

Domination 691

Chapter 691: Secret Of Dao-Sense Peak

As their first emperor, Immortal Emperor Wan Shi heralded an extraordinary era for the future of the golems. However, he was another emperor full of mysteries and didn't leave behind any lineage or inheritance either. There were even rumors stating that the emperor didn't take in a disciple at all.

Moreover, he seemed to disappear overnight; no one knew how he managed to do so or where he went. His whereabouts were a mystery to the Stone Medicine World, and something even stranger was that some thought that he was still in this world.

In short, although he was the first golem emperor, there were very few items or findings related to him. However, this palm print ahead was one of the few things from the emperor that could be researched.

Legend states that during the Desolate Era, after Immortal Emperor Wan Shi shouldered the Heaven's Will, he traveled across the world and stumbled upon Allpine Mountain. After enjoying the beautiful sceneries here, he went on top of a peak and left behind a palm print.

Later on, this peak became the famous Dao-sense Peak, an object of numerous theories and legends.

One legend stated that when the emperor left behind his palm print, it also left behind his dao lineage that merely awaited the right inheritor. Others said that it wasn't a complete dao lineage, but an invincible secret art of this world. Another conjecture was that this place contained a map. If one could understand this map, then they would be able to find the location where the emperor left behind his treasury...

In short, regardless of the theory, everyone from the future generations believed that the emperor did indeed leave behind a mystery here that year. It could be a merit law or the dao lineage of an Immortal Emperor, or maybe a treasure map...

Because of this, for tens of millions of years, people had always come here to learn, but no one had heard of any success.

However, there was another rumor that stated that the Allpine Treefather had obtained something from this place. The story claimed that after the treefather obtained intelligence and shape from the dao, he came to this cliff to learn and gained the emperor's secret art. Because of this, he was finally able to become a Demon Forefather...

Allpine Mountain and even the Allpine Treefather himself neither denied nor confirmed this particular rumor, thus, outsiders didn't know whether the treefather had obtained something in this place or not.

All in all, as long as there was a chance to enter Allpine Mountain, any cultivator, especially the younger ones who valued themselves greatly, would come to Dao-sense Peak to ponder the mysteries left behind by Immortal Emperor Wan Shi.

Allpine Mountain did not stop cultivators from going to the peak to search for enlightenment. In fact, this was not a big deal to them. It could even be said that the mountain was not afraid of anyone understanding the profundities within because, for tens of millions of years, countless brilliant geniuses were unable to do so, thus it was impossible for others even if they tried.

However, even though everyone knew that it was impossible, they never gave up and continued to come and test themselves. This time, during the treefather's birthday, many guests and young geniuses didn't mind traveling the long distance. Since they were already here, they wouldn't miss the opportunity to come meditate at Dao-sense Peak.

Unfortunately, during the last couple of days, countless people had come and gone, but no one's efforts yielded any fruit. Groups came and went despite all of them knowing that they would leave empty-handed, but they still did not give up since it would be a waste of a trip to Alpine Mountain.

"Well, there is basically nothing on this cliff, haa." At this time, many young cultivators were at the cliff, wanting to unravel the mysteries. However, after a very long time, they still hadn't found anything, so one of the cultivators chose to give up.

"There is definitely something there." A more gifted person spoke: "I can clearly sense the fluctuations within these dao runes; it's as if they are full of imperial aura. It is absolutely true that Immortal Emperor Wan Shi left behind a secret art here."

"So what?" The cultivator who gave up said: "Countless geniuses have tried for millions of years and found no way of learning it. I don't have a chance anyway, might as well give up now."

After the group that had given up left, new groups came, coming to ponder on the palm print.

At this time, Li Qiye's carriage slowly climbed the peak. The moment he arrived at the cliff, the many cultivators here immediately glanced at him, especially the younger ones. They all stared at the carriage.

Of course, their eyes weren't on a nobody like Li Qiye, but on Madam Zi Yan instead. A beautiful Demon King like her would attract attention no matter where she went.

"Lady Zi Yan, we meet again." Before the carriage stopped, a young man with a mature look came to greet her. He had golden hair, bold tiger-like eyes, and a lion-like forehead — a rather heroic appearance. He quickly walked forward, and each of his steps emitted powerful roars. His strength was clear at a single glance.

Although this person was not too old, one absolutely must not underestimate him. He, along with Madam Zi Yan, were both the rulers of their countries; he was the Royal Lord of the Lion Country with the title Lion Young King. [1. This could have been Young Lion King, then we have our own little Simba in ED.]

The Lion Young King was one of Madam Zi Yan's many suitors, so he was very excited after seeing her and immediately came to give his greetings.

The madam slightly nodded and said after seeing his approach: "Lion Young King, long time no see."

The young king gazed at the madam with a pair of eyes full of adoration and quickly smiled in response: "It has been five years since our last meeting. Miss Zi Yan is not only prettier, but your cultivation has become even more amazing. You are no weaker than any contemporary genius."

Many people were looking at the madam, and of course, some of the younger ones wanted to come and start a conversation. However, they must be sensible regarding their own status and power. She was a great Demon King, so how could ordinary cultivators have the courage or qualifications to come greet

her? Among the entire Stone Medicine World, very few young cultivators were able to reach the Heavenly King realm.

The madam only nodded with a smile, but the Lion Young King was afraid of giving up a good chance to travel together. Before the madam could say anything else, he quickly added: "Miss Zi Yan, I heard that your Giant Bamboo Country was still searching for talents, an alchemist to represent your country in the conference. I wonder if you have found one? If not, then I can introduce you to some; I know a few alchemists, all of whom are quite famous."

"You don't have to worry about that, the Giant Bamboo Country already has an alchemist for the conference." Before the madam could answer, a different voice responded. Of course, the speaker was Li Qiye. He, who was previously resting, now had his eyes open and interrupted them with a smirk.

Li Qiye's sudden interjection left the Lion Young King a bit stunned. In fact, everyone was a bit stunned. It could even be said that all of them were only looking at the madam, and not many of them even caught a glimpse of him.

"This is...?" At this time, the Lion Young King finally took a look at Li Qiye. After seeing that there was nothing special about him, he immediately paid him no mind. If it wasn't out of consideration for the madam, a ruler like him wouldn't even bother talking to Li Qiye.

"The Giant Bamboo Country's alchemist." Before the madam could introduce him, Li Qiye smiled and slowly responded in her stead.

"It's an honor to meet you at last." The Lion Young King lightly said to Li Qiye before he stopped looking at him. If it wasn't for the madam, a nobody like Li Qiye wouldn't even be worthy to speak with him. [2. Just a cordial/fake phrase.]

The young king wanted to talk to the madam, but she didn't seem to be very interested and spoke to Li Qiye instead: "Young Master, we are here at Dao-sense Peak, would you like to go closer for a look?"

"Very well, since we are here, we might as well take a look at it." Li Qiye smiled and stretched out his hand. The madam didn't say anything and held his hand to help him down from the carriage.

This scene caused many people to be quite annoyed. In their eyes, Li Qiye was acting too big; he actually wanted assistance to descend from his carriage? Moreover, it was from a character of Madam Zi Yan's level.

Keep in mind that very few youngsters present were qualified to even speak with her. They must at least be characters at the same level as the Lion Young King.

But now, a nobody like Li Qiye was being helped down from the carriage by the madam — this was showboating beyond reason. Countless people were both jealous and envious in their minds, especially the youths who admired the madam. The only thing they wanted to do right now was to completely annihilate Li Qiye, but they could only mentally barrage him with curses.

The Lion Young King was about to explode from exasperation as well. He had been pursuing the madam for a very long time, but there was no reciprocation. And now, this nobody was able to enjoy such nice treatment. How could the young king not go crazy when the madam was showing Li Qiye so much favor?

However, such a thing to Li Qiye was natural, and he even took it for granted. After getting off the carriage, he went closer to the straight cliff ahead, accompanied by the madam.

“What a braggart...” Some people secretly scowled after seeing Li Qiye acting so pompously. Even if Li Qiye wasn’t arrogant, in the eyes of others, he was putting on a show, making others quite uncomfortable. Who was to blame when he had a beauty such as the madam accompanying him?

Li Qiye stood before the cliff and looked at the palm print on it before casually saying: “Needing to meditate about such a simple thing, what a joke.”

Chapter 692: No Strangest, Only Stranger

Li Qiye’s statement immediately soured the expressions of many cultivators here. Both young and old were here to learn the mystery left behind by Immortal Emperor Wan Shi, so Li Qiye’s statement offended them all.

The madam couldn’t help but wryly smile at this as well. To immediately offend everyone with his first sentence — this truly required some skill. However, she had already grown accustomed to this since this was not her first time seeing her Young Master act so arrogantly.

“You don’t know the immensity of the heaven and earth.” The Lion Young King’s expression turned cold as he thunderously denounced: “How could a little alchemist like you understand the mystery left behind by Immortal Emperor Wan Shi? Don’t stand here and embarrass yourself. It is one thing if Miss Zi Yan could understand a bit, but a little alchemist like you spouting nonsense? Get to the side and don’t bother people trying to meditate here...”

The Lion Young King was already annoyed at Li Qiye, so now after hearing his blustering, it was just in time for him to yell so that this little alchemist would know his place.

Li Qiye was too lazy to look at the young king. He swung his sleeve as if he was chasing away a fly and said: “Zi Yan, where did this stupid creature come from? Chase this eyesore away from my presence.”

“You!” The young king’s expression became extremely unsightly. He was the ruler of an entire country, a character with status, but he was now being humiliated by a nobody, how could he not be enraged?

The madam slightly shook her head and said: “Lion Young King, please leave. Our Young Master does not welcome you.”

The young king trembled from anger. He didn’t expect for the madam to speak these words to him; he couldn’t help but utter: “Miss Zi Yan, if your country needs an alchemist, our Lion Country will do our best to help you find an amazing young alchemist. Why do you have to show consideration for this nobody and suffer this injustice...”

“Lion Young King, I appreciate your kind intentions, but our Giant Bamboo Country’s matters will be handled by us.” The madam slowly said. Her attitude clearly showed how she wanted to chase him away.

The young king was very displeased. Today, he had suffered a great disgrace. He was already humiliated by this nobody Li Qiye, and now, even the madam was not being welcoming towards him. Nothing could

be more shameful than this to him. He coldly scowled and gave a chilling glare towards Li Qiye before walking to the side.

Li Qiye ignored the young king and told the madam next to him: "Zi Yan, with such a good treasure displayed before everyone yet no one wants it, I'll take it and give it to you as a small gift."

"Such a big tone." At this time, a cold voice came from the crowd. One person stepped out from the group and snorted to say: "Nameless brat, do you know what this is? This is the supreme mystery left behind by Immortal Emperor Wan Shi. Since the ancient ages, even the most talented were unable to understand the slightest bit within it!"

The person who came out from the group was a young man. After coming out, his body emitted an unbearable heat and his steps created a metallic sound. He had sharp brows and bright eyes, culminating a handsome appearance with a proud aura.

"Vinepill King." A person exclaimed after seeing this young man ahead.

"I'm a nameless brat?" Li Qiye chuckled at this young man's address and leisurely said: "Where did this dog come from to dare bark in front of me like this?"

This response caused an uproar from the crowd. One person couldn't help but yell: "Ignorant fool who doesn't even recognize the Vinepill King, you are a frog under a well!"

The youth called the Vinepill King turned red from anger after hearing this. Although he was not the most powerful or famous character in present times, he was still very notorious, not to mention he had a remarkable background.

"Nameless brat, listen well. This young noble is a disciple of the Heavenhoof Ravine, and people call me the Vinepill King..." The youth couldn't swallow this anger, so he stated his title.

In fact, the cultivators here, both young and old, were very afraid of this youth. Regarding fame and cultivation, the Vinepill King couldn't compare to famous geniuses in the present times or a great Demon King like Madam Zi Yan. However, he indeed had an amazing background as a disciple of the Heavenhoof Ravine. Moreover, he was highly regarded by its elders.

The Vinepill King was a demon king that was born from the dao of alchemy. He was birthed from the metal of the cauldron and forged by its flames to become a demon, thus possessing an astonishing degree of control over. Because of this, after joining the ravine, he was immediately valued by the elders and had the potential to be a leader of its alchemy section.

Although his strength and fame were less than the descendant of the ravine, the Golden Crow Prince, his position there was still very high. In addition to this, he was famous among its youths.

It was needless to say more about the Heavenhoof Ravine; this was an imperial lineage with two emperors that controlled fifteen countries in the Beast Realm with their great might.

After giving out his name, even those who didn't know him would have heard of the Heavenhoof Ravine and its background, thus becoming fearful.

"Never heard of it." Li Qiye waved his hand and interrupted the Vinepill King's introduction. His attitude made the king angry to the point of wanting to vomit blood. It was as if he was talking to a wall! He

assumed that his lineage would be able to frighten a nobody like Li Qiye. After all, there were very few lineages in the Stone Medicine World who weren't afraid of his sect.

The madam next to Li Qiye only chuckled. It seemed that there were very few things in this world that could make her young master look twice.

"This brat is ridiculously arrogant..." Many people here gently shook their heads at the sight of Li Qiye's arrogance. They knew that those who offended the ravine would not have a good ending.

Remember that the Alchemy Kingdom, the reclusive Jianlong Clan, and the Beastmaster Citadel did not care for the secular world and hid from everyone's eyes. Because of this, the Heavenhoof Ravine was now arguably the most overbearing and powerful sect in present times. As long as the three previously named monsters didn't come out, no one would be able to contend with the Heavenhoof Ravine.

Nevertheless, Li Qiye didn't care for the Vinepill King. He told the madam: "Zi Yan, watch, I will get you the item left behind by Immortal Emperor Wan Shi."

The madam was taken aback this time. Earlier, she thought that her Young Master was just joking because everyone knew that this mystery had been left behind for countless years and was studied by numerous geniuses. The only person that was rumored to have found success was the Allpine Treefather.

But now, this entire mystery seemed so trivial when it came out of Li Qiye's mouth. It was as if he had it within his grasp. While the madam was still startled, Li Qiye had already walked to the cliff and looked at the palm print, smiling.

The most upset with Li Qiye was the Lion Young King, so he coldly uttered: "What an arrogant junior. For millions of years, many geniuses yearned to comprehend it, yet all have failed. A worthless junior like him actually dares to try to solve the mystery of Immortal Emperor Wan Shi?"

However, Li Qiye paid no attention to the crowd. At this moment, he pricked his finger and let a drop of blood drip onto the palm print on the cliff.

"Haha, this young noble actually thought this nobody would have some incredible method, but this joke is actually using blood to try to gain the treasure's acceptance. Truly a frog under a well, a real country bumpkin. You think this treasure has its own consciousness? Or do you think you are the descendant of Immortal Emperor Wan Shi? To actually drip your blood onto the treasure, this type of joke can only trick little children." After seeing Li Qiye dripping his blood onto the palm print, the Vinepill King exploded in laughter.

Ridiculing Li Qiye before everyone allowed him to recover a bit of face.

A genius cultivator snorted and shook his head to say: "Ah, earlier, he was spouting some really outrageous stuff, so I thought he actually had some earth-shattering method. Who would expect for him to play this game of blood acceptance? Which village did this brat come from? To actually try this trick... Has he never seen the real world before?"

"Just an ignorant brat, nothing more." At this time, the Lion Young King sneered and continued to beat the drowning dog: "Immortal Emperor Wan Shi left behind a supreme mystery, an invincible secret art, a treasure..."

However, after Li Qiye completed the blood rite and placed his palm onto the print, a buzzing sound could be heard. At this second, overflowing strands of light came out from the print and rushed into Li Qiye's palm like tidal waves.

"Buzz—" A series of metallic sounds resounded as these lights encompassed both of Li Qiye's hands and turned into an old pair of gloves that emitted an ancient luster.

"What..." Before the Lion Young King could finish his mocking, this scene had already occurred, causing his mouth to open wide. He became unable to speak.

In fact, all the spectators were currently dumbfounded and stared at Li Qiye in a daze. They all felt that this moment was too unbelievable. Their mouths were big enough to cram a goose egg inside, and they couldn't close them for a very long time due to their astonishment.

Even the madam stood there looking silly. She couldn't believe it; this was too irrational. How could such a thing happen?

However, what was considered impossible by all had become reality. Everyone on Dao-sense Peak at this moment witnessed it with their own eyes and felt that it was too devilish.

"This... is unreal... it, was it really that simple?" A person simply couldn't believe what they saw and thought that it was only his own vague and unclear sight.

However, one person could make this mistake, but it was impossible for everyone to have the same illusion all at once. This matter actually happened.

Everyone struggled to regain their sanity. Those who laughed at Li Qiye earlier felt their faces burning up. Li Qiye's actions was simply a violent slap to their faces.

"This is so... irrational... Didn't the emperor leave behind a supreme secret art? Why, why did it turn out to be a treasure? Moreover, moreover, it is uncovered by the old trick of blood acceptance?" Even after calming down, an older cultivator still found this whole thing to be inconceivable.

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Chapter 693: God’s Hands

Ever since the Desolate Era, legends had always dictated that Immortal Emperor Wan Shi left behind a secret art or even his entire legacy at this place. A treasure map was also a possible outcome.

Because of this, countless people and geniuses came to unravel the mystery left behind by the emperor. They tried to sense any changes within the cliff and felt a certain fluctuation, which was believed to be the remnant of an imperial aura.

However, who would have thought that the emperor left behind a treasure instead of any of the three listed in the legends?! Taking a step back, even if people predicted that it was a treasure, who would have thought about the simplest method to obtain it?

A blood acceptance rite had been done before. Most of the time, this method would only be used by ancestors to leave behind items to their descendants. Only the descendants with their bloodline would be able to successfully perform this rite.

In fact, very few people would use this old trick. Moreover, Immortal Emperor Wan Shi was an amazing emperor and the first of the golems who brought about a new era for his race. Such an emperor would more or less leave behind a trial to test the future generations for them to obtain his inheritance. For example, a test for talent or intelligence, or perhaps a test of the dao heart...? Only by passing through these tests would one be able to obtain the treasure. This would have been more the style of an emperor, unlike using the laziest method that resembled a joke — a blood acceptance rite.

A famed emperor left behind a treasure for the future generations, and those who were destined would obtain it, but he actually used the most old-fashioned and simple method for them to get it. This was complete nonsense!

“Immortal Emperor Wan Shi... Wan Shi.” Li Qiye chuckled while looking at the gloves in his hands.

To the world, an Immortal Emperor had unrivaled prestige and was unreachable. However, Li Qiye, who had lived for many ages, knew that Immortal Emperor Wan Shi was special among the emperors, just like his name, Wan Shi. To mischievously trick the people of this world — this was the real meaning behind the name Wan Shi. [1. Okay, Wan = mischievous; obstinate; to play; stupid; stubborn; naughty. Shi = life; age; generation; era; world; lifetime. However, the true meaning Li Qiye said here is a four-word phrase — Wan Xi Ren Shi, meaning Mischievously Trick the People of the World. Ren means human, so Ren + Shi = everyone/people.]

The emperor left behind a treasure not to test the future generations, it was simply him playing around on a whim.

Li Qiye had come here before. Throughout the ages, Li Qiye had seen many mysteries and treasures, so after looking at this cliff, he knew that this place hid a treasure and not a supreme technique like what was recorded in the legends.

However, at that time, Li Qiye was also puzzled at the reason why the emperor left behind a treasure here. Later on, he had something else to do and didn’t stay behind to research this any further. It wasn’t

until much later when Li Qiye, in his Dark Crow form, thought about all the achievements of the emperor that he understood why the emperor left a treasure behind. He was just casually doing it to mess with the future generations.

Nevertheless, although Li Qiye had come and gone to the Stone Medicine World later on, he still didn't take this treasure away. Eventually, Allpine Mountain finally had a new master once the Allpine Treefather rose to eminence.

Although this treasure was amazing, Li Qiye didn't have time to come take such a treasure. Keep in mind that his treasury in the past had countless treasures.

Li Qiye looked at the gloves with enjoyment, then he glanced at the group of the Lion Young King and Pillvine King while nonchalantly saying: "Earlier, who said that this was a country bumpkin's method? In the end, who is the real idiot for not even being able to see through such a method? Boasting in front of me with such meager intelligence, talking about the immensity of the heaven and earth and a frog in a well... If I'm a frog in a well, then you who can't even see through such a simple method aren't even qualified to be the insects stomped beneath my feet."

Li Qiye's mouth had always been vicious and especially unforgiving to his enemies.

At this time, many people's faces were burning up since they laughed at Li Qiye earlier. Now, they were met with a slap to their faces. This kind of karma came biting back a bit too soon...

"Hmph, a frog in a well is a frog in a well." At this time, the Lion Young King snorted and coldly said: "It is only one treasure, why the need to act so triumphantly? What's the big deal?"

To the young king, his feud with Li Qiye had already been established, so he thought of this argument to vent his anger.

"Is that so?" Li Qiye leered at the lion king. If this nonsensical thing wanted to provoke him, then he would be very happy to teach him a good lesson. Li Qiye leisurely said: "Just this one treasure... I'm afraid that even if your bullshit Lion Country mustered all of its strength, it still wouldn't be able to find a treasure like this!"

"Such presumptuousness!" The young king's expression greatly changed. He was the ruler of a country but was now being slapped in the face by this nobody — how could he swallow this anger? He sneered and said: "Ignorant brat, you think you are the best just because you obtained one treasure? I'll teach you a lesson in your parents' stead so that you will learn that just because you obtained an amazing treasure, an ant like you is still trash..."

"Come." Before the young king could finish, Li Qiye gestured with his finger towards the king and said: "If you want to fight with me, then good, today, I'll beat you so that even your mother will not be able to recognize you."

This provocation enraged the young king. With a fierce expression, he shouted: "Ignorant brat, I will have your head today!"

The moment these words came out, a blood energy rose like a tide and covered the sky.

In this split second, the young king took action with a lion-like roar. His fingers turned into a claw and he pounced towards Li Qiye like a lion. It was as if this claw wanted to devour Li Qiye with just one bite.

“Scram!” Li Qiye didn’t even bat an eye against this devouring claw from the young king. He kept his palms together and, in an instant, the gloves turned into a heavenly seal that emitted divine universal laws as if the gods were descending to earth. An endless divine aura swept through the world with great ferocity.

“Bang!” After a loud collision, one could hear the sounds of bones breaking. The young king’s entire arm turned into a mist of blood under the attack of the heavenly seal. He couldn’t even scream before he was blown out of Allpine Mountain, disappearing into the horizon with an unknown fate.

This happened too quickly for the spectators to respond. One had to know that the young king was the ruler of a country. Even if he was not as strong as Madam Zi Yan, he was still an amazing expert. However, his arm was destroyed in just one move, and he himself was thrown out of Allpine Mountain. How terrifying was this attack?

“Buzzz.” After blowing the young king away, the heavenly seal disappeared as the gloves, with an ancient luster, emerged once again on Li Qiye’s hands.

A character from the older generation was shocked after seeing such a scene. He took a deep breath and murmured: “An incredible artifact...”

“God’s Hands.” Li Qiye looked at the gloves and smirked to say: “A fully justified reputation, not bad at all.” [1. The name is actually Hands Of The Gods to be more specific. Gods is purposefully plural here in the Chinese version, but I think God’s Hands is shorter and sounds better in English versus Hands Of The Gods each time.]

After some gasps, all eyes immediately fell on Li Qiye’s gloves. When Li Qiye attacked earlier, it was as if the gods had descended along with their sweeping divine aura. Everyone then understood that these gloves were unfathomable and were definitely an earth-shattering treasure. Because of this, piercing gazes became fixated on the gloves as everyone had a look of lust.

“The treasure left behind by Immortal Emperor Wan Shi is amazing.” Another murmured.

Although the Lion Young King looked down on Li Qiye’s gloves earlier, everyone now knew that these gloves definitely had an unbelievable origin. Just think about it, who was Immortal Emperor Wan Shi? He was an invincible emperor, the first of the golems!

How could an existence of this level leave behind a simple treasure? It definitely had an amazing origin, it could even be his Immortal Emperor Life Treasure!

After thinking to this point, countless people salivated. If there wasn’t for their hesitation, some might have already rushed forward to rob it.

At this time, Li Qiye slowly glanced over at everyone, and his eyes stopped on the Vinepill King. He chuckled and said: “So? You were not convinced earlier, do you want to provoke me as well?”

The Vinepill King immediately grimaced after hearing this provocation. However, the Lion Young King had set an example, so he couldn’t help but involuntarily step backward.

However, he immediately halted his retreat. As someone from an imperial lineage, being afraid of Li Qiye was akin to shaming the Heavenhoof Ravine.

The king stepped forward with a straight posture and revealed a sneer: "Relying on Immortal Emperor Wan Shi's treasure to show off, what is so great about that? I am an alchemist, if you are so amazing, then compete with me with the dao of alchemy."

"Alchemy dao?" Li Qiye glanced at him and couldn't help but smirk.

Li Qiye's smirk left Madam Zi Yan quietly shaking her head. The Vinepill King was only bringing humiliation to himself. Competing with her Young Master in the dao of alchemy? This was simply displaying one's slight skill before a true master!

The Vinepill King noticed that Li Qiye didn't answer immediately, causing him to be even more confident. He arched his chest while glaring at Li Qiye and provoked him: "Oh? Are you afraid? Didn't you want to represent the Giant Bamboo Country for the alchemy conference? Since you are an alchemist, come compete on the dao of alchemy then. Heh, that conference is where all the gifted alchemists of the three realms gather. If you are nervous now, then don't bother going to the conference since you would only be humiliating the Giant Bamboo Country."

At this point, the Vinepill king became even more aggressive. He thought that Li Qiye didn't dare to compete, so his confidence was through the roof. And even if Li Qiye dared to accept the challenge, he was not afraid of a no-named alchemist like Li Qiye.

Although the Heavenhoof Ravine was not as adept as the Alchemy Kingdom regarding the dao of alchemy, as a dual emperors sect, it still had powerful alchemists, so their achievements in this regard were considerable.

Chapter 694: Alchemy Materials On The Line

The Pillvine King's original form was an alchemy vine that was fueled by natural fire to become a demon, thus his flame controlling skill was amazing. Because of this, he was innately gifted in learning the dao of alchemy.

It could be said that he had obtained the main teachings from the alchemists of the ravine. Although he was not as good as the four great prodigies, such as Yuan Caihe, his fame was still great among the younger generation.

Because of this, he dared to challenge Li Qiye with regards to the dao of alchemy.

At this time, all cultivators looked at Li Qiye. Using the dao of alchemy to settle a feud was very common in the Stone Medicine World. Whether it was using pill refinement or alchemy theories to determine victory, competitions such as these were a daily occurrence.

This was something unique to the Stone Medicine World where alchemists had great prestige.

"Since there is someone who really wants to see my dao of alchemy, very well, we can have a little competition." Li Qiye smiled and casually flipped his palm. With a little clatter, the gloves came off his hands.

These gloves emitted an ancient luster as if it was crafted from bronze. At this time, Li Qiye nonchalantly threw the gloves over to the madam and said: "The name of these gloves is God's Hands. It is not just a simple artifact, so take your time understanding it. Its value is no lower than any Immortal Emperor Life Treasure."

After catching the gloves, the madam couldn't help but become a bit stunned. She didn't expect for her Young Master to casually gift such a precious item to her.

God's Hands — just the name alone made it clear on just how unfathomable this pair of gloves were. Just like Li Qiye had said, it was not weaker than any Immortal Emperor Life Treasure. Just how precious was this treasure?

Although a life treasure was far less valuable than an Immortal Emperor True Treasure, it was still priceless. Not to mention sects without one at all, even imperial lineages would treat each of these treasures like a baby; they wouldn't casually use them.

But now, Li Qiye gave the madam a treasure of this level without any consideration just because she was by his side as if it was a mere insignificant piece of cabbage.

All of a sudden, not just the madam, many people here were startled. Such an extravagant and flashy move could scare people to death. To give away a life treasure of the emperor level to someone else... They most likely had never seen such a prodigal son before. Even a descendant of an imperial lineage wouldn't be able to reach this matchless, wasteful level!

At this time, many people were very envious of the madam. This was a treasure comparable to an Immortal Emperor Life Treasure! Now, they all understood a little bit about why the madam thought so highly of this no-name junior.

If it was someone else, then even if they were loyal for an entire lifetime, they still wouldn't be able to obtain a great treasure like this.

The madam quickly regained her composure and quietly accepted the God's Hands. Although she didn't say anything else, there was a boundless sense of gratitude in her heart.

At this time, Li Qiye glanced at the Vinepill King and lazily said: "Alright, alchemy competition, how do you want to do it?"

Meanwhile, the Vinepill King saw the madam putting away the God's Hands and couldn't help but swallow a mouthful of saliva. This was an item of the Immortal Emperor Life Treasure level, and as a disciple of an imperial lineage, he naturally understood the value of one.

Despite being a disciple, he had no chance of getting one. In the ravine, the only person who could have one among the younger generation was the Golden Crown Prince. So now, after seeing the madam with the God's Hands, how could he not salivate?

The Vinepill King struggled to look away from the gloves. Then, he took a deep breath and sneered after hearing Li Qiye: "Of course it will be fate pills for an alchemy competition. Do you dare to add some bets?"

Li Qiye remained at ease while looking at the king and smilingly responded: "Bets? What kind of bets?"

With a very solemn mood, the Vinepill King took out a medicine box and deepened his tone towards Li Qiye: “We will refine a fate pill cauldron. Whoever does it better will be the winner. I have here a 1.5 million year old Young King Medicine. If you win, then this root will belong to you, do you dare to make this bet?!”

Having said that, he opened the box and a medicinal fragrance came out. Anyone here who smelled this aroma of herbs would immediately feel as if they were walking on air.

“This is a stone flower, a 1.5 million year old medicine — exceedingly rare. The flower of a Young King Medicine such as this is the finest ingredient to refine longevity medicines!” Many cultivators here were also alchemists. Among them, an older one couldn’t help but voice his praise after seeing this particular flower.

“This stone flower is also called a Young Immortal Medicine... Just how precious is one this old?” Many people here watched on carefully while the alchemists were full of admiration and greed.

For alchemists, especially the younger ones, it was not easy for them to have contact with these one million year old spirit medicines, especially one as rare as a stone flower which was even more precious.

Meanwhile, the Vinepill King felt rather proud, so he provoked Li Qiye again: “Of course, if you are afraid of not being able to handle losing or you don’t have a Young King Medicine to meet the bet, then you can give me those gloves instead. I will accept them as well.”

Without a doubt, the Vinepill King was consumed with his desire for the God’s Hands. Of course, the value of a Young King Medicine was insufficient to trade for the God’s Hands.

“Wishful thinking.” Li Qiye was too lazy to look at the fella and said: “Since you want to have a bet, let me add to it. I have a spirit medicine root here, so I’ll use it as my bet.”

Having said that, he also took out a medicine box.

“What kind of spirit medicine?” The Vinepill King didn’t pay it any mind nor did he bother looking at it. From his perspective, what kind of medicine could a nobody like Li Qiye possibly take out? Coming up with a 300,000 or 500,000 year old medicine was already pushing it.

“Only a silver maplegrass.” Li Qiye took out the box with a nonchalant look as if the spirit medicine inside was very common.

“Although a silver maplegrass is an essential ingredient for refining longevity medicines, in order to have the same value as a stone flower, its spirit must be at least 1.2 million years old. A few hundred thousand year old silver maplegrass cannot compare to a stone flower.” Said an alchemist who shook his head after seeing Li Qiye’s casually taking out his box. Other cultivators looked down on him.

In fact, most of them wondered how could a no-name alchemist like Li Qiye pick any good herbs? Such an alchemist would have already hit the jackpot if he could grab a spirit medicine of 300,000 to 500,000 years of age.

The Vinepill King also assumed that the grass inside Li Qiye’s box was only 500,000 years old at best, so he sneered and said with disdain: “If you are taking out a 300,000 to 500,000 year old silver maplegrass

to bet against my stone medicine, then you are truly daydreaming. In my opinion, you should still bet the gloves from earlier—”

However, before he could finish his words, he became entranced while looking at Li Qiye’s box.

At this time, Li Qiye lightly said: “I don’t have a 300,000 or 500,000 year old silver maplegrass. Mine is only around three million years old. Hmm, to be more exact, it is around 3,670,000 years old.”

“What! Three million years...” After hearing these words, all the cultivators here were dumbstruck, especially the alchemists as they looked towards Li Qiye’s medicine box for a second time.

At this time, they saw Li Qiye opening the box whereupon a group of silver lights flew out. The silver maplegrass inside seemed to be cast from the purest silver and was extremely beautiful.

“This... This really is a King Medicine of three to four million years of age. This is the best ingredient for refining longevity medicines, wow!” Many people present were quite discerning, so after recognizing this type of maplegrass, they had to take deep, calming breaths.

“Wow, what an amazing medicine. I, I really have never seen a spirit medicine more than 3,000,000 years old.” A young alchemist swallowed his saliva and felt as if he was dreaming.

The Vinepill King was already stunned speechless. Earlier, he laughed at Li Qiye, but now, his stone medicine with 1.5 million years compared to Li Qiye’s 3.67 million year old grass was like night and day. In fact, it made his stone flower seem particularly cheap.

For him, having a Young King Medicine, even at such a young age, was something to be proud of.

However, Li Qiye actually took out a three million year old king medicine!

This was a priceless treasure to any alchemist. This kind of ingredient would be used exclusively by Virtuous Paragons!

At this point, many looked at the silver maplegrass inside Li Qiye’s box with saliva dripping from their mouths. Many of them would have never seen such a king medicine root in their lifetime.

“A king medicine... The best silver maplegrass I have seen was only one of 2.8 million years of age...” An older alchemist here couldn’t help but salivate.

Prior to this, others were looking down on a nobody like Li Qiye. But now, he casually took out a three million year old king medicine, causing others to wipe their eyes and take a second glance. No one would have thought that an inconspicuous alchemist like him would have such great wealth. This made them curious about the origin of this Li Qiye whose name didn’t ring a bell.

The madam sitting next to him was also slightly speechless. She knew that Li Qiye’s actions would scare people to death. Back at the Golem Square, he casually threw around loads of money, but she didn’t expect him to be able to take out a king medicine so easily.

Moreover, he was acting as if this was not a king medicine root, but more like a radish — not enough to reach the apex. This nonchalant expression would make anyone feel that they were looking at the most peerless prodigal son in history.

Chapter 695: A King Medicine Is Only A Radish Or Cabbage

“Do you still want to bet?” At this point, Li Qiye leisurely looked at the Vinepill King with a relaxed and cool expression.

All of a sudden, the Vinepill King became beet red and felt himself burning up. The stone flower was already the best spirit medicine in his possession.

Although he came from the Heavenhoof Ravine and was greatly valued by the elders, he was a young disciple of the third generation. How could someone like him possibly take out a king medicine root so easily?

At this time, the Vinepill King had already mounted the tiger so he couldn't get off. As a Heavenhoof disciple, if he chose to give up against an unknown alchemist, how could he have the face to live on? Even if he was confident in his pill refinement skill and wanted to make this bet, he couldn't produce a satisfactory king medicine, thus all of this was meaningless.

“A king medicine, right? It is not like our Heavenhoof Ravine doesn't have one.” At this time, a different voice came along that held great authority inside the valley: “Teng'er, make the bet with him.” [1. Teng must be his name, meaning Vine.]

“So it is an elder from the ravine.” Many cultivators changed their expressions after hearing this voice. They didn't expect for this type of bet to actually disturb a Heavenhoof elder.

“Thank you, Master.” The Vinepill King became ecstatic after hearing this voice and quickly bowed towards the direction where the voice came from. With his master as his backing, he became a lot bolder.

Sure enough, in the blink of an eye, a Heavenhoof disciple hurriedly came and handed a medicine box over. After opening the box, one would find that it was also a silver maplegrass.

“A silver maplegrass of three million years of age and my stone flower to bet against your 3.67 million year old maplegrass.” At this time, the Vinepill King pushed the two medicine boxes forward. He wanted to use these two roots to bet for Li Qiye's grass.

Although it seemed like the Vinepill King got the short end of the deal by using two to bet for one, this was not the case at all. The older the king medicine, the more precious it was. Sometimes, the price would even double.

“How about I join in as well?” At this time, a proud voice appeared. One person stepped forward and instantly appeared in front of everyone.

He carried an imposing and majestic momentum. It was Huangfu Hao, who was beaten in the alchemy garden of the Giant Bamboo Country. However, judging from his current appearance, his wounds had healed since his blood energy was great and he walked with a powerful pace.

Li Qiye's arched his brows and dismissively said: “What, the last lesson was not enough? You still dare to come here to provoke me? This is indeed very brave!”

Huangfu Hao's expression immediately soured after being quipped by Li Qiye. These words were simply exposing his scars once more. He had already been beaten by Li Qiye twice. The first was back at the

Golem Square when Li Qiye threw away money, leaving him out of breath. The other time was back at the alchemy garden; he initially wanted to suppress Li Qiye, but who would have thought that he would be blown flying out of the capital? If it wasn't for his ancestor who personally came out to help him, maybe he would still be lying in bed at this time.

This matter was truly humiliating to Huangfu Hao. He coldly glared at Li Qiye with bloodthirst in his eyes and awe-inspiringly said: "If I wanted you dead by midnight, you would definitely not make it past dawn." [1. A Chinese saying. To be more accurate, it is the hour of chen, which is 7-9 am or morning, but dawn sounds better? I don't know what time is consider sunrise for the old Chinese system when this phrase came out either.]

Whether it was business or personal, Huangfu Hao had an irrefutable feud with Li Qiye. Li Qiye didn't only humiliate him, he also killed many people from his clan, including an ancestor. Their clan would definitely never let it go unless they used Li Qiye's blood to wash away this disgrace.

Because of this, Huangfu Hao made no effort of hiding his murderous intent. If it wasn't for the treefather's birthday, he would have already tried to kill Li Qiye at this moment.

"You are right, if I wanted you dead by midnight, you would definitely not make it past dawn." Li Qiye leisurely smiled and said: "Remember this phrase well."

"Good." Huangfu Hao leered while revealing a cold glint and laughed aggressively before speaking: "Then how about you and I bet our lives on this? Off with the loser's head!"

Without a doubt, Huangfu Hao came to take Li Qiye's life this time. If he couldn't publicly kill Li Qiye, then using a bet to kill Li Qiye was another method.

Although many alchemists would use an alchemy competition to settle feuds, they would rarely bet their lives unless it was a blood feud.

"Bet with our lives?" Li Qiye looked at Huangfu Hao with one eye and chuckled before replying: "You think too highly of yourself. My life is very precious, priceless even. You actually want to bet my life with your worthless existence? Even if you had ten lives, they would still not be as precious as mine."

Li Qiye never minced words against his enemies; he would ruthlessly beat them to death verbally.

"You..." Huangfu Hao turned beet red from anger as his eyes glared at Li Qiye.

Meanwhile, Li Qiye was too lazy to look at him. He dismissively said: "In my eyes, your worthless life is not even comparable to a king medicine. Don't think too highly of yourself. How many meager coins is your life actually worth?"

Li Qiye's vicious words left Huangfu Hao wanting to vomit blood from rage as his entire body shivered, but Li Qiye didn't really care about him. Li Qiye gently waved his sleeve and lightly said: "If you can't take out any treasures for the bet, then get the hell out of here. Don't disturb my bet with someone else. I still want to give this Heavenhoof or whatever a good slap."

Li Qiye's words left everyone here speechless. They all felt that this fella was too arrogant. Offending the Huangfu Clan was one thing, but he now offended the entire ravine as well. It was as if he wanted to offend everyone in the world!

“Good, good, very good, little animal. I will spare your life and let you hold onto your head for a while longer.” Huangfu Hao coldly uttered: “Then I will bet with you. I was just afraid you wouldn’t be able to take out another king medicine root, that’s all.”

Having said that, he also took out a medicine box. The moment he opened it, one could see a knotweed plant inside. The medicinal fragrance that permeated the air gave others a refreshing feeling as if they were being cleansed.

“3.5 million year old knotweed.” Huangfu Hao sneered and said: “If you can’t take out another king medicine, then I won’t mind if you bet with your worthless life.”

Huangfu Hao was more focused on humiliating Li Qiye to quell his anger. Taking his dog life could wait for later.

“A king knotweed, amazing.” The cultivators here were astonished to see such a plant here. One person couldn’t help but exclaim: “The Huangfu Clan’s wealth is definitely commendable, truly worthy of being an alchemy clan.”

For many alchemists, especially those of humble birth, they wouldn’t be able to obtain a spirit medicine like this particular king medicine even if they tried their whole life.

However, it was different for someone like Huangfu Hao. He was the descendant of the Huangfu Clan and had a high status. Moreover, the clan was a famous alchemy clan with great power and wealth. Moreover, it also had a marriage alliance with the Alchemy Kingdom, which had control over the best vein for growing spirit medicines in the entire Stone Medicine World.

Because of these reasons, many people thought that it was not too surprising for Huangfu Hao to be able to take out this king medicine.

All of a sudden, all the cultivators here held their breaths. More and more were gathering here at Dao-sense Peak, wanting to watch the exciting event.

“Well, I can’t really take out another king medicine at this moment.” Li Qiye glanced over at Huangfu Hao and waved his hand to say: “How about a different item?”

“And I thought you were extremely rich.” At this time, the Vinepill King snorted and said: “Arrogant fool, boasting with just one king medicine. Today, you will learn just how rich this world really is compared to you.”

“Just use your worthless life as the bet instead.” Huangfu Hao mocked: “Today, I’ll take the short end of the stick; I’m willing to use this king medicine root in exchange for your dog life.”

“I wanted to show some consideration, but you just had to push it.” Li Qiye slowly said: “I don’t have something like a king medicine in my stash right now, but I have something else.” [2. The first sentence would only make sense in Chinese, so I localized it. The literal translation is “I spared you some colors, but you immediately want to open a dye shop.” This won’t make much sense in English, right? Color here is the shade of an expression, or face.]

Having said that, he took out another medicine box. The moment this box was opened, a blood energy shot out straight towards everyone's faces. A series of sounds came about as a spirit medicine could be found sealed inside.

The moment someone saw the spirit medicine in the box, he immediately jumped and exclaimed in horror: "What... What... Is that an imperial medicine?"

At this time, Li Qiye slowly closed the medicine box and said: "Only an impoverished beggar like you would consider spirit king medicines as treasures when they are actually as common as turnips and cabbages. I can't bring this crap everywhere since it would be too cumbersome. I have here a 5.38 million year old spirit medicine root. Since someone said I couldn't take out another king medicine, I have no choice but to take this out from the stash to show off a little."

"Impossible..." The people present became speechless once again in the face of this statement. Just what kind of items were king medicines? To many people, they were priceless treasures. But now, in Li Qiye's words, they were like cabbages — this was way too overbearing.

But what could you do? This guy truly had the money to show off like this. He just took out an imperial medicine. Moreover, with that nonchalant appearance and the casual unveiling, perhaps even imperial medicines were only cabbages in his hands. With such great wealth, he could act arrogant no matter where he went.

Huangfu Hao's expression became extremely unsightly, but he couldn't do anything about it. Even as the descendant of the Huangfu Clan, taking out this king medicine was already his limit. Moreover, this root was meant to be a gift for his cousin, Ming Yexue of the Alchemy Kingdom. He wanted to earn her favor, but today, he had to pull it out to use as a bet.

Nevertheless, he was confident in winning this gamble. However, his confidence was no good as he was now rendered breathless by Li Qiye taking out an imperial medicine.

At the same time, the Vinepill King was both envious and overwhelmed with animosity. His eyes couldn't help but turn red from indescribable jealousy. Keep in mind that he was a disciple from the Heavenhoof Ravine! A sect with two emperors! But he, as its disciple, was not even equal to a no-named alchemist, so how could he not go crazy from jealousy?

If this wasn't Allpine Mountain, the Vinepill King would have already rushed over to capture Li Qiye alive and seize all of his spirit medicines.

Chapter 696: Radiant-Sea Alchemy Saint

"Spectacular, an imperial medicine..." All of a sudden, the stunned crowd looked at Li Qiye as if they were looking at a ghost. Their faces all had indescribable expressions.

"Damn, I have never seen an imperial medicine before. Who would expect to see one here? This is so unbelievable." An old alchemist couldn't help but curse.

In an instant, an endless amount of saliva dripped down to the ground from the spectators. They couldn't be blamed because even characters of the ancestor level would be driven crazy by an imperial medicine root. Roots of this level were invaluable and were even out of the ancestors' reach, let alone other people.

“All of your king medicines together would still not be worth as much as my one imperial medicine. However, seeing as how both of you want to bet, I’ll entertain you. Money is fine, spirit medicines are okay too. I have too much money to spend, but I’m more afraid that you two won’t have enough to make this bet.” Li Qiye ruthlessly uttered these words without any mercy.

Prior to this, others might have thought that Li Qiye was ignorant, but those thoughts were quickly dispelled. Although many people remained unconvinced, they had to admit that this brat had the money to act in such a haughty manner.

Madam Zi Yan, standing next to Li Qiye, could only wryly smile. At this point, nothing could surprise her anymore. From her perspective, her Young Master’s wealth was even greater than an entire country.

Huangfu Hao, who initially wanted to use this opportunity to humiliate Li Qiye then kill him afterward, didn’t expect to — once again — be humiliated by Li Qiye, causing him to nearly vomit blood from anger.

“I will lend a helping hand to Young Noble Huangfu.” At this time, a hoarse voice came out, signaling the arrival of an old man. Next to him were other experts.

This old man took out a medicine box and slowly said: “I have a king medicine over 4 million years of age. This might be of assistance to Young Noble Huangfu.”

“It is the Alchemy Saint of the Crystallized Sea Sect!” Exclaimed someone who recognized this old man’s identity.

A lot of people then shifted their gaze over to this old man. His identity was quite prestigious since he was the best alchemist from the Crystallized Sea Sect, the one known as the Radiant-Sea Alchemy Saint.

“Brother Huangfu, give this little animal a good beating.” At this time, a woman standing by the Alchemy Saint spoke coldly.

This woman was the Dragon Princess from the Crystallized Sea Sect. At this moment, she needed help to walk, so one could imagine just how serious her injury was from the bull’s kick. If it wasn’t for their Alchemy Saint personally going to save her, she would have been bedridden if not dead.

Her hatred for Li Qiye was bone-deep, so when Huangfu Hao and the Vinepill King wanted to fight Li Qiye, how could their Crystallized Sea Sect miss such an opportunity?

“Very well.” Li Qiye dismissively glanced at them and said: “Out of consideration for your poverty, your three king medicines and the stone flower versus my imperial medicine will suffice.”

Although Huangfu Hao’s group had more spirit medicines, king medicines couldn’t compare to an imperial medicine; its name signified that it was used exclusively by Immortal Emperors. Although this was not the case, it was enough to illustrate its value.

The Dragon Princess coldly uttered: “Foolish thing, don’t repudiate once you lose or we’ll take your dog life instead!” Oh how she wished to taste Li Qiye’s flesh and blood due to this burning hatred.

Li Qiye didn’t bother giving the princess a glimpse and instead dismissively said: “You won’t be able to beat me, and even if you could, it is only one imperial medicine. They’re no different from some

cabbages, so why would I need to renege on this bet? Only impoverished people like all of you wouldn't be able to afford to lose."

This silenced everyone present once more. The Huangfu Clan, the Crystallized Sea Sect, and the Heavenhoof Ravine; all of these lineages had frightening wealth. But now, in Li Qiye's words, they had been reduced to poverty-stricken lineages.

However, no one here was willing to dispute this. Whose fault was it that this unknown brat Li Qiye was so chaotically rich? Even if others were annoyed with him, they had no choice but to be convinced. What else was there to say to such a prodigal son?

The Dragon Princess was shaking with anger and gnashed her teeth. Her eyes revealed an awe-inspiring glint with terrifying murderous intent.

"Cease your insults." Huangfu Hao coldly uttered: "Since the bets have been placed, let's get on with it. Today, I want you to lose to the point of no return!"

Killing Li Qiye alone would not appease the hatred in his heart. Only by killing him after great humiliation would he be able to find solace.

Li Qiye arched his brows and nonchalantly said without a care: "Let's do it then. Pill refinement, right? I'll do it. Will the two of you challenge me, or will you choose a representative?"

"How about Brother Huangfu go?" The Vinepill King hesitated for a moment and said: "Brother Huangfu's dao of alchemy is peerless, so as long as you display your skill, you will be able to be utterly obliterate this type of nobody."

The Vinepill King was indeed capable regarding alchemy, but Huangfu Hao was much more famous since he was called the fifth alchemy prodigy; he was only a bit weaker than the other four.

Although this kind of title was a bit on the side of flattery, in the Vinepill King's eyes, the Crystallized Sea Sect was helping Huangfu Hao, thus his side should be even more serious about the bet. Because of this, he elected Huangfu Hao to be the one to challenge Li Qiye.

"Brother Huangfu is the fifth alchemy prodigy, how could it be enough to just defeat this nobody? Brother Huangfu, let him see your Huangfu Clan's supreme dao of alchemy." The Dragon Princess also supported Huangfu Hao trying his hand.

Huangfu Hao stepped forward and coldly glared at Li Qiye while aggressively speaking: "Little animal, I'm afraid your good luck has run out! Today, I will let you taste complete defeat."

Huangfu Hao was also completely confident. In his view, very few people among the younger generation could compete with him in the dao of alchemy. He was proud of the fact that outside of the four prodigies, no other would be worthy of his consideration.

As in-laws of the Alchemy Kingdom, the Huangfu Clan had also obtained a lot of benefits that improved their dao of alchemy and allowed them to have some great achievements in this regard.

Thus, to Huangfu Hao at this moment, defeating Li Qiye in the field of pill refinement was an easy matter. He decided that he would first humiliate Li Qiye before killing him.

Li Qiye ignored him and lazily asked: "You talk too much, let's begin already. How shall we do this?"

"Fate pill refinement, we'll settle this bet using a five transformations fate pill refinement!" Huangfu Hao sneered: "Only one cauldron opening. Whoever refines a batch with greater quantity and quality will be the winner!"

"Okay, fate pill refinement it is." Li Qiye acted without a care as if this matter was not enough to reach the apex.

Li Qiye's attitude made Huangfu Hao scowl with a fierce gaze. He would definitely show Li Qiye a good time.

He calmed down and told the group of the Vinepill King: "I need four batches of ingredients for five transformations fate pills. I only have one batch, do you all have more?"

The Vinepill King looked at his stash and said: "I also have one batch for a five transformations fate pill."

The Radiant-Sea Alchemy Saint calmly said: "I will help good nephew out with two batches to defeat this ignorant junior. Teach him a good lesson."

In just a moment, Huangfu Hao was able to gather four batches of ingredients for five transformations fate pills.

The people present were jolted after seeing Huangfu Hao wanting four batches, even the older alchemists were no exceptions.

An alchemist from the previous generation emotionally wondered: "One cauldron but four batches of ingredients, could it be that Young Noble Huangfu could form four contraptions within one cauldron?"

"Four contraptions would not necessarily be difficult for a good Heavenly Cauldron. However, it is not easy to refine fate pill contraptions in just one cauldron. Plus, these are five transformations fate pills, not one transformation." Even skillful alchemists changed their expressions after seeing Huangfu Hao's desire to try four batches of ingredients at once.

Anyone with a little common sense would know that each cauldron could only produce one fate pill. To be more precise, the fire source could form one fire contraption to refine one fate pill.

Of course, better Heavenly Cauldrons were able to form more than just one fire contraption, especially those used by Legendary Alchemists and Alchemy Emperors. This type of cauldron would be able to form several contraptions, and rumor has it that an Alchemy Emperor's cauldron could even form more than ten fire contraptions.

However, the number of fire contraptions formed from the Heavenly Cauldron didn't mean that the user would be able to refine that many fate pills at the same time. Controlling several fire contraptions required an extremely powerful mastery of fire from the alchemist. Moreover, this alone was not enough to refine several batches within one cauldron. The alchemist would also require a deep and profound understanding of the alchemy dao. For higher level pills, these contraptions became even harder to control and refine.

"Okay, open your dog eyes wide for me to clearly see a master at work." At this time, Huangfu Hao sneered at Li Qiye as he stomped once on the ground and summoned a Heavenly Cauldron.

With a buzz, a cauldron fell down and enlarged. This cauldron resembled an entrenched White Tiger sucking and spewing out strands of crimson flames. The moment these fiery strands jumped up and down, the cauldron seemed to become a volcano that could erupt at any moment.

“A really powerful Heavenly Cauldron.” Many cultivators here couldn’t help but quiver after feeling the aura of this cauldron. Even those who weren’t knowledgeable about this subject knew that this cauldron was incredible.

“This is the legendary cauldron of the Huangfu Clan. It was once called the family’s defining treasure. People have said that this cauldron had accepted an augmenting ceremony from an Alchemy Emperor.” Of course, there were also knowledgeable alchemists at the scene. One became emotional and immediately recognized the origin of this cauldron.

At this point, the cauldron poured down a vast radiance that covered its entire body. This was a very common situation and was usually referred to as the screening — the act of a Heavenly Cauldron to keep outsiders from peering.

Any good Heavenly Cauldron had the ability to screen. As an alchemist, they naturally didn’t want outsiders to look at their pill refinement technique, so the screening of a cauldron was without a doubt the best and most convenient method to prevent prying eyes.

[spoiler title='696 Teaser']“Spectacular, an imperial medicine...” All of a sudden, the stunned crowd looked at Li Qiye as if they were looking at a ghost. Their faces all had indescribable expressions.

“Damn, I have never seen an imperial medicine before. Who would expect to see one here? This is so unbelievable.” An old alchemist couldn’t help but curse.

In an instant, an endless amount of saliva dripped down to the ground from the spectators. They couldn’t be blamed because even characters of the ancestor level would be driven crazy by an imperial medicine root. Roots of this level were invaluable and were even out of the ancestors’ reach, let alone other people.

“All of your king medicines together would still not be worth as much as my one imperial medicine. However, seeing as how both of you want to bet, I’ll entertain you. Money is fine, spirit medicines are okay too. I have too much money to spend, but I’m more afraid that you two won’t have enough to make this bet.” Li Qiye ruthlessly uttered these words without any mercy.

Chapter 697: Sleeping On A Beauty’s Lap

If some cauldrons lacked the screening ability, then the alchemists would use a technique to keep others out and prevent their alchemy art from being stolen.

At this time, everyone gazed at the cauldron ahead with bated breaths, especially the younger alchemists who were even more attentive.

Although the screen was up and everyone couldn’t discern Huangfu Hao’s pill refinement method, for alchemists, especially those that came from weak sects or those who were unknowledgeable in the dao of alchemy, just standing to the side and observing a better alchemist was already quite fruitful. Although they couldn’t look at the refinement techniques, they could still look at the process to gain experience and avoid future mistakes while doing their own refinement.

“Pop!” At this time, Huangfu Hao pushed down on the cauldron and, in an instant, a divine flame escaped from inside to form four fire contraptions. It could be said that the entire process was smooth and swift as if he was very skilled and familiar with it.

There were many knowledgeable alchemists here, so even though they couldn’t see Huangfu Hao’s fire controlling technique, they knew by judging the instantaneous formation of the contraptions that his fire controlling technique was very powerful and should have an amazing history.

“Brother Huangfu is very amazing. Just his flame mastery alone is already hard to match among the younger generation.” The Vinepill King looked at the situation and voiced his praise.

Even Huangfu Hao couldn’t help but become a bit excited after being praised by the Vinepill King. This was someone who became enlightened thanks to natural fire, so he had an innate understanding of fire control with his own amazing techniques. Obtaining his praise could be considered an honor.

At this time, Huangfu Hao threw in the spirit medicines into the fire contraptions in a particular order. All four contraptions started the refinement process at the same time. He was very experienced with the entire process, so it was apparent that he came prepared.

Alchemists would often have alchemy helpers to throw in the materials. When they were still at a low level, they would have these helpers since their skill was not high enough. Controlling the flame required their full attention, so they couldn’t afford to be distracted by adding the materials.

After becoming stronger, they could start to refine a fate pill batch by themselves. Of course, there were still powerful alchemists, even Alchemy Emperors, who chose to have helpers. Naturally, helpers at this level were very powerful in their own rights. Outside of helping the pill refinement process, they also acted as protectors for the alchemists.

After all, the pills refined by powerful Alchemy Emperors had frightening, greed-inciting value, so they required the protection of extremely powerful helpers.

The fire inside the contraptions danced around as if they had their own life. With time, there were occasional hums as if a pill was about to form.

At this time, everyone forgot about time itself and gazed at Huangfu Hao performing his refinement. They, especially the alchemists, all looked at each of his actions carefully without missing the slightest detail.

Meanwhile, Li Qiye had zero interest in Huangfu Hao’s pill refinement. With a single glance, he immediately knew the origin of the branch and sect of Huangfu Hao’s skill.

Because of this, during the whole process, Li Qiye didn’t bother watching at all. He directly laid down in the carriage and slept. The gentle madam, at that time, quietly placed a fur blanket over him.

Such nice treatment of being served by a great Demon King left many people jealous and envious.

Minutes passed by and finally, the day had finally ended. Huangfu Hao was about to open his cauldron, thus he shouted: “Collect...!”

“Pop!” The contraptions opened and four fate pills flew out. Huangfu Hao immediately used a treasure gourd to collect all of them.

At this time, he finally heaved a sigh of relief and put away his cauldron with great satisfaction. He was very happy with the result of this cauldron.

“Quite extraordinary. He only spent one day to successfully refine five transformations fate pills. Truly worthy of his fame! No wonder why others call him the fifth alchemy prodigy.” An alchemist from the previous generation had to praise Huangfu Hao.

The young alchemists were especially astonished with admiration. To refine this type of pill in just one day was indicative of Huangfu Hao’s great dao of alchemy.

Although many people did not agree with calling him the fifth prodigy, they had to admit that his skill was quite formidable.

At this time, Huangfu Hao took out the four fate pills for others to judge. There were several capable alchemists here, such as the Radiant-Sea Alchemy Saint and the Vinepill King along with some older ones. They immediately gathered around to appraise the four pills.

The color of the four pills was different, but the difference was not noticeable. All of them had a similar faint yellow color.

“The quality is quite good. With the faint yellow color, this is high quality. One cauldron produced these four pills, so this quality is already quite good, a very admirable attempt from a youth who will eventually surpass us.” The Radiant-Sea Alchemy Saint appraised it then left this remark.

He was qualified to make such a statement since he was the most powerful alchemist in the Crystallized Sea Sect. Even among the previous generation of alchemists, he was still quite famous.

“Not bad at all, not bad at all. One cauldron for four pills of five transformations with a faint yellow tint. This is exceptional among the younger generation.” The other alchemists also took a look and praised him one after another.

The other young alchemists here couldn’t help but reveal looks of envy. They all felt that at this moment, Huangfu Hao was worthy of his fame. If only they could reach such a level — that would be incredibly amazing.

Huangfu Hao inevitably revealed a gloating look since he was indeed very satisfied with the result of his fate pills.

At this time, Huangfu Hao turned around and coldly said: “Your turn...” However, the moment he saw Li Qiye sleeping in the carriage, his face became quite unsightly.

Meanwhile, Li Qiye didn’t budge at all since he was already asleep. With a contorted face, Huangfu Hao coldly uttered: “Even if you pretend to sleep, you won’t be able to hide from this bet. It is not too late to give up if you want to avoid further humiliation.”

Li Qiye didn’t react and was still sleeping in the carriage. At this time, the madam next to him sat down and softly called out: “Young Master, it is your turn.”

The beauty’s soft call was so gentle that it seemed as if she was afraid of startling Li Qiye.

Seeing this scene, many people almost forgot about the bet and were jealous to an indescribable extent. A beauty was calling for him, moreover, she was a Demon King, a charming ruler of an entire country. What kind of romantic luck was this!

Huangfu Hao became livid as his face turned pale. He couldn't help but shudder. One could even hear the sound of his teeth grinding together. He tightly clenched his fists and swore that he would cease to be a human if he didn't kill Li Qiye.

Huangfu Hao's adoration for the madam was no secret. But now, the madam was being so gentle towards Li Qiye, so how could he not be driven mad?

"He finally finished?" At this time, Li Qiye got up from the carriage with a sleepy appearance. The madam quickly put on his cloak for him lest he became cold. Such careful and thoughtful consideration was truly adorable.

However, many here were extremely annoyed, especially the younger ones who were about to go berserk from jealousy. This brat's life was really too good to enjoy such treatment and service from the madam. There was no justice in this world!

"It is your turn now!" While gnashing his teeth, he slowly uttered each of these words. He swore to take his time when it came to shaming this little animal. He didn't only want to appease this anger, he also wanted to do so in front of the madam.

"Only a five transformations fate pill cauldron, did you need to take so long? Was that really necessary? Isn't it just like stir frying a vegetable side dish?" Li Qiye stretched his back and still had a drowsy appearance like before.

"You..." Huangfu Hao was livid from Li Qiye's attitude. To him, refining a single five transformations fate pill cauldron that produced four pills was already quite amazing. But now, according to Li Qiye, it was an unworthy display.

"Such a big tone!" At this time, the Dragon Princess smirked and went to Huangfu Hao's rescue as she uttered: "I'm afraid you wouldn't be able to refine such a batch even in three days!"

"Three days?" Li Qiye was too lazy to look at her. He fixed his belt as if he just got up from bed and slowly said: "To someone as great as me, there is no need for three days. Three seconds is enough to finish one batch like that."

Li Qiye's words caused a lot of eyes to roll. No one believed him! Some even burst out in laughter and felt that Li Qiye was boasting to an unbelievable degree. No one had ever been able to refine a fate pill cauldron in just three seconds, not even an Alchemy Emperor!

"Those are some strong words. There should be a limit to your boasting." The Vinepill King snorted and said with disdain: "Even a reborn Alchemy Emperor wouldn't be able to refine five transformations fate pills in just three seconds. Hah, you should think carefully before bragging next time."

"Only an unskilled fool would have blind faith in common sense." Li Qiye lazily sat on the carriage while he enjoyed the madam fixing his collar and brushing his hair straight.

Li Qiye's ostentatious manner and enjoyment caused many people to truly hate him. They all shared a thought: 'This brat is too arrogant and is such an eyesore!'

"You..." The Vinepill King glared at Li Qiye. He wanted to act out, but he endured it instead and snorted before coldly speaking: "I won't bother with a junior like you. Since you like to bluster so much, then let everyone see how to refine a five transformations fate pill cauldron in three seconds."

"What is so hard about it?" Li Qiye lightly said: "However, I really don't have the ingredients to make something like a five transformations fate pill, will anyone lend me a batch?"

"Haha, oh? Looking for an excuse now?" Huangfu Hao sneered: "If you can't do it, then just say it. Prostrate on the ground and accept defeat, then I might just spare you."

Huangfu Hao would not give up any chance to attack and humiliate Li Qiye.

Chapter 698: It Is Only Pill Refinement

Li Qiye essentially paid him no mind as he looked around to the crowd, still as calm and leisurely as ever. He revealed a faint smile and asked: "Does anyone here have alchemy ingredients?"

"I have one batch for five transformations fate pill and can help Young Noble out." An older alchemist pondered for a moment before handing this batch over to Li Qiye.

At this key moment, there were still people who chose to help Li Qiye. This was not easy since ultimately, Li Qiye was opposing Huangfu Hao's group.

Nevertheless, although many hated or were jealous of Li Qiye and wished to go against him, there were some old sly foxes who looked at things in a more practical way.

Who was Madam Zi Yan? She was a great Demon King and stronger than Huangfu Hao, yet she was still willing to stay by a no-name junior's side and serve him. This junior definitely had something special that others couldn't compare to.

"Hmm, there are still those with eyes in this world." Li Qiye took this batch of ingredients and smiled to say: "Very well, I will also refine four fate pills. Anyone else have some ingredients for me? Let me borrow three more batches."

"I also have one." Another old cultivator hesitated for a moment before speaking out.

"Me too." A Royal Lord also let Li Qiye borrow one batch. This matter had spread quite far, so many people from the previous generation had come to watch.

At this time, a few countries watching on the sidelines wanted to form an alliance with the Giant Bamboo Country, so this Royal Lord took advantage of this opportunity to perform a favor.

In a very brief period, Li Qiye was able to collect four batches of five transformations fate pill ingredients. Although he was a nobody, there were still spectators who held him in high regard.

Li Qiye received the ingredients and said with a smile: "Those with vision will eventually be rewarded."

"Hmph. Hurry up if you are going to refine some pills. Don't just stand there and ramble on. You think delaying the matter can save you from this bet?" Huangfu Hao scowled and sneered.

At this time, Li Qiye got up. He was still as unruffled as before as he coldly glanced at Huangfu Hao before smirking and saying: "It seems that you really want to see me make a fool of myself. But unfortunately, I'm sorry that you will be disappointed. Since you choose to bring your face out like this, I don't mind giving you a resounding slap."

"Strong words there." Before Huangfu Hao could respond, the Vinepill King coldly said: "Wait until after you refine the pills before boasting, yeah? You think just anyone can refine one cauldron with four pills? You? Haha, you still have a long way to go if you want to beat Brother Huangfu."

The madam shook her head gently at this retort. She had seen, with her own eyes, Li Qiye's pill refinement and had absolute confidence in Li Qiye's skill. Compared to Li Qiye, Huangfu Hao's pill refinement ability was simply not pleasant to the eye.

"Zi Yan ah, nowadays, a few people really think their meager alchemy skill is peerless in this world." Li Qiye smiled and told the madam: "If your Young Master doesn't show a thing or two, these fools won't ever know what peerless alchemy is. Very well, today, your Young Master will show them what is truly called alchemy!"

"Young Master will surely be victorious." The madam revealed a faint smile that contained a trace of elegance and nobility along with a gentleness as soft as water.

Huangfu Hao was quite shaken after seeing Li Qiye and the madam's intimate relationship, so he coldly uttered: "Stop spewing crap, go refine pills if you are so capable. Don't just sit there and brag!"

"Very well, I'll refine one cauldron right now." Li Qiye smiled and stretched his back again before summoning the Myriad Heavenly Cauldron, then he shouted: "Open!"

The cauldron fell down; this was a very ordinary looking cauldron that appeared before everyone. No matter how they looked at it, this cauldron was plain without anything special about it, completely unlike a precious cauldron at all.

After it was bathed in the lost alchemy garden of the immortals, the cauldron had completely returned to the most primordial state, so outsiders couldn't see its profundity.

"Haha, just a cheap cauldron. How shabby, can this type of cauldron actually refine five transformations fate pills? What wishful thinking." The Dragon Princess viciously attacked. She and Li Qiye had a irrefutable feud, so how could she forgive him?

But at this time, Li Qiye controlled the cauldron and, in the blink of an eye, he instantly formed four fire contraptions. He then didn't give it a second glance and casually threw all the medicinal ingredients into the fire contraptions.

A series of crackling sounds appeared as if beans were being fried. Before everyone's mind returned from the shock, Li Qiye shouted and instantly collected four finished five transformations fate pills into a treasure gourd.

From the formation of the contraptions to the addition of the ingredients to the completion of the pills, the entire process was all over in the blink of an eye. It was so fast that no one could react in time. Before everyone, Li Qiye didn't try to hide anything, but no one saw his pill refinement technique.

Suddenly, everyone's mouths were wide open. The Dragon Princess who had just uttered her teasing banter couldn't close her mouth since she was blown away on the spot.

Her eyes were wide open as well. No one could believe that this was actually happening; they all thought that either they were seeing things, or it was just an illusion.

Here, outside of Li Qiye, only Madam Zi Yan had a calm air. She already knew that this would be the result since this was not her first time seeing her Young Master's peerless alchemy. In her opinion, no one could compete with him regarding the dao of alchemy in contemporary times. Even the four alchemy prodigies were insufficient compared to him in this regard.

"Am, am I seeing things?" An old alchemist struggled to regain his sanity and told the person next to him: "Hey, pinch me, am I in a dream?"

A scream ensued right after as this alchemist was pinched by the person next to him. He then exclaimed in horror: "This, I'm not seeing things. This isn't a dream!"

Everyone was suddenly woken up by this scream and became shocked and breathless as the entire scene became silent.

Such a thing would stupefy anyone. Even those who had seen many things in their life had never witnessed such a spectacle before.

Refining pills like frying vegetables — which alchemist had heard of this before? Even those who came from an Alchemy Emperor's lineage would not believe such a thing. Pill refinement that could instantly produce fate pills like stir-frying vegetables while the crackling sounds resembled soybeans — such a thing was simply impossible.

Anyone who told a cultivator or alchemist such a thing would be instantly kicked out of the door for fabricating a lie since such a thing was absolutely impossible in this world.

Of course, this was until today when they all saw this scene unravel in front of their eyes. At this second, they were entranced as if they were in a dream. One had to know that anyone with a little bit of common sense knew that pill refinement was a very serious matter. One wrong step and the entire cauldron would be destroyed. Moreover, pill refinement had very stringent qualifications.

This was the most basic of knowledge, but today, Li Qiye's process had destroyed everyone's common sense. How could refining pills as if one was stir-frying vegetables not shock everyone?

Although many people had begun to regain their sanity, they couldn't help but utter in a daze: "No, no way this is real."

At this moment, no one knew how to express their feelings with words. As for the group of Huangfu Hao, the Vinepill King, and the Radiant-Sea Alchemy Saint, they suddenly became confused and didn't even know how they had lost.

At this time, Li Qiye gave the four refined fate pills to the four people who helped him earlier and smiled before saying: "Favors deserve to be reciprocated, so these fate pills are yours."

“This, how is this possible...” The old alchemist who was the first to help Li Qiye accepted the fate pill and shouted in horror with his eyes wide open: “This, this is a five transformations fate pill with seventy percent purity! I have never seen a five transformations fate pill able to reach this level before!”

“It is not only seventy percent purity, this yellow color is almost golden. This is the highest grade... This pill will definitely help me break through to the Ancient Saint realm!” Another who helped Li Qiye also accepted a pill and screamed with excitement.

“No way, right?” In just a moment, many people gathered around, wanting to examine the pills in their hands.

“This is unbelievable.” A very respected old alchemist took a look at one of the pills and couldn’t help but utter in awe: “I have never heard of someone be able to refine a five transformations pill to seventy percent purity — this is simply impossible. Moreover, this near golden color, could anyone in this world actually refine this type of pill to such a level? If there is someone, then it has to be an Alchemy Emperor!”

“Incredible, I have opened my eyes now after seeing this scene.” In an instant, many people who saw the pills immediately discussed and commented while thinking that this was too amazing.

Meanwhile, the four people who helped Li Qiye earlier and obtained this level of fate pill were crazily excited. This level of fate pill couldn’t be bought; simply put, they were priceless treasures.

“Let me take a look.” The Radiant-Sea Alchemy Saint couldn’t help but draw closer as well to look at the fate pill in the hand of one of them. His face quickly turned pale as he staggered backward while absent-mindedly murmuring: “How...? Only an Alchemy Emperor would perhaps be able to refine this type of five transformations fate pill...”

Chapter 699: Death Before Accepting Defeat

The old alchemist from the Crystallized Sea Sect was the most accomplished regarding the alchemy dao within the sect. Even his enemies held this view with respect. The moment he said these words, many people gasped and looked at Li Qiye.

All of a sudden, the astonished eyes of every spectator fell on him. Who was Li Qiye? He was too young and had no fame to his name at all. Could such a person actually be an Alchemy Emperor?

A person couldn’t help but ask: “Young Noble Li, are you actually an Alchemy Emperor?”

Li Qiye chuckled and said: “Alchemy Emperor... how should I respond? At the very least, I have never wished to become an Alchemy Emperor. For a person like me, plant cultivation and pill refinement is only a hobby, an interest whenever I am bored. A person like me does not wish to become an Alchemy Emperor. Such an achievement is meaningless and unable to satisfy me.”

This answer left everyone speechless. One of the spectators looked up at the sky and started to scream; they even had the impulse to commit suicide by running head first into a wall.

Refining pills like cooking and casually creating five transformations fate pills with seventy percent purity... With a single gesture, he was able to refine the finest of pills. And this was only a hobby, something he worked on when he was bored?

If this was the case, then what about them, the alchemists who worked their entire lives to study the dao of alchemy and pill refinement? How could they withstand such a shock? They might as well just commit suicide by using a piece of tofu. [1. It is just creating an image of someone who is helpless and lamenting, an exaggeration in the face of something so unbelievable since you really can't kill yourself with a piece of tofu. Just a common phrase.]

What was even more ridiculous was that he nonchalantly declared his lack of interest in becoming an Alchemy Emperor — an achievement like this actually meant nothing to him.

This truly made people want to dig a hole to jump down. To all of them, an Alchemy Emperor was an apex existence, with unmatched glory. Even a Godking would act cordially towards an Alchemy Emperor. Immortal Emperors would also require the help of one at times.

Becoming an Alchemy Emperor was one of the highest of glories that any cultivator or alchemist in the Stone Medicine World continued to yearn and work towards for their entire life.

But now, Li Qiye's words made it sound like this achievement was something insignificant. How could they withstand this injustice? How could they not want to just jump off a building?

The madam only smiled while standing next to Li Qiye. If this was her first time listening to these words, then she would be suicidally angry as well, but now, she had slowly grown accustomed to her Young Master's arrogance.

Nevertheless, no one felt that Li Qiye was arrogant at this moment. Even if he was, they still felt that he was in a position to say such words. Those with power had the qualifications to be arrogant.

A person couldn't help but whisper: "How does this compare to the four alchemy prodigies?"

This question left everyone present in silent contemplation. Many people felt that Li Qiye was much more talented than the four prodigies.

"You guys have lost." Li Qiye smirked as he glanced at the group of Huangfu Hao.

The Vinepill King's expression suddenly paled, and he inadvertently bowed his head. He had nothing to say; Li Qiye's pill refinement had left him short of breath.

He was a proud person. As an alchemy vine who was born in a cauldron and forged by its flames, he was destined to become an alchemist.

Although he felt inferior compared to true geniuses like the four prodigies, he didn't necessarily agree with being weaker than someone like Huangfu Hao, who people called the fifth prodigy.

However, after seeing Li Qiye's pill refinement, he had lost confidence and became speechless. He couldn't make sense of his thoughts.

"Losing to this level of alchemy dao is not a shameful thing at all." The Alchemy Saint eventually sighed. He didn't say anything else as he decisively took his leave.

The Dragon Princess was not convinced at all. Her heart only wanted revenge and to kill Li Qiye. However, she couldn't do anything except leave at this moment as she followed the Alchemy Saint. Before leaving, she coldly glared at Li Qiye one last time with murderous intent in her eyes.

Meanwhile, Huangfu Hao stood frozen on the spot. He initially wanted to humiliate Li Qiye, and if Li Qiye dared to retaliate, then he would use that as an excuse to kill him.

However, he didn't expect to lose with the dao of alchemy that he had always been proud of. Before Li Qiye's refinement technique, his own was not worth mentioning.

He finally regained his sanity and solemnly exclaimed: "There is something strange in his Heavenly Cauldron, there must be a problem inside!"

He wanted to show off in front of Madam Zi Yan by humiliating Li Qiye so that she would understand that only a real genius like him was worthy of her, but due to this sudden crushing defeat that left him with no face, he had to find an excuse.

"You can't even lose gracefully, how pitiful." Li Qiye lazily glanced at him and smiled: "It seems that this is the best your Huangfu Clan has to offer. It has to be in decline since it can't even afford to lose a single king medicine, how embarrassing."

At this time, many people were watching Huangfu Hao. Although they were reluctant to speak, they couldn't help shake their heads. If there was something strange going on with Li Qiye's Heavenly Cauldron and he intended to cheat under their watchful gazes, then people would have already noticed and pointed it out. Moreover, the fire energy and medicinal fragrance of a newly refined pill was apparent even to those who didn't study the dao of alchemy.

"I would have nothing to say if you actually defeated me with your true abilities." Huangfu Hao turned red and made more excuses: "Refining pills like cooking — anyone with some common sense would know that this is impossible. Hmph, in my opinion, something is definitely going on with your cauldron. It can't be a cauldron, it must be some kind of illusionary spell."

"Common sense?" Li Qiye glanced at him and smirked: "To me, common sense ain't shit! Only the unskilled would consider common sense as words of truth!"

An expert from the previous generation gently shook his head and interjected: "That is impossible, even if it was an illusionary spell, how could it fool so many people here? Moreover, these four fate pills are real and completely new; they are anything but fake."

"Yes, these four fate pills are definitely authentic." An older alchemist added after appraising Li Qiye's pills.

It didn't matter if the people here were biased against Li Qiye or annoyed at him; real experts would still admit the truth. For alchemists, people with such a supreme dao of alchemy were worthy of respect, just like how they admired Alchemy Emperors so much.

"Haha, not necessarily, a few evil arts can't be seen through." Huangfu Hao sneered and said: "Maybe there were already four fate pills hidden inside this cauldron. Refining them like cooking was only an illusion. Give me these four pills and I can also do the same."

At this time, Huangfu Hao was resorting to extreme excuses. No matter what, he had to break Li Qiye's reputation since this was his only way out.

“Five transformations fate pills with seventy percent purity, moreover, they have a yellow shade that’s almost at the point of a golden glow, where can you find this type of fate pill?” Someone felt that Huangfu Hao was going too far. Were it not for the fact that they were wary of the Huangfu Clan, they would have laughed at him already.

“I’m afraid no one in present times can refine such pills. If there was someone, then perhaps the venerable ancient alchemist from the Alchemy Kingdom would be capable.” A Royal Lord mused.

Huangfu Hao tried to discredit Li Qiye, but he was underestimating the situation. Earlier, many people were on his side and voiced their support. But now, no one stood up for him, causing his face to burn red.

Li Qiye looked at him with one eye and leisurely stated with a smile: “Can’t even afford to lose. Just say the words and I will have pity on you. I’ll let you have your king medicine, no big deal, it’s only a cabbage. Is there a need for you to act so shamelessly?”

“You...” Huangfu Hao was shaking with anger. He was in a dilemma, but he had to follow through to the very end. If he chose to bow down to Li Qiye, then he would lose all face in the future.

Huangfu Hao took a deep breath before glaring at Li Qiye and saying: “If you didn’t use any evil tricks or an illusion, then very well, let me and everyone else have a look at your cauldron. Whether it is an evil trick or an illusion will be clear at a glance.”

An alchemist couldn’t help but shake his head and comment: “This request is too unreasonable.”

The cauldron was an alchemist’s second life; it was a part of the alchemist. Even ordinary alchemists would not easily let an outsider look at their cauldron.

The reason was very simple. Each cauldron was carefully groomed by an alchemist with careful feeding. Whatever they fed the cauldron or its fire source were things that alchemists would not easily reveal to others.

What’s more, each alchemist had refined countless items and shared these experiences with their cauldron. Any alchemist would have deep ties with their cauldron; they would even consider it as part of their body.

Unless it was someone very close or trusted, alchemists would normally not take out their cauldron for outsiders to see, let alone this many strangers.

“What, you don’t dare to do so? If you don’t, then clearly you have a guilty conscience.” Huangfu Hao sneered and said: “Bah! Using such despicable means yet you still dare to say you have beaten me!” At this time, Huangfu Hao was going insane from shame, growing his anger. He was like a vixen that had lost her mind!

Madam Zi Yan couldn’t help but coldly say: “How shameless.” A wise ruler like her seldom talked people down, but today, she had to voice this negative statement.

Huangfu Hao’s face was flushed after being called out by the madam. However, he still wanted to struggle to the very end, so he sneered at Li Qiye: “Li, do you dare to take out your cauldron to prove your innocence? If not, then you are a cheater who only knows how to use wretched means!”

Many people in the crowd couldn't help but shake their heads. Some even despised Huangfu Hao's actions.

[spoiler title='699 Teaser']The old alchemist from the Crystallized Sea Sect was the most accomplished regarding the alchemy dao within the sect. Even his enemies held this view with respect. The moment he said these words, many people gasped and looked at Li Qiye.

All of a sudden, all eyes fell upon him as the spectators became astonished because Li Qiye was too young and had no fame at all. Could such a person actually be an Alchemy Emperor?

"Young Noble Li, are you really an Alchemy Emperor?" One person couldn't help but ask.

Li Qiye chuckled and said: "Alchemy Emperor... how should I respond? At the very least, I have never wished to become an Alchemy Emperor. For a person like me, plant cultivation and pill refinement is only a hobby, an interest when I am bored. A person like me does not wish to become an Alchemy Emperor. Such an achievement is meaningless and unable to satisfy me."

Chapter 700: Becoming Ashes

Many people here didn't like Li Qiye, especially the young male cultivators who even wanted to end him just because he had a beauty like Madam Zi Yan. It was only natural for those who adored her to hate him!

However, even if they considered him as an enemy, they still had to admit that his dao of alchemy was peerless. And now, when Huangfu Hao stubbornly refused to admit Li Qiye's victory, it truly made others feel that he was shameless.

Before this, many of them liked Huangfu Hao, and some even wanted to become friends with him. He was the descendant of the Huangfu Clan and an amazing young genius. Moreover, he had some ties to the Alchemy Kingdom. The people here assumed that he would eventually become a hero of this generation, but now, those who priorly wanted to befriend him couldn't help but shake their heads.

Li Qiye nonchalantly glanced at him once and said: "It is not that I don't want to let you see my cauldron, it is more that my cauldron has a bad temper and might kill you if we are careless about it. That wouldn't be good. I am a lover of life and peace and do not want someone to die without a burial due to turning into smithereens."

After hearing this, the madam standing next to him couldn't help but chuckle. If her Young Master was a lover of life and peace, then everyone else in the world would be considered saints. After hearing this, she knew that someone was about to die.

"It is only a cauldron while I am a Heavenly King, what's the big deal? I could suppress it at any moment." Huangfu Hao sneered: "In my eyes, you are afraid of letting me take a look because I will expose your tricks!"

At this time, Huangfu Hao crazily attacked Li Qiye; he wouldn't allow any opportunities to slip by. His mind was devoured by the situation and his thoughts strayed.

Back at the Golem Square, Li Qiye overwhelmed him with wealth and caused him to lose all face. And then, back at the alchemy garden of the Giant Bamboo Country, he was blown away by Li Qiye without

any consideration. Today, he was expecting to reverse the tides and humiliate Li Qiye, but instead, he was met with an even more bitter showing. He absolutely would not forgive Li Qiye, someone who dared to oppose him like this. Even if he was going to become a malicious ghost, he still wouldn't forgive Li Qiye!

"Okay then, since you want to see it so much, there's nothing I can do." Li Qiye smiled and said: "However, if anything does happen, I am not responsible for it."

Having said that, he slowly took out the Myriad Heavenly Cauldron and gently tapped it.

"Hmph, it's only a cauldron — can't reach the apex." Huangfu Hao harshly smiled. He was extremely confident and accepted the cauldron from Li Qiye's hands.

At this time, everyone held their breaths while watching this scene play out. Although no one believed Huangfu Hao, they still wanted to see just what kind of cauldron it was.

"Open...!" At this time, Huangfu Hao made a mudra with his hand, but the Myriad Heavenly Cauldron didn't have the slightest response.

This shameful situation made Huangfu Hao feel unbearable. In the blink of an eye, his blood energy soared to the sky in a very ferocious manner. He changed to a different mudra and shouted: "Open!"

"Buzz!" At this time, the Myriad Heavenly Cauldron was finally activated. What fell onto the ground was a regularly shaped cauldron.

Huangfu Hao smirked and came forward. He stretched his hand out in order to check the fire source of the cauldron.

"Poof!" However, the moment his hand went inside, it immediately burst into ashes.

"Ahh!" Huangfu Hao cried out. Horrorstruck, he rapidly retreated. However, the cauldron's fire source instantly erupted like a volcano. The cauldron's fire rushed out and filled the sky, instantly surrounding Huangfu Hao.

"Ah..." A very shrill and miserable scream echoed across the sky. In an instant, even though he was a Heavenly King, he was still immediately incinerated into ashes. The moment the fire source returned to the cauldron, one could only see ashes fluttering in the sky. A Heavenly King had died in such an unbelievable manner.

Ever since it completely reached the highest attainment back in the lost alchemy garden of the immortals, the cauldron ceased to be the frog of the past.

Remember that the cauldron was unique in this world. For millions of years, it had always been searching for a chance to reach the highest level to truly transform one last time. Thus, after the transformation, the Myriad Heavenly Cauldron was no longer a cauldron and could be called a god, a true deity!

Its fire source had no equal, so it was not difficult for it to burn a Heavenly King to ashes.

“Such a powerful cauldron, amazing. This type of cauldron can only be controlled by a Legendary Alchemist or Alchemy Emperor...” After seeing the tyrannical flame of the cauldron devouring the sky, many alchemists were lost in admiration. This seemingly ordinary cauldron was definitely incredible!

“Aizz, one will lose out if they do not listen to their elders.” At this time, Li Qiye slowly recalled the cauldron and said: “Like I said earlier, this cauldron has quite a foul temper. It doesn’t want to interact with anyone besides me. Well now, he carelessly threw away his life. Dang it, cauldron, you’ve really done it now. How could you turn a Heavenly King into ashes like this? You think it is easy for someone to become a Heavenly King?”

Everyone suddenly went silent after hearing this while the madam couldn’t help but reveal a smile. She already knew that her Young Master expected such an outcome since Huangfu Hao was courting death.

A tranquil atmosphere ensued right after as no one dared to step out to demand justice for Huangfu Hao. Many of them believed that he was asking for it.

The Vinepill King, who was also antagonistic towards Li Qiye, turned pale. At this time, his palms were drenched in cold sweat while he himself shuddered from the chill that assaulted his spine.

He was secretly glad and praised his own fortune. Luckily, he didn’t follow Huangfu Hao along to the very end. Otherwise, perhaps his end would be just like Huangfu Hao’s, being incinerated into ashes without a burial.

He quivered and didn’t dare to say another word or stay at this place any longer. He turned around and used his fastest speed to leave Dao-sense Peak.

At this point, Li Qiye gathered his winnings. A stone flower over one million years old, a three million year old king medicine, and a four million year old king medicine from the Radiant-Sea Alchemy Saint.

“Sigh, are these not just cabbages? If you can’t handle losing, then just say it. What’s the big deal? Losing your life just for these common spirit medicines... Was it worth it?” Li Qiye looked at his spoils but didn’t pay it any mind. To others, king medicines were priceless treasures, but Li Qiye was too lazy to even bother looking at them. Not mentioning the distant past, he had taken an amount of king medicines from the lost garden that could scare people to death.

This sarcastic remark left everyone here speechless. They could only lament the fact that the fella had the ability to make such arrogant comments.

However, at this moment, he did something that would drive people even crazier. He looked at the king medicines in his hands and threw them to the Imperial Draco-Bull as if they were cabbages while saying: “It has been tough carrying me this whole way, so I’ll reward you with these.”

This maddening turn of events left everyone looking silly. From the beginning, they all thought that Li Qiye was just saying it for fun, to exaggerate his wealth by calling king medicines cabbages.

But now, it turns out that this guy truly considered king medicines as cabbages! He actually threw these million year old king medicines at a buffalo to eat.

“Gnom-nom, nom...” At this time, the Imperial Draco-Bull was like a cow eating peony; it quickly ate the king medicines.

“No!” An old alchemist couldn’t help but to bellow a sad scream after seeing such a wasteful act. He couldn’t help but tremble with his eyes wide open, glaring at him while stuttering: “But these, these are king medicines...”

Everyone was stunned. These three king medicines couldn’t be obtained by many alchemists, even many great characters, despite trying to find one throughout their entire lives. Even a great power would treat a king medicine like a priceless treasure.

But now, such priceless treasures — in the eyes of everyone — were fed to a buffalo by Li Qiye. Could anyone actually be more irrationally wasteful than Li Qiye in this world? Little ancestors, the nouveau-riche, and even the most lavish young immortals in the heavens couldn’t compare to a fart from a prodigal son like Li Qiye! Even the most wasteful little ancestor wouldn’t feed king medicines to a bull, right? This was simply absurd! [1. Little ancestors are just really wasteful children to the point where you would call them ancestors since you have to treat them with the utmost care; just an expression of speech. The nouveau-riche might sound a bit out of place in a xuanhuan novel, but it is also a new word that came after the reformation during the late 1970s in China, describing a newly rich generation where they lived extremely lavish and expensive lifestyles. Although there is no direct translation and even the English version use Fu Er Dai, I think it is fitting to use this term here. The last term is the most lavish young immortals. This one is a wordplay on little ancestors. The characters for “Little Ancestors” are “Second Generation Ancestor” — this would be the raw translation. Of course, this wouldn’t make much sense. Most lavish young immortals’ characters are Immortal Generation Ancestors, so I changed it a bit.]

Even a little ancestor would treat a king medicine like a treasure! However, Li Qiye considered them as cabbages!

After seeing the buffalo before them actually swallowing all the king medicines after just three bites, a lot of people here felt hurt. There was no justice in this world!

In just a moment, the hearts of many people cried out in pain. They actually had to witness three king medicines being swallowed by this buffalo.

“Damn it, just let me go jump off a building. You guys, don’t stop me!” After seeing such a heart-breaking scene, someone howled and couldn’t bear to look any longer.

However, after the bull finished swallowing the three king medicines, it still looked as if it wanted more and stared at Li Qiye in a pitiful manner. The bull was a Draco-Bull, and its species liked eating spirit medicines the most. For the Imperial Draco-Bull, king medicines were scrumptious delicacies.

Li Qiye looked back at the more than three million year old king medicine and the imperial medicine whose age exceeded five million years in his hands and quickly said: “Fine, we still have a long ways to go, and you will still need to work hard later on. Stuff yourself and put more effort into it.”

Having said that, he threw the king medicine and imperial medicine over to the bull as well.

“Gnom—nom...” The bull’s tongue rolled out and swept the two roots into its mouth where it then began to chew.

Suddenly, many people directly went down to their knees and stayed there. A lot of them had turned pale due to unbearable heartache. They had no words for such a prodigal son.