

## Chaotic 101

### Chapter 101: Ten Thousand Immunity (Two)

“Putong!”

Jian Chen stripped off all of his clothes, and jumped straight into the blood-filled cask. At the same time, he retrieved the snake gall from within the jade bottle, and directly swallowed it.

Not long after the gall entered his stomach, Jian Chen immediately felt a surge of activity from his five senses within his body. His stomach began to grumble loudly against his will, as if he was currently having diarrhea.

Jian Chen sat cross-legged within the cask. The blood in the cask submerged everything up to his neck, leaving only his head exposed outside.

Feeling the ice-cold air emitted from the blood, Jian Chen gradually relaxed. He closed his eyes, and began to absorb the unique genes from within the blood, following the procedure he had read in books.

It was because of the existence of these unique elements within the Silver Striped Golden Snake’s blood that gave the blood its ability to detoxify poison. According to the books, one must absorb all of these unique elements within the body, and then fuse them into their own blood in order to gain an unpoisonable body. The blood would support the body, and grant one’s flesh an overpowering ability to resist poisons; the ability was so powerful that one could even become completely immune to poisons.

Once the Silver Striped Golden Snake’s blood was used to refine the Ten Thousand Immunity, one would be entirely immune to any poisons weaker than the Silver Striped Golden Snake’s. One would even gain the effect of being able to strongly resist poisons at the same level as the Silver Striped Golden Snake’s (although one cannot be immune to it). Thus, the amount of danger the poison would be able to inflict would be drastically decreased, or the spread of the poison would be greatly deterred.

Although the Ten Thousand Immunity wasn’t immune to all the poisons that existed, it was enough to make Jian Chen excited. After all, the Silver Striped Golden Snake’s poison had widespread fame on the Tian Yuan Continent. There were just a handful of poisons more potent than the Silver Striped Golden Snake’s. Moreover, such poisons were extremely uncommon, and were as rare to see as the Silver Striped Golden Snake itself.

Jian Chen sat cross-legged in the cask with his eyes tightly shut. His stomach continued to loudly grumble extremely loudly. If anyone was standing next to Jian Chen, they would be able to clearly hear the sound.

Within Jian Chen’s stomach was something similar to a roaring sea; it was very stormy. At the same time, an extremely nauseating feeling arose from Jian Chen’s heart, and Jian Chen could barely stop himself from vomiting.

“I guess the snake’s gall bladder is being dissolved; the bile inside is leaking out.” Jian Chen resisted the nausea with great difficulty. He inwardly recalled that the books had stated if one wanted to refine the Ten Thousand Immunity, aside from blood, the most important part was the gall bladder. Both the gall bladder and the blood were essential components, because the blood’s poison-resistant special elements could only be absorbed into one’s body by being drawn in by the gall bladder.

These poison-resistant elements weren't like World Essence that could be absorbed whenever one wanted to. If one didn't have the appropriate object to draw them in, then even if one had the blood, they wouldn't be able to absorb the elements. Although directly drinking the fresh blood could also detoxify the poison, this could only temporarily address the issue. Not long after, a simple trip to the toilet would drain the consumed blood; there was no way one could even think the way to obtaining an unpoisonable body would be like that.

At that moment, a warm current suddenly appeared in Jian Chen's abdomen. The warmth continued to increase, and in that instant, Jian Chen felt like his abdomen was burning, as if a fire was blazing within it. Along with this abrupt uprising of changes within his abdomen, Jian Chen's pores all opened, as if linked together.

At the same time, inside of the cask, traces of that bizarre and special energy began to materialize like small fish within the crimson blood. They all began to gradually swim toward Jian Chen and enter his body through his pores.

Just as this energy was entering his body, Jian Chen's originally serene expression suddenly changed. The bizarre energy entering him instantly changed from being docile like a small sheep into a ferocious group of tigers. They wildly revolted within Jian Chen's body, making his entire body suffer from intense pain.

"This is bad, there are unexpectedly some magical beast's unique berserk elements within this blood. Moreover, it's even stronger than those within a monster core." Sensing his body's changes, Jian Chen instantly understood what was happening. All magical beast's energies contained berserk elements; this was something that everyone in Tian Yuan Continent has known for ages. However, these berserk elements were almost all hidden within monster cores, so Jian Chen hadn't expected that they would also exist in the Silver Striped Golden Snake's blood. Moreover, these berserk elements were much more powerful than the ones that he had absorbed from monster cores during cultivation, perhaps even a hundredfold stronger.

Resisting the powerful pain arising from his body with much difficulty, an extremely baffled thought popped up in Jian Chen's mind. "How come I hadn't felt these berserk elements at all when I first drank the Silver Striped Golden Snake's blood?"

Jian Chen sat in the cask, his body beginning to shake as his entire body down to even his pores were in intense pain, and the muscles on Jian Chen's couldn't help but twitch. His originally flush face had gradually begun to turn pale.

The traces of the bizarre and special energy within the snake's blood seemed to be attracted by something, and continuously rushed into Jian Chen's pores. As the amount of energy in his body continued to increase, the berserk elements contained within also increased, and became more and more powerful. The pain brought forth onto his body by these berserk elements made Jian Chen sweat profusely. However, he clenched his teeth and fists tightly, and continued to resist it.

At that moment, the azure and violet glows in Jian Chen's dantian suddenly emitted faint light rays. Meanwhile, the fierce pain Jian Chen was feeling suddenly disappeared without a trace. The berserk elements absorbed by him that had accompanied the bizarre energy within the blood seemed to have

been attracted by some strange force. As soon as they entered Jian Chen's body, they immediately began to fly towards the azure and violet glows in his dantian.

For a while, Jian Chen was a bit at loss at the sudden changes. However, he soon realized what had happened, and immediately sighed in relief. He knew that every time he absorbed energy from monster cores, the berserk elements contained would also be ingested by the azure and violet glows in his dantian. Therefore, there was nothing strange about what had just happened.

Without the torment of the berserk elements, Jian Chen's previously pained expression immediately loosened. However, he still didn't relax from this, and immediately surveyed the current situation his inner body was in.

The only thing he could sense was the special elements. The berserk elements within the snake's blood had been completely absorbed by the azure and violet glows in his dantian upon entering his body. There were only some harmless special elements remaining, and they were gradually gathering in the direction of where the snake's gall bladder was. Eventually, they completely surrounded the gall bladder.

The absorption of these special elements was extremely slow. Jian Chen stayed in the cask for an entire day and night before he was finally able to finish absorbing all of the special elements in the blood. Currently, the snake's gall bladder in Jian Chen's stomach had already gathered all of the special elements, and formed a thick layer.

After a day and night of absorbing all of the elements within the blood, the blood in the cask not only lost all of its color and luster, even the intolerable smell of it had disappeared without a trace.

Right now, there was only one step remaining until Jian Chen could refine the Ten Thousand Immunity. This step was also the most important one; whether or not he would be successful completely depended on this step.

#### Chapter 102: Ten Thousand Immunity (Three)

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By this point all of the most important parts of the Silver Striped Golden Snake's blood had been cleanly gathered by Jian Chen and concentrated in the gallbladder to form a strange substance. The strange substance was the anti-venom and the blood of the Silver Striped Golden Snake combined together.

In accordance to the contents of the books, Jian Chen needed to absorb the anti-venom and blood substance into his own body. And once he had completely assimilated it into his body, only then would he successfully gain the Ten Thousand Immunity.

As long as the substance was absorbed into the body, then Jian Chen's blood would take on a detoxifying property. Not only that, but the body would undergo changes as the blood circulated around the body. After some time, the body would become resistant to poison and grow an immunity to weaker poisons without fear of harm.

With a heavy expression, Jian Chen stood up. This was the final step as well as the most crucial one because the anti-venom substance would only gather within his body if the gall bladder of the snake was present. If there was no gall bladder, then the substance would dissipate uselessly. Before he could digest the snake's gall bladder, he would need to assimilate the anti-venom within his blood stream.

Jian Chen calmed himself down and began to control the substance around his body. However, as the substance left the gall bladder, a strange attraction started to happen and began to pull at the substance Jian Chen was trying to control.

Jian Chen bit his lips as he increased the amount of focus he was putting in his control. Although Jian Chen's strength was still quite weak, his spirit was unquestionably strong. Under his increased control, the strange substance had finally left the gall bladder and assimilated into his bloodstream.

However, just as he was assimilating the bloodstream, the strange substance completely separated from the blood, like two opposite poles of a magnet. The two seemed incompatible with each other, and there was no way they could possibly fuse. However, Jian Chen still wasn't discouraged. He once again focused his strength on controlling the strange substance to forcefully merge with the bloodstream. He then watched it from the side; if the strange substance showed the slightest indication of separating again, he would immediately pour all his focus onto it and force it back into the bloodstream.

As the blood flowed throughout his veins, the substance which Jian Chen had forcefully absorbed into his blood was finally completely assimilated. Surprisingly a part of the substance had a green tint to its color, but in the end that had also been absorbed into the blood and disappeared.

As the energy from the substance was absorbed into his bloodstream, Jian Chen felt that his blood had somehow gotten weaker, as if something else had happened.

After a portion of the energy from the substance was assimilated, Jian Chen didn't know how much time had passed, but the gall bladder he had digested had shrunk a bit.

Jian Chen knew that the gall bladder wouldn't be able to survive in his body for long. So without a moment of hesitation, Jian Chen had forcefully broken a part of the substance away and began to try to assimilate it into his bloodstream one more time.

Time after time, Jian Chen had tried again for an unknown amount of time. But in the end, the very last of the substance had successfully been assimilated into his bloodstream as the gall bladder was on the brink of disappearing.

Feeling the noticeable change in his bloodstream, Jian Chen let out a sigh of relief. His heart grew excited as a bright smile took over his face.

"The Ten Thousand Immunity, I never thought I would gain the unpoisonable body!" Jian Chen said inwardly. From his past 20 years of experience, he knew that this new world he was in was even more dangerous, so the Ten Thousand Immunity would bring him a great amount of benefits. At the very least if he was to be captured by his enemies, he wouldn't have to worry about poisoned food.

However, while Jian Chen had successfully refined the Ten Thousand Immunity, it was still in its primary stage and not its perfect stage. While his blood had fused with the anti-venom from the blood of the

Silver Striped Golden Snake, this fusion was not yet complete and would need some time before it would reach perfection.

Once his blood and the anti-venom had perfectly fused together, it would then circulate around his body endlessly and transform the bones, flesh and organs within his body. Every part of his body would gain the anti-venom capability. This would be the true extent of the Ten Thousand Immunity.

Slowly, Jian Chen opened his eyes to the first rays of light. In the horizons, the fiery sun was just peeking out, meaning that it was only the start of the morning.

Jian Chen leapt out from the blood filled cask and took out a towel from his Space Belt to clean off the blood on him before wearing a new set of clothes.

After all that time Jian Chen had spent in the cask, the blood within had already been reduced by a quarter. Even the previously bloody smell had dissipated and the color of the blood had started to darken a bit.

Looking at the cask besides him, Jian Chen kicked at the container firmly. The cask overturned and broke on the hard ground, spilling the blood onto the ground.

While the blood of the Silver Striped Golden Snake was incomparably precious, the most important part of the blood had already been absorbed by him. The remaining parts of the blood could only be said to be equal to water and did not have a single use for it anymore.

After returning to Wake City once more, Jian Chen entered a restaurant and ordered a few dishes to eat his fill. After a day and night of not eating, Jian Chen's stomach was a bit hungry.

Right now was the busiest time for the restaurant, the environment inside was already very lively. The people coming and going was like an endless stream and filled up the tables in a flash. Even the waitresses of the restaurant were constantly scampering around busily taking orders and delivering dishes.

"Little brother, the seats here are all occupied already. Could I possibly sit here with you?"

Chapter 103: Flame Mercenaries

"Little brother, the seats here are all occupied already. Could I possibly sit here with you?"

At that moment, a deep sounding voice came from behind Jian Chen. Turning his head to look at the source, Jian Chen saw a middle aged man with a big smile on his face. He stood across on the opposite side of Jian Chen and stared at him with a good natured look.

The middle aged man looked to be around 40 years old and wore a cyan colored robe. However, to Jian Chen's sharp eyes, this robe was made of coarse material and so was categorized as a cheap cloth. With his short black hair, there was nothing about him that stood out—even his good natured smile wasn't a fake one.

Jian Chen nodded his head with a smile, "Since the restaurant has suddenly filled up, I can't possibly use up all this room by myself, come and sit with me!"

“Then, many thanks little brother.” The other man laughed as he cupped his hands together. Then he pulled out the stool and sat down on it.

“Miss, a cup of wine and a pound of your finest horse meat!” The man called out.

“Okay, please wait a moment honored customer!” The waitress called back.

Jian Chen stared at the middle aged man in front of him for a while before finally tearing his eyes off of him and looking back at his own meal.

The middle aged man looked at Jian Chen and chuckled, “And what should I call this younger brother?”

“Jian Chen!” He responded with a mouthful of meat, so the words did not come out as audibly.

“Jian Chen, heh, what a pleasant name.” The middle aged man sized up Jian Chen with his eyes and then opened his mouth to ask, “Brother Jian Chen, I’m assuming you are a mercenary as well.”

He nodded his head, “Correct, but because my strength is quite low, I am only one of the lowest of D ranked mercenaries.”

A mercenary’s rank corresponded with their strength and their merits from missions done. The lowest of the D ranked mercenaries were generally newbie Saints, however, there were a few cultivators that did not yet condense their Saint Weapons amongst the D ranked mercenaries. Even though the middle aged man looked to be quite well natured, Jian Chen didn’t dare to reveal his precise strength to him.

The man laughed with no ill intentions, “Little brother, you can’t be any older than 20 years old. Once you’ve successfully condensed your Saint Force into a Saint Weapon, then your potential will be unlimited.” The man’s words were sincere, but after he spoke, he gave a long sigh. “Thinking back, I was 25 years old when I first condensed my Saint Weapon and broke through to become a Saint. To think little brother here is only 20 years old and is a Saint. I don’t think it’ll be too far off until there will be another gifted Earth Saint Master in the future.” When the three words ‘Earth Saint Master’ were said, the man’s face had looked almost expectant.

Hearing that, Jian Chen couldn’t help but look at the middle aged man once more. While he had a better impression of this man, it was still nothing more than just that.

Condensing a Saint Weapon at the age of 25 could be said to be quite mediocre within the Tian Yuan Continent. This type of person would be limited to being a Great Saint Master at the best, and without coming across an opportunity, they would never be able to break through to become an Earth Saint Master.

After all, in the space between a Great Saint Master and an Earth Saint Master was an unbelievably difficult threshold. This threshold is so difficult that condensing a Saint Weapon was easier by a hundred thousand times. This is because from the breakthrough to an Earth Saint Master from a Great Saint Master, if one was not careful, they would fall in a land without redemption. In a less severe case, they would suffer a serious injury and lose their entire cultivation, thus becoming a cripple. In the worst case scenario, they would forfeit their lives to the Yellow Springs.

TL Note: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Diyu>

The Chinese version of hell, equivalent to Yomi of Japanese mythology.

The threshold separating the Earth Saint Master from the Great Saint Master was one dividing life from death. There were many people with mediocre talent that reached the Great Saint Master but were unable to break through to become an Earth Saint Master, many more had even died trying to make the breakthrough.

The success rate of breaking through to become an Earth Saint Master was only one percent.

Regarding this bit of information, Jian Chen had known about it. Whether or not it was in the Kargath Library or the Changyang Mansion Library, Jian Chen had read about it.

“Little brother, I am guessing you haven’t joined a mercenary group yet.” The middle aged man asked Jian Chen with a small smile.

Hearing this, Jian Chen’s heart jumped as he realized what the man was about to say, but he nodded his head in response, “That is correct!”

“Little brother, why don’t you join my Flame Mercenaries? Although the amount of people within our group isn’t large, the mercenaries in here are quite good natured.” He said eagerly.

Jian Chen became silent as he listened to the man. He had never thought about joining a mercenary group before, since in his mind, joining a mercenary group was only a burden that would limit his free roaming spirit. It would also bring his cultivation rate to a standstill since the only way he could cultivate rapidly was to use monster cores. Monster cores were absolutely necessary, and so the amount needed was also enormous. If he were to go into the Magical Beast Mountain Range by himself, the profits he earned would naturally be his and keep up with his consumption rate.

However if he were to join the mercenary group, it would be easier to kill magical beasts at the cost of splitting up the amount of monster cores with the entire group, which would be a problem. If Jian Chen were to join a mercenary group, he needed to go solo. Otherwise, the monster core distribution would be given to other people as well.

Seeing Jian Chen’s silence, the middle aged man didn’t give up. “Brother Jian Chen, my Flame Mercenaries is only a small sized group that doesn’t restrict the actions of anyone like they do in the larger groups. With so many different types of rules and restrictions that makes one’s head want to explode, our group is not like that. Joining my mercenary group is merely helping the group have an easier way to earn money. You must know that the Magical Beast Mountain Range is a profitable way of earning money and that monster cores sell for a high price while helping us cultivate our Saint Force which is extremely essential. Even the parts of a magical beast can be sold for a high price to any of the restaurants.

“As our numbers increase, then so does our strength. Even if we come across a high leveled magical beast, we would be able to kill it. Just think! If we are able to kill a high leveled magical beast, imagine how large our profits would be, even your heart would consider this I bet.” The man stopped momentarily to breath before continuing, “If you are by yourself, even if you can deal with a few low leveled magical beasts, then it would not sell for much money I’m sure. Even if you spend so much energy killing it, the amount of money earned would not even cover your healing costs. And if you come across an ambush from a few high leveled magical beasts—how long do you think a single person could

run away from a dozen high leveled magical beasts? This is definitely impossible, and in the end, that person would only be throwing his life away.”

Seeing how Jian Chen was still silent, the man gave it another try, “Brother Jian Chen, if it’s concerning the matter of distribution of benefits, you don’t have to worry. While our Flame Mercenaries was recently established a few years ago, the brothers within the group are made of steel who care for the bonds of friendship over the metal of money. In the case that our group has a profit, then no matter if you worked hard or not, the group will not treat you unfairly.”

#### Chapter 104: Joining a Mercenary Group

Seeing how Jian Chen was still silent, the man gave it another try, “Brother Jian Chen, if it’s concerning the matter of distribution of benefits, you don’t have to worry. While our Flame Mercenaries was recently established a few years ago, the brothers within the group are made of steel who care for the bonds of friendship over the metal of money. In the case that our group has a profit, then no matter if you worked hard or not, the group will not treat you unfairly.”

With that said, the middle aged man had stopped talking, he had said all that needed to be. The only thing left was to see what choice Jian Chen would make.

Jian Chen’s eyebrows furrowed in thought as he considered the benefits within his head. Finally biting his lip, his eyes shone with a firm decision, “Alright then, I’ll join your group. However, I have some conditions: I will not have any type of restriction put onto me, neither will I have to obey anyone. Also, if I want to leave the group in the future, the group will not try to stop me in any way.

The middle aged man looked at Jian Chen with doubt, “Brother Jian Chen, could it be you’re not going to even ask about how strong the Flame Mercenaries are or if there are any strong enemies? You have to realize, if our Flame Mercenaries have a strong enemy and you join, then it will definitely bring you trouble as well and may very well be a concern to your life.”

Jian Chen laughed gently as he said, “If things like this were too frightening, then why did I bother to leave my home to explore the world. If I have decided to join your mercenary group, then a factor like this was not even in my range of thinking.”

The middle aged man began to laugh without restraint, “Good, good, good! Brother Jian Chen, I really can’t take your age seriously, you’re quite the brave person. The conditions you asked for won’t be of any problem since our group is a small one whose only goal is to earn money. The mercenaries in our group won’t try to restrict you either, if you want to leave the group, you’re free to do so at any time.”

“This couldn’t be any better!” Jian Chen nodded his head.

The middle aged man nodded as well, “Ah, we’ve talked for quite some time and I didn’t even introduce myself yet. My name is Kendall, captain of the Flame Mercenaries. Brother Jian Chen, if you don’t mind, then call me Uncle Kendall. Whatever titles people give to the captains, I care not for it.” Kendall laughed.

“Alright, then in the future I’ll call you Uncle Kendall.” In Jian Chen’s eyes, Kendall was someone he had a good impression of, and seemed to be quite honest and dependable now.

Soon after, Kendall and Jian Chen both finished their food and left the restaurant together to go to the Mercenary Union to take care of the formality procedure.

Joining a mercenary group was relatively simple. So in a flash, Jian Chen had taken care of the entire procedure and became an official member of the Flame Mercenaries.

“Jian Chen, let’s go. I’ll take you to the temporary meeting spot and introduce you to the other members.” Kendall began to walk on the road as they both left the Mercenary Union.

On the way, Kendall began to explain a few things about the Flame Mercenaries, allowing Jian Chen to gain a better understanding.

The Flame Mercenaries were established 5 years ago as a small mercenary group. Soon after they were established, the members had spent the majority of their time in the Magical Beast Forest killing magical beasts for money. Very rarely did they accomplish any missions, so for that reason, they remained to be a D ranked group without having a single chance to prove their strength.

Including Kendall, there were 9 other members within the group, so including Jian Chen, the Flame Mercenaries now had 10 members in total.

According to Kendall, in those 8 members, aside from himself being at the Primary Saint Master stage, 5 members were at the Great Saint stage while the remaining 3 were only at the Saint level.

After he said that, Kendall slapped his forehead as he turned to Jian Chen with a smile, “Ah that’s right, brother Jian Chen, I still don’t know what type of strength you possess right now.” Although Kendall’s heart could only guess that Jian Chen was only at the Saint level due to his young age, but this was only a guess. Until he got a straight answer from Jian Chen, he didn’t dare to make a rash conclusion.

With a small chuckle, Jian Chen took out the badge representing him as a mercenary from his Space Belt. This mercenary badge was given to Jian Chen when he first became one, proving that he was a D ranked mercenary.

Seeing the badge, Kendall’s face didn’t change at all. “Then our Flame Mercenaries have just added another Saint to our ranks. With this increase in strength, hunting magical beasts will be that much easier.”

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Jian Chen walked with Kendall for about the time it took for an oil lamp to burn out before finally arriving at an ordinary looking house with broken cobblestone steps leading to it. The house was not very big, and the eaves of the house had plenty of cobwebs hanging about it. Even the walls had many scars from the passage of time and nature. It was clear to see that this house had been in existence in Wake City for many years, but no one had taken care of it.

Kendall walked up to the door of the house and lightly knocked on it. Not too long after, the wooden door opened slightly to reveal the dark skinned head of a person. Judging from his skinny face, the youth looked to be around 26 years old and looked like the type of person to be a snatcher if put within a group of people.

Upon seeing Kendall, the youth's face revealed a smile as he said, "Ah, Uncle Kendall, I just knew it was you."

Soon after, Jian Chen followed Kendall into the room. While the light within the house was dusky, it did not affect Jian Chen's vision at all. As Jian Chen looked around the house, he began to take in the sight in its entirety.

The house from the inside wasn't too big, and the layout wasn't complicated at all. Aside from a few plank beds, there was a single long table along with a few stools. In fact, the room's layout could even be said to be quite crude. On top of the plank beds were a few bored people lazing about with a bottle of wine in their hands. However, when Captain Kendall entered the room, everyone immediately stared at him and started to gather around him.

"Gather around everyone, let me introduce you all to brother Jian Chen. He has just recently joined our Flame mercenaries, and is the youngest out of all the people in our group. Starting today, I hope everyone can take care of him." As soon as he entered the room, Kendall had pulled Jian Chen along to introduce him.

At this, Jian Chen knew he had to say something. Standing with his feet together and cupping his hands in a salute towards everyone, he smiled. "I am a newcomer here, I hope that everyone will help keep an eye on me!"

#### Chapter 105: Team Operation

Everyone in the room turned their gazes away from Kendall to Jian Chen, but the moment they saw his young face, everyone was astonished.

However Jian Chen's words had a flattering effect on them. He needed to make a good impression since first impressions were very important when meeting new people.

"Brother Jian Chen, your name is Jian Chen right? Come and sit down quickly. No matter how young you are, the moment you join our group, you are our brother to enjoy blessings and endure misfortune together with. In the future, if you find someone that is bullying you, come and find me." A tall but sturdy person spoke as he got up from the bed. Crossing over to Jian Chen, he placed his right hand on his shoulder and then pushing him towards the table to sit at.

Jian Chen smiled, "This one doesn't know how to call his older brother." Looking at the man, Jian Chen thought him to be quite sturdy with his muscles protruding out noticeably. From his stature and physique, the man looked to be in his thirties, and even in the dark room, Jian Chen could tell that this man was relatively dark skinned to the point of resembling a black person. His entire body was filled with scars and old injuries that seemed to have originated from magical beasts. Just one look at him and Jian Chen could tell that the man was quite experienced with dealing with magical beasts.

"I'm called Hu Po. Brother Jian Chen, if you don't mind, feel free to call me big brother Hu Po in the future. Since I'm older than you, it's not going to be all that bad anyways." He sat by Jian Chen's side and poured him a glass of water with a big smile.

"Alright then, in the future I'll call you Brother Hu Po." Jian Chen laughed.

At that point, the people who were previously drinking in the middle of the room stood up as well.

“Brother Jian Chen, let me introduce you to everyone.” Kendall pointed his fingers at a few of the people around them.

Excluding Jian Chen and Kendall, there was another 6 male mercenaries. Their age ranged around 30 to 40 years old, and there were even two twins in the small group named Zhou Da Kai and Zhou Xiao Kai who were both 28 years old. The both of them had the power of a Great Saint and had the same exact facial features. If it were not for the fact one of them had a scar over their forehead, then it would have been extremely difficult to tell which one of the twins was the older twin and which was the younger twin.

The other 4 people were 32 years old, and aside from the Primary Great Saint Hu Po, the other 3 people were called Yun Xuan, Xiao Dao, and Chang Ning Feng.

Yun Xuan was relatively tall with a wisely face that made him look like a scholar. At the age of 25, he possessed the strength of a Middle Saint.

Xiao Dao on the other hand was tiny, and with his skinny body, he almost looked like a skeleton. In comparison to Yun Xuan, Xiao Dao was seemingly weaker than him. Aside from Jian Chen, Xiao Dao was the youngest of the bunch at the age of 22 years old who also had the strength of a Middle Saint.

Chang Ning Feng was a middle aged man with a calm composure. At the age of 30, Ning Feng was 2 years older than Hu Po and was a Middle Great Saint.

“Jian Chen, this is our Flame Mercenaries group. Aside from the people here, there are another two people at the market buying items, but I’m sure they’ll be back soon.” Kendall said. “Tomorrow will be another operation for the Flame Mercenaries where everyone will be participating in. Brother Jian Chen, are you willing to join us? There aren’t many rules, but if you don’t want to join, then no one will try to force you, this is a voluntary event.”

“Operation? What type of operation?” Jian Chen blinked curiously.

Kendall gave an incredulous stare at Jian Chen before downing the wine in the cup from the table.

“What other type of operation is there? We’re going to go to the Magical Beast Mountain Range to hunt for magical beasts. After all, our Flame Mercenaries was created for those who wanted to group together to hunt for magical beasts. With our current strength, selling the monster cores are all that we can do to earn money.”

“Then of course I’ll go. What other reason do I need to go to the Magical Beast Mountain Range?” Jian Chen chuckled as he replied.

“Brother Jian Chen, you don’t need to worry. Although you’ve a weaker strength than us, our combined profits won’t exclude you in any way. If your contributions are enough, then you’ll get your fair share in accordance to the distribution.

“Jian Chen, the Magical Beast Mountain Range is very evil and is filled with hidden dangers. In the case that we come across a Class 3 Magical Beast that the captain and your older brothers cannot handle, then it is very possible that your life will be lost. So Jian Chen, take your time and think about if you really want to go or not.” The speaker this time was the youngest person aside from Jian Chen, Xiao Dao.

His shining eyes stared at Jian Chen with a sincere expression. From his voice, a serious tone could be heard, warning Jian Chen of the dangers with a heartfelt message.

Hearing Xiao Dao speak, everyone in the room grew even more solemn. A Class 3 Magical Beast was enough to bring about a huge amount of pressure. Even though Captain Kendall had the strength of a Primary Saint Master, but when it came to a Class 3 Magical Beast, he would only be able to protect himself. It was oftenly seen that a magical beast was stronger than its same level human counterpart. On the Tian Yuan Continent, if one wanted to go hunt for magical beasts at the same level as them, they wouldn't stand a chance against the strong magical beasts without a strong cultivation or battle skill. This was practically an impossible task unless one had an attributed Saint Force. Otherwise, it was better to run away to preserve your own life.

And even though Captain Kendall was a Primary Saint Master, his Saint force didn't have an attribute, so his attacks would be far weaker than those with an attribute. Against a regular Class 3 Magical Beast, while he could fight it, it was only to protect himself. If he were to come across a stronger or faster Class 3 Magical Beast, then even Captain Kendall would be hard pressed to escape with his life and most likely end up as a type of cuisine for the magical beasts to enjoy.

But no one in the room would have expected that the moment Jian Chen heard the words Class 3 Magical Beast, there would be disdain in his eyes. The moment he had become a Primary Great Saint, he had already started to hunt and kill Class 3 Magical Beasts by himself. It could be said that the regular Class 3 Magical Beasts posed no threat to Jian Chen at all other than the Silver Striped Golden Snake. By this point in time, Jian Chen's strength was already at the Middle Great Saint level which was even stronger than a Primary Great Saint many times over.

"Don't worry everyone, my strength isn't all that weak. After going to the Magical Beast Mountain Range once in the past, I've learned many things in there." Jian Chen said.

#### Chapter 106: The Peculiar Dantian

Following that, Jian Chen and the Flame Mercenaries began to talk about the many interesting things they had heard about while traveling through the Tian Yuan Continent. As they talked, Jian Chen and the Flame Mercenaries had subconsciously grown closer and became friendlier.

But what was worth mentioning was that every single one of the members of the Flame Mercenaries were straightforward with their words, Captain Kendall included. All of them were quite emotional, and even though Jian Chen had revealed that he was a D ranked mercenary, not a single one of them had held him in contempt or treated him badly. On this continent where power was the ultimate ruling power, people like this were extremely rare..

And thus, Jian Chen's impression of the Flame Mercenaries had grown quickly.

Unaware of the passage of time, the afternoon glow quickly came in as a knock on the door alerted everyone on the inside of visitors.

"That's definitely Kabolds who is knocking." Hearing the knock, Xiao Dao revealed a happy smile as he went to open the door.

As Jian Chen watched the door open, he wondered what the remaining two people of the Flame Mercenaries were like.

The door opened as two plain clothed people walked into the room. The first person looked to be around 30 years old with a relatively built stature that matched Jian Chen's own physique and eyes that shone just as bright. The one following behind was a person who resembled someone around Captain Kendall's age. While his face was rather ordinary looking, the shine in his eyes were anything but ordinary.

"Kabolds, Deere, you two finally came back." Captain Kendall laughed. "Come, let me introduce you to Jian Chen here who just recently joined our Flame Mercenaries. From this point on we are all brothers here, so it is important that we pay attention to one another."

Kendall then turned to look at Jian Chen, "Brother Jian Chen, the younger person is called Kabolds. Not only is he quite strong, but he is the most intelligent person within our Flame mercenaries. Whatever action we considered on doing was suggested by Kabolds. The person next to him is Deere who is similarly the strongest mercenary within our group after me who is at the Peak level Great Saint. I believe that in 3 years, he will make a breakthrough and become a Saint Master.

Jian Chen cupped his hands in salute towards Kabolds and Deere as a sign of greeting and respect.

"Jian Chen, just by looking at you, I'm guessing you're around 20 years old so I'm not quite sure how strong you are exactly." Kabolds stared at Jian Chen with a calculative look and a curious tone.

Jian Chen merely laughed without saying anything more before taking out his mercenary badge from within his Space Belt, "It wasn't too long ago that I became a D ranked mercenary."

"Oh!" Kabolds nodded his head as he continued to stare at Jian Chen, his eyes revealing the curious glint that shone brightly. Then, he took his Space Belt and handed it towards Kendall, "Uncle Kendall, I've already prepared everything we'll need for the operation tomorrow."

Taking the Space Belt from Kabolds, Kendall said, "That's good, then now that all the preparations for the trip is done, we will set out tomorrow morning. This time, we'll definitely hunt plenty of magical beasts. Brother Jian Chen, do you have any complaints?"

"None, I will listen to Uncle Kendall." Jian Chen laughed.

"Alright, then everybody should rest up for today, tomorrow will be another day to go all out."

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Leaving the house afterwards, Jian Chen began to stroll around Wake City by himself. In regards to the operation tomorrow, Jian Chen didn't care at all for it because with the Flame Mercenaries' strength, if they didn't want to die straight away, then they would first go hunt for Class 2 Magical beasts. Although the Flame Mercenaries had 1 Saint Master and 4 Great Saints, they weren't able to compete with a Class 3 Magical Beast without trouble. So the Flame Mercenaries had no choice but to hunt for Class 2 Magical Beasts for now, but in Jian Chen's case, it could even be said that there was nothing that could pose a threat to him but a Class 4 Magical Beast.

Even if he were to come across a Class 4 Magical Beast he couldn't beat, Jian Chen was confident in his ability to run away at the very least. Because of these reasons, Jian Chen did not feel any type of pressure on him about tomorrow's operation.

After he had talked with the other mercenaries about what other supplies he would need, Jian Chen had already collected the majority of them and continued to stroll around Wake City.

It had been over a month since Jian Chen had first come to Wake City but the majority of his time was spent in the Magical Beast Mountain Range. He had only spent a few days inside a room, and even then, almost all of that time was spent cultivating. He didn't have any time to himself yet, so Jian Chen had wanted to take advantage of this free period to take a break.

Even though Wake City wasn't an immensely huge city, it was still large in its own right. Even with its expansive iron wall that encircled the city, a person would be able to reach the west side from the east if they walked fast enough in a single day. Because of its close proximity to the Magical Beast Mountain Range, the borders of the city was always lively, so a third of the lands in Wake City were owned by restaurants and private personnel.

Jian Chen continued to slowly stroll down the street and look at the many street vendors by the side. Many of these vendors were mercenaries, only a few of them were actual merchants. These stalls would hold many items, including herbal medicine, monster cores, and even toys for children. Yet, the majority of the monster cores sold here were Class 1 ones, with Class 2 cores rarely showing up. Because of this, Jian Chen did not have much of an interest in this.

There were many magical beasts within the continent, but if a mercenary were to sell a monster core through a merchant they would only get 70% of market price. Because of this, many mercenaries would rather sell the items themselves since monster cores were always in high demand on the Tian Yuan Continent anyways. Even then, many people would still hire mercenaries to go and kill magical beasts instead of going themselves.

As Jian Chen enjoyed his leisurely walk, the azure and violet glow within his dantian began to pulse so wildly that it began to impact both his dantian and his body. Before, his dantian was like a still lake with not even a single ripple, but now, the lake had become a raging sea with waves threatening to drown anything in its path. Even with the use of his Saint Force, Jian Chen was unable to control this storm.

Jian Chen's face changed as he realized that the azure and violet glow was no longer controllable. This was the worst case scenario Jian Chen was afraid of. Although the two glows would generally float around within his dantian and take the majority of the energy within the Monster Cores, Jian Chen knew that sooner or later, these two glows would bring about a huge amount of trouble for him. And it seems that today was finally the day that the azure and violet glow would no longer stay peacefully within him.

## Chapter 107: The Strange White Stone

Within Jian Chen's dantian, the azure and violet glows were constantly flickering as they revolved around each other in a circle and emitted a bright light that could be seen by the naked eye. At the same time, he felt a strange sensation within his head as the azure and violet glows started to move as if they had a will of their own and possessed their own independent mind and life. To Jian Chen, it was almost as if the two glows were in a joyous mood.

That's right, the feeling Jian Chen had felt was as if the azure and violet glows in his dantian were experiencing a great amount of joy and excitement. But Jian Chen was dumbfounded by this unbelievable conclusion, even the look on Jian Chen's face could show the amount of disbelief he had.

At the same time, another strange sensation entered Jian Chen's mind as if it came in out of thin air. From this sensation, Jian Chen realized that the two glows in his dantian had established some sort of subtle connection with an unknown thing. It was akin to a spiritual connection, but simultaneously, it also felt as if something was being locked away.

Trying to restrain his emotions, Jian Chen took a deep breath and slowly turned his head towards where the sensation was at its strongest. His eyes landed upon a street stall, where a 30 year old man was managing. In his stall was a pile of Class 1 Monster Cores and a few fantastic yet bizarre items.

Jian Chen's eyes swept past the items one by one until it landed upon a fist sized white stone. It was in a particularly peculiar shape and was completely white, but other than that, it was unremarkable. Compared to other white stones, this one didn't seem to be any different.

Thanks to the unfathomable mystery that was the strange sensation, Jian Chen knew that it was this white stone that was causing such a stir within his dantian. The glows had some sort of a connection with this locked white stone, like a child would try to protect his most favourite treasure. The feeling of happiness was so strong, even Jian Chen was experiencing the sensation to a degree.

On the surface, Jian Chen's expression didn't change at all, but the moment he reached the street stall, his hand reached out to grab the fist sized white stone. But the moment his hand was about to pick it up, his face changed and let loose a surprised expression.

It was because this fist sized white stone was surprisingly heavy. The moment his hand made contact with it, the white stone did not move even a single centimeter.

"What a heavy stone!" Jian Chen couldn't help but to exclaim. Using his entire hand to clasp the stone firmly into his hand, he began to exert even more energy, and finally, the stone began to slowly rise from the table.

"Honored customer, are you looking at this strange stone?" The stall owner suddenly appeared next to Jian Chen with a smile.

Jian Chen slowly brought the fist sized stone to his attention and stared at it. While it was only the size of a fist, it had already reached a weight of over 50 kilograms. If it were not for the fact that Jian Chen was a Middle Great Saint, picking up this stone in one hand would have been a strenuous task.

But when he picked up the strange white stone, he could clearly sense the excitement and happiness emanating from within his dantian. However, Jian Chen was skeptical of this sensation because only beings that were given life would be able to experience these types of emotions. And yet, the two glows within his dantian were clearly giving off this sensation, so could it be that the azure and violet glow in his dantian actually had self awareness? Perhaps they already had the ability to think for themselves.

When Jian Chen reached this line of thought, his entire body shook and his forehead began to drip with sweat as he began to feel like he had no control over his fate now. He couldn't help but sigh as he thought about his dantian problem. There was truly no way out of this problem; he had no idea or

method in regards to the two glows in his dantian as they were out of his control. Even if Jian Chen wanted those two glows gone from his dantian, there would be no way for him to accomplish it.

“Ai, this is a blessing, not a curse, but also a curse I cannot escape from. It’s best to forget about it since I’ve died once before. What else is there to care about? At worst, I’ll just die again.” Jian Chen said to himself. Continuing to look at the white stone in his hand, he thought about his dantian even more.

The texture of this white stone was exceptionally unique. No matter how much Jian Chen looked at it, he wasn’t able to tell if it was made out of stone or fine iron, as not only was it heavy, but its density was beyond normal. Sending his internal Saint Force through his arm, Jian Chen tried to have it enter the white stone, only to feel a strong resistance the moment the Saint Force made contact with it. It was as if the white stone was a defensive fort, and his Saint Force, the invader, wasn’t able to make a dent in its defenses.

The density of the white stone was extremely high, to the point that even Jian Chen was unable to use his Saint Force to enter it.

Jian Chen tore his eyes away from the white stone and looked at the stall owner and asked, “I don’t know what kind of stone this is, but what uses are there for it?”

Hearing Jian Chen’s question, the stall owner laughed in an embarrassed way, “Honored customer, to be truthful, even I don’t know what this white stone is. Whatever it is used for, I don’t know the answer to that either. But it is unusually heavy, so just after one look at it, one can tell that this white stone is no ordinary plaything.”

“Then where did you find such a thing like this?” Jian Chen’s eyes shone as he continued to ask.

Furrowing his eyebrows, the stall owner began to ponder the question before saying, “Honored customer, I’ve been asked that same question many times, but I’ve never told them. However you seem quite favorable to me, so I’ll tell you where I found this.” The stall owner’s voice stopped as he pointed at the white stone, “In all honesty, this white stone was found by me in the Magical Beast Mountain Range.”

“Oh!” Hearing this answer, Jian Chen’s eyes went back to the white stone once more. When he heard that the stall owner had picked up this item at the Magical Beast Mountain Range, it wasn’t of any surprise to him, after all, there was always an opportunity anywhere for anyone. Even a farmer could stumble upon gold or another precious mineral while digging his farm.

The stall owner looked at the interested face of Jian Chen and opened his mouth once more, “Honored customer, this white stone has been in my possession for many years now. If it were not for the fact that I am in need of money, then I wouldn’t have put it out on display in the first place. Seeing you are quite interested in it, why don’t you buy it?”

Jian Chen looked at the white stone with one eye as he sized it up before looking back to the stall owner, “How much is this white stone?” His tone was especially flat. This white stone’s very existence had caused many questions for him, so it was only right for him to buy it.

Chapter 108: How Much Is it?

“This is...” Seeing the expression on Jian Chen’s face, the stall owner had a look of hesitation. Although he knew that this white stone was not an ordinary item by any means, he still didn’t know what use it had. In order to understand the history behind this white stone, he had dove into multiple books about ancient treasures, but found nothing. He had even asked many close friends only to come up empty handed. So after thinking it over, he had finally set a concrete price for this white stone.

It was a shame that on this Tian Yuan Continent, there weren’t many people that knew about this strange white stone, nor did anyone ever show this much curiosity toward it. But for those who were still curious enough to buy it, the moment they heard the price, every single person had put down the stone and immediately left. For while the stall owner knew this stone wasn’t regular, he didn’t know its use, but he still wanted to sell it for a decent price. So the moment everyone heard his price for the stone, they didn’t hesitate to drop the stone and forget about it.

When Jian Chen had asked about the price for this white stone, the stall owner felt undecided once more. He was really in need of money right now, so it could be said that this white stone was his sole way of earning money. If he set the price too high, then he was afraid that this Jian Chen would drop the stone and walk away like the other customers, but if he set the price too low, then he would feel uneasy in his heart. So with the price in question, his heart and mind were in contradiction with each other and didn’t know what price to give.

After hesitating, the stall owner opened his mouth, “Honored customer, if you are really interested in this white stone, then please state your price for it.”

Hearing this, Jian Chen looked at the man with an amused smile, “This is obviously your item, so it’s only right for the price to be decided by you, why would you want me to name a price?”

The stall owner became embarrassed as he listened to Jian Chen and laughed awkwardly, “Honored customer, it isn’t that I’m unwilling to say the price, rather it’s because I’m afraid that if I say a price, you’ll be scared away. I’ve had many people express their interest in this white stone, but the moment they heard my price, they all put it down and left.”

“Oh, then how much do you think this white stone is worth?” Jian Chen asked with interest. He was already completely determined to buy this white stone regardless of the price or the true use of it. If it could provoke such a strong reaction from the azure and violet glow in his dantian, then this was no ordinary item. He couldn’t say for sure, but this white stone could possibly solve the mystery about his dantian problems.

So for that reason, Jian Chen was very determined to win this object.

The stall owner bit his lip as he looked at Jian Chen, “Honored customer, if you are this adamant in buying the white stone, then I shall tell you the price. Look here, will this much do?” With that said, the stall owner held out five fingers on his hand as if to give Jian Chen a high-five.

Seeing this movement, Jian Chen couldn’t help but have a joking expression on his face as he said uncertainly, “Could it be you’re selling this for 50 Gold Coins?”

Hearing this, the stall owner grew red in the face from the paltry amount, as if the amount Jian Chen had offered differed from his by thousands of coins.

The stall owner sighed and spoke, "Honored customer, I will be straightforward with you and be clear. I want to sell this stone for 500 Purple Coins, do you still want it?" As he spoke, the stall owner's eyes stared at Jian Chen closely.

"What! 500 Purple Coins! Are you joking?" Jian Chen cried out in shock as he looked at the stall owner in disbelief. The moment he had heard the words "Purple Coin", Jian Chen's lips felt especially heavy. 500 Purple Coins was equivalent to 50,000 Gold Coins.

The stall owner's face grew even redder as he understood the look on Jian Chen's face. He knew that 500 Purple Coins was a price that would not have any buyers.

"Th-that is...honored customer, if you can offer up a price that I can agree to, then at the very least I can sell it to you." The stall owner said in an agonized tone.

With this, Jian Chen sucked in a deep breath as he sized up the white stone in his hand with uncertainty.

After a long time, Jian Chen finally made up his mind. "My highest price will be 100 Purple Coins, whether I buy it or not, it's up to you." With that, he stared at the stall owner with a heavy glance, but even he was quite nervous within his heart. Jian Chen was determined to get this white stone, if he could easily buy it here, then it would be for the best. Even then, 100 Purple Coins was not a small amount at all for a stall owner.

Jian Chen had already seen what this 30 year old stall owner was like. Since the stall owner had such a shrewd mind, there was no way Jian Chen could reveal how interested he was in the white stone. Otherwise, if the stall owner found out how much he wanted it, who knew how high the price would go up.

Not only that, but Jian Chen wasn't willing to let others know how much money he had on him. If it was found out, then those with sinister purposes would possibly come track him down looking for trouble. Although, with his strength, he wasn't even afraid of enemies at the Saint Master level, but he wanted to avoid as much trouble as he possibly could.

The moment the stall owner heard Jian Chen's offer of 100 Purple Coins, he grew happy but then immediately grew embarrassed. "Honored Customer, could you possibly add a little more to that?"

Jian Chen chuckled as he shook his head. Seeing the happy glint in the stall owner's eyes, Jian Chen understood what the man was thinking of.

Seeing how Jian Chen wasn't going to go any higher with his price, the man looked a little disappointed. But after thinking it over while biting his lips, he nodded his head, "Okay, 100 Purple Coins it is, we have a deal!"

Taking out the 100 Purple Coins from within his Space Belt, Jian Chen slowly counted them out for the stall owner and then took the white stone for himself to store into his Space Belt before departing from the stall.

Jian Chen had really wanted to study this strange white stone and its purpose, but in this busy street where people flowed like water in a river, this was not the best place for it.

However, as Jian Chen left the area, two people had noticed him. These two people both looked to be 20 years old and both had a weak stature.

“Xiao San, it looks as if we’ve stumbled across an easy target.” The shriveled youth on the left watched Jian Chen leave the area as he spoke with an excited voice.

The one called Xiao San nodded their head, “Right, that person doesn’t seem too old, so his strength should be quite weak. Since he’s also by himself, this is a good opportunity. Seeing him grab that many Purple Coins, I’m willing to bet that, that person will have more on him. Huang Hou Er, you go follow him while I go notify the rest.” With that, Xiao San quickly disappeared into the crowd while Huang Hou Er began to follow Jian Chen.

#### Chapter 109: Robbery Encounter

Jian Chen continued to walk down the street after purchasing the white stone. Right now Jian Chen wasn’t all that focused on researching the white stone, instead, he was lazily strolling around the street just in case he would be lucky enough to find another treasure.

However, what was strange for Jian Chen was that after he had bought the white stone, the azure and violet glow in his dantian had already calmed down. Although, Jian Chen no longer cared about the matter anymore and only wanted nighttime to come so that he could study the white stone. If he was lucky, he would be able to make a discovery and figure out how to solve the problem with his dantian.

If he could resolve the problem with his dantian, then his cultivation rate would improve without any more problems. Although the azure and violet glows were constantly taking a huge amount of his cultivation, they had allowed Jian Chen to absorb the energy from the monster cores without being affected by the berserk element within them. His consumption rate was still far too large, and Jian Chen was worried about his cultivation.

If it were up to him, Jian Chen would rather have his original cultivation speed, even if he could no longer easily handle the berserk element in the monster cores, he would find a way to deal with them. He did not want a situation that he could not control, because to Jian Chen, the azure and violet glow was like a ticking time bomb. They could go off at any time, and although he would have a slower cultivation rate, he wouldn’t need to worry about getting more monster cores every single day. Plus, the amount of energy he would absorb from the monster core would be more than the amount he was currently absorbing. A Class 3 Monster Core was already enough to support his cultivation for several days; it could even last him dozens of days before all of the energy was consumed. In that case, as long as Jian Chen spent an entire day hunting magical beasts or Monster Cores, it was enough for him to train for several months. As the amount of time spent on hunting magical beasts decreased, the amount of time spent on cultivating would increase. Based on his calculations, even if the azure and violet glows in his dantian were removed, they wouldn’t have much of an impact on Jian Chen’s overall cultivation speed.

Jian Chen wandered around the busy streets aimlessly and stared at the various street stalls on the side. Occasionally he would walk into a random store and take a look around. After discovering this strange white stone, Jian Chen was now curious if he could find any other fantastical things while traveling up and down the market street. Perhaps if he was lucky, he would find yet another object that would stir attention within his dantian.

It was unfortunate that while he was walking on the market, he did not see anything else of value.

“It seems that these items cannot be found so easily.” Jian Chen sighed with disappointment. Seeing how the sky was already getting dark, he had lost interest in trying to find anything new.

Jian Chen stared off in the distance as he gave a grim smile, “Right now there’s not enough time. After I take care of the people behind me, I’ll go rest up at a restaurant. Then tomorrow I’ll head out with everyone toward the Magical Beast Mountain Range.” As he said that, Jian Chen looked around himself for a less populated alleyway to walk through.

Afterward, Jian Chen walked through the alleyway slowly almost as if he was still window shopping. Just the road he was now traveling on was a more isolated path where less people traveled.

Once more crossing into another secluded alleyway, Jian Chen finally ended up in a completely isolated lane with a dead end that was 4 meters tall.

Stopping where he stood, Jian Chen turned around to be greeted with an empty road. With a look of disdain, he spoke evenly, “Friends, you’ve walked so far with me already, could it be you’re still unwilling to show yourself?”

Not long after Jian Chen had spoke, a group of people walked out into the secluded lane. There was a dozen people around, with each person’s age ranging from 20 to 30 years old, the oldest one of them looked to be around 40 years old.

The moment the dozen people appeared, they began to spread out in formation and blocked up the entire width of the alley. Clearly, they didn’t want to let Jian Chen leave the alley, but they didn’t stop there. As they blocked up the alley, each person began to slowly walk toward Jian Chen while giving him an intense stare, making them look like fiends.

Jian Chen could only smile as he watched the people approach. To him, these people were not fiendish looking at all. He could tell how strong they were with his spirit, so the exact strength of each of the people here was clear to him. Among the group, the weakest members hadn’t even reached the Saint level while three other members were at the Great Saint level. The biggest surprise was that the oldest member there was unexpectedly at the Saint Master level. Even the captain of the Flame Mercenaries, Captain Kendall was weaker than this person by a single tier, this man was a Middle Saint Master.

This man was around 40 years old and wore a bluish green robe. He had an exceptionally fierce expression on his face with his short hair swaying in the wind slightly. Right under his mouth was a large beard that was very predominant.

“Dear friends, after walking so far down the path with this one, one has to wonder what you are doing.” Jian Chen said with a trace of a smile, but his tone was still flat.

The eldest male with the power of a Middle Saint Master stared fiercely at Jian Chen and growled, “So you knew we were here all along.”

Jian Chen crossed his arms in front of his chest with a smile, “Of course, you were following me so adamantly while traveling on the same road for so long, how would a person not notice?”

Hearing Jian Chen, the elder man looked at Jian Chen with a sudden look of realization, "So it was like this, it would appear that we were too careless then." Then the man's face changed as his surprise look suddenly grew cold. "Kid, right now this road has been blocked by us, if you don't want to die, then hand over every single coin and item within your Space Belt. Otherwise, prepare yourself to die here."

"If you want the things within my possession, then let's see if you have the strength to do so." Jian Chen said impassively. However, with each passing word, his tone grew colder and colder.

With that said, the elder man didn't bother to say anything else and instead waved his hand. "Everyone forward! Bring him down and whatever he has will be ours!"

The entire formation began to rush toward Jian Chen as they each brought out their Saint Weapons. For those who hadn't yet reached the Saint level, there was a simple iron sword and shield in their hands as they charged fearlessly at him.

Seeing the dozen people approach, Jian Chen sneered in disdain. Right as they got within 10 meters of him, he leapt into the air as if swallowed up by the sky. Both of his legs kicked off of the walls with an impressive amount of strength as he flew over the heads of the people below. As he flew toward the 40 year old man, a familiar silver colored sword appeared in his right hand as it then transformed into a silver streak of lightning. With a speed that was difficult for the naked eye to see, the sword stabbed at the middle aged man's throat.

After countless of improvements to his body, Jian Chen's body was relentlessly refined by the special properties of the Saint Force. So now his strength was far stronger than his previous life thanks to that same Saint Force, and even his speed had increased many times over. Even with such an ordinary looking sword, its speed was so fast that even for a Great Saint it was hard to dodge.

After all, if one wanted to increase their attack speed, they would need to use their Saint Force to enhance it, but this was a hard strain on the physical body. So thanks to Jian Chen's special body and fast swordplay, it was a better improvement to his previous life. Even compared to those on the Tian Yuan Continent, aside from those who were stronger than Jian Chen, he was able to bypass the defenses of anyone at his strength level or below. If Jian Chen were to use his entire strength in his attacks, then no one at his level of strength would have an opportunity to retaliate and would have their throats stabbed before they knew it.

Seeing Jian Chen charge at him so fiercely, the middle aged man let out a sneer as he brought the huge axe up into the air. With both hands clasping the handle, a great amount of Saint Force was constantly flowing into his Saint Weapon as he cried out loud and then chopped down at Jian Chen with all his might.

"Ding!"

The Light Wind Sword and the axe made contact with each other, causing a large explosion to take place. Following the sound, a large vibration was inflicted onto the man with an intensity so strong, it had caused his legs to weaken and stumble back a step or two. His eyes widened in astonishment as he stared disbelievingly at his opponent.

This was because the man at first did not take Jian Chen's actions seriously. To him, Jian Chen was no more than a 20 year old man who would possibly only have the strength of a Saint at the most. Even if

he was a genius, then he would be no higher than a Primary Great Saint so as far as he was concerned, a person like this was no match for his troops. After this exchange of blows, the man was shocked at this new discovery. Even though he hadn't placed too low of an importance on Jian Chen, this strength of his was far beyond his expectations. With this strength, the man estimated that Jian Chen was no weaker than he was.

Jian Chen did a somersault in midair as he descended back down onto the ground. Dispersing the shock from the initial blow with ease, he didn't take a pause even after landing on the ground. Immediately charging toward the elder person once more, the Light Wind Sword in his hand emitted a hazy glow of light that wrapped the entirety of the blade. To the naked eye, the sword looked as if it was a hazy silver ray of light as it shot toward the man's throat with a ridiculous speed.

Chapter 110: Traveling to the Magical Beast Mountain Range

"Good approach!" The 40 year old man shouted. While brandishing his Saint Weapon without the slightest trace of fear, his face grew solemn as he slashed at Jian Chen.

"Ding ding ding!"

The previously quiet alley suddenly grew loud with the sounds of Saint Weapons clashing with each other as Jian Chen and the elderly man continued to battle it out between them. Even though he was a Middle Great Saint fighting against a Middle Saint Master, he had not yet fallen despite it being a fierce battle.

Jian Chen was exceptionally nimble as he moved around his opponent like a demon. The Light Wind Sword in his hand relentlessly flashed toward the man's larynx and each time the man's axe blocked his strikes. From the start, Jian Chen's attacks were like tidal waves of blows that left almost no chance for the man to retaliate, but gradually, the tidal wave of blows had slowly evolved into a fierce storm of blades that caused the man to not have any opportunities to retaliate.

To be accurate, it wasn't that the man was unable to retaliate. In actuality, it was that if he were to try to strike back, then he was afraid that his attack would miss Jian Chen, and he would get a sword through his throat for his troubles.

The man's entire forehead was now dripping with perspiration as he continued to fight. He didn't think that this seemingly 20 year old male would possess such a strong amount of strength at the Middle Saint level. Not only was he narrowly dodging the blows as is, but what made the man afraid the most was that this youth's sword play was far too quick. Not only was his speed fast enough to make anyone astonished, the amount of times he could strike was intimidating as well.

Right now, there was a large amount of regret within the 40 year old man's heart. If he had known about Jian Chen's strength earlier, then he wouldn't have come over to try and rob him.

On the side of the alleyway, the other people stared sluggishly at the fierce battle between Jian Chen and their boss. Just like the other man, no one had thought that Jian Chen, who looked to be much younger than they were, would be able to contend against their boss in terms of strength. Despite having a dozen people, when they looked at this fight, they all knew that they would not be able to join in. If they were to rashly charge in, all they would accomplish would be a vain death. Even though they had 3 Great Saints, but even with the strength of the Great Saints, they were painfully aware that their

boss was in a disadvantageous position thanks to Jian Chen's display of power. Since he could only block now, it could be said that the boss' life could be taken at any moment without trouble, and if they were to charge in, then they would be of no use. All of them knew that death would be the only thing awaiting them since they knew that their speed was not enough to dodge the lightning quick sword that belongs to Jian Chen.

Jian Chen and the middle aged man once again fought to another stand still, but the middle aged man was still in a bad position. Jian Chen stared at the man impassively as his right arm lashed out, transforming the Light Wind Sword into a ray of silver light that streaked toward the man's throat once more. In a flash, the sword approached the man's throat— in the history of their battle so far, this was the fastest sword stroke he had displayed.

The middle aged man's face lost all shades of color in fright. Against a sword as fast as this, he practically had lost any chance of dodging or blocking this movement. In the eyes of the 40 year old man, this sword had already reached an inconceivable amount of speed, and could no longer be dodged by someone like him.

So in an instant, the man's face had become deathly pale, but at the moment where his death was about to come to pass, the sword had reached the skin of his throat and stopped its momentum suddenly. At such a crucial moment like this, the Light Wind Sword had stopped its forward thrust, only allowing the tip of the blade to touch the man's throat.

Despite the tip of the Light Wind Sword stopping at the skin of his throat, the man had suddenly felt that it was becoming extremely difficult to breathe. At the same time, he was feeling a very sharp point of pain from where the tip was touching against his throat, almost as if the sword had already pierced his throat.

The middle aged man stood lifelessly where he was. At this point, he was completely terrified of moving, he was afraid that if he were to make the slightest movement, Jian Chen would then relentlessly plunge his sword into his neck. So right now, the man's face was dripping with cold sweat.

"Sw...swor..swordsman...please...please spare my life! Ne..next time, this lowly one won't bother swordsman ever again!" The man's words were filled with terror for Jian Chen, each word barely coming out stronger than a stutter. Right now, his life was at the mercy of Jian Chen, so the thought of having no face toward someone as young as Jian Chen wasn't a problem for him. To him, as long as he could keep his life, then even kneeling toward Jian Chen wouldn't be an impossible task.

Jian Chen stared at the middle aged man with a small sneer. Slowly bringing back his sword, he said emotionlessly, "My mood today is quite good, so I do not have a desire to kill anyone. You better behave yourself in the future and not let me catch you doing something like this. With the Magical Beast Mountain Range being so close by and your strength being decent enough, a few low leveled magical beasts would be well in your capability to earn money." With that said, Jian Chen left the alleyway.

"Yes, yes, we will definitely comply with swordsman's command. We will never do such a thing again." The middle aged man said frantically. It was almost as if the man was completely compliant with Jian Chen's orders.

The moment Jian Chen's shadow left the alleyway, the middle aged man let out a long breath of air and wiped his forehead clean of his sweat. Thinking back to that fight of life or death for him, the man was absolutely terrified out of his wits. In that recent moment, his entire life was hanging by a thread, ready to be severed.

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Leaving the alleyway, Jian Chen cut back into the busy roads before walking into a nearby restaurant. During the night, Jian Chen sat down on his bed and began to study the white stone in his possession.

"What exactly is this item? It looks like a stone, but the material it's made from isn't like a stone at all. One could say it's made of iron, but at the same time, one cannot say that." Staring at the white stone in his hand, Jian Chen was full of doubt and misgivings about it.

From the start, it was because of the azure and violet glow in his dantian that made him interested in this white stone. At the beginning, it was the azure and violet glow that had initially felt happy and excited, but the moment after he had bought the white stone, his dantian had once more reverted back to its quiet state. Even with the white stone in the palm of his hand, the twin glows were not at all attracted to it in any way now.

Jian Chen himself did not have the slightest understanding of the history behind this white stone. Although he had the expansive library from Kargath Academy as his source of knowledge, he still did not have a single piece of information about it.

Restlessly, Jian Chen continued to study the white stone for the rest of the day. Aside from knowing that this stone was exceptionally solid, there wasn't any other piece of information he could glean from it. Whether he used water to boil it or fire to burn it, the white stone didn't have a single reaction or change. With no other choice, Jian Chen stuffed the white stone back into his Space Belt.

Observing the glows in his dantian once more, he noticed that it was as peaceful as ever, not having any of the previous excitement shown earlier in the day. While the two glows were housed within Jian Chen's dantian, he was completely unable to do anything about the two. He couldn't get up close with the dantian, and could only observe these mysterious things from afar. If he got any closer, then he would suffer a strong feedback that he couldn't yet break through. So for that reason, Jian Chen had decided that trying to get any closer to them in his dantian would be a forbidden action.

"Ai!" Jian Chen sighed. Once he had come to this conclusion, he didn't know if this was a blessing or a curse.

That night, Jian Chen was not cultivating for once. Instead, he was sleeping in his bed. For the first time in 3 months since he had left Gesun Kingdom, this would be the first night he would be able to sleep.

Sleeping was a good way to restore his spirit, and with his large amount of spirit, if he were to refrain from using the Spirit Sword or control the light Saint Force, then it would be possible for him to go for a few days and nights without sleep. Not only that, but if he were to cultivate, then his spirit would be slowly recovered. So for that reason, Jian Chen hadn't slept at all since there was no need for him to.

The next morning, Jian Chen woke up and looked outside to see the early morning scenery. Taking in a fresh breath of morning air, he sighed, "I haven't slept in months, so I nearly forgot how good sleeping was. Now that I have slept again, it really was very comfortable!"

Soon after, Jian Chen left the restaurant and rode a horse toward where Kendall was waiting for everyone.

The Flame Mercenaries were again staying over at the same house as before. At that moment, 8 members of the Flame Mercenaries were still resting inside. Although they were a small mercenary group, they didn't have the funds to build a bigger house, so at the very least they could only afford a small house.

Arriving at the house, Jian Chen tied his horse to a fixed fence post and prepared to knock on the door. Before he could knock, a weak looking youth suddenly opened the door. The moment he saw Jian Chen, his eyes loosened in intensity as he backed away from the door, this was the second youngest member of the mercenary group— Xiao Dao.

Jian Chen gave a small smile and said, "Xiao Dao, are you planning to go out?"

Xiao Dao chuckled, "I only just heard the sounds of a horse, so I thought it was you for sure. Opening the door, I see that I was right. Come in Jian Chen, everyone's already waiting for you."