Domination 631

Chapter 631: Money Is One Thing I Don't Lack

The auctioneer declared: "5,000,000! Going once! Does anyone want to bid higher?"

At this time, no one else wanted to bid. Although this cauldron was very amazing, this was a price as high as the heavens, a price that very few people could afford. It was not worth it to utilize all of their wealth just for one cauldron.

Huangfu Hao was relieved to see no one else bidding. With this cauldron, he could earn some favor with the Alchemist Kingdom.

However, before he could finish heaving his sigh of relief, a voice came along: "10,000,000."

The bidder was Li Qiye, sitting leisurely on his balcony. His calm demeanor rendered others into disbelief; it was hard to imagine that this huge number came out of his mouth.

After naming such a price, Shi Hao and Bai Weng both shivered and felt their knees giving way.

Huangfu Hao wanted to vomit blood from anger. It was a struggle to convince Jian Wushuang to show mercy, but now another troublemaker came out of nowhere. What was even more frustrating was that this trouble maker doubled the price! [1. The raw for troublemaker was Cheng Yaojin, a general from the Tang Dynasty. I believe I've written this footnote before since authors use this expression a lot.]

"This... is crazy!" The crowd gasped and was rendered silly. This price was insane! One cauldron was not worth this much.

The buyers, including the big characters on the balconies and the ancestors hiding in the dark, all stared at Li Qiye. Someone who could easily take out 10,000,000 refined jades of this grade must have an earth-shattering background.

At this time, Shi Hao couldn't help but try to convince Li Qiye: "Big Brother, this is... not worth it." With such a monstrous price, he wouldn't dare to accept it even if Li Qiye bought it for him.

Li Qiye dismissively replied: "It's not a matter of whether it's worth or not. Although I can find another cauldron for you, my time is limited. It is better to buy this one instead of wasting time finding another."

Items like refined jades were nothing to the current Li Qiye. He had entered the forbidden grounds so his wealth was extremely rich. It could even be said that refined jades were nothing more than a number to him. Only supreme immortal treasures or jewels across the epochs would be able to tempt him.

Huangfu Hao suddenly had the impulse to kill Li Qiye. After struggling to deal with Jian Wushuang, Li Qiye doubling the price made him go crazy.

Huangfu Hao took a deep breath and lowered his tone to declare: "11,000,000!"

At this point, all the buyers present held their breaths and felt that the whole matter was too outrageous. If this cauldron had refined imperial or immortal pills, then it would be worth it. However, legend states that after becoming an Alchemy Emperor, Hundred-grass changed his cauldron. Some

even speculated that he had changed it way before his ascension, so it was hard to say whether it had refined imperial pills or not. However, one thing was certain — it had never refined immortal pills.

If a cauldron had refined pills of this level before, then its value would be completely different since its medicinal trove would have incredible changes.

Therefore, in the current situation where it was hard to determine the past level of this cauldron's refinement, bidding such a high price was a huge gamble.

Li Qiye still smiled and spoke nonchalantly as if he was just stating a mere number: "15,000,000."

At this point, Shi Hao and Bei Weng could no longer stand as sweat ran down their backs. This price had completely stunned them.

An experienced alchemist couldn't help but speculate: "This is too crazy. Does he have too much money with no place to spend it or something? In my opinion, I think that if this cauldron had refined imperial pills before, then it would be worth 20,000,000 at best; no one would pay much more. The Hundredgrass Alchemy Emperor swapped out this cauldron early on or very shortly after becoming an emperor. Let's take a step back and pretend that this cauldron had refined imperial pills. Even then, the number of pills would still be very limited — one or two batches at best."

Everyone knew that although Alchemy Emperors were capable of refining imperial pills, it was still very difficult to find the materials, so the imperial pills they refined throughout their lives were limited. To be able to refine eight to ten batches in the generation of a single Immortal Emperor was already not bad.

As for the cauldrons, the more it refines these types of pills, the better. If it was only one batch, then its potential was also much more limited.

One Demon King from a great power murmured: "Using millions to gamble... Truly insane."

Even if they went bankrupt in the process, a few great powers wouldn't be able to procure so many Virtuous Paragon Refined Jades. Those who were able to do so were extremely rich great powers, and only imperial lineages would be able to easily part with such an amount.

It wasn't just the buyers, even the auctioneer on the platform was drenched with cold sweat. This price had exceeded his imagination.

"You!" Huangfu Hao angrily glared at Li Qiye. 10,000,000 refined jades had already exceeded his budget. Although the Huangfu Clan was very rich, he needed the support of the ancestors to be able to spend so much. Since his intent was to use this cauldron to befriend the Alchemy Kingdom, the ancestors would surely support him. However, the issue was that the price had risen to 15,000,000. Even with the ancestors' support, he himself would have to spend everything.

Noticing Huangfu Hao's unfriendly glare, Bai Weng quietly reminded Li Qiye: "Young Noble, Huangfu Hao's background is quite amazing. He is the oldest son of the Huangfu Clan and also its inheritor. This clan itself has a marriage pact with the Alchemy Kingdom that has been going on for several generations; it could be said that the clan has many relatives in the kingdom, and all of them are great characters in the imperial families. I heard that Huangfu Hao and the current main descendant of the Alchemy Kingdom are also relatives, so his backing is quite formidable."

Bai Weng's explanation was indeed on point. With the Alchemy Kingdom as their backing, the Huangfu Clan's power was quite frightening. Outside of being the oldest and having high talents, another reason why Huangfu Hao was able to become the clan inheritor was due to him being a relative of the Alchemy Kingdom's current main descendant.

Outsiders couldn't conclude how close they were. Some said that they were very close while others said that they were quite distant. Nevertheless, this blood-tie was indeed real.

The kingdom had three Immortal Emperors and four Alchemy Emperors; to be backed by such a monstrous existence, who in the Stone Medicine World would dare to mess with them?

Bai Weng was reminding Li Qiye that it was best not to create animosity with Huangfu Hao.

Li Qiye sat on his balcony and nonchalantly asked: "What does all of that have to do with me?"

Bai Weng didn't know what else to say. He wasn't clear whether Li Qiye didn't get the point or if he was just extremely confident. Very few in this world dared to not put the Huangfu Clan into their sight like this.

Bai Weng took a deep breath and whispered again: "Young Noble, Huangfu Hao himself is quite formidable as well. He is considered the fifth alchemy prodigy and has great talents. If he didn't spend so much effort on cultivation, then perhaps he would be part of the four. I heard that he had reached the Heavenly King realm for some time, but the more dreadful part is that his golden stone gaze has the same power as his forefathers."

Bai Weng was only a minor character. If he could take a step back to realize the immensity of the heaven and earth, he would do so, unlike Li Qiye's more aggressive approach.

Just as he said, Huangfu Hao was indeed strong. He was a golem with an indescribable noble background and a flesh and blood body at birth. However, his eyes remained that of stone; this was a pair of invincible golden stone eyes that could be found from his forefathers — quite a rare occurrence.

Normally, Atavism would result in the body reverting to stone and becoming weaker. It was very rare that someone undergoing Atavism would inherit their forefathers' strongest bloodline.

"And?" Li Qiye was still as calm as ever.

At this point, Bai Weng knew better and kept his mouth shut. Li Qiye was not a kid that was seeing the world for the first time. His nonchalant attitude regarding Huangfu Hao made Bai Weng think that Li Qiye was even stronger than what he had imagined and that he had underestimated him.

At this time, Huangfu Hao really wanted to kill Li Qiye. His glare towards Li Qiye contained a murderous glint. He took a deep breath and bit his teeth, deciding to risk it all: "16,000,000!"

"That won't do." Li Qiye said with a smile: "You have to understand that I am no longer bidding with the lowest grade of refined jades. I am bidding 16,000,000 jades of the Rising Era Paragon grade. If you are simply bidding jades of the conventional level, then you have to bid more than 30,000,000."

When most people talked about Virtuous Paragon Refined Jades, they would refer to the lowest grade used by Early Era Paragons. Although both were Virtuous Paragon Refined Jades, one grade's gap was

the difference between heaven and earth. One Virtuous Paragon Refined Jade contained an unbelievable amount of worldly energy, so the difference of just a single grade had an unreachable gap.

Everyone present became dumbstruck after hearing this. One of the Demon Kings stood up and lost his voice: "Refined Jades meant for Rising Era Paragons...? What the hell?!"

Everyone felt that Li Qiye was messing around too much. Normally, people would use the lowest grade for any given level of refined jade unless further specified.

Huangfu Hao became red due to uncontrollable anger. Even if he had the support of the elders, 15,000,000 regular jades alone was pretty much all of his wealth. However, if they were of the Rising Era Paragon level, then even if the Golem Square allowed for him to trade and the buyers agreed to take his Early Era Paragon jades, he would have to spend at least 30,000,000... This was an amount that he simply couldn't afford!

At this point, the auctioneer on the stage couldn't help but wipe the sweat from his forehead. This number was simply too scary.

Chapter 632: Alchemy Fowl

Eventually, with an ugly expression, Huangfu Hao dropped back down onto his chair and gave up on bidding. He couldn't afford such a price anymore, so what else could he do except give up? He could only watch Li Qiye win the Heavenly Cauldron.

"15,000,000 refined jades of the Rising Era Paragon level! Any higher bids?!" On the stage, the excited auctioneer's hand was shaking while holding his wooden gavel.

Who else would dare to bid when the price was already this high? Eventually, the auctioneer slammed his gavel to conclude this round as he spoke with his trembling voice: "15,000,000 Rising Era Paragon Jades! The cauldron belongs to this Young Noble!"

In the end, the buyers could only come to one conclusion: "There are too many lunatics these days..."

One Demon King couldn't help but utter: "There should be a limit to being wasteful. This level of profligate behavior is just unreasonable."

Only a madman would spend 15,000,000 Rising Era Paragon Jades; this was indeed a supremely prodigal son!

"The next treasure is a weapon from the foreign dao..." Infected by the last auction, the auctioneer's mood was at an all-time high.

In the private room, the workers from the auction house brought the Heavenly Cauldron over. Li Qiye casually handed over a spatial pouch to the workers to pay for the item.

Afterward, he threw the cauldron towards Shi Hao and said: "Keep doing your best. If you want to own this cauldron, you must spend a great deal of effort to harmonize with it. However, as long as you keep working hard, it will eventually accept you. At that point, your achievements in the alchemy dao will be able to reach a much higher level!"

The workers were astounded by Li Qiye's actions. They had seen many wealthy men and big characters, but spending millions of Virtuous Paragon Refined Jades for a cauldron to casually gift to a friend as if it was mere rubbish... Such extravagance was beyond cure! They had never seen this type of person before.

Shi Hao was shaking with fear. When the cauldron was thrown his way, he quickly jumped to grab it tightly as if he was afraid of dropping it. An item worth millions of refined jades made him afraid of it touching anything at all.

He struggled to calm down and prostrated on the ground while exuding his uncontrollable appreciation: "Big Brother... I... I will definitely not let you down!" He was a simple man. Countless words formed in his mind, but only this phrase left his lips.

Li Qiye nodded and said: "Be diligent. This cauldron is indeed great and has a natural affinity towards medicine. With it in the future, you will gain many benefits when cultivating plants. The more important part is that this cauldron has refined imperial pills before, so it will increase your pill refinement level by a notch."

At this point, Shi Hao could only nod his head repeatedly. He didn't know what else to say to express his gratitude while Bai Weng watched on with admiration. Countless alchemists yearned for such a cauldron to no avail. Bai Weng understood that all of this was possible because Li Qiye valued Shi Hao and wanted to train him.

Several auctions went by, and the next item was a living creature.

A fowl was raised to the stage, resulting in quite a dazzling spectacle. It emitted waves of immortal lights along with a medicinal fragrance that caused others to salivate.

An experienced alchemist sniffed the aroma and became lost in his indulgence while murmuring: "Nine Dragon's Saliva Aroma, Dao Wood Profound Aroma, Immortal River Lotus Aroma... How beautiful are these fragrances... So supreme..."

Another famous alchemist stood up in astonishment and stared at the chicken in disbelief as he lost his voice: "Impossible! Could this be a legendary Alchemy Fowl?"

"Sir, you have great insight." The auctioneer replied: "Correct! This is an Alchemy Fowl! They are extremely rare in this world, and this is our first time auctioning one in the Golem Square in the capital."

Other great characters could handle it, but the alchemists here could no longer bear it.

"Is it really an Alchemy Fowl?!" They all stood up and gazed intensely at the fowl.

"An Alchemy Fowl!" Bai Weng couldn't help but shiver while standing next to Li Qiye. He opened his eyes wide and wished to examine every inch of the beast carefully, not wanting to miss even a single feather.

He gasped and said: "So Alchemy Fowls do exist in this world... They are... divine items in the eyes of alchemists... To have one is..."

Bai Weng was at a loss for words since he felt that this was a divine creature. Any alchemist in the world would love to have one.

This prompted Shi Hao's inquiry: "What kind of chicken is an Alchemy Fowl?" He was still young and didn't know the effects of an Alchemy Fowl, but after noticing the many astonished alchemists, he knew that this chicken must be very amazing.

Bai Weng's gaze was still fixated on the chicken as he replied: "It is a long story, but in short, that chicken is everything an alchemist could want."

Li Qiye was also staring at this chicken along with the others. Among them, the alchemists were the most affected since the chicken could only be found in their dreams.

The chicken had been sealed, so it sat motionlessly with its head looking down, acting indifferent before everyone. Although it had been captured, it still showcased its arrogance.

The auctioneer quickly spoke: "Alchemy Fowl — I believe that the fellow alchemists here understand this creature more than I do.

"It can eat insect kings, capture poisonous creatures, protect spirit medicines and grasses, and its excrement is the most fertile soil in this world.

"More importantly, its nature is to protect medicines and plants, so it can find materials that others won't be able to. With one watching your alchemy farm, there would be no need to worry about poisonous insects or anything else. There would also be no need for fertilizing water..."

The auctioneer's continuous explanation made the alchemists salivate. Even without his explanation, these alchemists would know the amazing effects of the Alchemist Fowl. However, the others present began to want it as well.

An alchemist with great achievements in the past watched the fowl for a bit then asked: "Why does this Alchemy Fowl seem so dejected?"

The auctioneer answered: "Honored guest, you should know how hard it is to capture one of them. After all, these creatures would avoid imprisonment at all cost. In order to capture this one, we had to invite three Virtuous Paragons. This was quite difficult and costly. In order to catch it alive and watch it for year after year, the three paragons chased after it for millions of miles before perfectly sealing it.

"Think about it, to eventually be caught after so much struggling, do you think it would still be excited?"

Everyone felt that this answer made sense. It was harder to capture a divine beast like the Alchemy Fowl alive than it was to reach the heavens. Without three paragons, it would have been virtually impossible to catch the fowl.

The auctioneer patted his chest confidently and said: "Of course, our Golem Square guarantees with our reputation that this fowl is unharmed, so fellow guests can buy it without any worries."

It wasn't just alchemists, which lineage didn't grow medicinal grasses? Therefore, all of these sects would have even more grasses if they had an Alchemy Fowl.

"May I take a look at this Alchemy Fowl?" In fact, it wasn't only Bai Weng's group who were interested in the fowl, Li Qiye was staring at the chicken as well.

"Sure." The auctioneer quickly ordered the handler to place the chicken in Li Qiye's hands.

A god of riches like Li Qiye, of course, had special privileges. Not too many people were able to throw around money like trash in such a domineering manner like him.

Li Qiye gazed at the chicken for a long time before voicing his praise: "It is indeed a good chicken." Then, he handed it back to the handler.

The arrogant Jian Wushuang, who was sitting on the balcony of another private room, asked: "Are we about ready to start? What is the starting bid of this Alchemy Fowl?" She seemed to be very interested in the chicken.

The chicken was brought back to the stage whereupon the auctioneer answered: "The starting bid for the Alchemy Fowl is 500,000 Virtuous Paragon Refined Jades!"

"What, 500,000 Virtuous Paragon Refined Jades?!" An honored guest bemoaned: "Are you trying to rob us?"

"Honored guest, this item has great value." The auctioneer calmly spoke: "Fellow honored guests should all know that there are no Virtuous Paragons among the younger generation, and there are only a few paragons among the middle-aged generation — this is common knowledge. Current day Virtuous Paragons all established themselves 30,000 years ago or even earlier; all of them are ancestors of the great powers.

"This little one doesn't need to explain the situation of these ancestors. They are sealed underground and secluded from the world. Think about it, in order to invite three Virtuous Paragons to come out and give chase for millions of miles just to catch this Alchemy Fowl, fellow guests should be able to imagine the monstrous price we had to pay. Refined jades are precious, but Blood Era Stones are even more valuable, right?"

The guests looked at each other and felt that the auctioneer was being quite reasonable. Inviting three Virtuous Paragons to come out was indeed costly.

However, the starting bid of 500,000 Virtuous Paragon Refined Jades was simply too high. Even the most esteemed guests were immediately swept out of the door by this frightening starting bid.

[spoiler title='632 Teaser']Eventually, with an ugly expression, Huangfu Hao dropped back down onto his chair and gave up on bidding. He couldn't afford such a price anymore, so what else could he do except give up? He could only watch Li Qiye win the Heavenly Cauldron.

"15,000,000 refined jades of the Rising Era Paragon level! Any higher bids?!" On the stage, the excited auctioneer's hand was shaking while holding his wooden gavel.

Who else would dare to bid when the price was already this high? Eventually, the auctioneer slammed his gavel to conclude this round as he spoke with his trembling voice: "15,000,000 Rising Era Paragon Jades! The cauldron belongs to this Young Noble!"

In the end, the buyers could only come to one conclusion: "There are too many crazy people these days..."[

Chapter 633: Priceless Fowl

One alchemist bit his lips and shouted his bid: "510,000!"

However, this alchemist's bid was short-lived since Jian Wushuang from the Jian Clan doubled the bid: "1,000,000."

This type of bidding method made everyone speechless and upset. No one wanted to be a fool by raising the price so much, but what could they do? All the buyers here knew the background of this arrogant girl, so they could only accept it. Who was to blame for her having so much money?

"10,000,000." However, right after Jian Wushuang's bid, another explosive bid was made.

The honored guests' hearts skipped a beat after hearing this bid: "Is he crazy?!"

Everyone looked towards the direction of the bid and found that the person who raised the price to an astronomical amount was Li Qiye.

They were all stunned and had no words to say about this rich baron. Jian Wushuang's doubling of the price was already hard to accept, but Li Qiye raising it by ten times caused them to lose their minds.

They gazed at each other in amazement. 10,000,000 — this was a price not too many people in this room could afford.

The auctioneer shivered on the platform and thought that he had misheard, so he had to repeat: "10,000,000?"

He had been doing this for a while, and this was his first time seeing someone raising the price by ten times — this was simply too outrageous!

"Correct, 10,000,000." Li Qiye nonchalantly replied.

Bai Weng and Shi Hao felt helpless as well, but they had already become numb to such a feeling. In the beginning, Li Qiye's high-bidding style scared them silly, but now, they had gotten used to it.

At this point, Jian Wushuang glared at Li Qiye. It was clear that he wanted to oppose her. After a while, she turned away and arrogantly proclaimed: "20,000,000."

This was met with Li Qiye's relaxed tone: "My bad, my refined jades are of the Rising Era Paragon grade."

Jian Wushuang laughed proudly and retorted: "My refined jades are also of the Rising Era Paragon grade."

She looked at him again and issued a challenge: "No matter how much money you can put out, I will follow it to the very end."

She looked as if she had too much money to spend and wanted to kill someone by throwing money at them. Who was to blame for her being the golden daughter of the Jian Clan? Rumor has it that the clan only had one daughter, so how could she not be arrogant?

The buyers, at this time, were completely speechless. Many alchemists lamented their lack of luck, but they knew better and gave up on this competition since they couldn't compare to these two rich fellas.

Li Qiye only gave her a stern glance then shifted his gaze and smiled before slowly speaking: "You really want to follow along to the end? I'll bid 100 Immortal Emperor Refined Jades."

At this time, countless people stood up all at once and exclaimed: "What!? How could anyone be crazier than this?"

Bai Weng and Shi Hao, who were numbed by this, dropped to the ground. Bai Weng was quivering as he stuttered: "Young Master, this... this... these are Immortal Emperor Refined Jades you are talking about!"

One had to know that Immortal Emperor Refined Jades were a thousand, no, ten thousand times more precious than Virtuous Paragon Refined Jades. It was very difficult to obtain them, so since the start of time, their owners were either Immortal Emperors or imperial lineages. Great powers couldn't get their hands on them, unless their ancestors were once loyal to Immortal Emperors and were rewarded with these jades.

"I know." Li Qiye said with a smile. Li Qiye didn't only go to the dangerous burial grounds. No one else knew that below the Yin Yang Pond in the golden palace, he hid many supreme treasures and even refined jades. After being around for tens of millions of years, his wealth had reached a monstrous amount. Although grooming the group of Immortal Emperors like Min Ren spent an unbelievable amount of wealth, it also allowed him to regather a monstrous amount as well.

In the past, before his departure, Li Qiye conveniently left behind a bunch of refined jades in the golden palace, but Immortal Emperor Qian Li didn't use them, so when he came back, he casually took them away.

The buyers felt that this was too outrageous: "Is this necessary? Using Immortal Emperor Refined Jades to trade for an Alchemy Fowl?"

Although the Alchemy Fowl was indeed very valuable, it wasn't to this degree. Immortal Emperor Refined Jades were extremely rare. A few great powers, after obtaining them, would just hide them away and wouldn't use them without caution.

But now, Li Qiye was using one hundred Immortal Emperor Refined Jades to trade for this chicken, making others think that he was insane.

"Such... a prodigal son!" Many from the previous generation didn't know what to say. They had seen many young masters throwing money away like trash, and they also did the same when they were young.

However, compared to Li Qiye, all of these young masters were quite frugal in comparison. He could scare people to death by spending Immortal Emperor Refined Jades like this. Many people had never even seen this kind of jade their whole life and didn't know what they looked like.

Everyone at this scene had their breaths taken away by Li Qiye's frightening bid.

The auctioneer was completely stunned. The Golem Square was quite famous in the Giant Bamboo Country and the Alchemy Realm, ranking among the top five.

And among the auctions he had hosted, the auctioneer could count the times when Immortal Emperor Refined Jades were used with his hands. However, this was his first time seeing someone immediately bidding one hundred of them in an instant.

Amidst the silence, Li Qiye reminded the auctioneer: "If no one else is bidding, then give the three final calls."

The auctioneer regained his composure and quickly called out: "100 Immortal Emperor Refined Jades, going once!"

Jian Wushuang bit her teeth once and deepened her tone to say: "I bid 105 jades, I can pawn a treasure to provide this amount."

The person in charge of the Golem Square quickly said: "If Miss Jian didn't bring any Immortal Emperor Refined Jades, then you can just write it down as credit; there is no need to pawn anything." He could feel sweat beads dripping down his forehead.

Since Jian Wushuang was the golden daughter of the Jian Clan, the Golem Square allowed her to put it on her credit. An imperial lineage like the Jian Clan wouldn't renege on a payment.

However, she was obviously not confident this time and didn't go about doubling the bid like before. She only added five jades this time.

The truth was that five jades were already scary enough; ordinary people simply couldn't afford this sum.

"200 pieces." Li Qiye, however, threw out this number nonchalantly without even batting an eye.

This time, the doubling of his previous bid finally caused Bai Weng and Shi Hao to directly kneel on the ground. They wanted to scream out: "Boss, these are Immortal Emperor Refined Jades, they're not ordinary jades!"

His bid nearly made Jian Wushuang vomit blood from anger as she sharply glared at him. If they weren't in an auction house right now, she might have already taken care of him.

Li Qiye met her gaze and lazily said: "How high can you go? Just be direct, 1,000 or 10,000?"

His arrogant demeanor enraged her. She had always been arrogant without a care for anyone, but today, Li Qiye had suppressed her pride, so how could she not be furious and burn with an intent to kill?

She sat straight down and didn't say anything, nor did she bid again. Although she was unbridled with her pride, she was not stupid. She couldn't handle Li Qiye's provocation, but she had no choice other than to step down.

Using several hundred or one thousand Immortal Emperor Refined Jades to buy one Alchemy Fowl was too insane. She couldn't spend this many jades for such a creature. As the golden daughter of the Jian Clan, she had always been pampered by her family. They, indeed, had a lot of Immortal Emperor jades, but it wasn't to the point where she could lavishly waste them. Despite her arrogance, she still had a sense of propriety.

"200 Immortal Emperor Refined Jades, going once!" The excited and quivering auctioneer shouted.

Many people were silent. Besides ancestors from imperial lineages, very few could afford to pay this amount.

Eventually, the auctioneer slammed his gavel as Li Qiye spent 200 Immortal Emperor Refined Jades for one Alchemy Fowl. The silent buyers had two separate trains of thoughts. Some of them believed that Li Qiye was crazy while others said that he was the most prodigal son in this world...

Bai Weng stuttered as he asked Li Qiye: "Young Master, was this... worth it?"

Li Qiye only smiled, and others didn't see the nuances in the matter. The others believed that he was being wasteful, but he himself felt that it was completely worth it.

Several other treasures were brought up afterward, but no one bid as crazily as Li Qiye. Jian Wushuang scored two treasures among them.

Li Qiye no longer bid. Although these treasures were not bad, they were not worth him taking action.

"It is my honor to introduce the next treasure, a rock left behind by Immortal Emperor Wan Shi." [1. Wan Shi = Mischievous/Stubborn Era Immortal Emperor.]

After hearing this, one buyer voiced his concern: "I thought the Golem Square was going to place this rock as the last item of the auction?"

The auctioneer answered: "Honored guest, excuse us, but there was a sudden change. The next item will be the featured item, so this rock could only be considered second to last."

This stirred up the buyers. Prior to this, many honored guests had a list of the items up for auction, but now, there was a sudden change. Such an occurrence was quite rare. This would only happen if this last item had an even more intimidating background!

Chapter 634: Immortal Emperor Wan Shi's Rock

After seeing that no one else was talking, the auctioneer cleared his throat and said: "This rock was left behind by Immortal Emperor Wan Shi. Many of you are golems, so I don't need to introduce Immortal Emperor Wan Shi too much."

"Something left behind by Immortal Emperor Wan Shi!" Some buyers were startled after hearing this.

Immortal Emperor Wan Shi was the first emperor of the golem race. He dated back to the Desolate Era and could be considered one of the oldest emperors. His background was up for debate, but many of the future generations believed that he hailed from the golem race.

Those who held this view believed that Immortal Emperor Wan Shi once stated that he used to be a rock, so the future generations believed that the emperor sensed the heaven and earth and eventually gained life.

However, many questioned this view because his background was still muddy. He was a mystery among the emperors. They only knew that he used to be a rock, but his exact origin and sect were unclear.

However, one irrefutable claim was that the golem race had considered him to be their first Immortal Emperor. When he was still of this world, he did not deny this claim.

As one of the oldest emperors and the first of the golem race, Immortal Emperor Wan Shi did not leave behind a lineage. During his era, he suddenly disappeared one day, and no one knew why.

The auctioneer went on: "Everyone knows that the emperor didn't leave behind a lineage, but he himself left behind a rock. Legend states that his inheritance might lie in this rock, and whether there was only one rock or not is up for debate. However, our square guarantees that this rock was indeed left behind by the emperor."

At this time, the rock was placed on a tray. It was very ordinary looking; if it wasn't for the fact that this was an auction of the Golem Square, everyone would think that it was a random pebble picked up from the streets.

One of the buyers asked: "How can one be certain that this rock was something left behind by Immortal Emperor Wan Shi?"

The person in charge of the square didn't say much and instead pressed down on the rock. It was as if his finger penetrated through the rock.

"Whoosh!" In an instant, the rock emitted a brilliant light as waves of imperial aura exploded. The ordinary rock was as vast as a sea. The man then withdrew his hand, and the light disappeared as the rock regained its ordinary appearance.

All the buyers took deep breaths. The moment the power of the imperial aura exploded, they all knew that this rock was certainly something left behind by an emperor.

One person couldn't contain his excitement and asked: "What is the starting bid for this rock?"

All the capable buyers were trying to prepare themselves mentally. Such a treasure would definitely have a frightening price. This was also why some ancestors came to the Golem Square; it was just for this treasure!

"This time, it will be an exchange." The auctioneer answered: "The owner of this item does not need refined jades, he only wants ointments or divine restoration medicines. The owner is here at this moment, so if honored guests have any great restoration medicines, just take them out. As long as the owner needs it, the rock will belong to you."

Everyone gasped silently in response. To trade something left behind by an emperor to cure a wound, just how terrible could this wound be?

A few wounds went beyond physical ailments. Some of them left behind eternal and incurable damages, and only sacred medicines of a heaven-defying level would be able to cure them.

However, using medicines to trade for a rock of this level caused all the alchemists to be very excited because this was within their domain.

One alchemist stood up and called out his item: "I have here a Hundred-Injuries Powder, it's my own unique mix..."

A voice came out from a private room: "The level of Hundred-Injuries Powder is too low."

No one could see who was inside the dark room, but it was surely the owner of the rock. He interrupted the alchemist since he needed a better ointment for his injury.

A Stone King stood up and said: "My sect has a Spirit Serpent Curegrass with a 1,000,000 year old spirit. It can cure injuries of a Virtuous Paragon..."

The owner interjected again: "I have already eaten a 3,000,000 year old Spirit Serpent Curegrass, and it was completely ineffective. Next."

Huangfu Hao from the Huangfu Clan spoke: "My clan has a small bottle of Soulrending Immortal Powder. There's not a lot but there is enough for one application."

An alchemist was shaken after hearing this name: "The Soulrending Immortal Powder is a supreme medicine of the Alchemy Kingdom."

This powder was very famous in the Stone Medicine World, and ordinary people couldn't obtain it. If the Huangfu Clan didn't have an in-law relationship with the Alchemy Kingdom, it wouldn't ever have the chance to obtain some.

"This supreme medicine of the Alchemy Kingdom..." The owner pondered for a moment and said: "It would be effective, but one bottle won't do. If you have a pot full of it, then I would trade with you."

After hearing this, everyone present had to gasp. Clearly, the owner had used Soulrending Immortal Powder before. Anyone who could use such a medicine must have a frightening background. Just how terrible was his wound?

Huangfu Hao sat down dejectedly. He would never be able to gather an entire pot's worth. The clan struggled just to obtain one small bottle. Outside of a great character from the Alchemy Kingdom's imperial family, who would be able to have so much?

"I have a box of Sacred Jade Curewater..."

"I have a Soulreturning Clayflower..."

Momentarily, many alchemists reported their items, but all were denied by the owner. Surely he was mortally injured. The ointments mentioned by these alchemists had stunning effects, but the owner did not need any of them since they couldn't cure his injury.

While the others were offering their items, Li Qiye sealed the space around him and put five petals of the Immortal Injury Peony into a box.

Meanwhile, the buyers' medicines were all denied by the owner. Eventually, no one could take out something better than what had already been mentioned.

The owner was slightly disappointed and gently sighed: "If anyone has a way to introduce me to a High Elder of the Alchemy Kingdom so that I can trade for Soulrending Immortal Powder, then I will reward them."

The owner's wound was taking a turn for the worse and needed sacred medicines to cure it. However, the buyers' sacred medicines were not things the owner needed, so he had to make this deal.

The participants glanced at each other. It was easier said than done to gain an audience with the royal family of the Alchemy Kingdom. They all turned towards Huangfu Hao. If there was someone here who could gain an audience, then it would be him and him alone.

Huangfu Hao could only show a bitter smile. How could it be easy to be acquainted with a High Elder from the imperial family of the Alchemy Kingdom? Even an ordinary Virtuous Paragon wouldn't be able to gain an audience.

At this time, Li Qiye gave the box that contained the petals from the Immortal Injury Peony to a worker of the square: "I have a little something here. Show the guest and see if he needs it."

Many suddenly looked towards Li Qiye's direction; they were very curious about what was in the box. Twice in a row, Li Qiye acted extremely generously, so it was hard for him not to attract attention at this moment.

The worker brought the box to the other room right away. Afterward, the owner's exclamation came from the room: "This thing actually exists in this world?"

His shout caused everyone to look at each other then back at Li Qiye as they tried to guess his background. With such a frightening style of bidding on top of having a supreme restoration medicine, just who could this young man be? Could he be from an imperial lineage or the progeny of an Alchemy Emperor?

However, both of these types of people would be famous in the Stone Medicine World, yet Li Qiye was a nobody where no one knew his identity.

From the private room came the voice of the owner: "If this Young Noble is willing, I agree to trade with you."

The owner was very anxious since he needed Li Qiye's items. Although it was only five petals from the Immortal Injury Peony, it was already a supreme Immortal Medicine capable of curing all wounds. Since it was called an Immortal Medicine and was capable of even curing Li Qiye's fatal injuries, other wounds would definitely not be an issue.

"Deal." Li Qiye said with a smile.

At this point, everyone was curious to know what Li Qiye traded to the owner. What could be even more valuable than Soulrending Immortal Powder? They worked their brains to the limit but couldn't think of a better ointment than the powder.

While the other buyers were both shocked and lost in speculation, the auctioneer spoke: "Very well, the next item is also the last, the ultimate finale. Honored guests, let us come together to end this auction in a magnificent manner!"

Everyone became even more attentive. The rock left behind by Immortal Emperor Wan Shi was supposed to be the finale, but now it had to give up its spot. They were curious to see the item that caused something left behind by an emperor to lose its spot.

On the other hand, Li Qiye, who was sitting on the balcony, was very relaxed and calm. He, of course, knew what the next item would be since he had asked the Golem Square to auction it for him.

The item being auctioned was being carried onto the stage under countless gazes. The tray had an item that looked like a sweet potato. One couldn't see what was special about this ordinary looking thing.

[spoiler title='634 Teaser'] After seeing that no one else was talking, the auctioneer cleared his throat and said: "This rock was left behind by Immortal Emperor Wan Shi. Many of you are golems, so I don't need to introduce Immortal Emperor Wan Shi too much."

"Something left behind by Immortal Emperor Wan Shi!" Some buyers were startled after hearing this.

Immortal Emperor Wan Shi was the first emperor of the golem race. He dated back to the Desolate Era and could be considered one of the oldest emperors. His background was up for debate, but many of the future generations believed that he hailed from the golem race.

Those who held this view believed that Immortal Emperor Wan Shi once stated that he used to be a rock, so the future generations believed that the emperor sensed the heaven and earth and eventually gained life.

However, many questioned this view because his background was still muddy and unknown. He was a mystery among the emperors. They only knew that he used to be a rock, but his exact origin and sect were unclear.

However, one irrefutable claim was that the golem race had considered him to be their first Immortal Emperor. When he was still of this world, he did not deny this claim.

As one of the oldest emperors and the first of the golem race, Immortal Emperor Wan Shi did not leave behind a lineage. During his era, he suddenly disappeared one day, and no one knew why.

Chapter 635: Longevity Fruit

Big shots like Demon Kings and Stone Kings looked at each other in confusion. However, the Golem Square had a gold-studded reputation and wouldn't auction ordinary items.

One Demon King curiously asked the auctioneer: "What is this thing?"

"This little one is not exaggerating, this item is truly rare." The auctioneer explained: "I'm afraid not too many people here today know about it. This is our Golem Square's first time seeing this thing, and the second time our boss has seen it."

One Stone King lost his patience and urged: "Okay, don't keep us guessing, just tell us what it is."

The auctioneer smiled and said: "This is an incredible King Medicine, and it could even be called an Immortal Medicine! Fellow great alchemists, please take a careful look. You will be able to recognize it immediately."

Eventually, one alchemist as old as a fossil stood up. His clouded eyes opened up wide as he emotionally stuttered: "No...! Can... this be the legendary Longevity Fruit?"

"What! Longevity Fruit?" The speculation of this old alchemist left the venue in shock.

All the other alchemists stood up and focused their eyes for a better look.

One alchemist whispered: "Longevity Fruit — although it is a fruit, the fruit appears at the area of its roots. With the shape of a potato, it has a shade of purple in the dark..."

He then lost his voice and shouted: "This really is the legendary Longevity Fruit!"

After hearing the confirmation, the ancestors hiding in their private rooms all cried out: "Longevity Fruit!"

Inside these dark rooms came burning bright glares.

"Elder Li's vision is quite keen, truly worthy of being a renowned alchemist in our Alchemy Realm."

The auctioneer praised the old alchemist who was the first to recognize the fruit: "Fellow guests, this is correct, this is indeed a Longevity Fruit."

One old alchemist emotionally muttered: "Longevity Fruit... I have been an alchemist for five thousand years, but this is my first time seeing one."

The auctioneer said: "Fellow guests, a Longevity Fruit has one root and two fruits; this is one of the two fruits. Our Golem Square is auctioning this in place of its owner."

All the buyers were breathless, especially the ancestors from the great powers. Just prior to this was the Difficult Dao Era, so new Virtuous Paragon didn't appear. Thus, all the current Virtuous Paragons ancestors were those who had slept for tens of thousands of years or even longer. They relied on Blood Era Stones to seal themselves deep underground for their slumber.

These characters had limited lifespans. A few of them were even on the verge of dying and didn't want to come into being until the very last moment. They desired medicines that could prolong their life more than anyone else. Influential great powers, especially imperial lineages, tried their best to buy these longevity items for their ancestors.

Although these Longevity Medicines had exorbitant prices, they were the most common form of life prolongment and had always been greatly sought after.

Imperial ancestors ate these medicines like meals, but it was not an everlasting panacea. Eventually, the ancestors would keep using them until the effects diminished to the point where they would have to find rarer spirit grasses and immortal medicines to prolong their lives.

The auctioneer spoke unceasingly: "Fellow guests, I know that there will always be someone in need of this Longevity Fruit. In fact, even if fellow guests do not need it, you can still buy it as a gift for your elders. It would be an amazing and filial offering..."

The auctioneer talked and talked, but the buyers were mesmerized by the Longevity Fruit so they didn't mind his constant ramblings. This fruit was far too rare, so just looking at it a bit longer was a fortune in and of itself.

In fact, the Golem Square was working to increase the impact of this matter. The auctioning of an item like this Longevity Fruit was prohibitively rare since owners of them would normally never put them up for sale.

If the square had the ability to auction such an item, then its prestige would rise substantially and it would have even more customers in the future. This Longevity Fruit would become a source of fame to them, so they even waived the usual entrance fee.

"Honored guests!" The auctioneer finally arrived at the main point: "Our boss has personally appraised it, this fruit can increase one's lifespan by six hundred years!"

"Six hundred years!" The ancestors could no longer sit still, and all the buyers felt their hearts beating faster. Everyone present had one or two elders or an ancestor back in their clan. Nothing could be better if they could give this fruit to their ancestor.

It was incredible to prolong a Virtuous Paragon's life by six hundred years. They could continue to be buried underground for a much longer time. To a lineage, if an ancestor ate this fruit, they would be able to contribute much more to the sect and could come into being several times later in the future.

"That's right, this is not an Immortal Medicine but, in fact, is even better than one." The auctioneer concluded: "Regardless of how many Longevity Medicines your ancestors has taken or what level they have reached, as long as they are not an Immortal Emperor or the highest level of Godking, this fruit would absolutely be able to increase their lifespan by six hundred years! Of course, ancestors who had taken this fruit before would have diminishing effects, but I trust that the ancestors in the Stone Medicine World that have tasted this fruit before can be counted on one's hand."

Cultivators of different realms used different Longevity Medicines. As for the extent of life prolongment, it would depend on each person's circumstances.

However, the Longevity Fruit neither cared for levels nor was affected by the previous usage of other Longevity Medicines, it would always increase one's lifespan by six hundred years. This was a precious length of time for a near-death big shot.

In fact, just as the auctioneer had stated, those who had tasted this supreme and rare fruit in the Stone Medicine World were exceedingly few in number.

While the buyers were drawn in by the fruit, Bai Weng glanced at Li Qiye. At this time, he understood what Li Qiye had brought to the Golem Square. He took a deep breath at this point and wondered for a bit. If Li Qiye could take out even a Longevity Fruit, then what does the Giant Bamboo Country have to attract him? Right now, it was not Li Qiye asking the country to allow him to stay, it was the country begging for him to stay!

Shi Hao, on the other hand, didn't think too much about it. He only curiously stared at the supreme Longevity Fruit.

As for Li Qiye, only a smile could be found on his face. The Longevity Fruit was something plucked from the lost garden of the immortals by him and Lan Yunzhu. The two of them managed to grab many King Medicines.

Since the start of time, only around three people had made it to the lost garden. King Medicines were as common as vegetables in this garden, so one could imagine how many Li Qiye had plucked. Others wouldn't dare to dream about Immortal Medicines like the Ancestor Ginseng, but Li Qiye had quite a few of them.

The Longevity Fruit was something Li Qiye casually took out since he wanted to see if the Golem Square had something worthy of his attention.

The Longevity Fruit had two stems, so Li Qiye took the fruit with the younger spirit and kept the other fruit capable of prolonging one's life by eight hundred years.

While the others didn't mind continuing to look at the fruit, one ancestor from a great power eventually voiced his question as he could no longer stand waiting: "How will you sell this Longevity Fruit? What is the starting bid?"

The auctioneer replied: "This fruit is being auctioned for an esteemed guest. This guest does not need refined jades, so he will only trade item for items."

All the buyers here were well-versed in this style of exchange. Someone who could take out a Longevity Fruit wouldn't give a damn about ordinary refined jades. The type of person who could produce supreme treasures would only trade with items.

The auctioneer said: "The esteemed guest is here as well. Everyone will only need to take out an item. After half a minute, if the owner does not ask for it, then we'll move on to a different person."

The moment these words came out, all the buyers quickly planned ahead. Some did an inventory check on their treasures to see if there was anything that could tempt this mysterious owner.

A bit later, the auctioneer slammed his gavel and proclaimed in a serious manner: "Very well, let the auction begin. Anyone can bid now!"

An ancestor in a dark room started with his bid: "I am willing to trade a Divine Monarch's Life Treasure for this Longevity Fruit."

This offer startled many others. Divine Monarchs were true experts among Virtuous Paragons since they were eternal existences. A person who could take out such a treasure must be an incredible character.

However, a treasure of the Divine Monarch level couldn't get into Li Qiye's sight, so he didn't bother looking at it.

Since the owner didn't answer, the Virtuous Paragon could only sigh.

Before another ancestor could name his price, an older alchemist seized the opportunity and said: "I will use my clan's alchemy scripture to trade for this fruit! My Nanhu Clan is renowned for its alchemy even in the Alchemy Realm!"

However, these words went into one ear and escaped from the other. No alchemy scripture could compare to the canon in Li Qiye's possession.

The alchemist laughed wryly after not getting a reply. He understood that the owner didn't like his clan inheritance.

In a different room, another ancestor spoke at this time: "I have a Saint Physique Law for the Diamond Saint Physique. I am willing to trade this law for the Longevity Fruit."

But of course, this item also couldn't pique Li Qiye's interest since no law in the present times could compare to his Physique Law.

Chapter 636: Mysterious Wooden Horse

"I have a Lifesaving Order Writ from the Jianlong Clan. As long as you have this writ, no matter where you are or what danger you are facing, the Jianlong Clan will do their best to guarantee your safety." Another hidden ancestor spoke.

These words shocked everyone. The Jianlong Clan was a monstrous existence, the only existence comparable to the Alchemy Kingdom in the Stone Medicine World. With its protection, one wouldn't have to worry about offending anyone. However, this writ also couldn't tempt Li Qiye.

The arrogant Jian Wushuang stood up and spoke in a serious tone: "I will trade a supreme secret technique for the Longevity Fruit."

Li Qiye didn't budge. In fact, he didn't even open his eyes.

As there was no response from the owner, Jian Wushuang gritted her teeth and lowered her tone once more: "I have three drops of Immortal Emperor Longevity Blood. If the owner is willing, then I will use the supreme technique along with the three blood drops to trade for this fruit."

Jian Wushuang didn't need the fruit, but she had an elder who really needed it. The rest of the buyers were shocked as they exclaimed: "What?! Immortal Emperor Longevity Blood?"

This was something coveted by everyone due to its peerlessness. Even imperial lineages might not have some. However, this still was not enough to make Li Qiye open his eyes.

Both Bai Weng and Shi Hao were astounded by these incredible treasures. They had never seen so many ungraspable items before, but now they were revealed as offers.

Bai Weng shuddered and reminded Li Qiye: "That... That is Immortal Emperor Longevity Blood...!"

Li Qiye still didn't respond, making Bai Weng understand that Li Qiye didn't care for Immortal Emperor Longevity Blood either. Bai Weng couldn't help but feel afraid; not caring for such a level of treasure — too domineering!

Jian Wushuang also sat down in frustration after getting no response from the owner. This was her second time being defeated today. The first time was her pride being trampled by Li Qiye. Now, the owner also didn't react to Immortal Emperor Longevity Blood, so how could she not be frustrated?

The other big shots all listed what they had, resulting in quite a cornucopia of items that included weapons, treasures, King Medicines, and manuals among other things... However, Li Qiye still didn't bat an eye.

After the other buyers offered their items, one hidden ancestor finally spoke: "I have a little wooden horse." He was very unwilling, but ultimately, he still mustered his will and made the decision to say: "I can't say what this little wooden horse can do right now, but it is something left behind by the Immortal Emperor Patriarch from my clan, a treasure of the utmost importance..."

The ancestor was still quite hesitant and full of remorse, but he really needed the Longevity Fruit: "If the owner is willing, then I will trade this wooden horse for the Longevity Fruit."

He was afraid that the owner wouldn't be able to see the horse, so he told the workers from the square to bring a tray over.

This was a very normal tiny horse carved from wood of a gray color — not too eye-catching.

The group stared at the horse, and no one could tell how this was valuable, but this ancestor was able to become an esteemed guest at the square, not to mention that he introduced his patriarch as an Immortal Emperor. Even if outsiders couldn't guess its background, it would surely not be a scam.

Li Qiye opened his eyes after hearing the words "little wooden horse". After a while, on the balcony, he told the worker from the square: "Bring that wooden horse here so that I can take a look."

After hearing this response, the auctioneer immediately told this great power's ancestor: "The owner agrees to see your little horse."

"Good! Very good!" The ancestor was in urgent need of the Longevity Fruit. Otherwise, he wouldn't have offered his Immortal Emperor's precious treasure to trade for it.

Very quickly, the horse was in Li Qiye's hands. He took a careful look before telling the worker from the square: "I'll agree to this trade."

The auctioneer heard it right away and immediately announced: "I'm relieved to tell everyone some good news; the Longevity Fruit now has a new owner! Its previous owner is willing to trade the fruit for this guest's little wooden horse!"

After this announcement came out, everyone couldn't help but look at each other. Many wanted to know the effects of this horse left behind by an Immortal Emperor.

Unfortunately, they couldn't research this horse at all. Neither the buyer nor the seller wanted to reveal much about this horse, so the curious crowd couldn't obtain an answer.

The auctioneer excitedly slammed his gavel and announced: "Very well, I now announce that this auction has officially ended with great results!"

He was very jubilant. This was the biggest and most surreal auction he had ever hosted. It would leave a bright mark on his career as an auctioneer.

With the end of the auction, those who chose to remain hidden used a special passage to leave; outsiders couldn't see all the participants.

Meanwhile, since Li Qiye ignored Immortal Emperor Longevity Blood for this little inconspicuous wooden horse, the shocked Bai Weng had to ask: "Is... this worth it?"

Li Qiye smiled and said: "That would depend on the person."

Bai Weng and Shi Hao couldn't discern the use of this little horse and didn't know what was special about it. Li Qiye didn't tell them either.

After finishing the transaction process with the square, Li Qiye left along with the other two.

Both of them were very happy and excited. It was needless to mention Shi Hao, he obtained a cauldron left behind by the Hundred-grass Alchemy Emperor, something he wouldn't even dare to dream of before.

Bai Weng also obtained a Vermillion Divine Flame Cauldron. Although it was not comparable to Shi Hao's, this was more than enough for him. At the very least, he wouldn't have been able to buy one like this even if he strived for it for his entire life.

They felt very grateful to Li Qiye for giving them items this precious.

As they left the Golem Square and crossed a couple of streets, they were suddenly stopped.

The person blocking his path was Lie Jie, the descendant of the Lie Clan. Bai Weng reacted very quickly; the moment Lie Jie went in front of Li Qiye, Bai Weng immediately stopped him.

Bai Weng spoke calmly: "Young Noble Lie Jie, if you have something to say, then say it right here."

"Dog servant, scram to the side!" Lie Jie coldly shouted with an oppressive momentum. In his eyes, Bai Weng was only a servant.

However, Bai Weng's status was not low. Although he didn't come from a prestigious clan, with Ancient Pine as his backing, he was not afraid of Lie Jie if push comes to shove.

Bai Weng beckoned by waving his hand as Ancient Pine's disciples all gathered and awaited his command. He coldly spoke: "Young Noble Lie Jie, please return. Young Noble Li is an honored guest of the Giant Bamboo Country and is not someone that you can meet at your whim!"

Bai Weng's attitude enraged Lie Jie. He wished he could rush over and teach Li Qiye and this dog servant a lesson, but he was stopped by Ancient Pine's disciples.

Lie Jie shouted a threat at Li Qiye: "Brat, listen well! The capital isn't for an outsider brat like you, having money is nothing! There are countless clans that you can't afford to offend at the capital. Know your place and get the hell out now. If not, you won't have a chance to leave the capital with your tail tucked between your legs, you will die without a grave!"

This was the disparity between Lie Jie and Jian Wushuang. Both of them hated and wanted to kill Li Qiye, but Jian Wushuang wouldn't block his path like this with meaningless threats. If she wished to, then she would immediately kill him instead of posturing.

A minor character like Lie Jie was nothing to Li Qiye, but his threat caused Li Qiye to pause. Li Qiye took a look at Lie Jie and slowly spoke: "Lie Clan, right? What kind of trash clan is it? So what if you have a little fire spark? Remember, a Fire Source can destroy your Lie Clan as well as end your life."

Li Qiye then lazily walked away, not bothering to care for a response.

Lie Jie took note of this arrogant retort and angrily shouted: "Hahaha, you think I'm afraid of you? Brat, I dare you to not walk away!"

He didn't have a chance to chase after Li Qiye since Ancient Pine's disciples were blocking his path. Eventually, he stamped the ground exasperatedly and swore that he would teach this little unknown outsider a lesson.

The moment Li Qiye returned to the mansion, the Demon Monarch had already been standing there, waiting, and quickly ran to greet him. The monarch revealed a wide smile: "Congratulations, Young Noble, for your triumphant return from the Golem Square."

At this point, the monarch's attitude was even more respectful, and he became even more humble.

Li Qiye looked at the monarch and smiled: "Your information gathering is quite fast."

The monarch wryly smiled and said: "I only heard it just now. Young Noble's grand gesture shocked the four directions; it would be hard to not catch wind of it."

Li Qiye only smiled and didn't respond.

The monarch rubbed his palms together and said: "Early this morning, I went to meet the other monarchs and couldn't come with Young Noble, please excuse me."

His tone then became more serious: "Her Majesty wishes to meet Young Noble, would that be okay?"

"Wait a bit." With that, Li Qiye went inside.

The monarch stood there on the spot, not knowing what to say. Being summoned by the ruler of the Giant Bamboo Country was an honor, but it was different for Li Qiye since they needed him and not vice versa.

Bai Weng then whispered to the monarch. After hearing the report, the monarch's expression quickly changed.

[spoiler title='636 Teaser']"I have a Lifesaving Order Writ from the Jianlong Clan. As long as you have this writ, no matter where you are or what danger you are facing, the Jianlong Clan will do their best to guarantee your safety." Another hidden ancestor spoke.

These words shocked everyone. The Jianlong Clan was a monstrous existence, the only existence comparable to the Alchemy Kingdom in the Stone Medicine World. With its protection, one wouldn't have to worry about offending anyone. However, this writ also couldn't tempt Li Qiye.

The arrogant Jian Wushuang stood up and spoke in a serious tone: "I will trade a supreme secret technique for the Longevity Fruit."

Li Qiye didn't budge. In fact, he didn't even open his eyes.

As there was no response from the owner, Jian Wushuang gritted her teeth and lowered her tone once more: "I have three drops of Immortal Emperor Longevity Blood. If the owner is willing, then I will use the supreme technique along with the three blood drops to trade for this fruit."

Jian Wushuang didn't need the fruit, but she had an elder who really needed it. The rest of the buyers were shocked as they exclaimed: "What?! Immortal Emperor Longevity Blood?" [/spoiler]

Chapter 637: Bloodsoul Worm

As Li Qiye made it back to his room, the monarch followed right behind him and busily apologized: "Young Noble, this was all because of my negligence and not personally escorting Young Noble. Rest assured, I guarantee that these people from the Lie Clan will never appear in front of you again."

After hearing Bai Weng's report, the monarch thought that Li Qiye was taking his displeasure out on others.

Li Qiye said dismissively: "Such a trivial thing is not worthy of my attention. I pay no mind to insignificant characters like that, so Demon Monarch doesn't have to worry either. Moreover, in the future, the Lie Clan will not dare to appear before me."

The monarch was taken aback since he didn't know what Li Qiye was implying.

While the monarch was dazed, Li Qiye continued on: "Do not worry, Demon Monarch, I will go meet your Royal Lord tomorrow as I am not free right now."

The monarch calmed down and said goodbye to Li Qiye. He didn't dare to say anything else that could bother him.

After the monarch left, Li Qiye took out the pentagate to seal the room again and also took out the Alchemy Fowl from the Golem Square.

The chicken emitted a bright light along with a permeating medicinal fragrance; this was indeed a supreme bird. The seal on the chicken's body remained closed as Li Qiye put it on the table for a careful look.

Back at the Golem Square, Li Qiye had taken a look, but now he wanted confirmation. He stared at its eyes then made a decision and took out the Myriad Heavenly Cauldron.

"Boom!" It landed next to Li Qiye and, with a wave of his hand, a flame fell to his palm.

The flame slowly condensed into a knife resembling a mysterious piece of ice that emitted the thick aroma of medicine.

Others would be dumbfounded by this scene. Controlling a flame to turn it into a blade was already difficult, but controlling a flame to turn it into ice was even harder!

Li Qiye pushed the chicken down and intended to dissect its stomach: "Little thing, let me see what you have swallowed."

The Alchemy Fowl struggled in fear, but it couldn't escape.

Li Qiye calmed it down: "Don't worry, my Iceflame Blade contains the essence of an alchemy trove, so even when I cut open your stomach, the wound will recover right away and it won't hurt you. Even if you don't want me to do it, the thing inside your stomach will make its way out anyway."

The Alchemy Fowl was no ordinary bird and was fully sentient, so it calmed down after hearing Li Qiye.

He slowly dissected the bird's stomach with his icy blade. He was as smooth as flowing water; not even a tiny mistake was made. Li Qiye was a master with no peers at dissection.

He found something that resembled a jade block the size of a finger. It was a bit like a seed.

Li Qiye took it out from the chicken's stomach and said: "Little thing, you were too greedy. You wanted to keep a treasure like this all to yourself."

"Plufff!" Suddenly, a spurt of blood shot out from the seed. Its velocity was matchless and was even faster than the speed of light as it shot towards Li Qiye, launching for his heart.

However, Li Qiye was prepared from early on and had the lamp in his other hand. The lamp released a black flame that instantly swept over the spurt of blood.

This bloody strand kept on morphing. At times, it resembled countless tentacles as thin as hairs. Other times, it looked like a ferocious face, yet afterward, it also undertook the shape of a holy existence.

This thing that resembled a drop of blood could take on many creepy transformations — this was indeed a terrible monster.

The drop of blood was afraid of the black flame and no longer dared to approach Li Qiye. It hovered in the air as it tested the flame with a thin tentacle. The moment this tentacle got close to the black flame, a sizzling sound appeared as it was burnt to a crisp.

Li Qiye ignored the thing trapped by the black flame and held the seed from the chicken's stomach for a closer inspection.

It was a finger-sized piece of black jade in the shape of a seed. Li Qiye looked at it closely then glanced at the Alchemy Fowl and said: "You were very lucky to meet such a divine item. However, you were too greedy and instantly swallowed it without any consideration. Did you want to become an Immortal Phoenix in one fell swoop?

"A divine item such as this cannot be hogged by you alone. Even the Bloodsoul Worm coveted it, but it was smarter than you. It only latched onto the item and waited for an amazing bird like you to swallow it."

The Alchemy Fowl relaxed after seeing the blood-like creature entrapped by Li Qiye, but it had an unwilling expression upon seeing the black jade in Li Qiye's hand.

Li Qiye smiled and shook his head: "You are lucky to have met me. Otherwise, sooner or later, you would have been sucked dry by the Bloodsoul Worm. It would eventually break out of your stomach and seize this divine item for itself."

The chicken was full of regret, but it couldn't do anything at this moment. Li Qiye noticed the unwillingness in its eyes and only smiled before speaking: "Don't worry, you can follow me; I will not mistreat you. You should know that a master like me will only appear once across the eons."

Li Qiye put away the black jade then flicked his hand as the cauldron shot out an ointment needle with a thread of medicine on its end.

One shouldn't underestimate this needle, it is the transformed medicinal trove within the Myriad Heavenly Cauldron and could instantly close a wound. Li Qiye stitched up the chicken, and the wound closed as if nothing had happened.

He then unsealed the chicken, causing it to cry out at its newfound freedom. The chicken stared at the drop of blood that was trapped in the black flame and wanted to pounce over to kill it.

However, it was stopped by Li Qiye as he spoke: "I still have uses for the Bloodsoul Worm."

He took out a box that contained a black seed full of thorns. This was the seed of the Evil Typha Tree; it had been refined by Li Qiye for a very long time now, so its appearance had greatly changed.

Li Qiye looked at the drop of blood trapped by the black flame. This was not a blood drop, it was a very evil and terrorizing poisonous creature called a Bloodsoul Worm.

It was just as rare as the Alchemy Fowl, and the two creatures were eternal enemies. When both creatures went all out, it would be hard to determine the victor.

Li Qiye waved his sleeve once more as a group of flames from the cauldron fell into his hand. In an instant, this group of flames immediately turned into immemorial icicles.

These icicles started to pin down the Bloodsoul Worm trapped inside the flame. The worm tried to wiggle around, but it couldn't move at all due to being pinned by the icicles.

Li Qiye then placed the worm on top of the Evil Typha Seed as all the thorns on the seed latched onto the worm. The worm struggled, but it was meaningless.

With that, Li Qiye recalled his icicles. How could it just sit there and await its death? The moment the worm was freed, it recklessly crawled into the seed of the Evil Typha Tree, wanting to devour it. However, the Evil Typha Seed didn't back down. It tightened its thorns and tried to swallow the worm as well.

At this time, Li Qiye inserted a universal law as thin as silk into the Evil Typha Seed, giving birth to a maelstrom inside. This boundless magical rune was the culmination of Li Qiye's refinement, and it turned into a maelstrom.

With this refinement, the Bloodsoul Worm and the Evil Typha Seed slowly became one. After a while, the transmutation of the two was finalized. The Evil Typha Seed was no longer black, it was of a crimson color just like blood.

"Excellent, I had thought over this method for a long time now but hadn't met a suitable evil creature." Li Qiye looked at the seed in his hand and murmured: "I will create the strongest plant in this world!"

There was no further need to describe the strength of the Evil Typha Tree, and the Bloodsoul Worm was also a frighteningly powerful evil creature. The amalgamation of these two existences would become a wicked and mighty being beyond one's imagination!

He put the Evil Typha Seed back into the box and sealed it. There would be a day when he would need this powerful existence.

Afterward, he took out the black jade item again for another look: "Good stuff, not too many people have seen this thing since the start of time."

In the eyes of others, Li Qiye was crazy for spending 200 Immortal Emperor Refined Jades to buy an Alchemy Fowl — only a madman would do so.

However, Li Qiye was far from insane because he noticed that there was something strange about the Alchemy Fowl.

It was not listless because of being sealed, it was because its body had a certain something inside. It swallowed a divine item, but who would have thought that its enemy had been slumbering within? The Bloodsoul Worm and the divine item both creeped inside the chicken's body.

The worm was a very evil creature. Once it latched onto an existence, that existence's Longevity Blood would be sucked dry until the worm got its fill. It would then break out of the corpse and come out. Very few people were capable of subduing such a sinister creature.

Because the chicken swallowed the worm and its strength was sapped by the worm, the three Virtuous Paragons were able to capture it.

Li Qiye had rich experience and had seen countless things. After a single glance, Li Qiye immediately knew that the chicken had a Bloodsoul Worm in its body.

Chapter 638: Destruction Of The Lie Clan

Contrary to others' belief that he was crazy, Li Qiye using Immortal Emperor Refined Jades to buy this Alchemy Fowl was a huge profit! Buying three extremely rare and precious things in one breath, what could be better?

Li Qiye observed them for a bit before putting everything away. Then, he tapped on the cauldron next to him and gave a command: "Go. Under the capital is a Fire Source that has been strengthened with a spirit. Although it is not comparable to the supreme flames you have devoured before, this is something created by me and its spirit is not bad. Devour it and deal with some little problems for me on the way."

The cauldron received Li Qiye's command then crawled under the earth and disappeared.

After the monarch left Li Qiye's room, he told Bai Weng to take good care of Li Qiye while he immediately went to visit the Demon King in the palace.

There was a secret conference going on with all of the strongest demon monarchs of the Giant Bamboo Country present.

Ancient Pine spoke: "Your Highness, Young Noble Li didn't want to come to the palace for a meeting."

Madam Zi Yan nodded and said: "I have heard about the Golem Square's events."

Another Demon Monarch spoke austerely: "He's this arrogant? Does he want Her Majesty to go see him herself?"

This was one of the eighteen monarchs, the Eagle Demon Monarch.

Madam Zi Yan shook her head and said: "It's not his fault. With such amazing pill techniques, he could just utter one word and countless people in the Stone Medicine World would line up to earn his favor. Even imperial lineages would be happy to commission him. Such a peerless alchemist would be well-received anywhere he goes. Not to mention, someone full of treasures like him doesn't need anything. It is hard to get his interest."

At this point, she sighed gently and lamented: "Our Giant Bamboo is only a small country. I'm afraid we won't be able to keep an alchemist like him."

Ancient Pine couldn't help but suggest: "How about Your Highness goes to personally meet Young Noble Li? I see that he has some love for our Giant Bamboo Country, so if Your Highness shows up personally, then maybe Young Noble Li will be moved by the sincere gesture."

Ancient Pine knew that a supreme alchemist with no need for treasures or money like Li Qiye couldn't be convinced by material objects. They had to use a different method to impress him.

Madam Zi Yan was very open minded and felt that Ancient Pine made a lot of sense: "If Young Noble Li is willing, then I don't mind making a trip. A peerless alchemist in this generation is worth a personal trip to recruit him."

Another Demon Monarch voiced his concern: "This... doesn't feel right. Your Highness is the Royal Lord of our country, how about we go welcome him instead?"

"No." Madam Zi Yan shook her head and said: "So what if I am a Royal Lord? Every Alchemy Emperor is treated as one's most esteemed guest, even Immortal Emperors are no exceptions. It is certain that Young Noble Li will become an Alchemy Emperor, so an ordinary Royal Lord like me greeting him personally is how it should be."

"I wonder if Young Noble Li will be willing to stay or not." Eagle voiced his musing: "Your Highness needs to have another plan. If we can't keep him, then Your Highness needs to pick another participant for the conference."

The Eagle Demon Monarch was somewhat related to the Qing Clan, so he wanted to help them.

Madam Zi Yan nodded and said: "I'll have made my own decision by that time."

Another demon monarch said: "Your Majesty, Young Noble Huangfu from the Huangfu Clan is interested..."

The madam quickly interrupted this monarch: "Do not mention this matter again."

Her imperial prestige made others not dare to look straight ahead. A Demon King was still a Demon King, so Madam Zi Yan's power was not to be underestimated.

The monarch who brought this issue up immediately shut up and didn't dare to say anything else.

Madam Zi Yan declared: "Tomorrow, I will personally go greet Young Noble Li. It would be best if he could join the palace for some time."

The moment she made her decision, a confidant hurriedly rushed in: "Your Highness, Your Highness! Something big has happened!"

Madam Zi Yan noticed the confidant's urgency, so she grimaced and asked: "What happened that's causing you to be so anxious?"

The confidant quickly said: "The Lie Clan is finished!"

One demon monarch stood up right away and asked in surprise: "Finished? Finished how?"

Although the Lie Clan was not an invincible clan, it was quite formidable within the capital, not to mention that they were also the number one alchemy clan in the capital.

It was not easy for such a clan to be finished in such a short amount of time.

The eighteen demon monarchs and Madam Zi Yan were all startled. They knew the Lie Clan still had several living ancestors. Although their ancestors were not comparable to those from the great powers, they were still top ranked experts. With their presence, the Lie Clan shouldn't have fallen so easily.

Another monarch rapidly inquired: "Just what had happened exactly? You need to be more clear."

The confidant answered at once: "It happened not long ago. The Fire Source under the Lie Clan suddenly exploded and blew away their ancestral ground. Their ancestors wanted to suppress the blast but were incinerated by the scorching Fire Source. People said that the Fire Source soared into the sky and rushed into the Lie Clan, killing Lie Jie, the Lie Clan's Young Noble. Our disciples said that the flame penetrated the stone heart of Lie Jie in just one second. Although the rest of his body is still intact, his soul is definitely done for."

After hearing this report, all the monarchs looked at each other. The Lie Clan was known as the number one alchemy clan in the capital for a reason — their Fire Source.

This Fire Source not only helped them by providing great cauldrons, it also made their pill refinement much easier. An alchemist in the capital had previously proclaimed with disdain: "The Lie Clan's skill at alchemy is only third-rate at best. They would be nothing without that Fire Source."

Although these words were quite extreme, there was a hint of truth to them. The Lie Clan's alchemy dao was not particularly outstanding; they would have been overthrown long ago without the Fire Source.

"The Lie Clan's prestige and ability to refine great pills were mostly due to this Fire Source." One Demon Monarch murmured: "If the Fire Source has been destroyed, the Lie Clan will fall into the abyss and will never be able to rise again."

"Their demise is certain." An alchemist among the eighteen said: "Their alchemy dao relied on a few old geezers for support. Their younger generation can't reach the apex. Now that those old men have been burnt to ashes, the slightly excellent Lie Jie had been killed, and most importantly, their Fire Source has been destroyed, the Lie Clan can only withdraw from the alchemy path."

Madam Zi Yan sat on her throne and pondered for a moment before speaking: "This is quite strange. The Fire Source has been passed down for a long time; the Lie Clan has been guarding it generation after generation. It has always been very stable with its own sentience and is not the type to change or go wild. Why did it explode without any prior warning?"

It was not without reason that Madam Zi Yan was able to become the Royal Lord since she had many outstanding aspects. The moment she received the news, she understood that something was wrong about it.

The monarchs looked at each other and felt that the madam made sense. Ancient Pine suddenly recalled something and shuddered. He stood up and told the madam: "Your Majesty, I just recalled something. Perhaps it has something to do with this matter."

Madam Zi Yan quickly urged: "What is it? Tell me."

The Lie Clan was a big clan in the capital, so their fate left the madam puzzled.

Ancient Pine told the story of how Lie Jie blocked Li Qiye's path since Bai Weng had reported it to him in great detail. And now, the Lie Clan's demise reminded him of this matter.

Ancient Pine continued on: "I heard my subordinates say that Young Noble Li had said that the Fire Source of the Lie Clan will definitely be destroyed."

Madam Zi Yan stood up and asked after hearing this: "Has Young Noble Li left your mansion at all?"

Ancient Pine shook his head in response: "When I left, Young Noble Li was still in the mansion. I believe he didn't leave at all."

After hearing this, Madam Zi Yan stood there, quietly thinking.

The Eagle Demon Monarch spoke: "Perhaps this is only a coincidence. It is normal for young people to utter a few words of arrogance."

"That's right." Another monarch added: "The Lie Clan has many experts, not to mention their ancestors. It would be difficult for an outsider to sneak into the Lie Clan without being detected, at least, for those of the younger generation. But in this case, the Lie Clan didn't seem to notice any outsiders, only their Fire Source's sudden explosion."

Madam Zi Yan thought about it a bit more and shook her head: "I'm afraid this matter is not that simple. That Fire Source definitely didn't explode for no reason since it also killed Lie Jie. The Lie Clan had so many people, so why did this flame only kill Lie Jie alone?"

She was not only a virtuous ruler but also very intelligent. This sparked more questions for the demon monarchs.

The alchemist monarch said: "If this wasn't an accident, then there are two possibilities. However, these two possibilities are quite unlikely."

Another demon monarch quickly asked: "Old Sun, don't keep us guessing. What are the two possibilities? Tell us so we can think about it together."

The alchemist monarch mused it through a little bit before speaking: "I have only heard of these two possibilities and have never seen them before. These matters are only in the legends, so it is hard to tell whether they are real or not."

Madam Zi Yan said: "Demon Monarch, go ahead and say it. Whether it is true or not is not important. At the moment, anything is possible."

Chapter 639: Still A Legend

The Alchemist Demon Monarch smiled wryly and said: "This might sound a bit absurd, however, there is a legend about an Alchemy Emperor that goes like this: the emperor was able to control both the Fire Source and Fire Spark. Another tale told of him controlling the fire of a Heavenly Tribulation, but yes, this is strictly fictional. It might be possible to control a Fire Spark due to the matchless flame control of

Alchemy Emperors. However, controlling a Fire Source is a different story. It is one thing if the Fire Source is above ground, but if it is below, then even an emperor would have a hard time controlling it...

"Controlling the flame of a Heavenly Tribulation is even more outrageous. However, people speculated that this would be possible for an Immortal Emperor who was initially an Alchemy Emperor. For example, Immortal Emperor Yao Zu of the Alchemy Kingdom might have been able to control the Heavenly Tribulation's flame, but other Alchemy Emperors won't be able to. Of course, all of this is just gossip among alchemists and no one is certain of anything." [1. Immortal Emperor Yao Zu = Alchemy Ancestor Immortal Emperor.]

"What about the other possibility?" Ancient Pine hastily asked. He was the first to find Li Qiye, so he was more anxious than anyone else.

The alchemist monarch went silent for a bit before speaking: "This other possibility is even more difficult to believe. There is a legend in the world of alchemists: there is a Heavenly Cauldron in this world, one that is even better than the cauldrons of Alchemy Emperors. It is said that this cauldron can devour all the flames in this world as well as any Immortal Medicine. It has an extremely powerful Fire Source, the purest in this world, on top of the best and most unparalleled medicinal trove. In the legends, this cauldron could fly to the sky or maneuver beneath the earth; not only could it control flames, it also devoured countless fire veins. A Fire Source is only a simple meal to it."

There was a Demon Monarch who didn't know much about the dao of alchemy, but he understood the untouchable prestige of Alchemy Emperors and how no one had better cauldrons than them: "A Heavenly Cauldron even more perfect than those of Alchemy Emperors? Can such a cauldron exist?"

The alchemist monarch forced a smile and said: "I can't answer that question since I don't know either. Legend states that this Heavenly Cauldron had become a god, so it should be called a Divine Heavenly Cauldron. But of course, this is only part of the legend since no one has seen it before, not even Alchemy Emperors."

"Both are too hard to imagine." One Demon Monarch shook his head and said: "The contemporary Alchemy Emperor has yet to appear. Although the Nine Worlds do not actively communicate with each other, in my opinion, this generation's Alchemy Emperor will appear in the Stone Medicine World. There is no hope for the previous generation since their blood energy has withered, resulting in them being unable to pass the final gate. The juniors are still young, so they are far from achieving Alchemy Emperor, but it is even more impossible for the Divine Cauldron to exist."

Madam Zi Yan pondered for a bit before asking the alchemist: "Does Demon Monarch think that it is possible for Young Noble Li to control the Fire Source remotely?"

The alchemist thought for a moment and then shook his head while smiling to say: "Your Majesty, I am not sure. To tell you the truth, if Ancient Pine Demon Monarch's descriptions are accurate, then I can firmly say that I have never seen such an alchemist before."

"Brother Sun, don't worry. This old man can say with the utmost confidence that every word is true; I guarantee it with my life."

The alchemist quickly responded: "Brother Ancient Pine is too serious, I never had any doubts regarding your claim. However, this matter is beyond one's imagination, just like the two possibilities I stated

previously. Refining pills like frying beans on top of it being a six transformations fate pill... The truth is that I have never heard or seen such a thing before."

A different monarch asked: "If Brother Ancient Pine's words are correct, then what do you think about Young Noble Li's alchemy skill?"

The alchemist became serious and replied: "I have seen Brother Ancient Pine's fate pill." With an austere expression, he continued on: "To be frank, there are only a few people in the present times that are capable of refining such a fate pill. From my personal understanding, ancient alchemists from the Alchemy Kingdom are capable of performing such a feat. I heard that there are one or two of them, the prime treasures of the kingdom; they have sealed themselves for nearly ten thousand years now and are in deep slumber."

Madam Zi Yan asked: "If this is true, then how do you think Young Noble Li compares to the four alchemy prodigies?"

"This subordinate has never seen Young Noble Li refine pills, but his dao of the pill... " The alchemist paused for a second before continuing: "Compared to Young Noble Li, the four alchemy prodigies are very ordinary. Among the four of them, the alchemist from the Alchemy Kingdom is versed in physique pastes, and the descendant of the Bailian Clan can also be considered to be unbeatable regarding Longevity Medicines." [2. Bailian = Hundred Refinements. But hundred is used here as "amazing".]

"The First Prince of the State of Cao specializes in fate pills among the four, and people think that, among the young alchemists, no one could create them better than him. As for the descendant of the Serene Garden, I heard that this person is knowledgeable with plant cultivation.

"I had the fortune to have met the First Prince of Cao and saw him refine pills once. At that time, the stage was sealed so I couldn't see his method, but the general process proved that he was indeed at the pinnacle of geniuses among young alchemists. Even those of the previous generation would be ashamed to stand before him.

"However, to tell him to refine pills like frying beans would be impossible. Perhaps he would be able to do it when he becomes an Alchemy Emperor, but honestly, even Alchemy Emperors might not be able to accomplish such a task, unless they were refining low-level pills of one or two transformations."

A monarch stood up and said: "Are you trying to say that Young Noble Li is an Alchemy Emperor?"

"I'm not sure. If Young Noble Li can refine pills this easily, then even if he isn't one, he is only a step away. In the future, no one else could become the Alchemy Emperor." The alchemist smiled wryly and said: "If someone asked me the question of who can refine pills like stir-frying veggies, I might not be sure about all the Alchemy Emperors, but one person is certainly capable of this."

"Who?" Ancient Pine quickly asked.

The alchemist took a deep breath and answered in a respectful and solemn manner: "The Alchemy God, the existence that established the laws of alchemy."

Anyone would display an extremely respectful attitude when mentioning the Alchemy God, especially at the Stone Medicine World where alchemists thrived the most. The Alchemy God had an unreachable prestige in this place, even higher than Immortal Emperors.

Nothing but respect could be found from alchemists regarding this topic since the Alchemy God had an incomparable status in their hearts. Without the Alchemy God, there would be no complete dao system for alchemy like the one today. Many Alchemy Emperors appeared since the beginning of time, but outside of the Alchemy God, even the most heaven-defying emperors didn't dare to call themselves an Alchemy God. This was out of respect for the alchemy progenitor.

In the end, Madam Zi Yan told Ancient Pine: "Elder Pine, tomorrow, I will personally go to your mansion to greet Young Noble Li."

She didn't bring up the matter of the Lie Clan anymore. To her and the country, the fate of the Lie Clan was not important. It was only another family in the capital, not one of her subjects.

In the meantime, in Ancient Pine's mansion, Bai Weng received the news about the Lie Clan. He shuddered when he heard that their Fire Source exploded and Lie Jie died a terrible death.

He heard what Li Qiye had said to Lie Jie before, and now, it actually happened, so how could he not be astonished?

Although he hadn't seen Li Qiye take action, he was sure that Li Qiye was the culprit even if he didn't leave the mansion. However, he didn't know how this was possible.

He recognized that Li Qiye was not as harmless as he seemed. Li Qiye was not only a genius at pill refinement and a generous prodigal son that could scare people to death, he was also the ruthless type. He would decisively make a decision without showing any mercy as he unleashed his thunderous wrath upon his enemies. The Lie Clan was a living example.

The Lie Clan's sudden accident caused a huge stir in the capital. Overnight, some people were happy, some were sad, and others lost sleep throughout the night.

However, none of this had anything to do with Li Qiye since he had a great night's sleep.

In the morning, when Li Qiye woke up, Ancient Pine and Bai Weng had already been waiting outside.

Ancient Pine stepped forward after seeing Li Qiye and respectfully spoke: "Did Young Noble have a good night's rest?"

Li Qiye glanced over at Ancient Pine and smiled: "Demon Monarch can be frank with me, there is no need to beat around the bush."

Ancient Pine awkwardly smiled and rubbed his palms together to say: "Her Highness is here to see Young Noble and is in the main hall right now. Will you meet her?"

Under normal circumstances, outsiders would find this matter hard to believe. The Giant Bamboo Country was still a big country in the Alchemy Realm, and Madam Zi Yan was its Royal Lord. As a Demon King with a Heavenly King cultivation, she would be regarded as a top character no matter where she went.

However, today, Royal Lord Zi Yan personally came early to visit with a sincere and humble attitude — this was quite surprising.

It made sense if she was visiting an ancestor of a great power, but today, she was only seeing a young man, a youth without any fame.

The entire country would be shocked if this were to come out. Just what kind of character was worthy of their Royal Lord's grand treatment?

"If your Royal Lord is here, then I'll see her." Li Qiye reacted very blandly and smiled.

Bai Weng, who was standing to the side, didn't dare to comment. He knew that anyone else would have felt a sense of honor and pride, but Li Qiye reacted calmly as if this was how it should be. This was indicative of his heaven-defying peerlessness.

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Chapter 640: Meeting Again

In the main hall, Madam Zi Yan sat there, waiting, accompanied by seventeen Demon Monarchs. This was quite a grand showing. It could be said that all of the most powerful rulers in the Giant Bamboo Country were here.

Such a showing could only be seen when greeting Virtuous Paragons. Ordinary grand characters would never see such a big gesture.

Initially, Madam Zi Yan wanted to go see him alone, but the other monarchs also wanted to see just what this illustrious person who could refine pills like cooking named Li Qiye looked like, so they followed to add to the fun.

Anyone who had never witnessed such a grand team before would tremble upon seeing a Demon King and seventeen Demon Monarchs together. However, upon his arrival, Li Qiye was still as relaxed and comfortable as ever.

The monarchs were stunned to see Li Qiye since he was completely different from what they had imagined. They assumed that a supreme alchemist with such great pill refinement skill should at least have a floating immortal aura; each of his steps should give birth to lotuses or at least have an imposing momentum.

However, Li Qiye looked quite bland and lacked perceivably excellent qualities. If they didn't know of his skills beforehand, they wouldn't believe that this ordinary man before them was the famed alchemist.

Madam Zi Yan was also astounded to see Li Qiye since she didn't expect to meet him again in these circumstances.

Li Qiye sat down and glanced around before stopping on Madam Zi Yan, then he grinned.

He laughed when he saw her dazed expression and said in a carefree manner: "Your Majesty, we meet again. It has been a while."

The monarchs were surprised as well as they all looked back at Madam Zi Yan. They didn't expect for their Demon King to have met Li Qiye once already.

Ultimately, she was still a Demon King, so she quickly composed herself and revealed an elegant and noble smile to say: "I also didn't expect that you were Young Noble Li."

So it turned out that Madam Zi Yan was the woman Li Qiye met in the ancient house on the outskirts of the capital on that night! She didn't expect that man who spewed out such arrogant words and was lost in his delusions to be the supreme alchemist, Li Qiye.

In fact, it was not quite a coincidence. That night, Li Qiye went to the ancient house in order to recall his past. As for the madam, she went there whenever there was a big issue to contemplate in silence, to follow the example of her Matriarch.

"Young Noble's arrival is our Giant Bamboo's honor." The elegant Demon King Zi Yan said: "I am very busy and couldn't greet you right away, so please excuse the lack of hospitality. Today, we prepared some meager gifts as an apology."

A servant carried a chest forward. It had yet to be opened, but the immense sound it made when it dropped to the ground showed that the items inside were not ordinary.

Li Qiye didn't open it for a look, however. The majority of treasures was nothing in his eyes. He only revealed a carefree smile instead: "To meet is to be connected by fate; Your Majesty can be straightforward with me."

Madam Zi Yan replied: "I heard our Demon Monarch say that Young Noble is interested in being an alchemist of our country — I wonder if this is true?"

Li Qiye smiled and said: "We can talk about the alchemist position later, but I heard Your Majesty needs someone to participate in the Alchemy Conference for the Giant Bamboo Country. I can lend you a hand with this."

The monarchs glanced at each other, and the madam was shocked as well. No one thought that Li Qiye would agree so readily.

A supreme alchemist was highly sought after no matter where they were in the Stone Medicine World, even imperial lineages were no exception.

One must pay a tremendous sum to invite such an alchemist. Even the Qing Clan negotiated quite a lot with the Giant Bamboo Country just for entering the Alchemy Conference. After all, alchemists were quite popular, especially the young and talented ones.

So now, Li Qiye's swift agreement was outside of everyone's expectations.

However, Madam Zi Yan understood that there was no free meal in this world, so she asked straightforwardly: "May I ask what your wishes are? Or what can the Giant Bamboo Country do to assist you with? If you need anything, just say the word."

Li Qiye smiled and shook his head: "I am not looking down on the Giant Bamboo Country, but this country does not have the things I desire. I trust that Your Majesty is quick with your intel. So, do you feel that I lack treasures or wealth?"

These words were quite arrogant and caused some of the monarchs to be unhappy, but they all admitted that he was only speaking the truth.

Even Madam Zi Yan had to smile bitterly. Spending two hundred Immortal Emperor Refined Jades to buy an Alchemy Fowl... Such a wasteful act was indicative of his riches. Even if the country mustered up its entire treasury, it would still be very difficult to produce two hundred Immortal Emperor Refined Jades.

Li Qiye alone was capable of throwing out such a sum without a care; he clearly was not short of money. Since even an entire country was not necessarily richer than him, the gap between the two sides was considerable.

Li Qiye smiled and asked: "However, if Your Highness really wants me to provide a condition... This wouldn't be hard either. I will participate in the Alchemy Conference for the Giant Bamboo Country, but I have a brother who wants to be a court alchemist, what does Your Highness think about this?"

Ancient Pine quietly reported to Madam Zi Yan. After hearing his words, she asked Li Qiye: "Is Young Noble talking about Shi Hao?"

"Correct." Li Qiye nodded and said: "It is by fate that we've met, so although I will not take in a disciple, he has learned a bit of my pill refinement skill. Brother Shi's clan was once loyal subjects of the Giant Bamboo Country, and he also wants to contribute to the country. I trust that he will be able to do so in the future."

Madam Zi Yan nodded her head in agreement: "I can't ask for more regarding this matter. As long as Envoy Shi Hao is willing, the imperial court welcomes his registration at any time."

The other monarchs were quite ecstatic as well. Since Shi Hao had learned some pill arts from a supreme alchemist like Li Qiye, he would surely become a great talent in the future for the Giant Bamboo Country.

Li Qiye commanded Bai Weng: "Tell Shi Hao to come meet Her Majesty and the other monarchs." Li Qiye trained him not just because he valued Shi Hao, it was also to train a talent for the Giant Bamboo Country.

Soon, Bai Weng led Shi Hao into the room. Prior to this, Bai Weng had clearly told him of the situation, but Shi Hao's legs still shuddered the moment he saw the monarchs and Madam Zi Yan.

All the monarchs were of the Ancient Saint and Heavenly Sovereign realms. Needless to say, Madam Zi Yan was a Heavenly King with even greater prestige. Shi Hao had never encountered such a situation before, so he was quite nervous.

He actually felt that this was all a dream. He had aspirations of reviving his clan, to be a court alchemist one day and slowly rebuild his family. However, these were only dreams buried deep inside his heart since, as a little envoy, he was very far from reaching these aspirations.

Prior to this, he didn't even dream about meeting Her Majesty, but it was one of his wishes during his youth.

His dream came true too fast and he was not mentally prepared. He stepped inside the room while quivering, clearly having lost his calm.

Seeing Shi Hao's anxiety, Li Qiye encouraged him: "Shi Hao, go greet the monarchs and Her Majesty. Her Majesty has agreed for you to become a court alchemist."

Li Qiye's reminder caused the nervous Shi Hao to calm down. He kneeled down and bowed: "Shi Hao from the Shi Clan greets Your Majesty."

"Rise." Madam Zi Yan accepted his bow and nodded her head: "The Shi Clan from the Calm River County had always been loyal subjects of the Giant Bamboo Country with great contributions. Today, you may enter the court and will bring prestige back to the name Shi."

Shi Hao was still overwhelmed by the swift and sudden realization of his dream. Her Majesty had personally allowed for him to become a court alchemist!

While Shi Hao's mind was still foggy, Bai Weng led him around to meet the other monarchs to fulfill his responsibility as Shi Hao's caretaker.

After greeting all the monarchs, Shi Hao composed himself and prostrated before Li Qiye and emotionally uttered: "Big Brother..."

Countless words ran rampant in his mind, but he didn't know where to start or how to express them. He understood that everything he gained today was because of Li Qiye.

Li Qiye also accepted his prostration and calmly said: "Do your best. It is not difficult to repay me as long as you don't bring shame to my refinement technique. My pill technique is the best across the eons, so even if you have only learned a little bit, as long as you keep trying hard with diligence, then you will surely become a Legendary Alchemist in the future. I would be disappointed if you couldn't achieve this."

His words caused the madam and the monarchs to take deep breaths. What a bold tone, claiming himself to be the best of all time! Even the Alchemy Kingdom wouldn't dare to make such a bombastic proclamation regarding their pill techniques.

However, such words from Li Qiye's mouth carried great confidence and calmness as if it was not merely outrageous and ignorant blustering.

Shi Hao took a calming breath and clenched his fists to say: "Big Brother, rest assured, I will definitely not let you down!" He had a new goal in his mind while being full of ambition. He must become a Legendary Alchemist!

Prior to this, he only wanted to become an Alchemy Master to be eligible to join the imperial court.