

Domination 621

Chapter 621: Recruiting Talents

"I am absolutely certain. Here, this is a pill refined by Young Noble Li where I watched the process with my own eyes. Please have look, Your Majesty." The demon monarch hurriedly handed a pill over.

Madam Zi Yan's expression greatly changed as she got up from her throne after seeing the six transformations pill. She cried out: "Impossible!"

"This fate pill is real." The Demon King's reaction was within his expectations. If he didn't see it with his own eyes, he wouldn't have believed it either.

Madam Zi Yan exclaimed with a pale countenance: "Ninety percent purity, golden color... This is the most amazing and peerless six transformations pill! The one and only of this generation!"

Ancient Pine spoke: "This situation should only occur in nine transformations pills, but Young Noble Li was able to do so for a six transformations pill. It is not an exaggeration to say that no one in the contemporary times can match him."

After a long while, Madam Zi Yan took a deep breath and slowly sat down, then she skeptically asked: "Did Young Noble Li really refine this pill?"

Ancient Pine immediately replied: "I am one hundred percent certain. I swear with the life of my entire family! Your Majesty, this is Young Noble Li holding our Giant Bamboo Country in high esteem."

Then, the monarch retold Li Qiye's dan refinement process.

Even a Demon King like her couldn't help but gasp after hearing the monarch's story. After some time, she solemnly said: "This is completely unbelievable... If this is true, then isn't he comparable to an Alchemy Emperor?"

Ancient Pine responded: "Even if he isn't one right now, he will definitely become an Alchemy Emperor in the future; the four prodigies can't compare to him. If our Giant Bamboo Country can keep a talent like this, then we'll rise sharply in the future!"

Madam Zi Yan remained quiet. As a Demon King and the ruler of a country, she understood the significance behind an Alchemy Emperor. If they had one in the future, then guests would come nonstop with an endless supply of people asking for medicines. Virtuous Paragons and Godkings would gladly stay in the Giant Bamboo Country. If this became reality, then the Giant Bamboo Country would be prosperous just like the golden age of their founding.

A supreme Alchemy Emperor could change one's fate and prevent death. Even if they couldn't reign over the Nine Worlds like Immortal Emperors, their prominence remained strong.

Madan Zi Yan calmed down and asked with a serious tone: "What is the background of this Young Noble Li?"

Ancient Pine answered: "Young Noble Li is a human, a vagrant cultivator that doesn't belong to any sect."

“How could that be?” Madam Zi Yan pondered for a bit before stating: “All four alchemy prodigies are from famous heritages. If Young Noble Li is this amazing, then he shouldn’t be so unknown.”

Her skepticism was not without merit. Alchemists had a higher status in the Stone Medicine World than any other world, and a peerless alchemist was even more valued. All the imperial lineages would compete for them.

Ancient Pine quickly brought up Bai Weng’s point of view: “We can’t speculate the thoughts of extraordinary people. In my opinion, Young Noble Li doesn’t care for fame since he could easily gain prestige, power, and treasures whenever he wants.”

“But why would such a supreme alchemist stay at our country?” Madam Zi Yan asked with doubt.

Ancient Pine told her Shi Hao’s situation: “I think Young Noble Li has some sentiment for the Giant Bamboo Country. He is also training a disciple who is currently an envoy of ours.”

Madam Zi Yan contemplated again before eventually saying: “It would be best if such a supreme alchemist could stay at our Giant Bamboo Country; this is an opportunity granted by the heavens. However, we need to discuss this further and see if we can find out more about his background.”

“Your Majesty’s worries make sense.” Ancient Pine said: “But we might miss this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.”

“I understand.” Madam Zi Yan nodded and said: “Keep Young Noble Li here for now. The ancestors and I will discuss this. We need to draw a bottom line if he wishes to stay. As long as we don’t have to cross that line, then we’ll do all we can to keep him here. I will send people to investigate his background.”

“Your Majesty’s decision can’t be any better.” Ancient Pine praised: “It is best if Your Majesty made a decision now and discussed further details later. I will try my best to hold him back, but don’t expect more than three days. If we cause him to feel unpleasant, then everything will go down the drain.”

Madam Zi Yan nodded and said: “Elder Pine can worry about treating him well. If the ancestors give permission, I will go see him tomorrow.”

Ancient Pine agreed and was about to leave before Madam Zi Yan spoke once more: “Regarding the Alchemy Conference, you and the other monarchs can discuss it a bit. Try to delay picking the second participant for now. We can decide on the Qing Clan right now, but give the decision on the Lie Clan more time.”

“Your Majesty wants to use the boy from the Lie Clan as a participant for the conference?” Ancient Pine was taken by surprise: “The boy’s skill is much worse than the Qing boy.”

“I’m still thinking about it.” Madam Zi Yan shook her head and said: “We don’t have a better option. Although the Lie Clan’s inheritor has flaws regarding his alchemy dao, we don’t have many who are better than him. More importantly, the Lie Clan has a Fire Source so they will always have a good Heavenly Cauldron. If the Lie boy joins, then he will surely bring his family’s heirloom, giving him a great advantage.”

At this point, she paused a bit before continuing: "What's more, the Qing Clan still strongly recommends the Lie Clan's inheritor as the second candidate. Although the two clans are related, I suppose the Lie boy's conditions are not that bad. The Eagle Demon Monarch had pushed for this several times already."

Ancient Pine could only sigh. Although the country was always peaceful, there was no lack of internal political maneuvering. He replied: "If Young Noble Li stays and participates in the conference, then we can relax and won't need the Qing Clan. The Qing boy is far worse than the four prodigies, but the four are nothing compared to Young Noble Li."

Madam Zi Yan slightly nodded in agreement: "It would be best if Young Noble Li agreed to stay and represented us. However, the important part is whether we can accept his conditions or not."

Both Ancient Pine and Madam Zi Yan believed that a promising alchemist would have astonishing conditions required for them to stay at the Giant Bamboo Country. If one couldn't afford to pay the price, how could they hold onto a supreme alchemist?

Ancient Pine remained silent. The Giant Bamboo Country was not comparable to an imperial lineage, so if Li Qiye's conditions were too high, then they wouldn't be able to accept them.

At this point, Madam Zi Yan said: "Elder Pine, you can return now, and treat Young Noble Li well. I will report this to the ancestors and see their decision."

A Demon King like her couldn't decide such a grand matter alone.

Ancient Pine bowed his head and left the imperial palace.

While all of this was taking place, Li Qiye was currently staying at the mansion with many servants at his beck and call. Under the command of Ancient Pine, none of the servants dared to slack off, treating Li Qiye as their most esteemed guest.

After washing his face, he dismissed all the servants. All alone in the room, he absorbed the worldly energy and began to activate his merit law.

He was cultivating a law from the Death Scripture. With the channeling of the law, a white flower floated inside his sea of memories. The sea had eighteen petals that had just finished being refined. However, the petals were bleak as if they were made from paper.

This white flower was the Death Record, one of the four techniques in the scripture.

After successfully creating the Death Record, each time the user died, one of the flower petals would be activated.

At the same time, a huge seal floated inside his body. This seal was formed from extremely complex laws. It was the Death Seal, another of the four techniques.

When this seal is completed, if the body suffered any injury, then this seal would carve a supreme law that redirected all the damage to the seal instead, then it would transform this injury into an energy of death!

After a lot of hard work, the Death Seal and Death Record had been completed. Li Qiye then heaved a sigh of relief and stood up.

He left the room to gaze at the tranquil night sky with luminous stars. Being at the capital of the Giant Bamboo Country made his mind quite heavy with thoughts.

On this quiet and solitudinous night, Li Qiye couldn't help but think of a certain person, a person who had followed him by his side as his friend.

He eventually calmed his sentimental mood and wanted to go to a certain location. Many years had passed and he wondered if it was still there. Without much further thought, he flew there to take a look.

In the outskirts of the capital, there was a very small village to the eastern mountain range.

This village was very inconspicuous and was under the Giant Bamboo Country's jurisdiction.

There were only around ten families in the village — a few dozen people. It was very ordinary looking and there was a big old house at the end of the village. This old house had lost its splendor, but the architectural style indicated that it was once quite majestic.

It was indeed surprising to see such an ancient house in this little village.

Chapter 622: Most Arrogant Throughout the Eons

This house was the property of the Giant Bamboo Country, so although no one was staying here, the country maintained this house carefully so that it remained intact.

It was the dead of the night so all the villagers were sleeping. There were only one or two flickering lights.

In the dark, Li Qiye stood before the old house at the end of town that had lasted for millions of years with his emotions running rampant. It was still here...

He looked at it and past images resurfaced in his heart. The events of old still lingered in his mind as he stepped inside. After tens of millions of years, Li Qiye finally came back as if it was just yesterday. Some things were hard to forget; Li Qiye had assumed that with the passage of time, he wouldn't be able to remember, but everything was still the same.

In this house, he walked from corner to corner. There were no changes inside compared to what he remembered. The scene remained the same, but the people were no longer there.

He lit up all the lamps around the house and laid down in the tallest chair in the hall. He slowly closed his eyes and became lost in the past.

In the present times, how many people knew that back in the old era, countless strategies that affected the entire Nine Worlds came from this ordinary old house?

How many knew that in the old era, countless orders that were obeyed by the rest of the world came from this house?

How many knew that in that old era, numerous Virtuous Paragons and Godkings stood in this very room, awaiting their next order?

Although this was an ordinary house, back in that time, even invincible Godkings had to wait by the door for permission before entering.

Li Qiye gently sighed with his eyes closed. That year, Yan'er was only a little girl with a humble origin, but her personality was quite commendable so Li Qiye decided to train her.

After being immersed in the past for a long while, he suddenly opened his eyes and looked outside the door with a serious glare.

A shadow flickered right outside. Someone was entering, a woman. Her beauty was quite alluring, shaming even the flowers and the moon. An elegant and noble air emanated from her body. With a single glance, it was clear that she held great authority.

The woman was stunned to see Li Qiye relaxing in the main hall, but very quickly, she regained her leisurely elegance and slowly walked inside and sat down next to a table.

Li Qiye only gave her a glance before closing his eyes again as if nothing had happened.

After sitting down, she took a look at Li Qiye, immediately recognizing him as a human. A body of flesh and blood without visible blood energy or cultivation — only a human could have these characteristics.

She carefully gauged him once more. As someone who had weathered countless storms and met many great characters, she still hadn't met anyone as arrogant as Li Qiye.

He sat in his high chair not putting anyone in his sight. He was too lazy to even care for the heaven and earth with his supercilious demeanor. However, on this second attempt at judging this arrogant young man full of hubris despite his ordinary appearance, an indescribable temperament could be found.

The woman noticed that the little man sitting on his throne didn't emit a terrifying aura, but he had a monstrous blood energy. His leisured pose as he rested with his eyes closed was as calm as the water in a well.

This little man before her seemed to be sitting above the nine heavens as the lord of myriad worlds. Even a Godking would need to stand aside with their head hung low.

This little man, at first, seemed to appear conceited, but a closer look would reveal that he had an unrivalled style that encompassed the Nine Worlds.

At this moment, when he closed his eyes to rest, he gave off the feeling that the world would be dark when his eyes were closed, and the world would be bright when his eyes were open!

After observing this little man for a while, the woman secretly chuckled and shook her head. How could that be? How could this young man be above the nine heavens and order the Nine Worlds?

She also found the whole thing to be quite strange. This place was quite remote and only had mortals around, so why did this young man come to this old building? His relaxed appearance would hint that this was his own home, and he didn't look like a homeless beggar either.

After a long silence, the woman finally broke the serene scene: "Do you know where this place is?"

Li Qiye opened his eyes and answered with a question: "Where is this place? You tell me."

The woman smiled in response: "I want to hear your opinion." Her voice was very pleasant; it was clear with a touch of gentleness.

Li Qiye laughed then closed his eyes again before answering while laying down: "This is the place where one orders the Nine Worlds, controls the gods, and reigns over myriad realms. The world trembled before any order from this place and myriad races obeyed every single word. Although this place is small and crowded, it is the frontier of the Nine Worlds, the aspiration of all the races and sects, even though they didn't dare to disturb this quiet place."

The woman couldn't help but feel like laughing, but she didn't laugh. She looked at the little man ahead and felt that he was too immersed in his own play, how he thought that he was the ruler of this world. Nevertheless, she did find it odd the way he nonchalantly uttered each word. They didn't resemble the words of a boastful liar at all.

"But that is not the case in my knowledge." The woman spoke: "As far as I know, this is the place where the Giant Bamboo Progenitor used to meditate. Rumor has it that whenever the progenitor needed to think about something, she would come here and come up with a solution."

"That was indeed the case as well." Li Qiye said with a smile: "But this place was also the commanding throne of this world, a location admired by countless races."

"Really?" The woman jokingly replied after seeing Li Qiye's serious demeanor: "If this was the location that commanded the world, who are you to sit in such a high and mighty seat? Are you the king of gods? Or maybe the Immortal Emperor of a generation?"

Li Qiye only smiled to see the woman's doubtful appearance. Of course, it was already good enough that she didn't consider him as someone insane, so he also laughed at her joke before answering seriously: "No, what is so good about being the king of gods or an Immortal Emperor? That would be very boring. Since time immemorial, there have been many Immortal Emperors, so there is nothing new about being one. It would be very meaningless."

The woman was speechless after hearing this response. This was the most arrogant thing she had ever heard in her life.

Who were Immortal Emperors? They were invincible existences that ruled the Nine Worlds and all its inhabitants. For millions and millions of years, countless geniuses, both old and young, aspired and dreamed of the day where they could shoulder the Heaven's Will and become an emperor.

Yet this young man said that it was very boring being an Immortal Emperor. Anyone would think that he was crazy upon hearing this.

However, the woman was an open-minded person on top of having great knowledge, so after hearing his reply, she didn't laugh at Li Qiye but found it rather interesting instead, so she asked with a smile: "If it is boring to be an Immortal Emperor, then who do you want to be? Or rather, what position do you find interesting?"

"The dark hand behind the curtains." Li Qiye couldn't help but smile after noticing her interest and continued: "The person behind the countless eras, the one who controls the scenes for millions of years, manipulating the direction of the Nine Worlds — now that is interesting."

"The dark hand behind the curtains? The one who controls the scenes and manipulates the direction of the Nine Worlds?" The woman jolted after hearing his answer, repeating his words while in a daze. This

kind of thinking was quite surprising and interesting. To be the person behind the curtains instead of an Immortal Emperor.

The woman calmed down and began to playfully joke with the little man: “Then would even Godkings have to serve this person behind the curtains?”

Li Qiye couldn’t help but take another look at this patient woman playing along with him: “Godkings? They are nothing. If I was the person behind the curtains, then even Immortal Emperors would come from my tutelage. Training one or two Immortal Emperors would be very ordinary.”

The woman was at a loss for words once again since this one phrase was more outrageous than the previous. Throughout history, who would dare to utter such arrogant words? Teaching one or two Immortal Emperors? The woman felt that one couldn’t surpass the haughty attitude embedded in such a phrase.

However, how could she know that Li Qiye was simply telling the truth? For tens of millions of years, Li Qiye had been the Dark Crow behind the curtains; how could anyone know of his past deeds unless they were his followers?

The woman broke into a smile and said: “So to say, anyone who could sit in this room would all be unbeatable Godkings, peerless True Gods, or Immortal Emperors?” She didn’t sneer at him since she found his ideas to be very interesting. No one would dare to say what he had said.

In fact, in her eyes, she felt that although there were many geniuses right now in the Stone Medicine World, no youth would dare to declare such bombastic rhetoric, outside of the young man in front of her.

Chapter 623: The Past Is Gone With The Wind

Li Qiye glanced at her again and nodded his head, saying: “You can put it that way. Unfortunately, you weren’t born in that era so you couldn’t see it with your own eyes.”

She couldn’t help but play along when the young man answered in such a serious manner: “What kind of era was it?”

Li Qiye looked at her and smiled. He was taking a journey back in time. After a while, he slowly spoke: “That era was the calm after an endless war; the peace that was earned after bathing the Nine Worlds in blood. During that era, when I closed my eyes, the world lost its colors; when I opened my eyes, I gave the radiance back to the realms. In that era, the world was radiant when I was happy, and myriad races trembled beneath my rage. Even the most unbeatable mythical races and invincible existences that could sweep through the realms retreated before my presence. No matter who they might be, if they chose to oppose me, then either stand out and let me massacre them or slumber forever with their tails tucked between their legs!” After this prose, Li Qiye opened his eyes as a cold glare flashed across his pupils.

The woman sitting by the table saw a stunning illusion the moment she caught this glare flashing from his eyes. It was as if she was seeing an overlord sitting above the nine heavens — unbeatable across the ages!

Behind him was a sea of blood filling the sky with endless wailing as millions of enemies were completely massacred by him. He reigned over that era and suppressed all existences that blocked his path, no matter who they were. At that moment, he was determined to accomplish his goal even if it meant killing the rest of the world!

After a while, Li Qiye couldn't help but rest his eyes again and let out a soft sigh. Recalling that era left him inadvertently fatigued.

The woman felt a distortion in time, prompting her to blurt out: "Why was there such an air of murder and hostility? Didn't all the races live together in peace?" She felt as if this young man had truly bathed the world in blood before.

Li Qiye slowly opened his eyes again to look at the woman: "For millions of years, there was one race that would not give up and would always raise its head once more. Then there were those fools and lineages who thought that a few existences would be able to restructure the order of the Nine Worlds. There is nothing left to say to these ignorant fools. Only with a bloodbath would we be able to make them understand that we are the rulers of this world!"

The woman couldn't help but force a smile after hearing Li Qiye's answer. She didn't know whether this matter was accurate or not, but she was infected by his atmosphere, causing her to join the play as well.

She accepted her role after calming down and looked at the young man ahead before jokingly asking: "If you said that Godkings were here awaiting their orders, then what is me sitting here considered?"

Li Qiye gazed at her and smiled: "Do you really want a position right here?" At this point, he looked outside with a carefree demeanor.

The woman was not in a rush and waited for Li Qiye to continue.

After a while, Li Qiye withdrew his gaze and glanced at her once more: "In the past, I had a divine beast that pulled my chariot. If you want a position, then you can be my driver."

The woman was secretly unhappy. Although she was not supreme by any means, she had a great status, so now when the young man asked her to be a driver, it was the same as humiliating her.

Li Qiye didn't mind her and continued on: "I like having a female driver. Women are careful and good at controlling speed so the rides are always very comfortable. I had many female drivers before, and I felt that they had done a very commendable job."

With great annoyance, she wanted to dispute him, but she rethought it instead and all her anger suddenly disappeared. Why the need to argue with him? This young man was only too immersed in his dramatic play.

"I can't handle such a position." Finally, the woman said with a touch of displeasure. Others would surely consider Li Qiye insane, but this woman had a great temper and tolerance so she didn't mind the minor details.

Li Qiye noticed her expression and smilingly asked: "You feel that being a driver is an affront to you?" Li Qiye continued on slowly: "Being my driver is an honor; those who can stay by my side are all loyal subjects. In this world, what are so great about Virtuous Paragons? People who are capable of creating

their countries or being deified? I could send out any of my followers, even a driver, and they would be enough to suppress a God-Monarch!”

“Okay, I know you sit above the nine heavens and govern the Nine Worlds, but I really don’t fit such an amazing position.” The woman snappily replied.

Li Qiye looked at her and only chuckled without saying anything else. He stood up and couldn’t help but look around the room, sighing with a complicated heart. However, this trip to this old house had made him feel better.

Eventually, he was getting ready to leave.

The woman couldn’t help but ask: “You are leaving?”

Li Qiye didn’t turn around and disappeared into the night.

The woman was stunned for a while. The young man’s words were too outrageous, so outrageous that others would label him as insane! She herself thought that he was too deep in his own delusions.

However, the expression that he showed as he left didn’t resemble an actor or a deranged maniac. This young man was a person with a story.

The woman sat there contemplating the events that had just transpired. During the late night, a young man suddenly appeared and treated this house like his own home, then he continued on to spew out some crazy spiel.

After a long time, she regained her composure and shook her head with a smile to dispel all unnecessary thoughts. Tonight, she came to this house to sort out her worries. This had been her habit whenever she faced trouble and needed some time for quiet contemplation.

Li Qiye left the house but didn’t go back to the capital right away. Instead, he took a stroll through the nearby area instead. Sometimes he rode waves or climbed a mountain. Other times, he might be flying over the sky of an ancient city...

Li Qiye’s wound had finally recovered, and he was finally able to be alone after leaving Jadeblood Mountain. He took his time traveling around the Giant Bamboo Country to the same places that he had been to in the past.

Sad sentiments filled his heart when he arrived at the place where he had met Yan’er. He had trained her and let her stay by his side.

The beginning of that era was a time of unhappiness for Li Qiye. At that time, he ordered many wise sages to sweep through the Nine Worlds and commanded his God-Monarchs to massacre many lineages and races. The war raged on until the remnants of the Ancient Ming Race finally lay dormant in this world.

His victory was a foregone conclusion at that point during the war. For millions of years, he had participated in many arduous battles and the most tragic of wars. Especially during the era of the Ancient Ming, countless people by his side fell one by one, but he still carried on strong.

Therefore, this conquest was not considered large in scale compared to the previous ones in his life. However, too much blood was spilled in this conquest. Li Qiye ordered the massacre of lineages, even those that belonged to the human, charming spirit, and golem races.

He suddenly felt tired during the aftermath; this came as a surprise to him after millions of years had passed. Even during the most miserable eras, Li Qiye didn't feel the same level of dejection. The main difference was that during the past eras, wise sages from the human race were his comrades, but during this conquest, he had pointed his butcher's blade towards human tribes.

Many people didn't want to ever talk about this conquest, but Li Qiye had no choice except to order for the massacre of the Nine Worlds. At that time, nothing could stop his determination since he swore to never give up until he disposed of all the remnants of the Ancient Ming. He didn't care whether they lay dormant in a tribe or hid in some sects since he stomped even the most powerful tribes and lineages in order to kill these Ancient Ming.

He didn't want to go back to the era of the Ancient Ming since that era was concluded with countless corpses. Numerous wise sages, both young and old that belonged to all the races, participated in that war in order to end the Ancient Ming Era and herald the start of the prosperous Emperors Era. Because of this, he didn't mind killing any existence that dared to protect the remaining Ancient Ming.

After this conquest, Li Qiye grew weary and traveled alone around the Nine Worlds. At that time, his mood was quite sour. Just like he had said, during his happy times, the Nine Worlds would shine, but when he became angry, myriad races trembled in fear.

Later on, he came to this world and met a girl who was as gentle as water — optimistic and tolerant, meticulous and considerate.

Upon their first meeting, it started with curiosity, then came her thoughtful accommodation... During that time, she had always been taking care of him; his foulest temper was met with forgiveness.

During this period, not too many people dared to stay near him as he raged, but she was always by his side, willing to suffer his wrath!

This girl was allowed to stay near the Dark Crow as he personally trained her! After a long time, Li Qiye finally escaped his unhappiness while the girl continued to follow him.

[spoiler title='623 Teaser']Li Qiye glanced at her again and nodded his head, saying: "You can put it that way. Unfortunately, you weren't born in that era so you couldn't see it with your own eyes."

She couldn't help but play along when the young man answered in such a serious manner: "What kind of era was it?"

Li Qiye looked at her and smiled. He was taking a journey back in time. After a while, he slowly spoke: "That era was the calm after an endless war; the peace that was traded for bathing the Nine Worlds in blood. During that era, when I closed my eyes, the world lost its colors; when I opened my eyes, I gave the radiance back to the realms. In that era, the world glowed when I was happy, and myriad races trembled beneath my rage. Even the most unbeatable mythical races and invincible existences that could sweep through the realms retreated before my presence. No matter who they might be, if they chose to oppose me, then either stand out and let me massacre them or slumber forever with their tails

tucked between their legs!” After this prose, Li Qiye opened his eyes as a cold glare flashed across his pupils.

Chapter 624: Arrogant Girl

It wasn't until later when Li Qiye — inside the Dark Crow — weakened that he entered a deep slumber. At the very last minute, he especially called for her. He told her that if she wanted to seal herself as well for a long slumber, he would give her a hand.

However, the girl gently answered: “Master, this world is full of hardships and the path towards the grand dao is paved with bitterness. I am already very satisfied to have spent so much time with you as we saw many colorful things in this world together. I am already content, so why the need to seal myself underground and never see the light again?”

Afterward, Li Qiye didn't force the girl as he entered his deep sleep, never to see her again. Meanwhile, she went back to her old abode and established a country for the soldiers who had followed them to battle; this country was named the Giant Bamboo Country.

While crossing the rivers and mountains under the moonlight, Li Qiye let himself be consumed by memories for a long time before calming down. All these emotions eventually subsided and disappeared.

Tens of millions of years had passed through the vicissitudes and storms of life. The pain had become layers of calluses that encompassed his heart and ran through his blazing blood.

Tens of millions of years had passed as countless rains were drenched with the stench of blood and eternal farewells — Li Qiye had already gotten used to all of this.

Today, he simply became emotional from returning to an old place as his red-hot heart under all the calluses quivered.

He finally smiled while standing under the sky of this land; all the sadness dispersed with the wind.

“Bang, bang, bang!” While Li Qiye was looking at the scenery, a series of thunderous rumbles appeared behind him.

He turned around and saw a horse carriage flying fast in the air. This old carriage carried an insignia with the image of a bow. It was very ancient as if it had been through countless years. This carriage approached quickly like a bolt of lightning while emitting blaring noises. This old carriage almost struck Li Qiye as the driver at the helm shouted: “Get out of the way!”

“Whoosh!” A whip lashed towards Li Qiye like a serpent. However, the driver was not going to be successful whether he intended to lash him flying or have the whip coil around him and fling him away.

The moment the whip got close, Li Qiye put on a serious expression and pulled hard as he swept away the driver who was holding onto the whip.

“Boom!” The driver had yet to regain his mind before both him and the whip were sent down from the sky.

Meanwhile, the chariot was about to slam into Li Qiye at high velocity, but Li Qiye paid it no mind and simply swung his sleeve.

“Boom!” Both the carriage and the horse were blown away in the air.

As the carriage was about to break from the downward crash, a scowl emanated from inside. A soaring blood energy stabilized the carriage, sweeping through the world like a tsunami as it flew towards Li Qiye.

Li Qiye didn't move and stood there calmly like a pillar shouldering the heavens.

“Boom!” This tsunami of blood energy couldn't move Li Qiye at all.

A cold and arrogant voice came from the carriage: “No wonder why you dared to touch my carriage, it seems that you have some skill.” The clear and frigidly arrogant voice gave chills to all listeners.

The carriage's door was opened and a girl walked outside. She carried an arrogant and imposing aura, especially when she looked down from above.

‘Shaming both flowers and the moon’ was not enough to describe her beauty. She was as prideful as a noble phoenix. She was adorned with an archery dress and had an indomitable spirit amidst her arrogance. Her eyes were as bright as the stars in the night.

No one in this world could enter her eyes. Such a bossy atmosphere made others feel that she was a noble daughter who was used to pointing her fingers and getting her way.

This girl was like a phoenix who flew out of her golden nest with a noble bloodline. Everything in this world was below her, so she could only look down on them.

However, this arrogant girl wasn't only a pretty phoenix with dazzling feathers and a curvaceous body with alluring features, she also had the qualifications to act in this supercilious manner.

Her tsunami-like blood energy proved that she was fairly strong on top of having a noble background. It was difficult for such a person to not have some arrogance, especially when she had the skills to back it up.

Perhaps her noble background could even scare someone to death!

With a glance, Li Qiye immediately knew that this girl was a golem, a golem with a complete human body, and it was one from birth at that, so it was easy to imagine how great her origin must be.

To be born with a complete flesh and blood body... Perhaps her ancestor was an extremely heaven-defying existence, maybe even an Immortal Emperor.

The arrogant girl's eyes narrowed after seeing Li Qiye just standing there without answering; she asked coldly: “I'm talking to you, you hear me?”

Her focused eyes were as sharp as arrows. Even the slightest change wouldn't be able to elude them.

After hearing her harsh inquiry, Li Qiye lazily looked at her and responded: “I hear you, what now?”

The arrogant girl coldly continued: “Daring to stop my path and flip over my carriage, what kind of punishment do you think is suitable? Will you obediently kneel and beg for forgiveness, or will you wait for me to break your hands?”

Li Qiye’s lips slightly perched after seeing her bossy attitude. He looked at her with one eye and said: “Is that so? Which eye of yours saw me blocking the road? This land is vast, so how can you say that this is your path? Does your house own it? I was standing right here so you were the blind one running into me. If you are suicidal, don’t bring someone else down with you! And now, you’re speaking as if you have the moral high ground? Do you think that you can act so cavalier just because you are strong or because you have a powerful family?”

“Of course. If you think you are so skilled, then I don’t mind... Since you don’t know life from death, do you want to break your hands yourself, or will you wait for me to take your head?” With that, Li Qiye lazily raised his hand.

When it came to arrogance, who in this world could be more outrageous than Li Qiye? Today, Li Qiye was in a bad mood already, so he didn’t mind assisting someone who wished to die.

The arrogant girl trembled from anger. She had always been arrogant on top of having enough power. No matter where she went, both the younger and older generations either gathered around to flatter her or ran away in droves.

Today, a guy out of nowhere had the nerve to bluster before her, so how could she not tremble from rage?

“Good, very good, well said.” The girl was driven to laughter from rage as she glared at Li Qiye and arrogantly said: “It seems that I am the unreasonable one. Very well, if you want to argue, then this young lady will entertain you. Don’t think that I am a bully! I won’t use my clan against a nobody junior like you!”

“Bully?” Li Qiye laughed and said: “Very well, if you want to settle this, then we can talk it out.”

He looked at her and slowly said: “You think you are reasonable? Acting in such an aggressive manner? A little girl like you who doesn’t try to build her character and instead acts like a phoenix raising its tail, don’t you feel like you are grossing other people out?”

“Aggressive?” The girl didn’t back down and coldly countered: “Which eye of yours saw me acting aggressively? I was only speeding along from north to south, so when was I acting like a bully? This is the vast sky with countless possible paths; I was only going down one of them, so how could that be aggressive in any way?”

Even Li Qiye was a bit surprised by her swift response. He didn’t expect that this haughty girl wasn’t slow-witted and was actually very quick and clever with her words.

The girl sneered and continued on: “Plus, even if I was acting like a phoenix raising its tail, what does that have to do with you? You are only a passerby so I can do whatever I want. This is my business, do I need to ask you for permission?”

This proud girl was not only pretty and strong, she also had a sharp tongue with a first class ability to debate. She had an imposing momentum, making it clear that she would not back down against anyone!

“I disgust you?” The girl added one last argument: “You are not even equal to an ant in my eyes, so who cares if you are disgusted or not? Should I care for your opinion?”

The proud girl was really cruel with her words and didn’t show any mercy at all. Anyone who was lacking even a little bit of confidence would run away at once.

Of course, Li Qiye, who had seen countless storms, was not afraid of anyone. He only smiled and said: “You are right about one thing — my opinion doesn’t matter to you. However, you are a girl standing here and running off your foul mouth, so how could we actually reason this out?”

Li Qiye was not a petty person and had always been more lenient towards girls. However, this leniency was limited to the girls who followed him; the sensible ones who had a sense of propriety.

As for the prideful, arrogant, and aggressive girls who always thought that they were right, Li Qiye didn’t mind being a villain and would not show them any face. He would dominate them with rude retorts.

Chapter 625: A Tongue As Sharp As A Blade

“Reason this out?” The arrogant girl sneered and said: “Oh, this bumpkin who started by attacking me wants to reason it out? Did you lose your confidence?”

“Lose my confidence?” Due to his bad mood, he was more than happy to deal with someone who was asking for it. He lazily looked at her and said: “An ugly farm girl like you thinks you can make me lose my confidence? I don’t see anything about you that can scare me. Your chest? You think your flat chest that resembles a basin can scare me? Or is it your ass that’s as dried as tofu? Or is it...”

Normally, Li Qiye wouldn’t act as crass as this, but who told this arrogant girl to encounter him while he was in a bad mood? Her aggressive and arrogant attitude made Li Qiye lose his will to act cordially.

The haughty girl turned red while trembling from anger. She was not only proud because of her strength, but also because of her beauty and figure. Even if she wasn’t number one in the Stone Medicine World, she would be within the top five!

She indeed had many suitors and admirers in the Stone Medicine World; it was a common sight for her to be surrounded by young talents like the moon encircled by the stars. They fawned over her in hopes of the slightest sign of affection or caring words.

But now, this nasty man dared to say that her chest was as flat as a basin and her butt was as withered as dried tofu — these words were very hurtful to girls.

The arrogant girl pointed at Li Qiye while shivering in anger: “You... Brat, what is your name? I want to kill you even though I have never killed a nobody before!”

Li Qiye was too lazy to bat an eye and said: “Oh? Angry from being ashamed? Earlier, you wanted to reason it out, but now you want to go back on your words? In my opinion, someone at your level should just go back to your mother’s arms and not come out to show off.

“Going back on your words and this untrustworthy... You must have just run out from some wilderness, right? At the very least, you don’t seem like someone who comes from a great clan. Disciples from great clans do not stoop down to this level. Staying true to one’s word is the most basic of etiquette for these great clans...”

“Of course, if you want to fight, then I’ll play along. After all, a village girl from the remote regions like you doesn’t know anything about credibility and trust. Such an uncultured girl like you only knows how to use force to solve problems. Okay okay, I will do it your way. Let us fight and use our fists to resolve our quarrel.”

Li Qiye continuously spewed out malicious words. However, he didn’t give a damn since this arrogant girl was not worthy enough for him to maintain a gentleman’s bearing. Moreover, he wouldn’t even look straight at such a girl, so why the need to maintain a courteous persona? His tolerance and friendliness were dependent on the other party.

“You!” The arrogant girl wanted to vomit blood due to anger. She had always been aggressive, but no one had ever dared to talk back to her, thus Li Qiye’s cruel rebuttal came as a shock.

She took a deep breath and finally contained her urge to kill as she stared at him with her arrow-like glare. She scowled and said: “Fine, today I will be a reasonable person and won’t hold what happened earlier against you. But in the future, you better not fall into my hands, or I’ll let you taste the cruel fate that awaits my opponents!” With that, the arrogant girl turned around and left very quickly. With a rumble, the carriage disappeared into the night.

Li Qiye didn’t bother to give her a second glance. He stretched his back and didn’t care for this matter. To him, it was even more insignificant than a speck of dust. With a gentle brush, this matter of the arrogant girl would be blown away; it was not enough to occupy his thoughts.

He looked at the scenery once more before murmuring: “Yan’er, with me here, the Giant Bamboo Country will continue to stand strong!” He then disappeared amidst the high moon.

That night, Li Qiye returned to Ancient Pine’s mansion back at the capital. He went back to his room and slept without thinking about anything else.

Of course, no one in the mansion knew that Li Qiye had gone on a sightseeing journey throughout the night.

The next day, Li Qiye lazily woke up. Since it was rare for him to return to the capital of the Giant Bamboo Country, he had quite a good night’s sleep.

A servant brought him a water basin to clean himself. Meanwhile, Bai Weng was waiting outside. Shi Hao woke up early as well and saw Bai Weng, so he also stood there, waiting with him.

Bai Weng greeted Li Qiye the moment he walked out: “Did Young Noble sleep well?” He felt that serving Li Qiye was an honor.

To an alchemist, following the future Alchemy Emperor was the greatest of glories. It was like an expert contributing to an Immortal Emperor. This would bring honor to their family!

“It wasn’t bad.” Li Qiye said with a grin. Only Li Qiye knew what happened last night.

Bai Weng respectfully said: “The demon monarch has not returned since he is meeting the other demon monarchs. I’m afraid he won’t be back till noon. He said that after coming back, he will take Young Noble to see Her Majesty.”

“There’s no rush.” Li Qiye smilingly said: “Today, we will go sightseeing. This is Shi Hao’s first time at the capital, so we should buy a few items for him. For an alchemist, skills might be important, but so are the cauldrons and other items that are also required to doing a good job at refining.”

Bai Weng quickly said: “If Young Noble wants to find a cauldron for Shi Hao, I can ask the monarch. He has a collection of good cauldrons so maybe one will be suitable for Shi Hao.”

Li Qiye shook his head and said: “No need, let me pick one.”

Bai Weng immediately knew that a regular cauldron wouldn’t earn Li Qiye’s grace, so he said: “I am very familiar with the capital and know of several shops with a lot of treasures. Let me lead the way so that Young Noble can pick.”

Shi Hao was startled after hearing the conversation between the other two. With some difficulty, he finally managed to step in and say: “Brother Li, I also want... a cauldron... but I don’t have many refined jades.”

Bai Weng couldn’t help but smile. He believed that if Li Qiye wasn’t paying, he would be happy to do so. Of course, he didn’t dare to make a decision before Li Qiye voiced his opinion.

Li Qiye smiled and said: “Don’t worry, it is nothing. Leave it to me.”

“But...” Shi Hao didn’t know what to say. Li Qiye had given him too many things; not only did Li Qiye teach him pill refinement, he but also took him to the capital. To say that Li Qiye gave him another chance at life wasn’t even close to enough. Shi Hao was a simple fella so he couldn’t articulate his gratitude well.

“No buts.” Li Qiye gently tapped Shi Hao’s shoulder and said: “You’ve earned it. If you want to thank me, then keep on working hard on your pill refinement and do not shame me. That would be the greatest thanks, understand?”

Shi Hao took a deep breath while tightly gripping his fists and spoke in the most serious of manners: “Brother Li, rest assured, I will do my best and be diligent!”

At this time, Bai Weng was very envious of Shi Hao. As the proverb says, fortune favors fools. Even if Shi Hao’s talents weren’t the best, his future would be bright with Li Qiye’s tutelage. Bai Weng had seen — with his own eyes — Li Qiye’s skill, so Shi Hao would surely become an amazing alchemist in the future.

“Let us go.” Li Qiye told the two and started walking. Shi Hao and Bai Weng quickly followed.

However, the moment the group took a step out from Ancient Pine’s mansion, they were stopped. It was a young man blocking Li Qiye’s path, someone with a very haughty appearance. He had more than ten disciples behind him.

The young man arrogantly asked: “You are that alchemist named Li, correct?”

Li Qiye didn’t bother to look at this type of crowd as he replied: “What if I am?”

The young man sneered: “I heard that you want to compete for the alchemist position? Haha, you better open your eyes so you don’t waste time. The candidates to participate in the Alchemy Conference

have already been decided, and you have no part in it. Be smart and quickly leave, don't dawdle at the capital."

Li Qiye lazily looked at the young man at this time and asked: "Competition for the alchemist position?"

The young man thought that Li Qiye got the message and sneered: "As long as you know. The capital isn't a place for a human with a dubious origin like you to stay around. It is a dangerous place, so you better be careful or else you'll lose your life. That would be unfortunate."

Although it sounded like a warning, it was clearly a threat towards Li Qiye.

Li Qiye burst out in laughter. Such a threat was not worthy of serious consideration, so he didn't even bother asking who the guy was.

Bai Weng was slightly taken aback by the young man. He was familiar with the people in the capital so he immediately knew the young man's identity after seeing the crest embroidered on his vest.

Bai Weng responded quickly by inserting himself in the middle of the young man and Li Qiye, then he raised his voice and said: "Young Noble Lie Jie, please return. Our Young Noble does not wish to see you."

[spoiler title='625 Teaser']"Reason this out?" The arrogant girl sneered and said: "Oh, this bumpkin who started by attacking me wants to reason it out? Did you lose your confidence?"

"Lose my confidence?" Due to his bad mood, he was more than happy to deal with someone who was asking for it. He lazily looked at her and said: "An ugly farm girl like you think you can make me lose my confidence? I don't see anything about you that can scare me. Your chest? You think your flat chest that resembles a basin can scare me? Or is it your ass that's as dried as tofu? Or is it..."

Normally, Li Qiye wouldn't act as crass as this, but who told this arrogant girl to encounter him while he was in a bad mood? Her aggressive and arrogant attitude made Li Qiye lose his will to act cordially.

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Chapter 626: Second Encounter With The Arrogant Girl

The young man immediately sneered, showing a cold and serious glare as he said: "You have some nerve for a servant! If you know who I am, then you should know that it would be nothing for me to end a servant like you. Scram, I have more to say to your master so that he will understand who this capital belongs to!"

If it was before, then Bai Weng would back down, but now was different. He didn't want Li Qiye to become annoyed and ruin all of their plans.

His expression dimmed as he said with a hardened attitude: "Young Noble Lie Jie, of course I know to whom this place belongs to. It is the territory of Her Majesty, the Demon King! If you have any issues with that, then go talk to the Ancient Pine Demon Monarch about it, but please take your leave right now." Bai Weng ended with a shooing gesture by swishing his sleeve.

With this gesture, a group of disciples surrounded the young man's group right away. Among them was Ancient Pine's oldest disciple who had a great bearing.

The oldest disciple coldly looked at the young man and said: "Young Noble Lie Jie, please go back and do not disturb our Young Noble. If not, then you can't blame us for any discourteous actions!"

The young man's expression became ugly at this threat, but Ancient Pine's disciples outnumbered his so he was at a disadvantage. He coldly glared at Li Qiye standing calmly to the side and deeply scowled.

Eventually, he pretended to be kind and smiled: "The capital is quite unpredictable. Watch out or you'll be caught up in the storm without any help. As someone who lives here year round, I am giving you a friendly reminder that it would be best if you leave the capital." With that, he turned around and left.

Bai Weng was quite unhappy with these threats. After the young man left, Bai Weng apologized to Li Qiye: "Young Noble, this was due to my lacking and I am ready to accept any punishment."

Li Qiye said dismissively: "It was only a little bickering, I am not that pompous."

Bai Weng continued on: "Don't worry, Young Noble, I will report this to the Demon King right away so that the people from the Lie Clan will not dare to cause trouble for Young Noble anymore."

To Bai Weng, Li Qiye was a peerless alchemist and a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. If he became unhappy and left, then Bai Weng wouldn't be able to bear the sin.

"More trouble?" Li Qiye laughed out loud and said: "If he wants more trouble, then let him come. I really like it when people come looking for trouble."

It was already a blessing that Li Qiye didn't go cause trouble, but now others wanted to provoke him? They could only be tired of living if that were the case.

Despite this answer, Bai Weng was still worried and reminded him: "Young Noble, that was the young noble of the Lie Clan. This clan is quite influential at the capital since they have a Fire Source; it's quite amazing."

"They have a Fire Source?" Li Qiye was slightly surprised and had to ask for confirmation.

Bai Weng quickly answered: "Yes. The Lie Clan became rich very early on, and they occupied a large piece of land in the middle of the capital. I heard that this was a treasure land with a Fire Source underground. Because of this, for some time now, the Lie Clan always produced amazing cauldrons, so they became quite good at alchemy. They are considered an alchemist clan in the capital."

Li Qiye couldn't help but smile after thinking about the Fire Source under the capital.

Bai Weng continued on: "The truth is that the Lie Clan in the Giant Bamboo Country is not considered a big power; their strength is not as great as a demon monarch's. However, it is worth mentioning that the Lie Clan and the Qing Clan, another alchemy clan in the country, are relatives. Sometimes, even the imperial family has to be cordial to the Qing Clan. Because of this, the Lie Clan became more arrogant from having this backing. But don't worry, this is not a big deal. With one word from Her Majesty, the Lie Clan wouldn't dare to touch Young Noble."

Li Qiye only chuckled and didn't say anything. To him, both the Lie and Qing Clans were only little characters not worthy of further inquiries. If these characters were smart, then they would stay far away from him, lest they suffer his crushing wrath!

Li Qiye, along with Shi Hao and Bai Weng, ventured into the commercial streets of the capital. Li Qiye smiled after seeing the busy avenue.

How many people knew that this prosperous capital was only a barren hill a long time ago? Once upon a time, this was an abandoned land with very few visitors.

It wasn't until a long time later when Li Qiye planted a bamboo tree then collected some life force at this land that people began to migrate here. Then, after some more years, the Giant Bamboo Progenitor established her country and built the capital right here. A big city came from this, protecting the prosperous land inside.

Bai Weng was very familiar with the capital, so he led Li Qiye to several old shops to find a good cauldron for Shi Hao. However, after going to several shops, they still couldn't find a suitable one for him.

During their trip, Bai Weng only acted as the guide and didn't dare to voice his opinion. Li Qiye's alchemy skills far exceeded his, so his vision for picking cauldrons was definitely more qualified as well.

They went to another old shop. Bai Weng left for a while as Li Qiye and Shi Hao looked around in the shop. The owner recommended several decent cauldrons that had great backgrounds, but they also couldn't enter Li Qiye's sight.

As for Shi Hao, he remained silent the whole time. He had limited knowledge as a Junior Alchemist. He felt that an ordinary cauldron was already very good. As for those with great backgrounds, he didn't even dare to imagine owning one. Li Qiye was in complete control during this shopping trip.

After they finished looking around, Bai Weng ran back while being completely out of breath. He quickly spoke to Li Qiye: "Young Noble, I went and asked around. There is an auction at the Golem Square. The first half of this big auction will contain a Heavenly Cauldron. It has already been running for a while now, but I obtained some tickets. Do you want to go and take a look?"

After hearing Bai Weng, the old shop's owner added: "The Golem Square is not only auctioning one cauldron."

When they reached the store, Bai Weng secretly told the owner that Li Qiye was an honored guest of Ancient Pine. Who in the capital didn't know Ancient Pine, one of the eighteen monarchs? Thus, the owner immediately understood that Li Qiye was an extremely esteemed customer.

The owner provided an introduction to the auction: "I heard that the place is auctioning two cauldrons. The first is in the beginning half as the main draw. The second has an unknown origin since the square won't release it to the public. However, people say that its origin could scare people to death! It is placed at the end of the auction. Only honored guests will be able to participate in this latter half."

Li Qiye stroked his chin and mused: "Scare people to death, hmm?" He wanted to see just what this cauldron might be.

Bai Weng was good at reading people. Otherwise, he wouldn't have gone to ask for more information at the Golem Square and obtain an entrance ticket for Li Qiye.

"Do you want to go, Young Noble?" Bai Weng asked.

Li Qiye smiled and answered: "Yes, we should go take a look at this cauldron with the frightening origin."

The purpose of this trip was to find a cauldron for Shi Hao. The best places to find cauldrons for alchemists were the most dangerous locations.

However, Shi Hao's cultivation was limited and couldn't go to these dangerous places, so Li Qiye decided that he would buy a good one for him.

The Golem Square was the biggest auction site in the capital. All the items here were either amazing or had a great origin.

Not just anyone could participate in the Golem Square's auction. For each of their auctions, they would release a limited amount of tickets. Only those with tickets were eligible to participate, and only the rich or the powerful were able to obtain these tickets.

It had to be said that Bai Weng was very attentive since it was not easy to grab a ticket from the square in such a short amount of time.

The auction had already started before the group arrived. There were all kinds of strange birds and carriages outside. Just from this sight, it was apparent that all the participants were quite influential.

Not long after their arrival, there was a rumbling in the sky as a carriage trod the sky above and landed at the square.

The carriage stopped and a girl stepped out. The moment she saw Li Qiye, her eyes became sharp like an arrow.

"The road is always narrow for enemies!" The girl coldly said.

Bai Weng was aghast and had quivering legs the moment he saw the crest on the carriage.

Li Qiye heard her voice and turned around to see this girl glaring at him, so he calmly asked: "Who are you? Do I know you?"

Li Qiye's attitude made the girl tremble with rage. She was the arrogant girl that Li Qiye had met last night. Li Qiye pretending to not know who she was was a bit exaggerated, but he really didn't pay her any mind. If he hadn't met her again today, then he would have already forgotten about last night's encounter.

The arrogant girl was even more furious because Li Qiye was acting as if he didn't even remember her. This enraged her even more than when he chose to oppose her!

Chapter 627: Golem Square

Who was she? She came from a noble lineage, a phoenix among women, a heaven's proud daughter on top of having exceptional beauty with countless admirers, including princes and prodigies. In the

Alchemy Realm and the Stone Medicine World, many lost sleep thinking about her at night, then they lost their minds upon seeing her, never able to forget her beauty afterward.

Yet last night, this brat again and again chose to oppose her in such a blustering manner. And today, he was even acting like he didn't know who she was!

His attitude humiliated her and made her want to kill him even more than back when he was spewing out cruel and crude words.

Eventually, the prideful girl took a deep breath and contained her urge to kill. If Li Qiye was going to act like a "stranger", then she would also display the most arrogant posture to meet him. With that, she exhibited a noble and out-of-reach demeanor; anyone who saw her at this moment would lower their heads. She was already extremely powerful, so with this arrogant aura, others thought that she was a jewel or a goddess on the moon.

She looked down with contempt at Li Qiye as if he was an ant or an insignificant passerby. After glaring at him, she didn't bother looking at him a second time and turned around to disappear into the Golem Square.

Her oppressive aura caused Bai Weng and Shi Hao to shiver. The two were not like Li Qiye, so they had to bend their backs as they were unable to withstand her aura.

After she left, they were finally able to heave a sigh of relief. Earlier, they felt as if there was a huge mountain crushing down on them, rendering them breathless. With her departure, they were finally able to see the sun again.

Bai Weng regained his composure while still quivering a bit. Seeing Li Qiye wanting to enter the square, he quickly pulled on Li Qiye's sleeve and asked: "Young Noble, do you know the identity of that lady earlier?"

"Identity?" Li Qiye spoke leisurely since he didn't care too much for these things.

His nonchalant attitude left Bai Weng speechless. He didn't know if Li Qiye was slow or just extremely supercilious.

Bai Weng took a deep breath and whispered: "Young Noble, that little miss was a person from the Jian Clan. If I am correct, then she is the golden daughter of the Jian Clan." [1. Jian = Arrow.]

"So what?" Li Qiye responded in a carefree manner. He didn't care for the arrogant girl's origin.

"So what...?" Bai Weng couldn't help but raise his tone since he was scared to death.

Shi Hao, on the other hand, stuttered: "That... that... 'Number One Arrow'... the Jian Clan?"

Bai Weng quickly replied: "How many Jian Clans do we have in the Alchemy Realm outside of the Number One Arrow — the Jian Clan?"

Afterward, he reminded Li Qiye: "Young Noble, the Jian Clan is an imperial lineage created by Immortal Emperor Diyi Jian. It is a renowned and monstrous existence in our Alchemy Realm."

He was afraid that Li Qiye didn't know the strength of the Jian Clan and continued on: "Although our Giant Bamboo Country is quite strong, we are far weaker than the Jian Clan. Their influence reaches far and wide and they also have more than ten domains the size of our country."

"So what?" Li Qiye still uttered the same phrase.

Bai Weng was completely lost. What else could he say if Li Qiye didn't even put the Jian Clan in his eyes? Li Qiye then continued on without a care: "Okay, ignore that Jian Clan, we can enter now."

Not caring didn't mean that he didn't know about the Jian Clan. With amazing power, Immortal Emperor Diyi Jian, alone, created this clan in the Alchemy Realm. [1. Diyi Jian = Number One Arrow.]

The emperor was a mixed-blood golem. At a young age, he was adept at using the bow and used it to test his dao. Eventually, he became an Immortal Emperor shouldering the Heaven's Will.

The art of the bow and arrow was quite rare among true experts, but the emperor actually reached the apex using such a style. This was indicative of how amazing he was, so his title, 'Number One Arrow', was true to reality. During the era where the emperor reigned with his unbeatable arrow, there was a legend that he used just one arrow to kill an immortal. Of course, this was only a legend and no one knew whether it was true or not.

Li Qiye, Bai Weng, and Shi Hao entered the Golem Square. The first half of the auction was almost over, and the featured treasure finally came out.

A Heavenly Cauldron was carried into the room. It resembled a Vermillion Bird standing on one foot with its mouth opened towards the sky. One could feel hot air blowing about violently as if the cauldron contained the most tyrannical flame in this world.

"This is a Heavenly Cauldron." The auctioneer introduced after the cauldron was brought out: "It has an amazing origin. It came into being in a distant southern cave in the Alchemy Realm that housed a Heavenly Flame. Its Fire Source is one of the fiercest of them all — the Vermillion Divine Flame!"

Because the Stone Medicine World had the most alchemists, a lot of them were present as well. Many of them drew breaths after hearing this: "The Vermillion Divine Flame!"

This Fire Source was the finest to alchemists, so this cauldron was a true treasure.

Bai Weng was also astonished as he gazed at the cauldron after hearing the announcement. He felt that this was a priceless treasure; if he could obtain such a thing, it would be a satisfaction that lasted for a lifetime.

An alchemist skeptically asked: "Is this real or fake?"

The auctioneer responded in a serious manner: "I swear upon the reputation of the Golem Square. This cauldron was identified by our three alchemists, so the Fire Source of this cauldron is definitely the Vermillion Divine Flame!"

"What is the starting bid?" A young man stood up and asked: "This cauldron will be mine for sure!"

The roads were indeed narrow for enemies. This young man was the descendant of the Lie Clan that blocked Li Qiye's path early this morning — Lie Jie.

His arrogant attitude was a cause for annoyance, but the Lie Clan had deep pockets. An alchemy clan never lacked money.

“Since everyone likes it so much...” The auctioneer immediately said: “Then we can start. There is no starting bid, feel free to name your price.”

After Lie Jie heard that any bid was fine, he took the initiative: “I bid 5,000 Heavenly Sovereign Refined Jades!”

Another alchemist gave his bid: “I bid 6,000 Heavenly Sovereign Refined Jades!”

Another great character from a prestigious clan voiced his interest: “I also bid 6,000 Heavenly Sovereign Refined Jades, but they are of the Jewel Sovereign grade.”

In general, when it came to refined jades, jades of the Heavenly Sovereign level meant that they were of the lowest grade — Little Sovereign Refined Jades. Unless further specified, this was true for all the levels; they would start at the lowest grade.

While others were starting a bidding war, Bai Weng asked Li Qiye with a blazing gaze: “How is this Heavenly Cauldron?”

He felt that this was already of the finest grade and was completely suitable for Shi Hao.

Li Qiye only gave it a glance and said: “Not bad.”

“Not bad... only not bad...?” Bai Weng couldn’t help but stutter: “But the Fire Source of... this... cauldron is a Vermillion Divine Flame!”

Bai Weng didn’t know what to say to Li Qiye. In his eyes, this was the best of cauldrons, but Li Qiye only said “not bad”. This was the gap between the two.

Li Qiye didn’t hold any interest for the cauldron before him. It was not worth wasting his time for, so he said: “When are they auctioning the other cauldron?”

Bai Weng arched his chin over to the right and said: “It will be in the second half of the auction over there. Only the most honored guests, those who bought three items from the first half or paid the fee of 8,000 Heavenly Sovereign Refined Jades, would be eligible to enter. Of course, honored guests are not required to participate in the first half.”

Li Qiye said: “Then we’ll wait for the second half, there is nothing to see here.” With that, he started walking away.

“But—” Bai Weng was taken aback. However, Li Qiye had already started to walk towards the entrance, so Shi Hao and him quickly ran to catch up.

There were guards beside the entrance of the room where the second half of the auction was taking place. Li Qiye was immediately stopped when he arrived there.

Two guards blocked his path while one of them coldly said: “Friend, please show the Noblest Writ. If you don’t have it, then please leave.”

"I don't have one." Li Qiye leisurely said: "But you guys should be welcoming me inside. This would be an honor for your Golem Square after all."

Li Qiye was so arrogant that it caused the two guards' expressions to darken. One coldly spoke: "Are you looking for trouble?"

The other one sneered and said: "You should look at where you are standing before looking for trouble. You are at the wrong place!" With that, his hand stretched towards Li Qiye.

Chapter 628: My Time Is Very Precious

The truth was that this sort of thing was no big deal to the auction house. If it happened, then they would only have to teach the perpetrator a good lesson then kick them out. The Golem Square was quite powerful, so they weren't afraid of anyone.

"Boom!" Li Qiye didn't move at all while the two guards were blown away. With a series of bangs, the two guards shot through several large walls of the auction house before finally reaching the street.

This commotion caused an uproar in the auction room as everyone turned around; some were even startled, and one person shouted: "What is going on?"

The finale of the first half was suddenly stopped. The auctioneer was especially shocked to see such a situation.

At this location, Lie Jie also saw Li Qiye, so he sneered: "So it is that ignorant and suicidal human."

Dozens of experts from the auction house rushed over to surround Li Qiye's group of three. Bai Weng and Shi Hao were frightened pale and had painful expressions. This was going to be bad.

At this moment, a person who appeared to be the manager walked out with a cold expression full of murderous intent.

The auction was now paused, and many people were looking at Li Qiye. Lie Jie then used this opportunity to fan the flames: "Sovereign Hu, teach this blind boy a lesson! Break his limbs and hang him outside the city walls so that he won't ever dare to think that the Golem Square is a place for him to show off!"

It was no wonder that Lie Jie hated Li Qiye. He was originally one of the chosen candidates to participate in the Alchemy Conference for the Giant Bamboo Country. Who would have thought that last night, news came that he was temporarily rejected? The Lie Clan asked around and heard some rumors. The problem was because of Li Qiye, so Lie Jie immediately went to cause trouble for him early in the morning.

Lie Jie was happy to see Li Qiye not knowing any better and causing trouble in the Golem Square. This was called ignoring the accepting heavens and barging into the unwelcoming hell!

Manager Hu of the Golem Square stepped in front of Li Qiye. He was called Sovereign Hu because he was a Heavenly Sovereign. An auction house with a manager at this level was quite incredible, and its might was apparent.

Manager Hu spoke coldly: "Friend, if you want to do business, then we very much welcome you. However, if you want to cause trouble, I'm afraid you came to the wrong place."

Li Qiye relaxedly said: "You are right, I came for business, but those items are not worthy of my consideration so I wanted to go upstairs for a look. However, it seems that you guys don't want to do business, so if you'll excuse me, I'm not a person who holds back."

Li Qiye's proud attitude caused the auction participants to chatter with each other in a low voice. They wondered where this human came from to act so boisterously in the Golem Square.

Lie Jie sneered and said: "Hahaha, a no-name junior like you still wants to participate in the second half? Give up on this thought, that place isn't meant for poor brats like you. Fool! Daring to cause trouble in the Golem Square? You are tired of living!"

He didn't forget to incite trouble so that the square would teach Li Qiye a good lesson.

Manager Hu's eyes sharpened with killing intent as he said: "Friend, are you purposely causing trouble?"

Li Qiye was too lazy to argue with the manager so he threw out a treasure box and nonchalantly said: "Don't waste my time, tell your superior to come out. The second half is about to start."

Manager Hu caught the box and opened it for a look, then he immediately closed it. Aghast, he held it carefully with both hands and immediately ordered someone standing next to him: "Quick, go invite the ancestor!"

Such a sudden development astounded everyone. It all happened too quickly because just a second ago, Manager Hu still wanted to teach Li Qiye a lesson.

In a short amount of time, an old man with pure white hair approached. His blood energy was hidden, but him merely standing there gave off the feeling of a mountain's immensity.

Manager Hu quickly gave the old man the box with a serious expression and also whispered in the old man's ear.

After hearing what the manager said, the old man opened the box and was completely shocked. He also quickly closed it.

He bowed his head towards Li Qiye and said: "Our Golem Square's people have eyes but can't see Mt. Tai. This old man is apologizing for any offense that Young Noble might have received. Your arrival at the Golem Square is our honor and allows the square to become much more radiant."

This sudden change left both the buyers and the others in the room stunned, especially those who knew this old man beforehand, they all had to take deep breaths. This old man had a great background and had been renowned since several years ago. With his protection, no one had ever dared to come and mess with the Golem Square.

But now, his respectful attitude towards Li Qiye was simply unbelievable. People were curious and wondered what was inside the box.

Bai Weng and Shi Hao were surprised as well. Just what could be inside the box to cause the square to change its attitude by this much?

Li Qiye said slowly: "Okay, no more nonsense. I came to pick up a couple of things and heard that your auctions have decent items in the second half. Now begin, don't waste everyone's time."

"Of course." The old man quickly replied then asked Manager Hu: "Manager Hu, how is the first half of the auction?"

Manager Hu answered: "Right now, we are auctioning the featured item, the cauldron. It had just begun."

The auctioneer added: "The current highest bidder is the Young Noble from the Lie Clan with 16,000 Heavenly Sovereign Refined Jades."

Li Qiye glanced at Lie Jie then told the auctioneer: "I want this cauldron."

There was already a feud between the two, so after hearing Li Qiye, Lie Jie's expression sank as he coldly said: "Right now, I am the highest bidder. Since it is an auction, you should follow its rules. Don't tell me you want to bypass the rules and buy it at a cheap price?"

Li Qiye was too lazy to look at Lie Jie as he spoke: "16,000 Heavenly Sovereign Refined Jades?" He told the auctioneer: "I bid 100 Virtuous Paragon Refined Jades."

"100 Virtuous Paragon Refined Jades!" Li Qiye's bid caused quite a stir as everyone stared intensely at him.

Bai Weng and Shi Hao lost their minds as well. These were Virtuous Paragon Refined Jades; they had never seen such a grade before.

Although refined jades could be exchanged, that was only in principle. It was virtually impossible to see such a transaction in reality unless one was exchanging jades of a higher grade for ones of a lower grade, or else it would be at a very unfavorable ratio.

For example, using a Virtuous Paragon Refined Jade to trade for lesser ones such as jades of the Heavenly King or Heavenly Sovereign grade... There would surely be many people who would happily make this deal.

However, if one wanted to use these lower grade jades to exchange for a Virtuous Paragon Refined Jade, it would be very difficult even if they offered a higher price than the market standard.

For cultivators, higher grade refined jades were extremely hard to come by, especially those of the Virtuous Paragon level. Almost all of them were monopolized by monsters such as imperial lineages. Great powers who had Virtuous Paragon jades were either extremely strong or had their ancestors accumulate them over a very long period of time.

Everyone felt that Li Qiye was too outrageous. One hundred Virtuous Paragon Refined Jades to buy a Heavenly Cauldron — what could be crazier than this?

Li Qiye looked at Lie Jie and asked: "Do you still want to bid?"

At this time, Lie Jie's expression was extremely ugly. Although the Lie Clan was very rich, he couldn't take out Virtuous Paragon Refined Jades. It wouldn't be easy for his clan either.

Li Qiye lazily said: "Okay, if no one else wants to bid higher, then let it be done."

Li Qiye's arrogance left everyone helpless. Many alchemists present also wanted this cauldron, but bidding one hundred Virtuous Paragon Refined Jades or more was too crazy!

"No, no, no." The old man quickly gave the refined jades back to Li Qiye and said: "If Young Noble wants this Heavenly Cauldron, then we'll just gift it to you. It is only a little present, it's not worth anything."

"Very well." Li Qiye looked at the old man and said: "Since you have such goodwill, I will sincerely do business with you."

The old man's first order of business was to gift the cauldron with a Vermillion Divine Flame Fire Source to Li Qiye. Everyone was astonished; just what was it that made the old man so generous?

Shi Hao and Bai Weng were scared silly. A cauldron with the value of one hundred Virtuous Paragon Refined Jades was given away with just one phrase; this was too unbelievable. They couldn't understand the life of the rich.

The old man personally led Li Qiye into the place where the second half of the auction was taking place.

It was even more extravagant and luxurious. Each honored guest had their own room where they could clearly see the auction stage.

Here, one could choose to sit on the balcony in the open and feel the atmosphere of the auction. And if they didn't wish to show their face, they could just stay in the room and be out of sight.

The old man led Li Qiye into his private room. When Li Qiye sat down, the Heavenly Cauldron was already packaged.

The old man personally handed it over to Li Qiye and said: "Just a small gift."

"I'll happily accept it then." Li Qiye accepted the cauldron and didn't bother looking at it as he handed it over to Bai Weng, calmly saying: "Bai Weng, you have worked hard as my guide, so this cauldron is for you."

The old man was not surprised at all to see Li Qiye's action. If he could take out that thing, then it made sense that the cauldron was nothing to him.

However, it was different for Bai Weng. He shivered in shock and stammered: "For... for... me?"

It was the most precious item he had ever received in his life!

[spoiler title='628 Teaser']The truth was that this sort of thing was no big deal to the auction house. If it happened, then they would only have to teach the perpetrator a good lesson then kick them out. The Golem Square was quite powerful, so they weren't afraid of anyone.

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This commotion caused an uproar in the auction room as everyone turned around; some were even startled and one person shouted: "What is going on?"

The finale of the first half was suddenly stopped. The auctioneer was especially shocked to see such a situation.

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At this moment, a person who appeared to be the manager walked out with a cold expression full of murderous intent.

The auction had stopped and many people were looking at Li Qiye. Lie Jie then used this opportunity to fan the fire: "Venerable Hu, teach this blind boy a lesson! Break his limbs and hang him outside the city walls as an example so that he won't ever dare to think that the Golem Square is a place for him to show off!"

Chapter 629: Auction

Li Qiye quite liked Bai Weng. In addition to being an alchemist, his experience and insight were both very rich. Li Qiye had decided that Bai Weng would be the guide for Shi Hao, so he said: "When Shi Hao joins the palace for training later on, he will need you to watch over him."

"Rest assured, Young Noble, I will take good care of Shi Hao!" Bai Weng solemnly stated his commitment.

At this time, the old man from the square asked Li Qiye again in an earnest manner: "Young Noble, may I check it again?"

With Li Qiye's permission, the old man unlocked the seal on the box again and observed the item inside with a serious expression. He looked back and forth and even sniffed it as part of a very meticulous process.

Bai Weng and Shi Hao were also curious and wanted to see as well. However, it was blocked by the old man's hand, so they couldn't see it.

After finishing his check, the old man respectfully asked: "Will Young Noble sell this to the square, or do you want to auction it?"

"Auction." Li Qiye said: "I don't want refined jades, only other items. As long as others have things that can interest me, then I'll trade. But if not, then if the square has something I like, you guys may have it."

"I understand." The old man replied. He didn't find it strange at all since Li Qiye easily threw out one hundred Virtuous Paragon Refined Jades. With such a style, it meant that Li Qiye was not part of the nouveau riche or someone who got lucky with treasures along the way. He must have a great background.

The old man had seen countless people and knew that Li Qiye was as formidable as a dragon hiding in the depths of a swamp.

If Li Qiye didn't lack refined jades, then only unique treasures would be able to interest him.

The old man guaranteed Li Qiye: “Don’t worry, Young Noble, the Golem Square will not disappoint you. A few ancestors with earth-shattering backgrounds are coming to the auction, and I’m sure they will be interested in your item.”

Shi Hao and Bai Weng were both gasping after hearing this. The old man was referring to ancestors from great powers, and perhaps even those from imperial lineages. This type of character was extremely renowned, people they could never come into contact with.

“That would be good.” Li Qiye calmly said.

At this time, Manager Hu asked: “Ancestor, a few guests still haven’t arrived yet, should we start the second half now?”

The old man looked at Li Qiye then nodded his head and said: “Begin, time is precious. Those who are late will have to miss out on this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.”

Manager Hu obediently bowed and went to carry out the order while the old man carefully put the treasure box away. He told Li Qiye right afterward: “Just let us know if you need anything, Young Noble. I have to go take care of something now.”

Li Qiye nodded his head as the old man took his leave. There were only maids left in the room. A maid brought a tray forward with a plaque on it and told Li Qiye: “Young Noble, this is a token of friendship from our master. It is a ‘Noblest Writ’ from our Golem Square. We hope that you will visit us in the future.”

These writs were only given to Demon Kings and ancestors from the great powers with high status. Those who held these writs were the most esteemed guests of the square; ordinary people could never reach this level.

Bai Weng was very familiar with the capital, so he was shaken to see the square’s writ. In the country, even the eighteen monarchs didn’t have one, only the Demon King did. But now, the square gave Li Qiye one of them — this was being too generous.

Li Qiye didn’t bother looking at it and casually handed it over to Shi Hao.

Shi Hao was stunned since he had never held an item that represented such high status before in his life.

When the auctioneer stepped onto the stage, Li Qiye said as he sat on the balcony: “The auction is about to begin. Let us see what items the square can take out.”

Bai Weng and Shi Hao stood right behind him. This was their first time attending an auction of this level, so they were able to expand their horizons.

There were many private rooms as well as occupied balconies in this auction hall. Some rooms were pitch black with indistinct figures.

In this situation, many liked to show their face while others preferred to be hidden. However, regardless of their preference, they all had great backgrounds and fame.

Bai Weng, standing on the balcony, was able to recognize many big characters with his great knowledge, so he murmured: “Ninefingers Alchemist, the Flowing Water Valley’s Flood Dragon Monarch, the Heavenly Flame Stone-saint, the Giant Stone Royal Lord...”

However, among those on the balconies, there was only one person who Li Qiye was familiar with. A girl as arrogant as a phoenix displaying its fine feathers was in front of everyone.

This was the arrogant girl who had grievances against Li Qiye, the descendant of the Jian Clan — Jian Wushuang!

Jian Wushuang’s eyes became cold when she saw Li Qiye sitting on another balcony. She quickly shifted her glance away from this sight that annoyed her; of course she would not act friendly with him.

The auctioneer spoke while standing on the stage: “Honored guests, the auction today formally begins now. This just happens to be our annual auction, so the items this time will surely catch your interest. Our Golem Square wishes for everyone to have a fruitful venture so that you will not feel as if this was a wasted trip.”

The first item was brought up. The auctioneer said: “This first item is an appetizer. Since our Stone Medicine World has the highest concentration of alchemists, I’m sure many friends today are high-level alchemists. I’m confident that this first item will please the alchemy crowd.”

He then opened a trunk. It was full of purple soil as a violet aura spread out with great energy.

“This is the finest soil to cultivate medicines — Violetheart Mud. It is suitable to grow all types of medicines and grasses, especially the soulgrass variety. Of course, there is no further need to describe its effectiveness. Although it is only one trunk, it is more than enough to grow one root of any medicine that you like. The starting bid for this Violetheart Mud is 30,000 Heavenly Sovereign Refined Jades.”

An alchemist immediately bid: “40,000 Heavenly Sovereign Refined Jades!”

For alchemists, medicine cultivation was a very deep field of research. All of them wanted to grow the best spirit medicine possible.

Cultivation materials, soil, fertilizer, and the techniques were all extremely important factors. A good medicine might be hard to find, but it was even harder to find good soil. In the world of alchemists, good soil was always sought after, let alone the Stone Medicine World with its strong alchemy background.

“50,000 Heavenly Sovereign Refined Jades!” Another big shot named a higher price.

One immediately followed suit: “80,000!”

“100,000!”

After many rounds of bidding, the Violetheart Mud was finally sold for the high price of 800,000 Heavenly Sovereign Refined Jades.

The second item was brought up and introduced by the auctioneer: “The second auction item is a bottle of Longevity Blood. This is the blood of a 2,300,000 year old Longevity Spirit that operates at night. I don’t need to explain the benefits of this Longevity Blood; this is the best of the best, something that all Heavenly Kings desire. The starting price is 400,000 Heavenly King Refined Jades.”

The moment the introduction was over, many great characters were shaken. In the present times, many Heavenly Kings were in control, but many of them were very old and on the verge of death. Longevity Blood was the main ingredient for creating Longevity Medicines. This bottle was definitely the best for Heavenly Kings of any level.

Suddenly, these big characters in the chamber could no longer sit still and started a fierce bidding war. In the end, this bottle of blood was sold for 3,700,000 Heavenly King Refined Jades.

The next few items were all rare treasures and were sold at exorbitant prices since the majority of the buyers were all big shots. One or two items were sold at unbelievable prices.

During the process, Jian Wushuang was a big spender. Her bids were always much higher than others, giving off the feeling that “this lady has too much money.”

Because of this, people were reluctant to compete with her even if they wanted the item. Moreover, most of the big shots here were from great powers, and some of them were of the ancestor level. However, Jian Wushuang was the golden daughter of the Jian Clan, and the Jian Clan was an imperial lineage. Ordinary people didn’t dare to compete with her while the ancestors didn’t want to compete with a junior like her.

Outside of Jian Wushuang’s lavish spending, there was another young man who was also very generous. He raised the price of one item to an outrageous level and bought it without any hesitation, suggesting that he was also not lacking in money.

Meanwhile, Li Qiye didn’t bother looking at the items. They were too common for him, so he was too lazy to bid.

Bai Weng and Shi Hao were different, especially Shi Hao since he was still young and inexperienced. Today, all the items before them were supreme treasures. They wouldn’t dare to dream of these items before, but now they had the fortune of seeing them in person thanks to Li Qiye bringing them to the second half of the auction.

All the spirit medicines had been auctioned off, so everyone was waiting for the rumored Heavenly Cauldron to appear.

Finally, it was taken out onto the stage. It had the appearance of a tree stump — very archaic looking. It didn’t have an oppressive aura, but it had a profound dao intent.

The auctioneer introduced this cauldron: “The next item is this Heavenly Cauldron. The first thing to note is its amazing background; it came from the Alchemy Kingdom.”

These words caused the audience to clamor as all eyes gazed intensely at this cauldron.

Chapter 630: Imperial Cauldron

One grand character immediately asked in a serious tone: “A cauldron from the Alchemy Kingdom? Which Alchemy Emperor did this belong to?”

“Dear honored guest, this cauldron was owned by the Hundred-grass Alchemy Emperor and followed him when the emperor was still young. Anyone who studied the Alchemy Kingdom knows that the Hundred-grass Alchemy Emperor was one of the greatest regarding plant cultivation since the start of

time. His usage of the cauldron was not limited to pill refinement, it contains many benefits regarding growing plants.

“Because of his great skill at cultivating plants, he was called the Hundred-grass Alchemy Emperor. However, after becoming an emperor, he focused on immortal pill refinement instead, so he thought about switching to a different cauldron. Eventually, he found one that was more suitable for pill refinement, so he exchanged it with the cauldron that he had used for the first half of his life.” The auctioneer was able to provide the history of the cauldron quite well. Surely the Golem Square had spent a lot of effort on this matter.

A Demon King inquired: “If this Heavenly Cauldron belonged to the Hundred-grass Alchemy Emperor, then why did the Alchemy Kingdom let it be lost in the outside world?”

The Alchemy Kingdom was a behemoth in the Alchemy Realm as well the entire Stone Medicine World. One sect with three emperors — how formidable was this? Not to mention that it even produced four Alchemy Emperors.

Although Alchemy Emperors were not comparable to Immortal Emperors since they couldn’t sweep through the world in an invincible manner, they had a prestigious status and great fame. Since the start of time, both eternal existences and Godkings would need an Alchemy Emperor eventually. Sometimes, even Immortal Emperors would need Alchemy Emperors.

The kingdom’s first Immortal Emperor was also its progenitor, Immortal Emperor Yao Zu. He used the dao of alchemy to become an emperor, so he was not only an Immortal Emperor but also an Alchemy Emperor. Thus, he was both the first Immortal Emperor and the top Alchemy Emperor among the four in the Alchemy Kingdom. [1. Yao Zu = Alchemy Ancestor Immortal Emperor.]

Thus beckoning this question: how could such a monster let the cauldron that belonged to the Hundred-grass Alchemy Emperor be lost to the outside world?

The auctioneer calmly answered: “Honored guests, you can rest assured about this matter. Anything auctioned by our Golem Square definitely has no problems and won’t be asked to be returned. However, if everyone is still worried, then I will reveal the true origin of the cauldron.”

He paused for a moment before continuing: “After the Hundred-grass Alchemy Emperor changed his cauldron, he gave his old one to a close friend. This friend treated this cauldron as his family heirloom for generations. If it wasn’t for the fact that the master of the cauldron needed a huge amount of spirit medicines, he wouldn’t have been able to bear giving up this treasure.”

The auctioneer guaranteed once more: “This cauldron is up for auction, so our Golem Square can guarantee that the Alchemy Kingdom will definitely not ask for it back from whoever wins it!”

The guests couldn’t be blamed for showing such concerns. After all, a monster like the Alchemy Kingdom was a source of dread for the other big characters. It would be big trouble if obtaining this cauldron with a dubious origin would provoke the Alchemy Kingdom in any way.

After the guarantee from the square, one person quickly asked: “What is the starting bid for this cauldron?”

The auctioneer answered: “The starting point for this cauldron is 80,000 Virtuous Paragon Refined Jades, and each successive bid must be in increments of 10,000. The highest bidder will win.”

Many people became dejected after hearing this. Even 80,000 of the lowest grade Virtuous Paragon Refined Jade were still Virtuous Paragon jades after all — something extremely incredible.

How frightening was this starting price? Many big shots here were startled by this price since it already eliminated a lot of the guests without enough money.

The auctioneer continued on: “I won’t expand on the preciousness of a Heavenly Cauldron. We’ll begin now. 80,000 to start, bid!”

Although this price could scare people to death, an alchemist was unperturbed and gave his bid: “90,000!”

The cauldron that belonged to the Hundred-grass Alchemy Emperor was too tempting. This emperor was quite renowned, after all. Think about it, a cauldron that had been with this emperor for half of his life — how priceless was this?

Despite its monstrous price, many people still desired it: “100,000!”

The arrogant Jian Wushuang raised her voice: “200,000!” She immediately doubled the bid in one go.

In an auction, this type of bidding would surely cause annoyance. Although some bidders were very unhappy with Jian Wushuang, they had to swallow it as they didn’t dare to utter a word. Who would want to mess with the golden daughter of the Jian Clan?

Bai Weng and Shi Hao’s hearts were beating fast from the bidding of hundreds of thousands of Virtuous Paragon Refined Jades. They didn’t dare to imagine such a monstrous sum.

Another alchemist bid: “210,000.”

At this time, the generous young man also called out: “250,000!” He was a golem with a body made out of flesh and blood, but his eyes were a golden color. He had a stout stature that made him seem like a majestic and powerful mountain.

However, Jian Wushuang didn’t bother looking at the young man and raised the bid once more: “500,000!”

Her approach made others gasp helplessly. Whose fault was it that she was so rich? She could afford to raise it to any price!

A Demon King followed along: “510,000!”

The young man was much more cautious compared to Jian Wushuang: “530,000.” It seemed like he didn’t want to offend her.

“1,000,000.” But this time, Li Qiye casually threw out his bid.

His bid caused everyone to jump. The generous young man looked towards Li Qiye, and the same went for Jian Wushuang. She coldly glared at him with a sight that pierced through his very being.

However, despite all the gazes, Li Qiye still leisurely sat there on the balcony. Of course, Bai Weng and Shi Hao were not as calm, their rapidly beating hearts were palpating and their legs were quivering. Nevertheless, they noticed that Li Qiye was still very relaxed; it was as if his bid wasn't 1,000,000 Virtuous Paragon Refined Jades and instead just a few dozen coins that he could afford to throw into a river without a care.

Bai Weng couldn't help but wryly smile. Just imagine, Li Qiye could casually throw out 100 Virtuous Paragon Refined Jades, then he gave the Vermillion Flame Cauldron to him. At the same time, Li Qiye intended on grooming Shi Hao, so perhaps 1,000,000 refined jades were nothing to him.

"2,000,000." Jian Wushuang bidded. Her style was still the same, doubling the sum.

Li Qiye only smiled and didn't respond to her provocation. However, the generous young man didn't stay silent. Compared to Jian Wushuang with her bottomless pockets, he was a lot more cautious: "2,050,000." This type of bidding was meant to show his determination to own the cauldron, but at the same time, his intent of not offending Jian Wushuang.

"3,000,000." Jian Wushuang didn't double the bid this time, but it was still a frightening number.

The remaining bidders simply shut up and didn't dare to bid any longer since they couldn't match Jian Wushuang.

"3,050,000." The generous young man raised it by 50,000 once more.

However, no one could stop Jian Wushuang's momentum as she continued to raise her bid to an intimidating level: "4,000,000!"

The auction became the playground of the young man and Jian Wushuang.

Her bids made it very difficult for the young man. He had no choice but to stand up and slightly bow down towards her direction: "Goddess Jian, I know you are interested in this cauldron, but you are not an alchemist so you might not need such a cauldron."

However, Jian Wushuang was always arrogant and never gave anyone face no matter who they were: "Whether I need it or not is none of your business."

The generous young man was still courteously bowing as he said: "Of course, it is none of my business. But honorable Goddess Jian, this cauldron is very important to me. My Huangfu Clan and the Alchemy Kingdom are in-laws, so now that the kingdom's cauldron has been lost like this, it makes me, an alchemist, feel very terrible. I want to win this auction and then give it back to the Alchemy Kingdom.

"I hope that Goddess Jian will show magnanimity. As long as you agree to let me have this cauldron, you can ask for anything from me."

"What? Are you saying that this young lady is coveting something that belongs to you?! Also, this young lady doesn't lack anything!" Jian Wushuang spoke with an imposing aura. Her arrogance was boundless regardless of her opponent. Although her attitude was distasteful in the eyes of others, it also showed that she was an arrogant and confident person.

“No, no!” The generous young man understood her personality, so he hurriedly apologized: “That is not what I meant. What I was trying to say is that, in the future, if Goddess Jian has any order, then just say a word and I’ll carry it out right away.”

Her arrogant character loved it the most when people flattered her. She nodded her head and said: “Very well, Huangfu Hao. Today, this young lady will give you some face. If you bid 5,000,000, then I won’t compete with you anymore.”

The young man named Huangfu Hao quickly told the auctioneer: “I bid 5,000,000!”

Although such practices were not compliant with the rules, today, the price of this cauldron was exorbitant already so even the Golem Square chose to turn a blind eye to what had just played out.

Sure enough, Jian Wushuang kept her word and no longer bid after Huangfu Hao raised the price to 5,000,000.

[spoiler title='630 Teaser']One grand character immediately asked with a serious tone: “A cauldron from the Alchemy Kingdom? Which Alchemy Emperor did this belong to?”

“Dear honored guest, this cauldron was owned by the Hundred-grass Alchemy Emperor and followed him when the emperor was still young. Anyone who studied the Alchemy Kingdom knows that the Hundred-grass Alchemy Emperor was one of the best regarding plant cultivation since the start of time. His usage of the cauldron was not limited to pill refinement, it contains many benefits regarding growing plants.

“Because of his great skill at plant cultivation, he was called the Hundred-grass Alchemy Emperor. However, after becoming an emperor, he focused on immortal pill refinement instead, so he thought about switching to a different cauldron. Eventually, he found one that was more suitable for pill refinement, so he exchanged it with the cauldron that he had used for the first half of his life.” The auctioneer was able to provide the history of the cauldron quite well. Surely the Golem Square had spent a lot of effort on this matter.

A Demon King inquired: “If this Heavenly Cauldron belonged to the Hundred-grass Alchemy Emperor, then why did the Alchemy Kingdom let it be lost in the outside world?”