it, hence he stopped his train of thought and refocused on the Fate Pill. He had ten days left before the Fight of the Ultimate Life and Death. If he was able to absorb the effects of the Fate Pill by then, he would be able to boost his strength by a considerable amount. Of course this would depend on his level of absorption - how much strength he could absorb between the range of 100 to 500 countries.

If he was able to absorb 400 countries worth of strength into his body, his chances of winning would be increased by 30 percent. It would be perfect if he was able to complement his supplementary skills with whatever strength he received from the Fate Pill.

And that was the root of the problem - he had no idea how much strength he was able to absorb into his body. Even though he was confident in his strength and the tenacity of his body - that he would be able to absorb a good portion of strength, he felt that if he could absorb at least 350 countries worth of strength, he would be invincible.

Qing Shui picked up three Golden Needles and inserted them at the Shanzhong, Jique, and Qimen Acupoints, which could shield the heart pulses from harm when stimulated. This was so that even if something bad were to happen to him, he would still be able to mitigate the situation and stay alive.

After sitting down for a while, Qing Shui decided to open the lid of the Golden Flint Iron Cauldron and check the Fate Pill. The moment he opened the lid, a pleasant fragrance emerged from the inside. The pill smelled exquisitely delightful, perhaps even more delightful than food doused in the condiments from the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal. Or perhaps he simply felt nauseated from the smell of the condiments, and the pleasant fragrance of the pill was more refreshing.

The Fate Pill was the size of a walnut and gave out a soft lustre shine on the surface. It was snow white in color and as smooth as a jade. Qing Shui could feel a strong energy within the pill as it emanated a spiritual Qi that was powerful enough to choke someone.

Without much hesitation, Qing Shui quickly chucked the Fate Pill inside his mouth, which melted instantly at the touch of his tongue. A swift, cool feeling flowed through his throat, leaving an aromatic flavor in his mouth. It was quite a wonderful experience.

This must be the taste of a superb wine that only Gods were allowed to savor. Qing Shui had never tasted such wine before, so he could only imagine how the wine would taste like after he consumed the Fate Pill. The sensation he felt from consuming the Fate Pill was as if he had a passionate kiss with the woman he loved the most, while sucking the sweet juices from her dainty mouth. It was indescribable yet phenomenal.

Ancient Strengthening Technique!

Qing Shui could not afford to relax. He quickly circulated all his techniques through his body. Unfortunately, the Violet Gold Divine Shield and the Heavenly Talisman could not be used in this situation.

He could feel his Dantian and meridians swelling up immediately, but it wasn't painful at all. The swelling felt positively comfortable, which came as a surprise. However, this comfortable sensation would soon fade away as he could sense the energy in his body continuously surging to the maximum - he knew the next thing he would feel was the excruciating pain.

Qing Shui slowly cleared his head of distracting thoughts. He only had one thing in his mind, and that was to succeed no matter what. Now would be the greatest life-changing moment of his entire life. He only needed to get through this and welcome the wide clear path at the side with the greener grass. If he was able to get through this, he would skyrocket himself to the heavens.

Qing Shui unconsciously entered a realm that resembled a State of No Conscious. Was this an epiphany?

Whether or not it was an epiphany, Qing Shui had no clue. All he could feel was that he was sinking into a wondrous realm, and that his strength kept increasing at a crazy rate.

He had also lost track of time, so he didn't know how long he has been in this realm, although it feel like a day had already passed by. Suddenly, Qing Shui opened his eyes after feeling a stinging pain. He woke up and realized that his body was covered in a thin layer of blackened blood. The blood had a very

strong stench. However, Qing Shui was quite happy when he saw the blood, as it meant that the impurities cleansing had taken place.

Qing Shui then took a Golden Needle and inserted it into his Zhangmen Acupoint, and then another one into his Shenting Acupoint!

After every hour, Qing Shui would insert a Golden Needle to release a bit of Qi from his body. Although he would be releasing a bit of the medicine effect together with the Qi from his Ancient Strengthening Technique, he had no other choice. It was better than to endure the full extent of pain without a sense of relief.

Qing Shui still had no idea how long he had been in the State of No Conscious. Nonetheless, he was able to feel that half of the medicinal effects had already been absorbed into his body.

Feeling the intense pain creeping in, he had no choice but to circulate his to the maximum level, hoping that the Qi from the could absorb the continuously increasing energy. If he still couldn't endure the pain, he would then insert another Golden Needle to release a bit of the medicine effect in his body.

After the 36th Golden Needle, Qing Shui felt that he could finally control the violent energy in his body. The previous Golden Needles he had used weren't simply for the purpose of releasing some of the medicine effect and Qi, they were also used to strengthen his meridians as well as to consolidate and nurture his constitution temporarily.

Three days had passed before Qing Shui began to slowly open his eyes. He smiled widely, knowing that he had succeeded despite the bloodstains all over his body.

Qing Shui couldn't gauge the energy absorbed within his body, so he tried to get a sense of it. When he knew how much energy he had gained, he laughed even more heartily. He had gained the strength of 400 countries and his defense had increased by 500 countries.

This was more than he had expected. Ignoring the bloody odor on his clothes, he slowly yet excitedly circulated the Nature Energy, State of Immovable as Mountains, Frenzied Bull's Strength.....

The improvement of the Fate Pill this time had led to the increase of Qing Shui's attack power to around 800 countries of strength, while his defense power had reached about 1100 countries. Under the passive effects of Diamond Qi and Diamond Protection, his attack was further boosted to about 1600 countries, and his defense further boosted to about 2200 countries. His speed and endurance had received quite a substantial boost as well.

Nature Energy!

Diamond Qi!

.....

Qing Shui had achieved an attack of roughly 2800 countries and a defense of 3300 countries without having equipped his weapons and armors. As the powerful energy surged through his body, he quickly took out the Violet Gold Divine Shield and Big Dipper Sword, equipped them straightaway.

Godly Force Talisman!

Divine Shield Talisman!

Not only were his powers sufficiently boosted, the formidable force of the Heavenly Talismans were boosted as well! If Qing Shui were to release all of his strength at once, his attack would reach 4300 countries worth of strength. Under the effects of the Divine Shield Talisman, his defense would reach 3800 countries worth of strength. Moreover, his defense could be briefly doubled if he equipped his Seven Star Armored Vest, which would only last for about an hour...

Now that his speed was at supersonic level and his defense at a ridiculous level, his trump cards, Critical Damage, Blackjade Poisonous Spiderweb, the formidable Hidden Weapon Technique, the State of One with Elephant that could be used simultaneously with the Combination Sword Technique while riding the Diamond Gigantic Elephant, had all become invincible.

At that moment, Qing shui was stunned. It wasn't even two months in the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal and Qing Shui's strength had already went from Early Grade Six Martial Saint to his current Peak Grade Nine Martial Saint, albeit barely.....

This was indeed skyrocketing. In the blink of an eye, he had actually reached an unbelievable level of strength. It took Qing Shui quite a while to absorb the reality before he returned to his senses.

Fate Pill, as its name implied, would entirely change the fate of the person after consuming it. Their speed would become faster, and their defense would be stronger, just as Qing Shui's did. Now, he would be able to fight head on with Grade Ten Martial Saints in a battle. Moreover, with his Critical Damage at its maximum lethality, he would be able to land a deadly blow to his enemies.

At this moment, Qing Shui felt an indescribable satisfaction and relief as he felt the stream of vivacious energy radiating through his body. At the same time, he was actually looking forward to the upcoming Fight of the Ultimate Life and Death in two days time, unlike the worrisome sensation he had before.

Only at this moment, did he look down at his clothes smeared with blood and finally realize that he was giving off a stench of bloody odor. Qing Shui quickly gathered some water from the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal and cleaned his body. He then changed into his Lunar Silk Garment, which had the ability to cleanse itself whenever it was stained or dirtied. His garment was quite tough as well, which had Qing Shui suspecting whether it was at the level of Fake Divine Artifact. However, that wasn't a big concern as Critical Damage was one of the supplementary skills attached to the Lunar Silk Garment.

As his time in the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal was almost up, Qing Shui spent the remaining time eating some food and walking around the field. When he saw his Diamond Gigantic Elephant roaming nearby, he was lightened up with happiness and joy.

In a short amount of time, his strength as well as the Diamond Gigantic Elephant's strength had experienced a tremendous change. Before, both of them did not possess the strength lethal enough to kill his upcoming opponents. Now, they could undoubtedly make them pay and weep in grief.

Qing Shui walked towards the poisonous pond and looked at the poisonous beings growing inside. They were already filling up the pond, and this was due to the ability of the Five-Colored Daylily Grass he had planted, which doubled the toxin production of the poisonous beings.

That being said, Qing Shui had been busy collecting a lot of poisonous beings to fill out the pond. Once the pond was fully packed with these poisonous beings, he would try tempering the Blackjade Poisonous Spiderweb after the Fight of the Ultimate Life and Death was concluded. This time, he planned to use the crystals extracted from the Crystal Lion to boost the toxicity of the web.

Chapter 656 - The Preparation and Set-up Before the Battle

For the past 50 days, he had spent less than half a month tempering the Demon Binding Ropes. He had no choice. Everything was very sudden, and he did not know when the Demon Binding Ropes would be able to level up again. The Demon Binding Ropes were really amazing, it was a pity that it was useless at the moment against cultivators who had 5000 countries or higher of strength.

Usually, if he could afford to, Qing Shui would work on tempering the Demon Binding Ropes and the Soulshake bell, just like how he would enter the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal daily. This was unless he had some special matters to tend to, such as having to spend a prolonged period of time performing alchemy. At such times, he could not have any breaks in between.

When he sensed the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal acting force on the outside world, Qing Shui quickly dashed out. It was getting brighter outside. For these few days, unless he had things to attend to, Qing Shui would always spend his time in the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal once the next day arrived. He was worried about potential delays if any problems suddenly popped up.

He walked out of his room. While they were in Di Residence, Di Chen would stay together with Di Qing. Their room wasn't far away from where he was staying. It wasn't early anymore and although the sun hadn't risen, it would be rising in about 15 minutes.

Just as he stepped out of his room, the two ladies stepped out from their rooms as well. Upon spotting Qing Shui, their eyes lit up. This caused Qing Shui to look at them, feeling puzzled.

"We've only not seen you for a night, how did you become so good looking?" Di Qing looked at Qing Shui and asked outright. She even went right up to him to take a good look, getting so close that Qing Shui could smell her fragrance.

"Good looking?"

Qing Shui touched his face, puzzled. As he was doing so, Di Qing smiled and put up a small mirror before him.

When Qing Shui saw his own reflection, he did not know what to say. There did not seem to be any major changes. His skin had become a little bit better, hmm... his clear eyes seemed to give out a deeper feeling. The only thing that Qing Shui couldn't accept was the mark between his brows which had been left behind by the Yin-Yang Pendant.

It used to be a dark purple color. Although it stood out very obviously, it was still something he could accept. However, it had started to slowly turn increasingly red, till it appeared to be a little charming. This caused Qing Shui to appear slightly bewitching. Moreover, with Qing Shui's skin appearing better than before, that mark which was the size of a soybean appeared brighter than before.

"If only you could pass that mark to me." Di Qing smiled and said.

This was the second time a woman had said this to Qing Shui. Qing Shui did not say much and he merely smiled and told them that he was going out for his morning practice.

“Wait, we’ll go too!” Di Qing pulled Di Chen and said smilingly.

“Then let’s go!” Qing Shui smiled and replied.

The three of them walked out of the pavilion building. There was a special area to allow for them to cultivate in the courtyard. There was even a small arena in the backyard, as well as a small pond. Someone was standing next to the pond.

“Sister Su!” Di Qing smiled gently and called out to her.

Qing Shui suddenly felt that Di Qing had a few sides to her. When they had met for the first time, they had ended up fighting. Back then, she was a cool character who was like a goddess. Now, before outsiders, she still acted like this. It was just that she seemed to not care about her image when she was with Qing Shui. Qing Shui did not know if this was a good thing or not.

When Yuan Su turned and saw the three of them, she appeared to be in a slight daze. However, she quickly smiled and greeting them.

“You’re in a great mood to come look at the fishes so early in the morning.” Di Qing smiled and walked over.

Qing Shui waved his hand and then headed for the small arena. Although it was a small area, it still had a diameter of 30 meters. It was alright for Qing Shui to practice his Taichi there.

With a light leap, he jumped up onto the arena which was over two meters high!

The sun was starting to rise from the east. Qing Shui pushed out his two hands in parallel; Slanted Moon, Up Fist, Shifting Clouds, Left Tail Block...

Qing Shui’s movements were sturdy, showing an indescribable flow and beauty amidst its slowness. It gave people a strange feeling, as well as an indescribable visual impact.

When the three ladies realized that they had been drawn in by Qing Shui’s movements for quite a while, they all appeared as if they had just woken up from a dream in shock. They all smiled, embarrassed.

Di Chen walked up and headed for the other side of the arena, starting her own morning practice.

However, Di Qing did not move. She only stood next to Yuan Su, smiling as she chatted with her.

“What do you think about him?” Di Qing smiled and said.

“Who?” Yuan Su seemed to not understand as she looked at Di Qing.

“You were staring at him earlier on. How could you forget so quickly.” Di Qing looked at Yuan Su with a sly expression.

“Sister Qing, I don’t think that you’re in a position to laugh at me. Earlier, you looked like you couldn’t wait to devour him.” Yuan Su chuckled. Without Qing Shui here, they seemed to be much more daring

when they spoke. If he were here, he would definitely be shocked that this lady would be able to smile so innocently.

“Alright, let’s not talk about this. Sister Su, what do you think of Qing Shui as a person?” Di Qing continued to ask.

“What do you want to hear about him? I’m not that close with him so I’m not sure.” Yuan Su smiled and said.

“We’ll just talk casually. After all, it’s just between us sisters.” Di Qing replied with a smile.

“I really don’t know. I only know that he is a capable and intelligent guy.” Yuan Su said smilingly, then looked at Di Qing unblinkingly.

“Why are you looking at me like this?” Di Qing felt a bit uncomfortable under Yuan Su’s gaze.

“Sister Qing, I was able to tell that the gaze you had when you looked him was very different. It was a little similar to that of your sister’s. I keep feeling that something has happened between the two of you. Come, share it with me. Let’s see how he had moved the heart of a lady who is worshiped by all the guys in the Seven Stars Country.” Yuan Su teased.

Di Qing felt a little embarrassed to hear that. She suddenly tickled Yuan Su’s armpits and said, “Let’s see if you still dare to spout rubbish.”

The two beautiful ladies were having fun, their soft and beautiful voices ringing out far away.

Qing Shui did not try to listen to the sounds in the area and was totally submerged in his own mental state. Qing Shui’s progress in his abilities made him feel that he must take some time to improve his mastery of this new energy.

Practicing Taichi was a very good option, it required a good grasp of one’s strength to gain a balance between power and softness. What he needed to do now was to spend some time even when he was in the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal to practice Taichi. This would allow him to completely absorb the new powers he had just gained.

He practiced all the way until the late morning before Qing Shui stopped. He had still wanted to practice the Thousand Buddha Palm Imprint but decided to give it up for now. It was because the three ladies seemed to still be waiting for him.

He leaped off the arena and walked toward the three ladies. It was about time for breakfast!

During the meal, everyone in Di Clan was present, even Old Madam Mo. However, when Di Xuan and Old Madam Mo saw Qing Shui, their gazes were filled with disbelief and then they quickly broke into smiles.

They could also tell that Qing Shui’s abilities had improved a lot. Most importantly, Qing Shui’s charms had elevated qualitatively compared to before. This should be highly related to the progress of his abilities. With vast improvements, his confidence would also be boosted. It was a relief on both his mental and physical state, giving him an additional hint of unrestrained aura.

Old Madam Mo and Di Xuan saw that Qing Shui's abilities were at best at the elementary stage of a Grade Six Martial Saint. However, this still made them extremely astonished. The rate of his growth was too unbelievable.

Qing Shui also met the three middle-aged people in the Alchemist Sect. It was as Yuan Su had said, one of them was a Grade Eight Martial Saint, slightly weaker compared to Di Xuan, while the remaining two were struggling between the Seventh and Eighth Grade of the Martial Saint Realm. They were just one step into the Grade Eight Martial Saint level.

"You must be Qing Shui! It's the first time I saw Yuan had recommended someone so strongly. You're really a promising young man." An old man with a strong scholarly feel said.

"Senior, you flatter me. This time around, I still have to thank the three of you for coming to help." Qing Shui smiled and greeted them from the stand of a junior.

"We can only help from the sides. Old Madam Mo said that this would be sufficient."

Qing Shui met with Yuan Su's two other uncles from the main house and knew that the three of them were cousins. The Grade Eight Martial Saint was Yuan Hua, the one with a taller and stronger build was Yuan Song, and the last one with the most white hair, who looked the oldest, was Yuan Chong.

Everyone sat down. Maybe it was because those who supported Di Jing felt too humiliated to say anything thus they remaining silent. Those who supported Di Xuan were very active.

The number of people who supported Di Xuan were lesser when compared to the number of people supporting his other brothers. Although Di Clan was not a clan with a high population, the other factions had at least twice the number of people Di Xuan had. Therefore, there were only about 200 people in Di Clan's main house, with people across a number of generations. It was likely that this event had united the entire Di Clan.

For a clan as reputable as Di Clan, having only around 200 people in the main family was really too little. The others were practically outsiders and were the Di Clan's in-laws. In fact, a majority of Di Clan's businesses were all managed by the families of their in-laws. However, the bulk of the profits would belong to Di Clan. Power determined everything. This was the rule, the obvious way of doing things. Moreover, this was also a win-win situation.

They had an enjoyable meal. There were a number of Martial Saint leveled cultivators in Di Clan. However, the Old Ancestor who could hold the ground was no longer around and the Di Clan had since dropped to become the weakest amongst the seven stars in the Seven Stars Country. They could barely keep up and stay as one of them.

In the World of the Nine Continents, if a person were to gain success, everyone around him would be able to bask together in his glory. When the Old Ancestor was around, the Di Clan could sit comfortably amongst the seven stars without any worry. But now that he was not around to carry the weight on his shoulders, the Di Clan's powers had increasingly weakened. Even the Residence of the Sky Tyrant Lord had thought of ways to bully them.

This time around, the Ten Thousand Poisons Sect had stayed in seclusion for such a long period of time and could no longer hold it in. Qing Shui did not know if he was considered to be lucky or unlucky to be here when they appeared.

If he weren't here, he might not have gained the powers he had today. If he stayed, his life could be at risk. One could never get the best of both worlds and dangers would always tend to accompany opportunities. Therefore, at least for now, Qing Shui did not feel regretful.

"Qing Shui, let's discuss how we're going to take on the Fight of the Ultimate Life and Death today!" Di Xuan smiled and said to Qing Shui. Di Clan's clan head, Di Xiong, merely smiled as he watched from the side. He seemed to have decided to let Di Xuan handle this case entirely.

"Senior, there is strength in numbers. I'm not very familiar with the Ten Thousand Poisons Sect and the other clans. If anyone has any good suggestions, just feel free to speak." said Qing Shui after giving it some thought.

Chapter 657 - Distance, Poison Dragon Pearl

"How about this, let my father tell you about the strength the other clans have on the surface!" Di Xuan hesitated for a moment before he replied to Qing Shui with a smile. Only after replying did he respectfully turned his gaze towards Di Xiong.

Qing Shui was momentarily stunned before bowing towards Di Xiong and said, "Would esteemed grandfather please enlighten us!"

"Sure, I'll tell everyone what I know. I'm getting old, it's time for you youngsters to shine." Di Xiong seemed really happy, first glancing towards Di Xuan and then towards Di Chen and Di Qing.

Undeniably, Di Xiong has experienced a lot in life. While the Di Clan's experts were still around, Di Xiong was also considered as one of those who had the ability to stir up trouble in Seven Stars City. Unfortunately, he has been feeling down and out lately.

A hundred years ago, people respected Di Xiong because of his father. In recent times, the roles have reversed. The experts of the Di Clan had passed away, and Di Xiong's strength was insufficient to uphold the status and position of the Di Clan. When others saw the opportunity and that no one could protect the Di Clan, it naturally led to the current situation.

Di Xuan had broken through, but it was still insufficient to support the Di Clan's great undertakings. Something was still lacking. Perhaps the Ten Thousand Poisons Sect just didn't want the Di Clan to rise again, thus choosing this moment to take action. They wanted to use this opportunity to remove the Di Clan from the Seven Stars.

"The Ten Thousand Poisons Sect was not inferior to the Di Clan in any way in the past. It's just that they cultivated the path of poison. They have only two Grade Ten Martial Saint warriors. However, their strength shouldn't be measured based on their cultivation. The most terrifying part about them is their poisons. That is why even a Peak Martial King warrior from the Ten Thousand Poisons Sect should not be underestimated." Di Xiong's expression turned bitter as he narrated.

Qing Shui remained silent, listening attentively. He was now aware that within Seven Stars City, Grade Ten Martial Saints were already considered peak existences. However, Grade Ten Martial Saints could possess strength ranging from five thousand countries to nine thousand and nine hundred countries...

Qing Shui didn't know how strong the two Grade Ten Martial Saints in the Ten Thousand Poisons Sect were. However, they were likely to be slightly superior to Old Madam Mo.

At present, Old Madam Mo had just recovered her strength of Grade Ten Martial Saint, only reaching the strength of Old Demon Ba's Red Jiao. Without Qing Shui's trump cards, this battle would be extremely hard.

"The Sima Clan is a senior ranked clan in the Ten Thousand Poison's Sect. Their clan also has a Grade Ten Martial Saint warrior, who had only broken through in the recent years. Because the Ten Thousand Poisons Sect is one of the Seven Stars, Sima Clan never fought to be part of the Seven Stars, even though they're definitely qualified to be amongst the Seven Stars." At this point, there was a tone of defeat in his voice.

The Di Clan had a bright future. Unfortunately the Di Clan's experts had passed away early, and the generations bridging these experts to the younger generation were inadequate. The younger generation were all really outstanding and given enough time, the Di Clan should be able rise again very quickly. Perhaps this was the reason, that many people did not want the Di Clan to rise, hence they took this opportunity to halt the Di Clan's progress at while they were still developing.

"The remaining three clans, the Zuo Clan, Guan Clan and Du Clan, appear to be as strong as the Di Clan, with their strongest warriors only at Grade Eight Martial Saint, at least on the surface."

Qing Shui was not sure how he felt about this. Ever since he broke through, he didn't feel that Grade Eight Martial Saints were a threat. However, there were many who truly knew the strength within Seven Stars Country. If not for the Di Clan's Old Ancestor, the current Di Clan would only be on the same level as the Zuo Clan, Guan Clan and Du Clan. Honestly speaking, the Di Clan already lacked the qualifications to be part of the Seven Stars.

If the three clans only had Grade Eight Martial Saints as their strongest warriors, Qing Shui felt that they could basically be ignored. Utilizing his full strength, he should be able to instantly kill Grade Eight Martial Saint warriors.

Qing Shui had a feeling that even Grade Nine and Early Grade Ten Martial Saint warriors were nothing to him. However, Qing Shui noticed that Di Xiong kept mentioning that this strength was the strength only shown on the surface. Could there be other hidden cards? Furthermore, poison would play a major factor in the battle.

"The two old men from the Ten Thousand Poison Sects as well as the Sima Clan's Old Ancestor all have powerful poison beasts. I only know that the poison beast of Sima Clan's Grade Ten Martial Saint is a Five Elements Poisonous Jade Sable. It's about 33 centimeters long and it has patterns of the five elements on its body. It specializes in Five Element Poison, is extremely fast and has a very strong toxicity. Even though it only possesses strength of a Peak Martial King, Grade One Martial Saint demonic beasts will usually be forced to run away if they meet it. If you see it, you have to be careful." Di Xiong let out a long sigh.

Even after Di Xiong finished speaking, everyone remained silent. There was still a large difference in strength between the two sides. Most importantly, everyone was clear about the strength of the Di Clan, but they only knew what appeared to be the opponents' strength and that information was already outdated.

"Qing Shui, you should decide on who will participate. How about choosing the five strongest, we can only try our best."

At this moment, Di Xuan turned and faced Qing Shui as he spoke to him. Since everyone had come and didn't leave, Di Xuan did not speak as though Qing Shui was an outsider. Besides, he had confidence in Qing Shui. Even if Di Xuan had to sacrifice himself to protect the Di Clan, he felt that it would be worth it.

Di Xuan's words caused many Di clan members to feel undeniably surprised. Di Xuan had actually asked a young man's opinion in such an important matter.

There was a middle-aged man from Di Jing's bloodline that wanted to voice out something but was stopped by Di Jing. This was a special situation. Originally, Di Jing shouldn't be around. However, his punishment was temporarily suspended.

Hence, Di Jing stopped the middle-aged man, his face filled with displeasure. Presently, they had no say in the matter. For them to be present for this discussion was already quite fortunate.

"Qing Shui, you decide. We will all support you, you can do it." At this moment, Old Madam Mo said with a smile.

Since things have reached this point, Qing Shui stopped declining the responsibility. He pondered over it and said, "We will only send three people to battle — Senior Di Xuan, Old Madam Mo and myself."

When Qing Shui said that, everyone was silent. The Fight of the Ultimate Life and Death would allow entry of up to five participants, hence each side would normally send out five participants. For sects like the Ten Thousand Poisons Sect, the more participants, the better. Because those who weren't as useful could still toss poisons from the backline.

"Three people, if there are five opponents, wouldn't we be at a disadvantage?" At this moment, Yuan Hua frowned as spoke. He was the strongest person present after Old Madam Mo and Di Xuan.

After all, he had planned to aid them in the fight. Yet, all he could do now was to spectate. He was actually happy to do that, and acknowledge that he had insufficient strength. However, he still felt unhappy to be looked down by others.

"Three seniors, I know you are aware that the Ten Thousand Poisons Sect specializes in poisons and there are also various other clans involved. I hope seniors can help look after the safety of the others. This is more important than the fight in the arena as we will need to defend ourselves against the Ten Thousand Poisons Sect and the Sima Clan." Qing Shui responded after thinking for a while.

"Haha, that's nothing. It's all the same to us. However, I just wanted to know why Little Brother Qing Shui only wants three people to participate?" Yuan Song responded with a silly smile.

"I think having more people will not be a good thing. In direct combat, we are weaker than our opponents. By having more participants would only widen that disparity. If the opponents are really

strong, two more participants would still not be a threat to them. Furthermore, there will be many spectators. I believe that our opponents wouldn't send five participants if we only sent three."

Actually, Qing Shui had another plan. Even if the opponent sent five participants, as long as their strength were below Grade Ten Martial Saint, Qing Shui would seize the opportunity to instantly kill the Grade Eight and Grade Nine Martial Saints. If the opponent's strength had reached Grade Ten Martial Saint, it would be futile to send two more people. This would only cause more casualties. Therefore, why not just let them protect the others.

"Are you confident?" Di Xuan asked calmly.

"Yes!" Qing Shui said firmly after hesitating for a while.

Qing Shui's expression made many people smile. This was because everyone realised that they actually began to believe in Qing Shui wholeheartedly. It was a strange feeling. Qing Shui's expression when he was deep in thought made them feel that he had made serious considerations before giving his answers.

Previously, a few of Yuan Su's uncles had already distributed a few antidotes to the people present. Qing Shui took out the Pure Jade Pellets and gave one to each person. They were to consume the Pure Jade Pellet if the other antidotes given were unable to resolve the poison.

Qing Shui additionally gave Di Chen and Old Madam Mo a few Five Dragons Pellets. He also gave some to Di Qing to use when the situation called for it. Just by explaining the perverse secondary effects of the Five Dragon Pellet, she should know what to do without much explanation.

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"Why are you here?" Yuan Su was shocked when she saw Qing Shui outside her door.

"Am I unwelcomed?" Qing Shui smiled awkwardly, surprised by Yuan Su's tone.

"Hehe, I don't mean it that way. You have such a beautiful wife by your side, why aren't you accompanying her more?" Yuan Su smiled as she led Qing Shui into her room.

"No matter how beautiful she is, I can't be holding her in my hands at every moment right?" Qing Shui casually responded.

Yuan Su didn't respond as she poured a cup of tea for Qing Shui. As they sat opposite each other, Qing Shui observed this unique beauty.

Qing Shui took out the snow white porcelain bottle and passed it to her. "Could you help to figure out what's in this bottle?"

Previously, Qing Shui has tried taking a look with his Fiery Golden Eyes, but he didn't manage to gather any information. He didn't want to blindly open it, hence he decided to seek Yuan Su's help.

As Yuan Su took over the bottle, a bright and dazzling light flashed in her eyes. She then gently closed her eyes, probing the item in the bottle. Qing Shui had heard her mention before that she was very good at sensing things. This was an innate talent, or what was considered sixth sense by Buddhists.

The sixth sense, was the additional sense of heart sense, after the five senses of sight, hearing, smell, touch and taste.

Qing Shui felt that Yuan Su most likely possessed an extremely powerful sixth sense. And it was this mysterious ability that allowed her to create alchemy recipes.

After a long time, Yuan Su once again opened her eyes. Her face was filled with happiness and disbelief. After staring at Qing Shui for a few breaths of time, she unhurriedly said, "This is a Poison Dragon Pearl!"

"Poison Dragon Pearl?" Qing Shui couldn't believe his ears, asking doubtfully.

Chapter 658 - Uses of the 'Pearl', Seven Stars Street

"Poison Dragon Pearl?" Qing Shui couldn't believe his ears and asked doubtfully.

Yuan Su looked at Qing Shui and said seriously: "I'm also not quite sure, but I can feel that this is the Poison Dragon Pearl. Even though I have never seen it before, my assumption is unlikely to be wrong. You can also call it Poison Pearl since it might not be that apt to call it a Dragon Pearl."

"It doesn't really matter what it is, what's the use of this pearl?" Qing Shui was more concerned with this. He didn't care if it's the Poison Dragon Pearl, he just wanted to know what it could be used for.

"For now, let's just call it the Poison Dragon Pearl since there is a 80 percent chance of it being a Poison Dragon Pearl. Actually, the Poison Dragons aren't the divine dragons mentioned in legends. They're likely to be an ascended form of a Poisonous Jiao. The Poison Dragon Pearls were made of the essence within the Poison Dragon's body." Yuan Su explained slowly after pondering for a while.

When Qing Shui first heard the word dragon, he felt a bit excited. He assumed that it should be a demonic beast which was higher in rank compared to a Jiao. For example, Poison Dragon Beast and Poison Flood Dragon.

"Even though it isn't an true dragon, it still possesses a dragon's veins within its body. The Poison Dragons are actually quite famous across the World of the Nine Continents. The only problem is that they are quite rare nowadays. This pearl could only be formed by a demonic beast at Peak Martial Saint grade. It's even more rare than the demonic beast's Core. Even though I have mentioned that only a demonic beast at Peak Martial Saint could make the pearls, it didn't necessarily mean that all of them would be able to do it. Other than that, if a demonic beast was to lose this pearl, it would instantaneously turn into a crippled beast."

As Yuan Su spoke, Qing Shui finally understood that the pearl was not only the essence of a Peak Martial Saint Demonic Beast, but also an extremely rare object. Considering that it's the essence within the body of a Poison Dragon, it should be really toxic.

"I have spent so much time explaining, yet I haven't told you about its use." Yuan Su smiled and looked at Qing Shui. She seemed to be really patient.

"Well then, will the Miss quickly explain the use of this pearl?" Qing Shui laughed as he said this.

"I'm not quite sure myself. But I have heard rumors saying that this kind of pearl has intelligence. It's no easy task but if you have it on you fairly often, you will be able to sense something, so much so that you will start to be able to control it with your mind. Furthermore, considering that this is a pearl from a

Poisonous Dragon, it's really risky to wear it since the essence of the dragons themselves is also poisonous.

Qing Shui remained silent as he continued to listen to what Yuan Su said.

"These kinds of pearls have particularly abundant spirit energy. If it wasn't a Poisonous Dragon Pearl, it would still turn out to be an outstanding medicinal herb. The problem is that the Poison Dragon Pearls are also something which Poison Cultivators longed for. As long as you don't directly come into contact with the Dragon Pearl, you will be fine. It can also be used to water poisonous plants or nurture living things which are poisonous to strengthen their toxicity."

As she spoke, Qing Shui seemed to have gotten a grasp on something even though he was still a bit confused. Despite this, he was still satisfied that he had finally understood its basic uses.

"Is there no other use anymore?" Qing Shui asked casually.

"Other? Regarding that, it's still used as a medicinal pill or it could be fed to other demonic beasts. There is a possibility that it will gain new abilities. It will have the best effect if it's taken in by a demonic beast. Or else the human warrior with it is very likely to be poisoned to death. It can also be used as a poisonous weapon, for instance, you can throw it at your opponent, inserting it into their body."

"How tough is the Poison Dragon Pearl?" Qing Shui asked after thinking for a while.

"Apparently, a Peak Martial Saint Warrior would also need to go all out and attack a number of times to break it." Yuan Su smiled and explained.

"If I open up this bottle, will the toxicity of the pearls in it be gone?" Qing Shui already had his own thoughts on how to use the dragon pearls. However, he was still a little apprehensive.

"No it won't. These pearls would recover toxicity on their own so long as you still managed to retain half of it. But if you were to use up half of its toxicity at one go, it will slowly turn into a useless pearl. Normally, you can speed up the recovery by nurturing them with some poisons."

"Thank you!"

"You're welcome!" Yuan Su gave a faint smile and responded.

"Shall we open it up and see?"

"Alright, I too want to have a look."

Qing Shui opened up the bottle. As soon as he did, the entire room instantaneously felt really chilly. The bottle was only the size of a baby's fist. It's shaped like the bottom part of a calabash. Qing Shui also felt a strong spirit fluctuation from the chilliness of the room. He was truly amazed by the essence of a Peak Martial Saint Demonic Beast.

He tried to look at the pearl through the mouth of the bottle. The pearl was as big as an oat, jet-black in color and unusually translucent. It was so black that it sent chills down Qing Shui's spine and shone with light that seemed to belong to a demon.

When looking at it, it gave off a feeling that would cause one to stop and not go further. It was a feeling of danger. Even Qing Shui who possessed the Nature Energy didn't dare to risk it. He didn't feel the need to risk himself for it. He would wait for his Nature Energy to ascend even further because only then, would he be able to resist the poison with it.

Qing Shui felt that it might be useful for the poisonous substances in the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal. Not to mention that his Blackjade Poisonous Spiderweb needed to be refined urgently. It seemed like these pearls might really come in handy for him.

Yuan Su passed it back to Qing Shui after looking a few times at it.

After a while, Qing Shui stood up and said his goodbyes. He threw the bottle containing the Poison Dragon Pearl into the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal and placed it among the poisonous flowers and grasses.

Just like that, the incident resolving the Fight of the Ultimate Life and Death had been decided. Simultaneously, the world was really heated up with rumors about it. People from around the entire Seven Stars Country, other countries and other cities were all planning to head here to spectate the match.

Within one short day, not only had the entire city found out about it, a few unknown forces even started to get themselves involved in it.

Qing Shui didn't care about any of these. It's obvious that they were trying to profit from another's misfortune. Other than that, there were still a lot of people who wanted to take advantage of the situation but in order to do so, they would need to be strong enough.

"Chen`Er, let's go out and walk around." By the time Qing Shui found Di Chen, she was staring blankly into space.

"Alright!" As soon as she saw Qing Shui, the upset look on her face immediately got replaced by a happy one.

After taking only a few steps, they could already see both Di Qing and Yuan Su walking towards them. When Qing Shui saw this, he automatically knew that was impossible for Di Chen and him to spend some alone time.

"Sister, where are you guys going?"

"Let's go together. We may no longer be in the mood to do so in two days." Di Chen smiled and said.

Di Qing's face immediately turned upset.

"Qing`Er, stop thinking so much, there's always a way out." Di Chen said gently.

"Yeah, it's nothing. I'm just a bit grumpy, how great would it be if I was a Peak Martial Saint, they wouldn't dare to come even if they had nine lives." Di Qing said grumpily.

"Sister Qing, do you believe in me?" Yuan Su smiled and asked Di Qing.

“Of course I do! Who else is going to help us other than you?” Di Qing believed deeply in Yuan Su’s mysterious sensing ability. To be more accurate, her ability to sense a person’s character. It was not actually an ability that was capable of finding out things in advance before they happened.

“If you believe in me, then be happy. Now that you have me aiding you, everything will be fine.” Yuan Su glanced towards Qing Shui and said calmly with a smile.

Di Qing accidentally saw Yuan Su’s intentional glance. In response to that, she smiled: “I will believe in you then! Let’s hang out together today.”

Qing Shui was squished in the middle. Even though he was happy that he was like a moon surrounded by myriads of stars, he would quickly be the center of attention as soon as he stepped out of the house, considering that the three girls were all extreme beauties.

On top of that, both Di Qing and Di Chen no longer wore their veils and Qing Shui was quite good-looking. There would be a lot of people talking about them along the way. Even if Qing Shui possessed great strength, it was still really easy for him to be criticized as a man who lived off women.

If Qing Shui had looked tall, bold, powerful, and more boorish, he would end up being called a toad lusting after a swan’s flesh.

To a certain extent, the only way to stop these kind of gossips would be for Qing Shui to continue getting stronger. Across the World of the Nine Continents, one’s strength was more than enough to decide everything.

“Qing Shui, where shall we go?” After walking for a while, Di Chen asked Qing Shui.

“Let’s go to Seven Stars street, I would like to go have a look at the Seven Stars Battle Arena.” Qing Shui responded after thinking for a while. He felt that it would be worth a visit before the match began.

Everyone agreed with Qing Shui’s suggestions except Di Chen who glanced towards Qing Shui with an uneasy look. Despite this, she didn’t say anything. Eventually, they rode on a beast cart and rushed their way towards Seven Stars Street.

Seven Stars Street wasn’t too far away from here. However, it would still take a long time for a person to walk there on foot and since there were a few outstanding girls with him, he thought that it would be better for him to ride a beast cart. He also felt it unnecessary to ride the Fire Bird, despite there being a lot of people riding their own mounts along the street.

There was no wrong to maintaining a low profile, especially during times like this.

Very quickly, the four arrived at Seven Stars Street. Qing Shui and the rest stopped when there was still quite a distance between them and the arena.

The Seven Stars Street was one of the widest streets in Seven Stars City. This place was considered the biggest landmark in Seven Stars Country because it was also one of the most developed areas. The aristocratic clans would often do their business here.

The width of the Seven Stars Street was roughly a thousand meters. A street that wide was something that Qing Shui would never have been able to imagine. But after spending so many years here, he had

already gotten used to seeing it. Furthermore, the different kinds of beasts and beast carts that passed along the street gave a unique feeling to Qing Shui. He really enjoyed it.

The environment here was also really good. Myriads of tall shops, many of which sheltered both sides of the street, the continuous yelling noises as well as noises of customers negotiating with the sellers, formed a type of melody along the street. Even though Qing Shui was in the middle of a noisy street, he felt really calm.

“Look! The young lady from Di Clan! She’s so beautiful!”

“Unfortunately, Di Clan will be finished in two days. No matter how beautiful she looks, she will still end up a toy for Ten Thousand Poisons Sect.” The person from just now said.

“Actually, why does Ten Thousand Poisons Sect want to force Di Clan to the Fight of the Ultimate Life and Death?” Someone interrupted the person from before. Topics like this would often end up gathering a lot of crowds fairly easily.

“Could it be that you knew?” The others looked at the young man who spoke previously in suspicion.

“Hehe, my cousin is from Sima Clan, it’s normal for me to know things like this.” The young man responded in an arrogant manner.

“Oh, I forgot, brother Zhao’s cousin is a steward from Sima Clan. Brother Zhao, please stop being so secretive and tell everyone the reason for it. The longer you hold it, the more impatient you’ll get.” One of the men from before quickly changed his expression and said with an ingratiating smile.

Chapter 659 - Seven Stars Arena, Provocation

“Remember to keep it a secret. Or else we might not even know how we die.”

“Don’t worry Brother Zhao, are we the kind of people who would do that?”

“From what I heard, there was a time when the young master from Ten Thousand Poisons Sect went to Di Clan to propose a marriage but got rejected by them. Ever since then, Ten Thousand Poisons Sect has hated them. Coincidentally, things didn’t turn out well for Di Clan as their Old Ancestor passed away. Everything is in Ten Thousand Poison’s Sect’s favor because even if they themselves don’t take action, a fat meat like Di Clan will also be targeted by other people.” The young man who was known as Brother Zhao explained slowly while looking at Qing Shui and the others.

“Brother Zhao indeed knows about a lot of things. Oh yeah, what do you think they are at Seven Stars Street for?” Immediately, there was already a person trying to flatter Brother Zhao. Of course, he didn’t forget to ask his question.

“Judging from the direction they’re heading, they’re most likely going to Seven Stars Arena.”

“Let’s go have a look, for all you know, we might discover something unexpected.” The young man with surname Zhao said happily after thinking for a while.

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Actually, Qing Shui heard what they said. At present, Qing Shui, who had already had a huge leap in strength acquired a terrifyingly powerful Spiritual Sense. He was able to detect every single movement of the things in his surroundings.

Qing Shui moved his sight to Di Chen and Di Qing. It seemed like they didn't hear it. Di Qing was constantly chatting with Yuan Su and Di Chen. Occasionally, she would point at some demonic beasts or shops.

"Qing Shui, look, that's the Seven Stars Arena! It's the biggest battle arena in Seven Stars Country. For ordinary people, it's really hard for them to even have a match in it." Di Qing smiled as she explained to Qing Shui.

Qing Shui finally saw the Seven Stars Arena for the first time. Prior to this, he had only heard about it, it was right in front of him. It was located in one of the most bustling areas in the city, being in the center of a crossroad, the Seven Stars Arena was round in shape and about hundred meters tall. There were seven shining crystals decorated around it, which resembled seven stars. But Qing Shui wasn't actually able to recognize what they were.

The Seven Stars Arena was dark purple in color. It had a circumference of around three hundred meters. Indeed, it was one of the biggest battle arenas which Qing Shui had ever seen. Even so, Martial Saint Warriors would most likely rise into the air while battling, very rarely would they remain on the arena to fight.

Not to mention that some gigantic demonic beasts were a hundred meters long. If it was a battle between two aristocratic clans, they would feel cramped even if they were in the Seven Stars Arena.

Another factor that played a part was that people feared that the Seven Stars Arena would be destroyed as a result of the battle. Hence, for truly formidable warriors with strength that surpassed Grade Eight Martial Saints, they would very often rise up above the arena to fight rather than fighting on the ground. The arena was only a tool for battles. For formidable warriors, their true battle was high up in the sky.

Only aristocratic clans like Di Clan and Ten Thousand Poisons Sect would battle on the Seven Stars Arena. Normally, one of the clans would send a battle invitation to their opponent. If the opponent accepts their challenge, both side would agree on a location to fight.

Slowly, the arena became a place that was specially used for battles between warriors below Martial Saint grade. For warriors above that level, the destruction brought about by them would be too devastating.

"Sima Sha! Look who that is!"

There were a lot of people in the arena. This place had always been crowded with people. A lot of beast carts would also pass back and forth around the arena.

The person speaking was a handsome young man. Similarly, Sima Sha was also a handsome young man except that he looked really devilish as well.

Sima Sha heard what the young man said and looked towards Qing Shui. He first fixed his sharp sight on Qing Shui before giving the three women around Qing Shui a perverted look.

“Sima Sha, the brother of yours that got beaten up indeed has good eyes. The three women around him are all extreme beauties.” The young man from just now told Sima Sha with a smile. He sounded calm while he was saying it.

“Hm, the Fight of the Ultimate Life and Death is in just two days. Since they’re here, why don’t we have some fun with them in advance. If they don’t dare to accept, we will just forget about it.”

After Sima Sha finished speaking, he went on to approach Qing Shui and his group. The people behind him, including the young man, hurriedly followed him. After all, Sima Sha was one of the strongest young men from his generation. It seemed like the seductive and handsome man was a bit older than Di Fentian. He was originally supposed to be considered the senior, but for some reason he was holding onto the most formidable nickname of the strongest person in his generation.

“Qing Shui, Sima Sha is about to come here.” Di Qing pulled Qing Shui and said.

“Sima Sha? Someone from Sima Clan?” Qing Shui looked at the young man who was approaching them in confusion.

“Yeah, if he wants to challenge you, it’s best if you reject it. Despite his young age, he is much stronger than his older brother.” Di Qing said hurriedly.

Qing Shui was more confused now. Di Qing seemed to be really concerned with this man. Could he really be that strong?

“He is the youngest elder in the Ten Thousand Poisons Sect. He is really adept with his poisons. None of the people from his generation is a match for him.” By the time Di Qing finished speaking, Sima Sha was already less than ten meters away from them.

“Young lady Qing indeed knows me quite well.” Sima Sha chuckled.

Di Qing totally ignored Sima Sha. Instead, she told Qing Shui, Di Chen and Yuan Su: “it’s not fun here, let’s go back.”

“Young lady Qing, why are you planning to leave as soon as you come? It’s not common for us to run into each other, why don’t we spend some time together?” The young man behind Sima Sha said in a joking manner.

Di Qing knitted her brows and looked towards the young man who was talking: “shut up if you don’t want to die.”

“Haha, Zhuo Siming, how does it feel to be insulted by a woman?” Another young man laughed at the one who was speaking just now.

“Di Qing, Di Clan is at the brink of being destroyed. We are both Peak Martial Kings, do you think that I’m afraid of you?” Zhuo Siming felt really embarrassed being berated by a woman in public. If it was before, he would just forget about it but Di Clan was no longer what it once was.

“Siming, you’re wrong, she is already a Grade One Martial Saint, you are not going to be able to block her move.” Sima Sha said while maintaining a calm mind.

Zhuo Simin: “.....”

In the end, Zhuo Siming remained silent.

“So the young master from Zhuo Clan is nothing but scum?” A person’s voice came through. Coincidentally, everyone was able to hear it. No one was certain who said it but the person who actually dared to make such a statement was definitely someone who didn’t fear Zhuo Clan.

“The people from Zhuo Clan are like this. This is normal, they’re all scum, don’t worry about it.” There are still people who don’t fear death. Not to mention, as there are a lot of people around them, it was difficult to detect who that said it, even if one possessed keen spiritual sense.

Zhuo Siming got so furious that his face turned red. Nevertheless, he remained silent and didn’t say anything. No matter how upset one was, they should never put their life at risk.

“Even young lady Qing said that I intended to challenge you. If I don’t do it, it’ll just show that I’m useless. Mister, I wonder if you will accept?” Sima Sha smiled while looking at Qing Shui

He had investigated Qing Shui’s strength before. His strength seemed to be at Grade Two Martial Saint. Even though he used Hidden Weapons during battles, he needed someone to help him with it. It’s going to be useless if it’s used in a single match.

His poisonous webs and other objects on the other hand, unless used for sneak attacks, they would be useless for single matches. If he dared to accept today, Sima Clan would definitely have to leave his body here to help stand up for Sima Clan. Let alone that the young man seemed to be quite experienced with team attacks!

At the moment when Sima Sha was evaluating Qing Shui’s strength, Qing Shui was also doing the same thing to him. He was evaluating the strength of the young man, or rather, the strong and robust man.

Peak Grade Six Martial Saint!

At this moment, Qing Shui himself was unclear with how he felt. The strongest young man in his generation was actually a Peak Grade Six Martial Saint, that had the abilities of 2000 countries.

For the younger generations, which was Di Qing and Di Chen’s generations, they’re already considered geniuses by having been able to break through to Martial Saint unless they’re disciples with unique talents from hidden clans. But since Sima Sha was slightly older, they could only be barely considered the younger generations.

It’s a piece of cake for Qing Shui to beat him.

Qing Shui really wanted to laugh. Not only that, he actually had broken into laughter. Humans are weird, when one found that someone who is a lot weaker than them, they wouldn’t have much interest when their opponent challenged them. It’s just like looking at an ant. No matter how much you saw it moving, you wouldn’t be enraged by it.

“You sure you want to challenge me?” Qing Shui smiled as he looked at Sima Sha.

“I’m sure, you won’t get cold feet will you? No one can stop you if you want to do it. There are so many people looking at you, if you do that, then you will be known as a person who hides behind a woman’s skirt!” Sima Sha said calmly.

“Yeah, fight if you’re a man!”

“If i was him, I would battle! If not, I don’t think I’d have the face to stand here. They’re outstanding women, please don’t choose a coward to be your husband.”

.....

“I accept your challenge. I wonder, where you get the confidence to force people to take part in a match with you?” Qing Shui stared at Sima Sha. All along, he had misgivings about Sima Clan.

“Great, everyone around the battle arena is the witness. Today, we will have a showdown to the death. I will wait for you up there.”

Sima Sha soared up into the air as soon as he finished speaking. He did it all smoothly at one go. People in the surroundings were amazed with what he did. After all, Skywalk was an ability only exclusive for Martial Saint grade warriors.

“Qing Shui!”

Di Chen called out softly and pulled his sleeve.

Di Chen managed to hear what Di Qing said previously. After all, no one was actually aware of how strong Qing Shui truly was.

“Have faith in me, it would be such a waste if I were to die right after getting you, such a beautiful woman, to be my wife.” Qing Shui grabbed her hand and smiled.

“You are still in the mood to joke around at a time like this.....”

“Qing Shui, you need to be careful of his poisons!” Di Qing knitted her brows and reminded him.

“Thank you, he won’t stand a chance.” Qing Shui let out a humble smile and stepped up into the sky. Very quickly, he was on opposite side of the sky from Sima Sha. The two were less than a hundred meters away from each other.

Qing Shui slowly sheathed the Big Dipper Sword while determining if he should kill him off instantly or try to hide his strength for now.

Chapter 660 - Killing Sima Sha!

Qing Shui was capable of killing his opponent in a split second, but he pondered whether he should reveal his true power this early. He hesitated for a moment as he stood in mid-air wondering what he should do next.

Suddenly, he felt a sense of restlessness inside his body, as if his body was telling him to vent his frustrations to his heart’s content. In the past, when he didn’t have the power to defeat his opponents, he could only feel helpless and timid. Rather than risking death, he would be forced to try all options in order to survive. However, things had changed now. Even though he didn’t possess power that could top the world, he still possessed the qualifications to step into Seven Stars Country and influence its workings.

If he had the power, why should he waste it grieving about the injustices he and his loved ones had once suffered when he could enjoy every minute doing whatever he pleased? Since he had the capability to direct the land's future, then he would do so to turn it into his own haven.

"I wonder if your women will be upset if you suddenly die. Having beauties by your side is fine, but you should know that as the years go by, they will reduce your lifespan. Nevertheless, you won't have to worry anymore, because someone else will love them as much as you do. It is your fault that you aren't worthy of them." Sima Sha had no smile on his face as he said those cold words. Despite his cold demeanor, it was quite graceful when he opened his mouth to speak.

"Can we begin now?" Qing Shui retained his smile. He was able to understand the kind of man Sima Sha was. He would not immediately raise his fist whenever he intended to kill, because he adored the look of ultimate despair and unwillingness on the faces of his opponents as they were helpless against him. To him, it was a kind of perverse pleasure and entertainment.

"Well, if you are so eager to die, let's begin!" Sima Sha unsheathed his four-foot long curved black blade as soon as he finished talking. The blade was shaped like a crescent moon, and an unsettling air of agony emanated from the blade.

Nature Energy!

This was one of Qing Shui's passive techniques that had already been circulating without any of his input. The level four Nature Energy had by now possessed a formidable power that was strong enough to handle the crooked and venomous ways of a person like Sima Sha.

Although Sima Sha had said that the fight had begun, he hadn't actually started to move. He stood in place quietly and observed Qing Shui with a disdainful look in his eyes.

Even with that seemingly dismissive manner, Qing Shui could still feel a sense of cautiousness in Sima Sha's expression. He laughed inwardly for a bit and then slowly flew through the air over towards Sima Sha.

State of Immovable as Mountains!

Frenzied Bull's Strength!

Qing Shui casually circulated his powers, but for some reason, they did not want to be released at this time. Luckily, Qing Shui knew that with his cultivation, Sima Sha would not be able to sense his powers. At that moment, however, Sima Sha began to release a faint pink mist that quickly surrounded the area.

Even the black color of this curved crescent moon blade appeared to turn a strange red color.

"Qing Shui, don't breathe in the mist! That's a skill of his - the 'Pink Dancer'. It will distort your mind and senses, and it will increase his strength in return." Yuan Su quickly warned Qing Shui from afar. She didn't possess any martial cultivation, so she just shouted as loud as she could. Fortunately, Qing Shui was able to hear her warning just in time.

Soon after that, Di Chen's voice rang out and repeated the same words as Yuan Su. Qing Shui figured that she must have feared that he hadn't been able to hear it when Yuan Su had warned him during the first time.

Qing Shui quickly stopped in his tracks, took out two spherical iron balls, and held them in his hands. He had already prepared a lot of these, including some that were shaped like flying blades and others shaped like arrow tips. Ever since he had learned the Hidden Weapons attack, Qing Shui had been busy preparing many of these handheld weapons. Other than the poison-infused Frosted Iron Balls, his other Hidden Weapons were not laced with poison. However, just these iron balls alone were enough to deal with Sima Sha.

The quality of Qing Shui's Hidden Weapons had significantly improved after his improvement in power. He now found that, with his boost in powers, he was able to use the Hidden Weapons proficiently, unlike before when he wasn't able to master their craftiness and swiftness.

Roar!

The grand force of the Tiger's Roar burst out from Qing Shui's body in an instant!

Twin Dragon Pearls!

Qing Shui took advantage of the brief stunning effect of his Tiger's Roar, and in that instant, he shot out his two deadly iron balls. They flashed through the mist like two water dragons bursting out of the sea, and headed straight for Sima Sha. The moment was brilliant, as if there were shooting stars near the horizon, but the moment's scenery also momentarily dazed everyone.

The Frosted Iron Balls left behind a trail of magnificent lights as they locked their aim at Sima Sha. No matter where he tried to hide, it was useless. The Frosted Iron Balls were too swift and fierce, and they couldn't be resisted easily.

Pu pu!

One of the iron balls went through Sima Sha's shoulder, and the other pierced through his abdomen!

It was as Qing Shui expected. With his full power, no one could evade his Hidden Weapon attack, not even a Grade Six Martial Saint.

"No way! You managed to hit me. Was I mistaken?"

"Crack..."

"That oaf actually hit me!" Sima Sha raged.

"You were the one who kept asking for it just now....."

Sima Sha: "....."

Sima Sha stared in disbelief at Qing Shui, who was about ten meters away from him. His expression changed constantly, and no one could tell what he was really thinking deep inside his mind.

"Why did this happen? Why did this happen?!" Suddenly Sima Sha started shouting furiously. He never would have thought that he actually couldn't evade that deadly Hidden Weapons technique. Even though he had managed to prevent his vital points from being harmed, he was still severely wounded. Blood streamed down from his open wounds and dripped towards the ground. A trail of fresh blood streamed along the air as if he were holding a bunch of red threads.

Qing Shui stood nearby and said nothing as he quietly observed Sima Sha slowly going insane. He didn't feel anything, as if everything was completely normal.

The ones who had come with Sima Sha were instantaneously stunned. They knew better than anyone else what kind of power Sima Sha possessed. However, it now seemed that Sima Sha had met his match, for he was almost crippled even before he and Qing Shui had any substantive interactions with each other.

As a member of the Sima Clan, Sima Sha was well-known as an expert of poison application. If he had been the one severely injuring his opponent, it was likely that people would be much less shocked and more accepting of the result.

In the hearts of the young people, the Sima Clan had already won their support through their formidable power and their proficiency in handling the best poison in the World of the Nine Continents. Essentially, people of Sima Sha's age would not be able to get close to him due to his background. However, in this case, he was already hurt before his opponent had even approached him closely.

"Ah!"

Sima Sha screamed pitifully!

Pu!

Blood spurted from his mouth as he screamed. However, shortly after that, he quickly clenched his right fist and struck it in the air, causing black mist to gradually converge. Then, everything went dark as the mist completely engulfed Sima Sha, shielding him from sight.

"Black Cloud Protection!"

Suddenly, Qing Shui could hear someone exclaiming loudly from below. Now that he knew the skill's name but not its effect, he quickly took out a Pure Jade Pellet and consumed it. As they said, 'Caution is the parent of safety', so it was always a good thing to prepare for the worse to come.

The black cloud surrounding Sima Sha began to fade away quickly. One could say that the black mist had already solidified on his body. Sima Sha now resembled a black iron tower standing tall in front of Qing Shui.

The crescent moon shaped blade on his hand had become sharper, and its size had doubled as well!

At that moment, Qing Shui was able to figure out the effects of Sima Sha's Dark Cloud Protection. This technique was able to double his overall defense, as well as increase his energy by 50%. Sima Sha's defense had now reached about 4000 countries of strength, and his attack power was almost 3000 countries of strength as well.....

The Dark Cloud Protection was categorized as a poison technique - a technique that Sima Sha had mainly developed for his cultivation. Any opponents who entered a 30-meter radius centered around him would have their speed and reaction ability each decreased by 30%. The weakening effect on the reaction ability and speed might seem harmless, but it was even more terrifying than directly weakening the opponent's strength as his movements would become significantly slower.

Qing Shui quickly took out his Violet Gold Divine Shield!

“Die!”

Sima Sha howled furiously as he attempted to land a blow on Qing Shui. He needed to act quickly because his Dark Cloud Protection could only be used for a span of fifteen minutes. After this time, his body would be thoroughly weakened for three days. Regardless of that side effect, Sima Sha felt that killing Qing Shui with this technique would be a piece of cake.

Qing Shui, on the other hand, instantaneously boosted his strength to the maximum after his earlier consumption of the Pure Jade Pellet. Without much hesitation, he sent a Three Moves Combination Sword Technique towards Sima Sha’s direction!

The dark clouds in the sky began to distort from the forces released by both sides. The air pressure around the sky surrounding the two men was at its maximum, and the thundering noises rumbled as the wind blew violently around them.

Boom!

Even with his Dark Cloud Protection, Sima Sha was still way behind Qing Shui in terms of both attack and defense power. Qing Shui could easily reach the power of more than 4000 countries of strength with just his Combination Sword Technique alone.

A split-second kill!

Having overpowered Sima Sha’s overall strength, Qing Shui went directly for the kill and instantaneously turned the sky into a bloody mist.

The real battle was finished in mere seconds...

Qing Shui didn’t even need to use his deadlier skills against someone like Sima Sha, because those would’ve been overkill. The Fiery Golden Eyes skill was useful against those with 5000 countries of strength, but even the Thousand Buddha Palm Imprint and Primordial Flames would have been overkill for a weakling like Sima Sha.

Qing Shui slowly descended to the ground. He looked towards the ladies and nodded at them. Then he turned his attention towards the fellows who had accompanied Sima Sha and gave them a smile. However, these young men felt a chill go down their spines when they saw the smile on Qing Shui’s face. They knew it would be easy for Qing Shui to annihilate them right there and then.

“Go home. Such useless fools. What a bunch of gutless dimwits.” Qing Shui casually threw a few insults as he shoed them away.

“Hey, no vulgarities allowed.” Di Chen smiled as she chided Qing Shui. Only Di Qing, Yuan Su, and Qing Shui himself were able to hear those words.

The men who had come with Sima Sha quickly retreated as Qing Shui and the three ladies started making their way home. When those men had dispersed, the surrounding crowd began to voice out their opinions like the sputtering of fat in a frying pan.

“Ah, Qing Shui, I didn’t know you could kill Sima Sha in a split second! What is the level of your powers now?” Curiosity finally caught up to Di Qing and she couldn’t help but ask Qing Shui about his powers halfway on their way back home.

When Yuan Su heard that question, she turned her gaze at Qing Shui and looked at him doubtfully. She thought about the alchemy recipes she had given to him prior to the incident with Sima Sha, but quickly dismissed her thoughts by discreetly shaking her head. Both the Demonic Beast Advancing Pellet and the Gale Pellet were out of the question. The only medicinal pill that could increase his strength so tremendously was the Fate Pill. Even that was impossible because there had been several missing ingredients for the concoction of the pill, and those ingredients were extremely difficult to come by. Even if Qing Shui had managed to refine the Fate Pill successfully in such a short time, she would never believe it.

However, Qing Shui had already refined the Fate Pill successfully. Not only that, he had also managed to enter the state of 'epiphany' when he had attempted to consume the pill. Furthermore, the Demonic Beast Advancing Pellet was a disguised pill that allowed Qing Shui to gain the strength of 120 countries, an unexpected twist that even Yuan Su was unaware of.

In the span of one day, Qing Shui's power had skyrocketed to the heavens. His current power was completely different from what it had been even a few days earlier.

"Currently, I think I can fight a Grade Ten Martial Saint to a standstill." Qing Shui tried to give a clear answer instead of being ambiguous. That way, he hoped he could boost their confidence in his powers.

"You can evenly fight with a Grade Ten Martial Saint?" The three ladies looked at Qing Shui with disbelief in their expressions.

"Yeah. Even though my powers haven't technically reached the level of a Grade Ten Martial Saint yet, I can take on those exactly at the level of Grade Ten Martial Saint. Anything beyond that might be a bit difficult." Qing Shui explained further when he saw the skepticism expressed on their faces.

"Mm, you have quite a peculiar martial cultivation. That is indeed interesting."

The four of them were almost back to the Di Residence!

At the same time, the Sima Clan finally received the news of Sima Sha's death at the Seven Stars Arena. In an instant, the entire clan flew up in rage, anger, and shock.

"Sha'er is dead..."

An old man shouted in disbelief.

"It was that man named Qing Shui, he did it." A young man said timidly.

"Tell me everything from the beginning. If you leave out any details, I will kill your entire family!" The old man's hair fluttered in rage. He was the elder of the Sima Clan who had appeared during the issuing of the letter of challenge for the 'Fight of the Ultimate Life and Death'.