

## **Domination 731**

### **Chapter 731: Li Qiye's Preparations**

On the second day of staying at the mountain, the madam went to the garden early in the morning and was jolted by the thing she saw.

Because there were all kinds of poisonous insects in the garden. Even a Demon King like her couldn't help but gasp at such a sight.

Li Qiye had sprinkled powder over the little pond in the garden. Inside was a three-meter long centipede drinking the water. Within a big basin was a poisonous snake with its entire flaming body playing around in the mud. Inside a large bowl was a scorpion king spewing and sucking in poisonous air as if it was refining poisonous pills...

The madam was quite creeped out by this as chills continuously ran down her spine. It was as if their garden had become a poisonous nest overnight! She couldn't help but take the long path around after seeing these terrifying and powerful poisonous creatures. Luckily, these creatures seemed to be very content and didn't try to attack her.

On the other end of the small courtyard, she finally found her Young Master. At this time, he was lying there while emitting a faint gray death energy.

Although she didn't know what he was doing, she didn't disturb him and only quietly waited by his side.

After a long period of silence, Li Qiye recovered his death energy and casually planted a spirit medicine at that location.

"Why is Young Master planting medicines here?" The madam found that there were many spirit plants around. Moreover, she had never seen these types of plants before and didn't know what they were.

Li Qiye smiled happily and said: "This Alchemy Kingdom is not only abundant in spirit medicines. Those who understand the dao of alchemy know that this is a place that also contains many terrifying poisonous creatures. They used to hide inside this Alchemy City! Normal cultivators wouldn't be able to see them."

"Young Master wants to tame these creatures?" The madam curiously asked. She had heard that taming poisonous creatures and beasts was also a part of the dao of alchemy. Although the Stone Medicine World of the nine worlds was known as the place of alchemists, the lineage well-versed in this regard was only one, the Insect Swarm Valley established by Insect Swarm Alchemy Emperor.

"Taming poisonous creatures is only a little path to me." Li Qiye said with a smile: "It's just for fun, that's all. The Alchemy Kingdom still has some really powerful Legendary Alchemists lurking around. It wouldn't be very fun killing these Legendary Alchemists without a few tricks."

The madam shuddered after hearing this. Using alchemy to kill was something she had heard of before but had yet to witness in person. It was told that only Legendary Alchemists were able to use their dao of alchemy for murder.

However, Legendary Alchemists were just one level below Alchemy Emperors. Ordinary lineages wouldn't be able to have such powerful alchemists.

“The Alchemy Kingdom doesn’t only have an untouchable dao of alchemy.” The madam was worried and reminded her Young Master.

In the Stone Medicine World, very few people or lineages were willing to oppose the Alchemy Kingdom, especially on their home turf at Alchemy City. This was the same as courting death.

The kingdom’s renowned alchemy was something the entire world knew. However, its strength and hidden cards were even stronger than its dao of alchemy. One sect, three emperors — these were not mere words. There were even speculations that the kingdom had a Godking at the moment, and possibly not just one.

Fighting against the kingdom under such circumstances with only the dao of alchemy was quite impossible.

Nevertheless, Li Qiye didn’t seem to care at all. He smiled and said: “It’s okay. These poisonous creatures are only for fun. It would still be fine if the kingdom dares to unleash their killing move! At that time, I’ll let them see my hidden ace!” With that, a light flashed across his eyes.

After following Li Qiye for some time, the madam immediately understood what Li Qiye’s expression meant.

“Young Master wants to steal Fairy Ming from them?” The madam asked. She was curious about Ming Yexue’s position in her Young Master’s mind.

“Steal?” Li Qiye chuckled and replied: “Zi Yan, how can you call it stealing? My peace-loving self would be more than happy to speak with the kingdom if they are willing! The decision of this matter is not in my hands, it is up to the kingdom. I have no qualms with a peaceful resolution.”

The madam felt a bit helpless inside. It was just like her Young Master said, how this matter would unravel was up to the kingdom’s attitude.

However, she also understood that her Young Master was well prepared in case of a grand battle. She wondered if the kingdom was ready for the oncoming storm or not!

“Young Noble, this lowly one is back.” At this time, Tie Yi came out of nowhere and spoke to Li Qiye.

Li Qiye glanced at him and said: “With such speed, you must be back with good news.”

“The hard working will be rewarded. This lowly one searched every inch of this Alchemy City and finally found some useful information for Young Noble.” Tie Yi smiled, eager to claim credit.

Li Qiye looked at him with one eye and said: “I know about your meritorious service already, so don’t bother reminding me.”

Tie Yi coughed and didn’t dare to put on airs. He quickly said: “The first piece of news is related to this alchemy conference. Mu Qiao from the kingdom will not be in the conference, but the White Hair Alchemy God and Cao Guoyao will participate...”

“Next.” Li Qiye slightly waved his sleeves; it was clear that he had no interest in this. He already knew the outcome since victory would be in his grasp no matter what kind of alchemy genius participated. For

him, not to mention the younger generation, even the Legendary Alchemists from the older generations were no problem.

Tie Yi quickly changed the subject and said: “The Heavenhoof Ravine sent many people. I heard there are some incredible big shots coming. Outside of protecting Cao Guoyao, I’m afraid they have another goal. Moreover, Ye Qingcheng’s troops are also here. Maybe he himself will come to Alchemy City.”

Having said that, Tie Yi couldn’t help but take a quick glance at Li Qiye. The enmity between Li Qiye and the Heavenhoof Ravine as well as Ye Qingcheng was no secret. If the ravine and Ye Qingcheng didn’t come for the alchemy conference, then they might be coming for Li Qiye.

Li Qiye didn’t bat an eye after hearing this. Either one was fine; it was no problem for him even if they dared to come for him. If god blocked his path, slay god; if devil blocked his path, slay devil.

“There is another thing relating to the Alchemy Kingdom.” Tie Yi’s expression slightly shifted at this point as he continued: “The strongest ace card of the Huangfu Clan, their most powerful ancestor, didn’t mind coming out of his Blood Era Stone. Moreover, this Sacred Ancestor went to the World-Pillar Monarch’s abode — this is from a very trustworthy source.”

Li Qiye had no reaction while the madam was startled into saying: “Even the Sacred Ancestor came into being! I heard that he is a legendary master, and a top one at that. Some people even consider him a God-Monarch!”

“This is not the scariest part.” Tie Yi added in a serious manner: “The scariest part is that the World-Pillar Monarch married the young miss of the Huangfu Clan, but his ancestor came from the kingdom’s direct branch. Moreover, they still have a living ancestor that is buried in the ancestral ground. I even heard that his position is not small at all in the kingdom!”

The madam couldn’t help but glance at her Young Master. One God-Monarch from the Huangfu Clan was already frightening enough, but if the kingdom’s ancestor came out as well, then it meant that the entire kingdom could become his enemy.

At this point, she realized that the situation was much more serious than what she had expected.

“Xian Clan Ancestor, oh?” Li Qiye rubbed his chin and chuckled before speaking: “One or two ancestors... too few, this won’t be fun at all.”

The madam couldn’t help but wryly smile. Only her Young Master would utter these words. She couldn’t help but to softly reply: “Young Master, I don’t know the Xian Ancestor very well, but the Sacred Ancestor from the Huangfu Clan... this is a God-Monarch — very frightening!”

“Only a false god that can’t reach the apex.” Li Qiye smiled and said: “A True God might be interesting, but a false god is not worth mentioning.”

What could the madam say? This was a God-Monarch! Even if he wasn’t a real God-Monarch with a bestowed title, he was still a legendary master. Even a Virtuous Paragon from the previous generation would feel their legs trembling after hearing about such a character, let alone those from the younger generation.

“Young Noble, if the Xian Ancestor gets involved and Young Noble kills them with your might, then wouldn't it be stirring the beehive?” Tie Yi advised: “Take a step back and everything will be fine; Young Noble does not necessarily have to fight the kingdom. By treading carefully, this behemoth of a kingdom might not be willing to come out just for the Huangfu Clan. Fighting against the entire kingdom is not wise.”

Tie Yi rarely advocated this type of speech, but even he was a bit wary of a monster like the Alchemy Kingdom. Many people in the Stone Medicine World knew that being enemies with the entire kingdom was completely unwise.

“It doesn't matter.” Li Qiye chuckled and said: “It has been a while since my last massacre, so I have been feeling quite bored lately. I will be very happy if some people come to the door knocking!” With that, he shifted his gaze towards the distant mountain range.

The source of the Alchemy Vein, the place coveted by so many. At that place were many hidden secrets. Having thought to this point, Li Qiye couldn't help but smile. The kingdom was very fortunate that he didn't touch them. However, if their descendants didn't know life from death, then he would be glad to repeat history!

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### **Chapter 732: Devil Hand Sacred Doctor**

Li Qiye had an air of calmness as he gazed towards the farthest location of the kingdom. However, the madam and Tie Yi could smell a stench of blood as they envisioned a scene where tides of blood covered the sky. Li Qiye was a bloodthirsty beast, waiting for his prey to come to his door.

After a while, Li Qiye looked back at Tie Yi and asked: “Any other news?”

Tie Yi was excited and quickly replied: “Young Noble will like this last piece of news and be spirited again.”

Li Qiye slightly waved his hand and said: “Okay, don't push it. Speak.”

“Fairy Yuan is here too.” Tie Yi immediately said: “Even earlier than us, in fact. She is already inside Alchemy City.”

“Caihe is here?” Li Qiye was surprised after hearing this. When they parted back at the Celestial Peak, Yuan Caihe had said that she might not be able to participate in the conference this time.

Tie Yi quickly responded: "Yes, I heard Observant Monarch's divine root is ill. This is quite a big problem, so he personally invited Fairy Yuan. I heard that he and the previous generation sect master of the Serene Garden have a deep friendship, so it is not too surprising that he can get her to come."

Tie Yi was also there back at the Celestial Peak with these two. He understood that Li Qiye had a good impression and greatly valued Yuan Caihe, so he listened carefully to her news without missing any details.

"Does Young Noble want to see Fairy Yuan right now? She is currently at the Observant Monarch's mansion. I heard that in the last two days, the monarch had invited many young alchemists to his mansion."

Li Qiye happily said: "Since Caihe is here, we might as well go have a look and see her. I don't have anything to do right now anyway."

The madam was surprised. She was caught off guard with her Young Master valuing Ming Yexue, but now he thought highly of Yuan Caihe as well.

"Maybe only Fairy Yuan will be able to charm Young Master." The madam jokingly mused. No matter the occasion, her Young Master would always be confident and nonchalant as if he was prepared for anything and never in a hurry. It could even be said that this was her first time seeing her Young Master taking the initiative to go see a girl.

Li Qiye only slightly shook his head and smilingly responded: "Zi Yan, you are only half right. Caihe is indeed a good girl that is loved by everyone. However, very few girls in this world can move my heart." He grew melancholic and was submerged in his memories after saying this.

After tens of millions of years, the girls that stayed by his side were plentiful, including goddesses, fairies, and princesses. Some were stunning and brilliant, others were charming and gentle, and there were the pleasant and lovely ones... He even trained a few empresses himself.

Nevertheless, after such a long period of time, very few girls were able to cause his heart to thump... He gently shook his head again after recomposing his thoughts.

The Observant Monarch's mansion in the city was large. Multiple peaks were connected to each other as dozens of mountains surrounded the entire area as if it was its own world. Very few residences in the city could reach this size.

However, the Observant Monarch was indeed qualified to have such a residence. As a royal subject of the kingdom, he was one of its oldest monarchs. He was also a direct disciple of the main branch — this background alone was enough to show his noble status.

He also had meritorious contributions for the kingdom throughout his entire life. His loyalty to the imperial family was proven with hard work, so he was highly favored by the family.

Within the last few days, the monarch hosted a banquet at his mansion with many young alchemists. Even those who were not invited could still come as guests. The monarch's doors were open and welcomed all alchemists.

The Alchemy Kingdom already had a grand hall to receive new alchemists for this conference, so the monarch's move was clearly a strategy from the imperial family. His goal was to observe the young alchemists, and if he saw ones with potential, he would try to recruit them for the kingdom.

Among the many guest alchemists, those who were personally invited by the monarch to the mansion were all famous young alchemists. The uninvited ones still came in order to build connections with other alchemists for the future.

Within the mansion, the youths were separated into groups. Outside of talking about alchemy and spirit medicines, they were also gossiping about other events.

The most notable guests at the mansion were the Cauldron Marquis and the Devil Hand Sacred Doctor. They were surrounded by many young alchemists who were more than willing to befriend them.

The sacred doctor was a genius of the Bailian Clan, the junior brother of the White Hair Alchemy God. Although he was a very arrogant person and was hard to get along with, many people were still willing to befriend him.

As for the Cauldron Marquis, he was a genius alchemist of the Crystallized Sea Sect. Although his fame was not as great as their descendant, Young Noble Pei Yu, being a genius alchemist of an imperial family still earned him quite a reputation in the Alchemy Realm.

Today, both of them were invited by the monarch to this party. It could be said that they were moons surrounded by stars; they were very well received by the other youths.

"Marquis, I heard that Young Noble Pei Yu has returned, will he come to Alchemy City?" A young alchemist was trying to make a conversation with the Cauldron Marquis.

Although the marquis was bestowed a royal title, he was still very young as a demon. After hearing this, he nodded and said: "After my first brother came out of his cultivation session, he took a trip to the Beast Realm. I believe he wants to spar against the Golden Crow Prince."

"Young Noble Pei Yu's Heaven's Will Radiant Physique is peerless in this world. He definitely will not lose against the Golden Crow Prince." An alchemist wanted to curry favor with the Cauldron Marquis.

"Fool, what do you know?" At this time, the sacred doctor interrupted and sneered: "The Golden Crow tribe's offense is unmatched in this generation. The prince not only came out from this tribe, he is also the inheritor of the Heavenhoof Ravine; he has the arts of two legacies! Even if Pei Yu had a stronger defense, he would not be able to stop the crow's sharp attacks!"

The sacred doctor was also very young. Although they were both geniuses, the marquis was easier to get along with. Meanwhile, the doctor's eyes were up in the sky. He was very proud and never minced words for nobodies.

His words caused many young alchemists to be unhappy, but they didn't dare to retort against him and could only bury their annoyance!

The marquis was also not willing to become enemies with the doctor. Everyone knew that the Bailian Clan's alchemy was formidable, especially regarding longevity medicines. Countless ancestors and legendary masters were willing to make ties with the Bailian Clan for these medicines.

“There are many popular candidates for the upcoming conference this time, correct?” One of the young alchemists felt that the atmosphere was quite tense, so he quickly changed the subject.

As a genius alchemist, the marquis also became interested and said: “Since Fairy Ming and Brother Mu Qiao aren’t participating in this conference, who could be the top two besides the White Hair Alchemy God and Brother Cao?”

He knew his own limits and how he was lacking compared to the White Hair Alchemy God and Cao Guoyao, so his ambition was to take third place.

“Marquis really has the ability to take the third spot for this conference.” An alchemist quickly flattered him and praised: “Your participation will brighten up this event quite a bit.”

The marquis’ expression became more spirited. However, he glanced at the sacred doctor and humbly said: “Hey now, Brother Sacred Doctor’s dao of alchemy can also be considered number one. I’m not necessarily any stronger than him.”

The sacred doctor proudly told the marquis: “You are well-versed in pill refinement and ointments. Regarding traditional alchemy, you are more likely to win third place than I am! If I didn’t train in the art of curing, then I could reach top three easily!”

Although his remark was very proud and aggressive, the marquis was secretly excited. The doctor’s comment was self-praise, but he also admitted his deficiency in a particular area when being compared to the marquis.

“No such thing, I am a big fan of Brother Sacred Doctor’s medical techniques.” The marquis immediately responded with a smile.

Many youths took advantage of this situation to grovel over these two. However, no matter the location, there would always be some simple and honest fellas.

A more honest alchemist interrupted and said: “I heard that a new amazing alchemist appeared recently. His name is Li Qiye. People say that he can refine pills like cooking. Back at Allpine Mountain, he defeated Huangfu Hao and the Vinepill King!”

The marquis’ face soured after hearing the name Li Qiye. As a disciple of the Crystallized Sea Sect, how could he be happy? Back at Allpine Mountain, his sect suffered a heavy loss by losing many experts. Even their Alchemy Saint died!

“He’s just a nobody, I’ve never heard of that name before.” A clever young alchemist immediately said after seeing the marquis’ cold expression.

### **Chapter 733: Observant Mansion**

“Right, right. How could the marquis have heard of such a nobody?” Another young alchemist quickly buttered up to the monarch.

A simple and honest person always lacked a sense of social awareness even though they didn’t really want to leave the marquis with no face. This simple alchemist couldn’t hold it in and blurted: “I heard this Li Qiye’s fate pills were unbelievable. They all had a near golden tint, pretty to the point of perfection. Marquis, you need to be careful and be sure to beat this Li Qiye!”

The marquis almost vomited blood from anger after hearing this simple alchemist's words. He didn't want to bring up Li Qiye since him murdering so many Radiant-Sea members was a huge humiliation. Now, this simple alchemist just had to bring up Li Qiye of all people, causing the marquis to feel quite annoyed.

"Idiot, how could you trust such rumors?" The sacred doctor sneered and shouted at this simple alchemist: "Refining pills like cooking is not possible for even a Legendary Alchemist, let alone a human brat! Hmph, this Li Qiye, he only has a good Heavenly Cauldron. The people there didn't understand the matter so they considered him a god or something. They are just false rumors."

The simple alchemist felt indignant after this retort and said: "Everyone said it. I even heard that this Li Qiye didn't only have an untouchable dao of alchemy, he also has an invincible cultivation. Someone said that he defeated many experts, including an ancestor from the Huangfu Clan!"

After saying this, he couldn't help but glance at the marquis. He actually wanted to say that even the Radiant-Sea Alchemy Saint was killed by Li Qiye, but he managed to hold back this piece of information.

The marquis was about to vomit blood. If it wasn't for the alchemist's truly honest appearance, then he would have thought that this alchemist was deliberately provoking him. This fool had no sense of propriety! If this wasn't the Observant Mansion, he would have kicked this fool flying away already!

"What the hell are you saying?" A smarter alchemist noticed the marquis' sour mood and immediately denounced the simple alchemist: "Li Qiye is shit! So what if he defeated the Huangfu Ancestor? Those are only egotistical rumors. The ancestor is an invincible paragon, so how could Li Qiye kill him? Bah, how can you even say such shameless words?"

"This Li guy daring to act all arrogant at Allpine Mountain was simply due to the fact that he was holding onto the mountain's legs. The Huangfu Ancestor was defeated by the Allpine Treefather! Hmph, for a junior like Li Qiye, not to mention the ancestor, any expert could easily crush him into pieces!"

In order to help the Crystallized Sea Sect and befriend the marquis, this young alchemist tried his best to debase Li Qiye as if he was not worth a single coin just to make the marquis happy.

"He's just scum borrowing someone else's prestige to look good — not worth mentioning." The marquis felt better after hearing the smart alchemist's statement.

"But these aren't my words." The simple-minded alchemist must have been all muscles. After being scolded by the sacred doctor and now a different alchemist, he felt very indignant and said: "Others said it, I'm only repeating what I heard. This Li Qiye apparently is comparable to the four alchemy prodigies while his cultivation is comparable to the celestial being and the Imperial Edge."

The marquis couldn't help but shake with anger. He was helpless when it came to encountering such a stupid fool. His mood was quickly improved only to be ruined again with just one stupid sentence!

"Zhong Xian, you idiot, get the hell out of here!" The smart alchemist was also shaking with anger because of the simple alchemist. It wasn't easy for him to curry some favor, but this idiot ruined all of his efforts.

He pointed at the simple alchemist and scolded: "Li Qiye is nothing! How can he be qualified to compare to the four prodigies, the celestial being, and the Imperial Edge?! Bah, he better take another look at

himself in a mirror! He's only scum that knows how to praise himself and use other people... Only an idiot like you, Zhong Xian, can be around him!"

The alchemist named Zhong Xian was full of grievances and said: "But, but, these aren't my words..."

"First, I am not nothing, I am a human." At this time, a leisurely voice appeared and continued on: "Second, this celestial being and Imperial Edge are not worthy of being compared to me; doing so would be praising them too much. Third, if you and I have some grievances, then I can understand why you are defaming me. However, defaming me just to suck up to someone else... Should I throw you out or just kill you on the spot?!"

Two people leisurely came in from the door and walked to the party's courtyard. The leading man was Li Qiye with Madam Zi Yan right behind him.

"Li Qiye..." Many people stood up upon sighting him. A few young alchemists from the Alchemy Realm inwardly shuddered because right behind him was Madam Zi Yan, the Demon King of a country! Her status and position were far above many in the younger generation.

Even a genius alchemist would be extremely afraid of a Heavenly King. The madam also enjoyed a great reputation among the younger generation of this realm.

Li Qiye came forward to look at the smart alchemist before idly saying: "Today, my mood can be considered decent. Although you spoke behind my back, I will not dwell on it. Slap your face three times and consider that as your punishment."

The smart alchemist couldn't help but take several steps back and hide behind the Cauldron Marquis. He, of course, couldn't slap himself in front of everyone. Otherwise, how could he show himself anywhere in the future?

"You are Li Qiye, right?!" The marquis stepped forward and coldly leered at Li Qiye: "This isn't a place for you to act so presumptuously!"

Li Qiye met his leer and said: "I can act presumptuously wherever I want. It seems that your Crystallized Sea Sect still hasn't learned its lesson. After so many deaths, it still dares to step up for someone else, how courageous."

"Bold words." The sacred doctor found Li Qiye unpleasant as well. Although he had no feud with Li Qiye, an arrogant person like him held everyone in disdain. He couldn't stand Li Qiye's arrogant attitude, so he sneered: "You are only relying on others. If the treefather wasn't your backer, you wouldn't be able to do shit! You really think this place is Alpine Mountain? Wrong! This is the Alchemy Kingdom, and here is Alchemy City, the Observant Mansion! Be smart and scam lest you humiliate yourself!"

Although news of Li Qiye killing the Alchemy Saint and the elders of the ravine had spread, Li Qiye had never personally taken action. Many people assumed that it was not his doing, but the treefather's instead. They all thought that the treefather secretly lent Li Qiye a hand.

"That's right, the Observant Mansion does not welcome a ruthless, shameless wretch like you. The Stone Medicine World's dao of alchemy will not allow scum like you to stain it! Alchemists gather here to discuss alchemy; a person who wants to kill so impulsively like you shouldn't stay here and ruin the

atmosphere. Get the hell out of here, now!” The smart alchemist hiding behind the marquis quickly fanned the flames.

He was naturally afraid. It wasn’t necessarily because of Li Qiye, but the madam standing next to Li Qiye caused his legs to lose strength.

“Ruthless, shameless wretch.” Li Qiye did not become angry. He stroked his chin and leisurely smiled to say: “It seems that if I don’t kill a few people, I won’t be worthy of an adjective like ruthless.” Having said that, he walked towards the smart alchemist.

“You think this is a place where you can be violent?” The marquis blocked Li Qiye’s path and said: “Brother Jin, although I am only a guest at the mansion, I’m sure the mansion will not blame us if we teach this brute a lesson!”

At this moment, a young man with an intrepid aura led a group of experts to the scene and immediately separated Li Qiye’s group from the marquis. This imposing youth was the Brother Jin referred to by the marquis and also a disciple of the Observant Monarch.

While the mansion welcomed all alchemists as guests, there were always experts present at any time to stop all troublemakers to avoid problems.

And so, the youth stopped Li Qiye and coldly said: “Please go back! Our mansion does not welcome you as a guest!”

Li Qiye casually inquired: “Oh? Isn’t your Observant Mansion very hospitable with its door always open to alchemists?”

“That depends on the person!” This disciple had a good relationship with the Cauldron Marquis. He not only prevented Li Qiye from causing trouble at the venue, he coldly added to it to win some face for the marquis: “We welcome alchemists, but you are not part of this group!”

“That’s right, if any random dog on the street could enter this mansion, then its reputation would be ruined.” The cowering alchemist behind the marquis quipped.

Right now, with the marquis’ protection and the mansion as his backing, he grew bolder and said: “A junior like you who only relies on others is not qualified to be a guest at the monarch’s mansion! Be smart and scram!”

“So noisy.” Before Li Qiye could respond, the madam stepped in and took action. “Pop!” This smart alchemist was slapped flying out of the mansion by the madam. With so much blood spurting everywhere, no one knew if he was dead or alive.

### **Chapter 734: Observant Monarch**

Many alchemists present were shocked at the madam slapping this alchemist flying. Many of them became nervous and didn’t dare to breathe out loud. The fury of a Heavenly King filled alchemists like them with dread.

The Cauldron Marquis, the sacred doctor, and the disciple of the monarch were all shaken as well. Although they were very strong and had great reputations, this was due to their prowess in alchemy. Regarding cultivation, they were much weaker than the madam.

The startled youth became much more courageous after remembering that his master was the Observant Monarch. He spoke solemnly to the madam: "Your Majesty Zi Yan, our Observant Mansion isn't a place for you to do as you please!"

The madam glanced at this youth and slowly uttered: "If you still consider yourself as a disciple of the Observant Monarch, then conduct yourself in such a manner."

The madam's tyrannical aura caused the youth's heart to sink. Her ruler's aura alone had left him suffocating.

When Li Qiye arrived at the mansion, the Observant Monarch could be found pacing back and forth in his guest room. He was very anxious while waiting for Yuan Caihe's news; he was worried about his divine root not being able to be saved. Suddenly, an old woman came out of nowhere, causing the monarch to exclaim in astonishment: "Grandma Bai, what brings you to my humble abode?" [1. "You" here is very respectful towards old people.]

The still absent-minded monarch quickly calmed down and went to greet this old woman that appeared out of nowhere with his fists cupped.

This old woman was the one who was with Ming Yexue. She was a great character inside the imperial family, an amazing paragon. Even a monarch like him was only a junior before her.

"No need for pleasantries. There is an esteemed guest at your mansion right now. His name is Li Qiye." The old woman didn't have many words. With a cold demeanor, she went straight to the point: "Young Miss' orders, you must treat him well. If anything happens, I'm afraid the Young Miss will not protect you!" Having said that, she disappeared without a trace.

After taking in the statement, the monarch quickly rushed outside, aghast. He couldn't compose his thoughts in such a short amount of time.

Meanwhile, inside the courtyard, the monarch's disciple took a deep breath. He was truly afraid of a Heavenly King like the madam, but all things considered, he was still a disciple of the Alchemy Kingdom! With a behemoth like this as his backing, he became more audacious.

He maintained a strong posture and said: "Your Majesty Zi Yan, our mansion will always welcome someone of your status as a guest at any time. However, we do not welcome certain people, so they better get the hell out of here!"

"Ah, Zi Yan, you meant well, but a few fools do not understand." Li Qiye smiled and shook his head gently to say: "I do not care about being a guest at the Observant Mansion. I am only here to see Caihe."

The madam gently shook her head as well without saying anything. How could she not be clear of the situation? Her Young Master not beating people was already a blessing from the heavens, but others actually came to provoke him.

She was not the belligerent type. Her slap earlier was to quench her Young Master's anger, but who would have thought that this disciple from the mansion didn't know when to back down? This was going to cause a catastrophe for the mansion!

“Fairy Yuan is the most honored guest of our mansion, random dogs and cats can’t see her.” The disciple coldly uttered: “You better leave now, or else we won’t be so reserved anymore.”

Li Qiye remained relaxed in the face of this response. There was even a faint smile on his face as he slightly squinted his eyes.

The madam gently sighed after seeing her Young Master’s expression. She understood that someone was about to have a bad time. One might be able to survive an act of god, but no one could survive a self-brought calamity!

“How preposterous!” A thunderous roar suddenly appeared at this time as an old man soared closer.

The youth was ecstatic when he saw this old man, thinking that his backing had arrived. He immediately said: “Master, you are here just in time! This person wants to show off at our mansion and also intends on harming the guest alchemists present...”

With his master here, he was no longer afraid of opposing the madam.

The Cauldron Marquis’ group was also happy to see the Observant Monarch in person. It seemed that the monarch wanted to teach this human junior a good lesson for not knowing the immensity of the heaven and earth.

“Pop!” However, something unexpected occurred. After rushing here, the monarch immediately violently slapped his disciple’s face, causing his mouth to bleed. One could imagine just how much force this slap was backed with.

“Master...” This disciple was dumbfounded after being slapped by his master. He didn’t know where he went wrong.

In fact, many alchemists here, including the marquis’ group, were astounded by this slap as well. They couldn’t come up with a reason as to why the monarch would suddenly slap his own disciple, especially in front of everyone!

“Bastard, quickly apologize to Young Noble Li!” The monarch shouted. He was a great expert, so during his rage, a great aura flooded out, causing everyone to feel as if they were at the center of a storm. All the alchemists here were shaking with fear.

The disciple continued to stand there looking silly. This was his first time seeing his master so angry with him, and he couldn’t figure out what he did wrong.

“Bastard, don’t just stand there frozen!” The monarch thunderously shouted.

The disciple was awakened by this shout. He calmed down and felt a chill inside. He understood what his master’s severe demeanor meant at the moment. Even though he didn’t know of his mistake, he was still aware that he was in trouble.

“This little brother was reckless and arrogant to have offended Young Noble, please punish me!” The disciple was a decisive person. He immediately prostrated on the ground and accepted his mistakes.

The monarch also quickly approached Li Qiye and apologized: “My disciple has eyes but couldn’t see, a frog at the bottom of a well. To heinously offend Young Noble like this, please do as you please.”

The monarch personally apologizing to Li Qiye stunned all the young alchemists present. They were in complete disbelief! The monarch was a high-ranked figure of the Alchemy Kingdom, but he was actually apologizing to a junior. This was simply too astonishing.

He was an incredible expert, a Heaven's Equal King! It could be said that beneath Virtuous Paragons, no one could stop him. As such a powerful Heavenly King, his status was much higher than any royal lord or sect master.

More importantly, he was highly valued by the imperial family of the kingdom. Not to mention ordinary Heavenly Kings or rulers, even those from imperial lineages would have to treat him with a certain level of respect!

But now, he actually apologized to a junior. Even the Cauldron Marquis or the sacred doctor would never be able to enjoy such treatment.

Li Qiye looked at the monarch and suddenly lost all of his enthusiasm and anger. He lazily waved his sleeve and said: "Very well, the unaware are sinless. Stand up."

"I am very grateful for Young Noble's magnanimity in my disciple's stead." The monarch quickly bowed. Meanwhile, how could his disciple dare to utter a word? He also quickly bowed.

After receiving Li Qiye's forgiveness, the monarch added with haste: "Young Noble's presence brings light to my humble dwelling, it is truly our honor. If Young Noble is willing to give us some face, please stay for a bit. This little monarch will do my best as a host and show Young Noble around Alchemy City."

The Observant Monarch's polite and respectful attitude left all the alchemists here silly. Even geniuses like the Cauldron Marquis were not qualified to enjoy such treatment.

Although the marquis and sacred doctor were famous among the younger generation and also praised as geniuses, the Observant Monarch was the leader of the monarchs at the Alchemy Kingdom. Even their masters, sect masters, and clan masters would have to treat the monarch with respect. As those of the younger generation, when would they ever be treated so cordially by the monarch?

Li Qiye was not very interested in the monarch's invitation. However, in the face of such polite and respectful treatment, even Li Qiye was unable to cause trouble. There was a great saying: one does not slap a smiling face.

Li Qiye shook his head and lightly said: "I will accept Observant Monarch's kind gesture. I heard the Serene Garden's Fairy Yuan is at your place, I am here to see her."

"Umm..." The monarch hesitated for a moment after hearing this.

The Cauldron Marquis took this chance to coldly speak: "Fairy Yuan is one of the four alchemy prodigies, the esteemed guest of all the sects in this world! How can you meet her whenever you wish? Countless lineages desire her presence, and countless alchemists will line up just to catch a glimpse of her. Hmph! She isn't someone that you can see!"

Since Li Qiye killed so many people from his Crystallized Sea Sect, the marquis had an implacable feud with him. Earlier, he wanted to cause a rift between Li Qiye and the monarch so that the monarch would

take care of Li Qiye. Who would have thought that the situation would reverse to this state? How could the marquis swallow this anger?

“Fairy Yuan!” An alchemist shouted at this time.

Everyone looked towards the direction of the voice and found a woman coming out from the main doors. It was a woman elegant like a lotus flower in a valley, unstained by this mundane world!

She was the Serene Garden’s descendant, one of the four contemporary alchemy prodigies, Yuan Caihe. All eyes immediately fell upon her the moment she arrived.

### **Chapter 735: Poisonous Wound**

Yuan Caihe stood there like an elegant lotus away from water. Although her appearance was not kingdom-toppling, her gentle and calm temperament made people fall for her.

“Fairy Yuan!” Many alchemists were charmed after seeing her. She was the only girl among the four prodigies, so it could be said that she was the goddess in the minds of countless alchemists!

Yuan Caihe was coming their way. In just a short moment, many eyes were glued onto her. Even a genius like the marquis couldn’t help but arch his chest gallantly in order to make himself more presentable.

Someone like the extremely arrogant sacred doctor was excited as well. He stood up straight with great confidence, wanting to spark a conversation with her: “Fairy Yuan...”

However, she only slightly nodded her head without pausing, drifting by the doctor. The marquis saw that she was walking towards his direction and became very happy. He thought that he had a chance.

Unfortunately, she continued walking like a gust of wind to appear before Li Qiye. She revealed a calm and leisured smile and spoke with a trace of joy in her voice: “Big Brother also came to the monarch’s mansion.”

Li Qiye’s mood brightened after seeing Yuan Caihe. He cheerfully smiled and said: “I heard you were going to be here as a guest, so I especially came to see you.”

“Thank you, Big Brother...” Yuan Caihe revealed a pleasant smile with her always-peaceful demeanor.

After seeing Yuan Caihe’s temperament, the madam couldn’t help but sigh. It was no wonder why her Young Master would like Yuan Caihe so much. She was indeed favored by her Young Master!

Yuan Caihe pulled Li Qiye’s hand in a natural manner, like a gentle and comforting spring breeze.

Many young alchemists present were both envious and jealous at such an intimate scene, especially the Cauldron Marquis. He was flustered since earlier, he was teasing Li Qiye about not being able to see Yuan Caihe; this scene was simply a violent slap to his face!

Even the arrogant doctor felt annoyed and coldly scowled. As an alchemist, he naturally liked Yuan Caihe as well. Unfortunately, the beauty did not reciprocate this sentiment.

“Senior, your divine root is fine. In two more years, it will be able to bloom.” Yuan Caihe told the Observant Monarch.

After hearing this, the monarch heaved a sigh of relief. The worry that lingered in his heart was finally lifted as he quickly responded: "It is all because of Virtuous Niece that the root was able to be saved. You have to stay here at the mansion for a while so that I, as a senior, can show you my best hospitality. Nothing would be better if Young Noble Li can stay as well. You should try to get him to stay."

The monarch and the Serene Garden Master were the best of friends. When there was a problem with his divine root, he especially invited Sect Master Ren to come cure it. He didn't expect that the sect master was in seclusive cultivation, so Yuan Caihe came in her master's stead.

Yuan Caihe smiled and gently shook her head to say: "Senior is too kind, it was no trouble at all. I will be following my Big Brother for a bit and will not stay in the mansion for now."

The monarch knew that he couldn't hold them back, so it would be awkward if he tried any further. He had to say: "If Virtuous Niece and Young Noble Li need anything, you can come to my mansion at any time."

Yuan Caihe quickly thanked him and was about to leave with Li Qiye, but a disciple from the mansion barged in and exclaimed: "Master, not good, something happened to First Brother...!"

His face was pale and he spoke with grave urgency.

The monarch's expression quickly changed as he raised his tone: "What happened to make you so anxious?"

The First Brother referred to in this conversation was the monarch's only son.

At this time, more than ten experts rushed into the room, carrying in a bloodied young man. In his chest was a hole so terrible that it seemed as if it had pierced it through completely.

Moreover, the ten experts were also stained with blood. They all had different levels of injuries, but theirs were merely flesh wounds!

"My son!" The monarch was aghast after seeing the young man being carried in. He quickly rushed over to check the wound on his son's chest, and his heart immediately sank.

The bloody hole on the young man's chest emitted blood of a black shade — completely horrifying to anyone who saw it!

The young man bellowed a pitiful cry at this time. There was no doubt that he was still alive, but he was being assaulted by the terrible poison. His body twisted with pain as if it wanted to break itself due to agony.

The monarch was saddened by this scene. He hastily took action and sealed his son's fate palace in order to protect his true fate. Despite doing so, the boy's body still emitted a black fog as if the poison was attacking again.

"What actually happened?" The monarch anxiously asked an expert who helped carry in the young man.

"Uncle, First Brother wanted to enter the Serpent Marsh to hunt some longevity beasts, but we were ambushed by a poisonous creature. We didn't even see its shape before First Brother was seriously injured. If Senior Uncle didn't arrive in time, I'm afraid we would have been completely annihilated!"

“This child...” The monarch was both angry and shocked as he exclaimed: “How could he be so reckless as to go to Alchemy City’s ominous ground!”

The city was vast. Although it was known as the capital, there were many dangerous areas within its territory. There were some that even Virtuous Paragons would not recklessly tread into.

The monarch noticed that the black fog was becoming thicker on his son’s body, so he immediately used one of his powerful laws to seal his son’s vitality and commanded his disciple: “Quick, go bring some Soulrending Immortal Powder!”

The expert holding the young man shook his head and said: “Uncle, when First Brother was wounded, we immediately used Soulrending Immortal Powder on his body, but there was not much effect. It could only temporarily stop the poison.”

The monarch was in distress after hearing this. Keep in mind that Soulrending Immortal Powder was a famous medicine in the Alchemy Kingdom, capable of treating any injury. If this powder was ineffective, then other ointments would be even more so.

“Monarch, I’m afraid your Young Noble is stricken with an extremely rare poison, so ointments will not be effective, not even Soulrending Immortal Powder.” The Devil Hand Sacred Doctor slowly spoke while standing at the side.

The monarch calmed down and looked at the sacred doctor. He finally remembered that this famous doctor’s medical skill could be considered top rank in the Stone Medicine World!

The monarch quickly cupped his hands towards the doctor and said: “Virtuous Nephew is the number one doctor in our time. My son’s life is hanging on a thread, please save him.”

The sacred doctor couldn’t help but reveal a proud smirk after a big shot like the monarch had to ask him for help. He looked around at everyone before coming closer to the young man on the ground and carefully observed his wound.

After a moment, he spoke: “Your Young Noble was ambushed by a Devil Pondleech. This creature has a body that resembles a serpent and is around four meters long. It is completely grey and headless, but it does have a mouth that can open up like a flower with sharp teeth. Its speed is lightning fast and can quickly sneak attack people, piercing through their chest, resulting in a swift death!”

“Yes, yes! The creature that attacked First Brother matches the doctor’s description.” The expert confirmed after hearing this.

“The Devil Pondleech’s poison is extremely fierce and can instantly kill someone. If it wasn’t for your young noble’s high cultivation and the swift application of the powder, then I’m afraid he would not be alive right now. However, if this continues, his death is certain. He will not last another six hours!” The doctor raised his tone and said.

The frightened monarch quickly asked the doctor: “Can Virtuous Nephew cure this poison?”

The sacred doctor laughed proudly then ostentatiously said: “Monarch, although this leech might be very rare and extremely poisonous to the point where it can kill a Heavenly King, to me, this is not an issue at all. There is no ailment that I cannot heal in this world!”

After his preening declaration, he couldn't help but to look over at Yuan Caihe. He wanted to show off before the beauty so that she could witness his supreme medical skill!

Despite his great hubris, everyone knew that he was qualified to act in that manner due to his amazing medical ability!

"Virtuous Nephew, please save my son." The monarch couldn't contain his elation since there was finally a solution.

The doctor smiled arrogantly and said: "Monarch, saving your son isn't difficult. However, you should have heard of my habits; my price is not small."

The monarch merely took a deep breath, he had heard tales of the doctor before and was mentally prepared. He deepened his tone and said: "What does Virtuous Nephew want? As long as it is within my ability, I will do my best!"

"I heard Observant Monarch has a Wish Scepter." The doctor smiled and said: "I have heard of this treasure. Would you be willing to part with this item?" [1. Ruyi scepter, "as you wish". A symbol of power and good fortune]

This condition caused the monarch's expression to change. He really had such a treasure, but it was very important to him.

He grew hesitant since this condition was too harsh. His Wish Scepter is extremely precious, an unfathomable artifact.

"Monarch, time does not wait for anyone." The doctor coldly said: "The imperial family's ancestors or a Legendary Alchemist can cure this poison, but can monarch wait until one of them comes to help!? If monarch delays the treatment, then I'm afraid your son will not be able to keep his life!"

[spoiler title='735 Teaser']Yuan Caihe stood there like an elegant lotus away from water. Although her appearance was not kingdom-toppling, her gentle and calm temperament made people fall for her.

"Fairy Yuan!" Many alchemists were charmed after seeing her. She was the only girl among the four prodigies, so it could be said that she was the goddess in the minds of countless alchemists!

Yuan Caihe was coming their way. In just a short moment, many eyes were glued onto her. Even a genius like the marquis couldn't help but arch his chest gallantly in order to make himself more presentable.

Someone like the extremely arrogant sacred doctor was excited as well. He stood up straight with great confidence, wanting to spark a conversation with her: "Fairy Yuan..."

However, she only slightly nodded her head and didn't stop walking.

### **Chapter 736: Devil Pondleech**

The monarch gritted his teeth and said: "Very well, if Virtuous Nephew can save my son, then my Wish Scepter will be yours!"

In order to save his son, the monarch had to give up his treasure. Although there were ancestors from the kingdom that could cure this poison, they were all buried underground. He couldn't just meet them as he pleased. Even if an ancestor was willing to save his son, the delay might adversely affect the treatment.

"If Monarch is willing to trade the Wish Scepter for his life, then everything will be easy." The sacred doctor said: "The Devil Pondleech's poison affinity is Yin, and luckily, I also have the ashes of Heartspark Grass to stabilize the toxin and prevent it from spreading."

Having said that, he took out a small box that contained ashes. People could sense a wave of heat assaulting their faces. It was apparent just how powerful the Yang affinity of this particular grass was.

All the alchemists watched the sacred doctor with bated breaths. Everyone knew that his medical skill was unmatched in this world, so they wanted to see him in action just once.

"This is the wrong approach." When the sacred doctor wanted to apply the ashes of Heartspark Grass on the young man's chest, a leisurely and calm voice appeared.

The doctor looked back; the speaker was, of course, Li Qiye whom he was especially annoyed with!

Li Qiye and the two ladies were about to leave, but they stopped after seeing the gravely wounded son of the monarch being carried in.

The always-arrogant doctor was proud of his medical ability. Although his conditions were very harsh, he had indeed saved many people near death. Many injuries that rendered even bigger sects helpless were healed by him. Thus, the sacred doctor never allowed people to question his art. Moreover, he already hated Li Qiye from the start, so after hearing his words, the doctor immediately coldly spoke: "Ignorant brat, what do you know! Don't spew nonsense if you don't understand medicine. Don't think that just because of your trivial pill refinement skill that you truly understand the dao of alchemy! When it comes to the art of healing, you are not even comparable to a fart!"

Due to the existing enmity and Li Qiye questioning his skill, he immediately spared no face in his retort. In fact, he had never given anyone face before.

"Is that so?" Surprisingly, Li Qiye did not become angry like usual. He only revealed a smirk while saying: "Since you are so versed in medicine, I want to hear your opinion."

The doctor smiled sarcastically before harshly responding: "Since a cricket like you wants to learn, then I'll teach you a thing or two! Fairy Yuan is also an alchemy genius, so she must understand medicology as well. The leech's poison is Yin; it's ferocious and spreads extremely quickly. Because of this, I will use the ashes of Heartspark Grass to stabilize the toxicity. This grass is of the Yang affinity — a great recovery tool. I used Samadhi True Fire to burn it into ashes, so its Yang affinity became even higher..."

"It is extremely appropriate to combat the cold Yin poison with the ashes of this grass. After the toxicity level is reduced, I will open the injured person's chest and use my exclusive technique to seal his true fate and flesh and force the poison out of the wound. When there is no poison leftover inside his body, I will use another unique strand of detoxifying sacred medicine to destroy any remnants..."

The doctor laughed proudly at this point before continuing with great hubris: "Many people think that a sacred detoxifying medicine would be able to cure all toxins, but this is not the case. Once a ferocious

poison infiltrates the body, it won't just spread throughout the physical self, it will also harm the true fate! Only by gathering the poison in one place through meticulous examination then using medicine to dissolve it would no problems be left behind — this is the best method!”

“For this method, outside of using a profound saber art to open the chest, it would require my secret poison removing art. As for the detoxifying medicine, of course it is the best. Only I, the Devil Hand Sacred Doctor, know all three of these things in the contemporary times!” The doctor was elated as he looked at Yuan Caihe with his head high and chest out.

He was usually not a talkative person, but when it came to medicine, he could go on and on. Moreover, he wanted to show off to Yuan Caihe, so he deliberately flaunted his skill.

“I have little knowledge regarding actual medicinal applications...” Yuan Caihe contemplated for a moment before tilting her head and saying: “In theory, this method should work.”

“It is just theoretical.” Li Qiye smiled while shaking his head to say: “If you try to do this, I'm afraid that not only will you kill the injured, your own life will be forfeited as well.”

“How ignorant!” The doctor shouted: “I could easily cure an even more ferocious poison! Even the most soul-ending poison in the Alchemy Realm would be no problem, let alone this Devil Pondleech! If you don't understand medicine, then don't stand here and spout frightening words to scare people!”

“Someone like you wants to speak of medicine with Brother Sacred Doctor?” At this time, the marquis helped out the doctor. How could he miss this chance of kicking someone who was already down? He sneered: “Brother Sacred Doctor's medicinal ability is unmatched in this world. You're just a junior yet you still dare to comment on his ability now of all times?! How pitifully ignorant! Regarding the way of medicines, you are not even worthy of holding his shoes!”

No matter what, he would obtain vengeance for the Crystallized Sea Sect. Even if he couldn't kill Li Qiye right now, he would still do his best to humiliate him!

“Marquis is right.” Another young alchemist wouldn't miss this opportunity for flattery and sneered: “A few ignorant people want to boast and debate medicine with the sacred doctor, but this is simply teaching a fish how to swim!”

It was rare for such a good opportunity to arise, so the sacred doctor just had to show his matchless medicinal skill before Yuan Caihe and humiliate Li Qiye. Thus, he snorted and told the monarch: “Monarch, when I am detoxifying the poison, I need complete concentration. If some dumb things buzz around my ear, I won't be able to focus. If a mistake happens, then I won't be able to guarantee anything. If Monarch wants your Young Noble to recover, then please tell these stupid things to shut up for me!”

This was his favorite thing to do, putting on an imposing and aggressive attitude to shame others.

The Observant Monarch was powerless. His son's life was in the sacred doctor's hands, so he quickly cupped his fists towards Li Qiye and said: “Young Noble Li, harmony is to be treasured... Let's take a step back and bask in the immensity of the heaven and earth, please don't argue any longer.”

Li Qiye stared at the monarch and only gently shook his head to say: “If Monarch is so sure, then I won't say anything else.”

The sacred doctor snorted and arrogantly said: "Monarch, don't worry. I will save your son in no time at all."

With that, he slowly placed the ashes on the young man's chest wound.

"Szzzz..." The moment the ashes fell on the wound, it began to dissolve the toxin. The black energy that was initially coming from the wound turned into a green smoke.

"It's working. The sacred doctor's skill is truly unmatched in this world and worthy of his reputation. Only a few ignorant fools would question him!" After seeing this scene, a young alchemist exclaimed in amazement.

The doctor was basking in this glory. He smiled proudly with utmost confidence in his medicinal skill. Even if his pill refining ability was not as great as his senior brother, the White Hair Alchemy God, no one in the current era could compare to his medicinal skill!

"Ah?" However, the doctor's expression suddenly froze. In the blink of an eye, a black ray flashed by at an unbelievable speed. Even an expert like the Observant Monarch could only see its shadow and couldn't make out what it actually was.

At this time, the doctor still wore a gloating smile, but a small hole had been drilled into his forehead. A tiny strand of blood dripped down from it as his body tensed up before falling to the ground.

This development came too quickly. Many people had yet to calm down, and once they did, nearly all of them quickly retreated and maintained their distance. No one dared to come close.

Even the monarch was aghast and exclaimed: "What happened!" He gasped after seeing the doctor on the ground. Even a Heaven's Equal King like him didn't know what killed the doctor by drilling the very small hole on his forehead.

"Oh god..." An alchemist couldn't contain his scream of horror. He was pale with trembling legs.

As a genius alchemist, Yuan Caihe instantly realized something and said with surprise: "There is something in his body!"

"Ahh..." The young man lying there bellowed. His body tensed up again as if it was about to snap in half. One could hear the sounds of bones grinding together, seemingly on the verge of breaking. The young man rolled back and forth, writhing with pain!

"My son!" The monarch was horrified. He immediately used his power to seal the young man's body to relieve his pain! However, the effect was not clear.

"You didn't listen to me, so you have to suffer like this." Li Qiye looked at the doctor on the ground and said dismissively: "You can only blame your lack of skill for your death, but now you are also bringing someone else down with you. What a sin."

Everyone present felt a chill. No one knew how the doctor died or what the thing inside the young man's body was!

[spoiler title='736 Teaser']Bao: Did you ever hear the tragedy of Darth Doctor The Wise?

Reader: No.

Bao: I thought not. It's not a story Shanks would tell you. It's an emperor's legend. Darth Doctor was a Sacred Doctor of the Bailian Clan, so powerful and so wise that he could use alchemy to influence the author into saving people...

Reader: He could actually save people from death?

Bao: The restorative side of the dao of alchemy is a pathway to many abilities some consider to be unnatural.

Reader: What happened to him?

Bao: He became so powerful that... the only thing he was afraid of was crossing the main character, which he eventually did, of course. Unfortunately, he acted as arrogantly as he could before this person, then this person xxx. Ironic. He could save others from death, but not himself.

Reader: Is it possible to learn this power?

Bao: Not if you are someone who reads Shanks' translations.

### **Chapter 737: Peerless Medicinal Skill**

"Ahh..." The young man's pitiful scream echoed all the way to the blue sky. His body was about to twist in half, starting with his spine. His entire body was in an agonizing pain.

Although his true fate was stained by the poison, he still had some reason and shrilly exclaimed: "Father, send me off!"

"No, my son, you have to hold on!" The monarch was distraught and quickly said: "I will find someone to cure this poison."

"Senior, someone capable is right in front of you, why do you still want to search?" The kind Yuan Caihe saw the young man no longer wanting to live from the pain, so she reminded the monarch.

The monarch lifted his head to look at Yuan Caihe. After a split second, he immediately understood who she was referring to. He quickly stood up and cupped his hands towards Li Qiye: "Young Noble Li, this little monarch has eyes but might as well be blind. I offended you earlier, please forgive me. As long as Young Noble can save my son, you can strike or kill me if you like."

"Monarch said too much." Li Qiye gently shook his head and said: "I have no grievance against you, so why would I want to hit or kill you? Besides, curing is not my area of expertise."

The monarch was at a loss after hearing this, but he had no other plan at this moment. He couldn't help but send a glance towards Yuan Caihe as a call for help.

Ultimately, she was too kind. She gently asked Li Qiye: "Big Brother, you have a kind heart, so save the young monarch."

"Caihe's words are wrong. I have never had a kind heart, I am someone who kills without batting an eye." Li Qiye shook his head and smiled. He gently stroke her hair and continued: "However, since you asked, how could I not help him?"

"I knew that Big Brother will not let someone die without helping." Yuan Caihe smiled softly. Although her smile was not kingdom-toppling, her gentle and tranquil temperament was so beautiful that it made her seem as if she could resolve everything.

Li Qiye stepped forward and took a fang out from the young man's wound. He threw it on the ground and lightly said: "It is true that he was ambushed by a Devil Pondleech. Its poison can indeed be fatal, but this is not the most deadly part of this matter. In fact, he will not die right now despite the vicious poison of the leech."

"Why is that?" The monarch had to ask: "If its poison can't kill my son, then why is he in such pain right now?"

"Normally, this poison definitely can kill him, but right now there is something inside of him that does not wish for his death." Li Qiye answered: "It wants to use your son's body as a breeding ground, as a host! Even if the leech's poison is rampaging throughout his body, that thing will still let him live on."

"What, what is it?" The monarch felt creeped out after hearing this. He could already imagine his son's agony if he had to live like this from now on.

"It is a Leech Maggot." Li Qiye said: "An extremely rare parasitic monster, even rarer than the Devil Pondleech. Normally, it will live inside the Devil Pondleech's poisonous fangs and feed on the toxin there. However, when the maggot wants to lay eggs, it will control the pondleech to attack prey!"

"And this prey has to be a powerful creature. For example, a strong cultivator, a longevity spirit, or a heavenly beast!" Li Qiye continued: "This is because the maggot requires both the poison of the leech and the essence of the powerful prey to hatch its eggs! After the leech attacks, the maggot will instantly push all the poison from the leech's fangs into the prey and climb inside as well. Because of this, after the venom runs out, the fang will also fall out, stuck in the prey's body!"

Here, Li Qiye glanced at the fang on the ground and said: "Very few pondleeches carry this type of parasite. Only a quack would think that the fatal wound came from the leech's poison. In fact, even without curing this particular toxin, the maggot will eventually devour it completely. After it finishes absorbing this toxin and the new host's vitality, the egg can hatch at any time, and that moment will signal the demise of the host!"

"Of course, before the end, the host will definitely suffer the most painful experience in their life and will wish for death!" Li Qiye said: "Therefore, after being marked by this particular maggot, many hosts choose to end their lives early."

After listening to Li Qiye, the monarch felt creeps running down his spine. This parasite's method of murder was simply too horrifying! The knowledgeable monarch had waded through countless storms and had broad horizons, but he had never heard of this Leech Maggot before.

"How do we help him right now then?" The monarch anxiously said: "Do we need to open his chest to reach his palace, or do we completely cleanse his flesh? If Young Noble can cleanse the poison in his true fate, then my son can let go of his physical body! As long as the true fate is fine, I can help him rebuild his body."

“There is no need to be so serious and open his chest and palace.” Li Qiye smiled and said: “Those are just the practices of quacks. A real alchemist would use their own heavenly cauldron — this is their most important tool. A monster like this Leech Maggot isn’t really that ferocious and can be easily dealt with. If we have to open his palace just to deal with this maggot, then once we meet a true poisonous fiend, would we have to destroy his true fate as well?”

The monarch quickly prostrated to the ground and voiced his request: “Young Noble, please save my son, this little monarch will be forever grateful...”

Li Qiye lightly said: “Please stand up. Caihe had asked me, so I will save his life.”

Having said that, he summoned the Myriad Heavenly Cauldron and assumed control. One could only see strands of cauldron flames falling into Li Qiye’s hand. He then placed his hand on the young man’s chest. It was as if these fiery strands had their own consciousness as they delved into the young man’s body!

In the blink of an eye, the young man’s body was lit up like a transparent lantern. Under the illumination of the fiery strands, one could easily see everything inside, including his muscles and bones.

Although the fire had invaded the young man, it didn’t hurt him in the slightest. The strands entered his body in such a natural and unbelievable manner.

“This, this can’t be real!” Many alchemists present were astounded by the scene unraveling before their eyes since they couldn’t fathom this reality.

Everyone knew that the fire source of a cauldron was formed after devouring many different species of fire. Each cauldron fire was different, but one thing was certain: to be able to refine pills, their power had to be absolutely amazing.

But at this second, Li Qiye was able to control the flame and made it enter the body of a living person without damaging them at all. This was extremely fantastical and shouldn’t be possible in real life.

Even the young alchemists who were annoyed with Li Qiye were left dumbfounded and reckoned that this mastery of fire was unique in this world.

After seeing this, the Cauldron Marquis’ expression became very unsightly. Outside of shock, he was also extremely jealous. He was called the Cauldron Marquis because he was adept at controlling his cauldron, but he simply didn’t know a technique like Li Qiye’s. Even if he was to be taught, he wouldn’t be able to replicate this level of skill. This was indeed the highest level of cauldron control!

Under the light of the fiery strands, the Leech Maggot in the young man’s body was finally exposed. It was hiding in a corner of the body. After being illuminated by the fire, it let out a ferocious scream. Even though it was as thin as a strand of silk, it was still very creepy-looking.

In an instant after detecting the maggot, the fiery strands near it turned into universal laws. These strands instantly locked the maggot. Everyone could hear a clanking sound as the maggot was pulled out of the young man’s body by the fire.

“Xshhhh...” The maggot frantically struggled to escape the fiery strands with its astonishing speed. Many people quivered after seeing the ferocity of this maggot that was as thin as a strand of hair. They could already imagine how terrible it would be if this maggot was inside their own body.

“Boom!” In this moment, the fiery strands locking the maggot turned into the most overbearing flame in this world. With a little sizzle, it instantly incinerated this maggot, leaving behind nothing but ashes.

After seeing the removal of the maggot, the monarch took a deep sigh of relief. However, he couldn't help but ask after seeing the poisonous air that still remained: “Young Noble Li, what about the poison of the leech inside my son?”

“This is even simpler.” Li Qiye controlled the cauldron and smiled before fueling the fire once more.

The remaining fiery strands inside the young man's body ignited again. In the blink of an eye, his body caught on fire as if it was being cremated.

Out of fear for his son's safety, the monarch had to ask: “Young Noble, will my son be okay?”

Li Qiye calmly replied: “Don't worry, this is only burning the poison. He won't be harmed in the slightest.”

Within the burning fire, the young man's body began to emit green smoke. Plumes of green smoke came out and eventually dispersed. After a while, it completely dissipated.

Afterward, these fiery strands receded from his body like a tide. The young man's vitality seemed to be restored as his face became pink again.

Li Qiye recalled the cauldron and said: “Good, it's now up to you. The wound on his chest can be cured by your kingdom's Soulrending Immortal Powder.”

After seeing his son's complexion brightening up after the poison went away, the monarch rejoiced and shouted: “Quick, go get the powder and apply it on your First Brother.”

### **Chapter 738: Cao Guoyao**

After the powder was applied, the chest wound closed up very quickly and a scab started to form. This powder was indeed worthy of being the supreme ointment from the Alchemy Kingdom.

His son's complexion started to look better, so the monarch was relieved. He prostrated on the ground and said: “Young Noble's medical ability must be supreme in this world. Your dao of alchemy is profound with no rivals. Your control of fire is also unique in this world. You saved my son's life, so if you ever need this little monarch in the future, just say the word.”

All of a sudden, everyone in the yard became silent. The monarch's words were not mere flattery. All had eyes and saw that whether it was Li Qiye's medical ability or his fire control, his skills could only be described as astonishing. Even the Marquis Cauldron who was known as a genius was very jealous and full of hate.

There were also some envious alchemists. Li Qiye was able to save the monarch's son, meaning that he had tied a knot of friendship with him. Since the monarch was a royal subject valued by the imperial family, this was equivalent to gaining a powerful backer.

Li Qiye was very relaxed after being thanked by the monarch. He leisurely said: “If Monarch wants to thank someone, then thank Caihe.”

To him, befriending the monarch or gaining a powerful backer like the kingdom didn't matter. He only saved the monarch's son because of Yuan Caihe's simple request.

The monarch quickly showed his gratitude towards Yuan Caihe. She didn't want to accept a big gesture, but nevertheless, the monarch still bowed towards her.

At this time, Li Qiye glanced over at the young alchemists present and said: "Only a fool would worship a quack as an expert! A group of fools is not qualified to debate medicine and the dao of alchemy with me!"

Those who made fun of Li Qiye earlier felt their faces burning. They had all been flattering the sacred doctor while belittling Li Qiye at the same time. But look at it now, the doctor's cold body was on the ground while Li Qiye saved the monarch's son. This was a resounding slap to their faces!

Li Qiye had never given any consideration to those who provoked him. Him mocking them was already mild enough. This was because of Yuan Caihe's presence, greatly improving his mood. Otherwise, he would have slapped them flying away.

After saving the monarch's son, Li Qiye didn't want to stay at the mansion and rejected the enthusiastic invitation from the monarch. After leaving, he smiled and said: "I was surprised to see you coming to Alchemy City."

The madam nearby was moved. Yuan Caihe indeed had a strong influence on her Young Master. His emotions were normally unreadable, but now, his great mood was plain for all to see, caused by her presence.

She also admitted that a gentle and elegant girl like Yuan Caihe was indeed very likable. Although she was not as peerlessly beautiful as Ming Yexue, she gave a comfortable and natural feeling. Anyone, when together with her, would be very relaxed.

"Senior Observant's divine root was near death. He invited my master to help, but my master was in a very important stage in his cultivation and couldn't leave. I had no choice but to go in my master's stead." Yuan Caihe calmly said: "Since I'm already here, I will cheer Big Brother on. Your participation will make this conference become a legend."

"I'm just playing around." Li Qiye said with a smile: "But since you said it will be a legend, then so be it."

Yuan Caihe chuckled in response. She had confidence in him.

After coming back to the mountain that Li Qiye was staying at, there were even more poisonous creatures in the courtyard. Yuan Caihe, as one of the four alchemy prodigies, exclaimed with surprise: "I didn't expect Big Brother to be versed in taming poisonous creatures as well!"

She carefully looked at each of the creatures lured here and was startled by some of them.

"Just a little pastime of mine." Li Qiye smilingly said: "It's fortunate that this is Alchemy City. Despite being called a city, among its vast lands, there are many ominous and dangerous locations with these kinds of creatures. It wouldn't be easy to attract so many if we were in a different location."

"Big Brother wants to use them to deal with an enemy?" She asked while looking at the creatures.

Although she was a kind and non-competitive person, she also had a keen heart. She knew that Li Qiye didn't want them as pets, so there was only one other explanation — to use them against a powerful enemy.

"Just for fun." Li Qiye said: "The enemies aren't important. Killing and killing even more becomes a bit boring, so I want to try something new."

Yuan Caihe could only shake her head and lament the fate of whoever was recklessly running towards the spear tip and courting death.

Although she was staying with Li Qiye, Li Qiye spent very little time with her. He was either cultivating behind closed doors or playing around with some things that Madam Zi Yan didn't understand. Only Yuan Caihe watched him avidly.

In the next few days, Li Qiye sometimes attracted more poisonous creatures or prospected the land to glimpse into the mysteries within using profound methods. The madam couldn't see through what he was doing.

His methods often had to do with the dao of alchemy. As one of the four prodigies, Yuan Caihe finally saw some clues and startlingly revealed: "Big Brother is preparing for something big. Such a heaven-defying method could only be withstood by an enemy like the Alchemy Kingdom. Someone from the younger generation would not be able to handle even a single strike."

Li Qiye only smiled and didn't respond to her comment, and she stopped speaking as well.

The date of the alchemy conference grew near. More and more youths from the world ran to the city, accompanied by the seniors from their sects. From this, the city didn't only have the presence of many sects, but also countless experts.

As the crowd waited eagerly, one of the two prime candidates finally appeared.

"Cao Guoyao is here!" No one knew who sent out this information, but it did create quite a stir in the kingdom. Many people, including geniuses of the younger generation, came to see his arrival as he was one of the four alchemy prodigies.

Cao Guoyao looked around the age of twenty and had a rather square face. Although his appearance was not outstanding, the aura around him made it seem as if an immortal medicine would emerge at any time like the roar of a dragon grass. He was holding onto a cauldron; although it was still closed, it gave the feeling that it could scorch the entire world.

In this manner, he appeared to be a deity with mastery over his cauldron, entering the sceneries of the nine worlds and dyeing the spirit medicines and grasses that could be found. There was a very extraordinary air about him.

He came alone without any accompanying experts. There was no divine chariot either, but there were four huge entities by his side that were as cold as ice. These demonic entities seemed to be made from steel and resembled mantises or demon monarchs. Beings like these that didn't have their own vitality rarely appeared; they were more akin to four black statues. Anyone would quiver with fear after seeing these four huge entities accompanying him.

Cao Guoyao came from the State of Cao, an alchemy lineage from an Alchemy Emperor. It produced many famous alchemists and could be considered one of the strongest alchemy lineages in the Stone Medicine World.

Although it was not known for its cultivation, as an alchemy lineage, many sects were willing to befriend it. Because of this, many from the younger generation and experts from the older generation went out of the city to greet him.

To have such a grand reception was not only because of the lineage he hailed from. More importantly, the crowd, especially the youths, wanted to establish good relations with Cao Guoyao.

The reason was very simple: his fate pill refinement skill could be considered one of the best in the present times! Fate pills were the most valued items for cultivators as they could increase their cultivation and strengthen their foundation.

In this world, countless cultivators that wanted a sudden boost of power craved a large quantity of fate pills so that their cultivation could exceed others in a short period of time.

Thus, the fate pills refined by Cao Guoyao were considered the best treasures in the minds of many cultivators. Due to this, those of the younger generation, especially geniuses who strived for the Heaven's Will to become the emperor, were more than happy to have ties with him.

"Brother Cao, you must be tired from traveling. We have prepared a feast just for you." There were many main descendants and princesses at his reception. Even rulers from the great powers could be found present.

Cao Guoyao nodded his head and said after seeing the reception: "Then I will be imposing on everyone."

In an instant, he became the moon surrounded by the stars as he entered the city, leading to even more spectators on the sidelines.

A spectator emotionally exclaimed after seeing him: "One of the four prodigies has arrived. This time, if Cao Guoyao doesn't win, then the White Hair Alchemy God will win!"

[spoiler title='738 Teaser']After the powder was applied, the chest wound closed up very quickly and a scab started to form. This powder was indeed worthy of being the supreme ointment from the Alchemy Kingdom.

His son's complexion started to look better, so the monarch was relieved. He prostrated on the ground and said: "Young Noble's medical ability must be supreme in this world. Your dao of alchemy is profound with no rivals. Your control of fire is also unique in this world. You saved my son's life, so if you ever need this little monarch in the future, just say the word."

All of a sudden, everyone in the yard became silent. The monarch's words were not mere flattery. All had eyes to see that whether it was Li Qiye's medical ability or his fire control, only astonishing could describe it. Even the Marquis Cauldron who was known as a genius was very jealous and full of hate.

There were also some envious alchemists. Li Qiye was able to save the monarch's son, meaning that he had tied a knot of friendship with him. Since the monarch was a royal subject valued by the imperial family, this was equivalent to gaining a powerful backer.

Li Qiye was very relaxed after being thanked by the monarch. He leisurely said: "If Monarch wants to thank someone, then thank Caihe."

To him, befriending the monarch or gaining a powerful backer like the kingdom didn't matter. He only saved the monarch's son because of Yuan Caihe's simple request.

### **Chapter 739: White Hair Alchemy God**

There was also an expert who saw the cold statues made of steel next to Cao Guoyao and apprehensively said: "These four giants are the Divine Steeldemons that rampaged in the Beast Realm for a generation. So such brutal creatures were actually tamed by Cao Guoyao."

"Outsiders might not know that Cao Guoyao is not only skilled at fate pill refinement, his poison taming skill is also quite brilliant." A sect master from the Beast Realm explained: "Rumor has it that one thousand years ago, the State of Cao used a supreme dao of alchemy manual to trade for the Insect Swarm Valley's poison insect taming manual. Although it was not a complete manual, rumor has it that this particular chapter was the essence of the art."

Someone said in astonishment: "So he cultivates the insect taming art from the valley, no wonder why he can tame even the Divine Steeldemons..."

The Insect Swarm Valley was famous in this world. It was also an alchemy lineage, but it was different from the others. They were not versed in pill refinement or medicinal concoctions. Instead, they were masters of poisons and growing insects and other ferocious creatures. It was created by Immortal Emperor Bai Zhong. Although it was one of the strongest lineages, its disciples rarely showed their faces.

While Cao Guoyao had just entered Alchemy City and caused quite a stir, another genius alchemist came. It was the White Hair Alchemy God; his fame could only be greater than Cao Guoyao and not less.

"The White Hair Alchemy God is here!" Many people didn't even need to look before knowing who had arrived since a mighty and boundless blood energy swept through the city.

This vitality was as boundless as a sea, but this great aura did not come from the white hair alchemist. At this time, many experts from the previous generation, including the leaders of sects and countries, appeared outside of the city. Even some old undyings who didn't want to show themselves came out at this time to give their greetings.

"Even the Ye Clan's ancestor came out to greet the White Hair Alchemy God, amazing!" Many people were frightened after seeing so many grand characters from the previous generation coming out to greet the alchemist.

Those who didn't know about the situation would think that a legendary master or a mythical God-Monarch had arrived. In actuality, it was only a young alchemist. How unfathomable was it for such a youth to have such a grand reception?

Anyone would retreat when this powerful crowd stood outside of the city. With his white robe and tall stature, the white hair alchemist was much more handsome than Cao Guoyao. He appeared to be even more of a swan among a flock of chickens.

His most outstanding feature was neither his good looks nor his excellent temperament, it was his hair that was as smooth and black as jade. The combination of his waterfall-like hair and shawl garnered a lot of attention. It made his proud aura even more apparent.

A few people were confused since they didn't know the reason and had to ask: "The White Hair Alchemy God's hair is as black as obsidian, so why is it that he is called white hair?"

"There are two explanations regarding this." A big shot from the Stone Realm patiently explained: "The first is that when he was young, he already revealed his peerless talent for the dao of alchemy. At the age of three, he began to study the alchemy scripture left behind by the Great Refinement Alchemy Emperor. At eleven, he was well-versed in the dao of alchemy..."

"Because he was too focused on his studies and expended too much blood energy and vitality, his hair began to gray out during his childhood. However, on the day he became accomplished in the dao of alchemy, he refined a medicine for himself. Within one night, his white hair became as black as jade — a very impressive task!" Having said this, he couldn't help but glance at the alchemist's smooth and black hair once more.

In fact, no matter where he went, his black hair would attract many gazes. It was even prettier than that of the opposite sex. Perhaps no girls in this world had hair comparable to the white hair alchemist's!

The person who didn't know the reason lost himself in the explanation and immediately asked: "What about the other theory?"

"The other explanation has to do with the meaning of longevity medicines." The big shot continued: "Longevity medicines are used to increase one's lifespan. This means that after using it, white hair would turn black overnight. People considered the white hair alchemist to have the best longevity medicine refinement in this world, so many great characters from the previous generation beseeched him for his medicine. Even those who were near death and had gray hair would immediately have their hair revert to black overnight after using his medicine!"

Either speculation symbolized the peerlessness of the white hair alchemist's great longevity medicine refinement skill. Because of this reason, many big shots from the previous generation were willing to befriend him!

Among the four prodigies, Cao Guoyao was versed in fate pills while the white hair alchemist specialized in longevity medicines!

For experts from the previous generations, especially those near their death, what were they most afraid of? It was not a powerful enemy nor a stagnated cultivation, but death!

Many grand characters in their old age became especially frightened of the day when their life would wither completely. Because of this, for millions upon millions of years now, countless ancestors would pay unbelievable sums for longevity medicines and immortal grasses that could prolong their life! Some didn't mind the suffering of being trapped in a Blood Era Stone underground.

Longevity medicines had always been precious. The higher the level, the more sought after it would be. Moreover, alchemists who could create high level longevity medicines were quite rare. As long as they were capable of refining these medicines, there was no fear of their products being unsold!

One can easily imagine it; since the white hair alchemist's skill was considered top-ranked in this world, countless ancestors lusted for his products! To him, he could sell his medicines to whichever characters he fancied — this all depended on his mood!

In the Stone Medicine World, even the most wealthy expert might not be able to buy longevity medicines from the white hair alchemist! Because of this, these old characters were willing to give up their pride and make ties with him!

His position in this world was high to the point that at his call, many big shots would come running and support him! Very few people could enjoy such a grand reception like he did today.

“Brother Bailian, it must have been a long journey, but you are finally here.” An old royal lord came out of the city and quickly cupped his hands together to greet him respectfully.

The white hair alchemist came from the Bailian Clan, so many big shots didn't mind lowering themselves and calling him “brother” to befriend him.

Despite receiving the greetings of so many big shots, the white hair alchemist's expression was still quite aloof and arrogant. He had already grown used to such events.

Their group boldly entered Alchemy City as their blood energies raged like torrential storms. Anyone would retreat in front of such a group. This was even more prestigious than Cao Guoyao's showing!

“Every alchemist should try to be like the White Hair Alchemy God!” Many alchemists were envious at such treatment. He was the star in their minds, a goal to strive towards. Countless alchemists worked their entire lives in order to become famous and be worshipped by the masses!

With Cao Guoyao and the white hair alchemist creating an uproar in the city, Li Qiye should have been inconspicuous in his desolate dwelling. However, someone actually came to see him.

“Young Master, the Cloud Soaring Venerable is here to visit you.” Madam Zi Yan informed Li Qiye.

Li Qiye shook his head and said: “Cloud Soaring Venerable? Never heard of him.” This was not surprising at all. Essentially, he had never heard nor cared about the big shots of the Stone Medicine World.

“The Cloud Soaring Venerable is an adviser under Ye Qingcheng. People call him Ye Qingcheng's right hand man. Many of Ye Qingcheng's strategies come from the venerable.” Madam Zi Yan explained.

“Someone under Ye Qingcheng?” Li Qiye smiled and said: “His adviser is coming to visit... A bit interesting...”

Ever since he arrived at the Stone Medicine World, Ye Qingcheng was the person brought up the most!

The madam knew that her Young Master was unaware of many big characters in this world, so she introduced him: “The venerable was not famous because of Ye Qingcheng. He was already renowned as a cultivator with great talents. Unfortunately, he was born during the Difficult Dao Era and stopped at the Heavenly King realm. Recently, he became an amazing Heaven's Equal Heavenly King! Moreover, he is quite skilled at strategizing. His sect had swept over the Stone Realm for a period of time.

“However, after Ye Qingcheng appeared, he brought his disciples and experts to join Ye Qingcheng to work under him. Ye Qingcheng also holds him in high regard. While he traveled the world, many alliances with Ye Qingcheng were formed due to the venerable’s meritable contributions.”

The madam reminded him at this point: “Young Master, you have to be wary of this man. He is adept at schemes, so if we are not careful, we will fall into his trap.”

Li Qiye laughed and shook his head to say: “Oh, Zi Yan. Nowadays, those who can dig a hole for me to jump in have yet to be born.” For tens of millions of years, he was the master schemer. It was already nice of him to not trick other people, so when was it the turn for other people to trick him?

“Will Young Noble see him?” Madam Zi Yan said: “If not, I can go send him away.”

“We’ll see him, of course.” Li Qiye smiled and said: “I’d like to see what he is trying to plan! Let him in so that others can’t criticize us for our late reception.” Having said that, his eyes narrowed.

### **Chapter 740: Cloud Soaring Venerable**

Under the madam’s lead, the Cloud Soaring Venerable came in. Moreover, he was not the only person. Behind him was the White Cloud Master who hung his head low.

The venerable had a middle-aged appearance along with an elegant air, making people think that he was born a noble. However, he had a pair of fierce eyes, so it was apparent that he was an unfathomable character.

Don’t be fooled by his outward appearance and gallant temperament, he was actually a centipede demon that had access to extremely ruthless methods.

He came in and immediately cupped his hands towards Li Qiye in a very polite and even respectful manner before saying: “Your great fame resounds like thunder, I have been an admirer for a long time.”

Although he was still relatively young, the venerable was already a very powerful Heaven’s Equal King — the peak of this realm. Outside of the old undying that had already been famous before the Difficult Dao Era, very few characters in the same generation as him were stronger. Because of this, he was strong enough to create his own sect.

He already had a great status in the Stone Medicine World, but his position only became prevalent after joining Ye Qingcheng. Everyone knew that if Ye Qingcheng became the Immortal Emperor in the future, then the venerable would be a founder and perhaps would be bestowed the title of being the most meritorious contributor!

In the Stone Medicine World, many sects and imperial lineages treated the venerable with great courtesy. Even if he wasn’t greatly valued by Ye Qingcheng, his power as a Heaven’s Equal King alone was enough to win respect.

However, not to mention a Heaven’s Equal King, even a legendary eternal existence wouldn’t be able to move Li Qiye. He said lightly: “Have a seat.”

While the venerable took a seat, the White Cloud Master quickly rushed forward and prostrated on the ground without daring to lift his head for the time being.

Li Qiye looked at the prostrating master and asked the Cloud Soaring Venerable: “What is the meaning of this?”

The Cloud Soaring Venerable responded humbly: “The White Cloud Master is here to apologize to Young Noble. He was imperious and used our Young Noble Ye’s name to act as he pleased. This was ruining our Young Noble’s reputation, so he is especially here to ask for forgiveness. Young Noble Li can deal with him as you wish.”

Whether this idea was from Ye Qingcheng or the Cloud Soaring Venerable, it was quite a formidable attempt. The White Cloud Master was the leader of a sect. Although it was far from an imperial lineage, it was still a first-rate sect, even if it barely met the criteria. But today, the master willingly prostrated before Li Qiye and acquiesced to his whims.

Prostrating to anyone was a great humiliation to any accomplished cultivator. There was a creed: one can be killed but not shamed. However, either Ye Qingcheng or the Cloud Soaring Venerable was able to make white cloud obediently come to confess — this was indeed a very frightening feat.

Li Qiye was too lazy to care, so he replied: “It seems that your play isn’t too bad. This is indeed a bit impressive, no wonder why your master, Ye Qingcheng, has so much support from others.”

“Young Noble Li, you are misunderstanding us. We are here to sincerely beg for your forgiveness.” The Cloud Soaring Venerable hurriedly said: “Our master is willing to befriend the heroes in this world and to work—”

“Okay, I don’t have time to listen to this crap, and I also don’t have any interest in taking it out on this cannon fodder. If you wish to apologize, then let Ye Qingcheng come himself. As for someone like the White Cloud Master, step to the side and don’t waste my time!” Li Qiye interrupted the venerable and waved his sleeve dismissively.

This type of showing might be able to impress others, but it was only a joke in Li Qiye’s eyes. A psychological scheme of this level was a common day occurrence when he stood above the nine heavens.

The Cloud Soaring Venerable hesitated for a moment, but he quickly reacted and commanded the White Cloud Master: “Master, Young Noble Li is forgiving and kind, so he forgave your sin. Show your gratitude.”

The White Cloud Master didn’t dare to demur and bowed his head to Li Qiye three times. He then quietly retired to the back. From beginning to end, he didn’t say a single word. This was enough to show the great ability of either Ye Qingcheng or the venerable!

Li Qiye was not cordial and dryly said: “Okay, the play is over. I don’t have time to waste with you, so state your business.”

The venerable hurriedly responded: “I heard Young Noble Li is attending this conference. Because of this, outside of the White Cloud Master’s apology, I’m here for something relating to this matter.”

“And?” Li Qiye said idly while looking at the venerable.

The response was very respectful: "Although I haven't seen Young Noble Li's pill refining skill with my own eyes, I have heard that it was akin to cooking. I trust that Young Noble Li's supreme dao of alchemy will be able to shine at this conference."

"And then what?" At this time, Li Qiye revealed a rare chuckle.

The venerable said: "Geniuses will gather at this conference, so it will be quite an event. Regardless, I'm afraid no one will be able to enter Young Noble's eyes outside of the four prodigies."

Li Qiye raised his brows and dryly said: "Use words, stop beating around the bush. My patience is limited."

The venerable did not become angry and said: "Young Noble Li's greatest opponents will be Cao Guoyao and the White Hair Alchemy God. Rumor has it that both of them are already Legendary Alchemists with exquisite dao of alchemy..."

"... Our master is also extremely confident in Young Noble Li's dao of alchemy; however, both of them are fortunate enough to come from the lineages of Alchemy Emperors. Our master is willing to lend Young Noble a hand so that you will win first place this time." The venerable spoke slowly. His words were quite moving and capable of tempting the heart.

Li Qiye couldn't help but laugh then say: "Oh? How does Ye Qingcheng want to help me?"

The venerable continued: "Young Noble Li's dao of alchemy is peerless, so our master cannot help you in this regard. However, our master has a cauldron left behind by an Alchemy Emperor. This is a cauldron used by the emperor throughout his entire life; it is very gentle and easy to use. Since our master is neither an alchemist nor interested in the dao of alchemy, our master would like to hand the cauldron to the virtuous if Young Noble is willing."

"There is a great saying, a treasure sword for the heroes and rouge for the beauties. Only Young Noble Li is qualified to have such a great cauldron from an Alchemy Emperor." The venerable spoke calmly; anyone else would be quite tempted.

Li Qiye grinned and inquired: "What is your master's condition?"

The venerable shook his head and said: "Young Noble Li is mistaken. To talk about conditions with a hero like Young Noble Li is too crude. Our master only wants to befriend Young Noble. If Young Noble is willing to give us face, then come be a guest at the Stony Edge Kingdom. Our master will be the best host for Young Noble."

If any alchemist heard such words, they would be ecstatic. In the Stone Medicine World, countless youths were willing to befriend Ye Qingcheng. Being acquainted with such a famous man would be a tremendous honor.

And for alchemists, the cauldron of an Alchemy Emperor was a magnificent and priceless symbol, something they would definitely cherish in their hearts. Countless alchemists' lives had ended without ever obtaining one.

But now, Ye Qingcheng was willing to hand a cauldron of this level over to Li Qiye and befriend him. This was more than any alchemist could wish for!

Li Qiye looked at the venerable and smiled before speaking: "I am someone who is also very willing to make friends. However, making friends is not about letting someone else do the talking. If he wants to befriend me, then let him come personally. As for the cauldron, I'm not interested. As long as I participate, I will naturally be number one at the conference!"

The venerable quickly said: "It is great that Young Noble Li has such confidence..."

Li Qiye lightly shook his sleeve to interrupt him and coldly stated: "Please leave, I am tired."

The venerable was a sensible man. He did not become angry and instead smilingly said: "Please have a good rest. I will come back another day."

After sending the venerable away, the madam softly asked: "What does Young Noble think the venerable was here for?"

"A weasel trying to offer the chicken new year's greetings. There were no good intentions here." Li Qiye responded with a smirk. [1. Beware of Greeks bearing gifts.]

The madam said: "Ye Qingcheng is purposely trying to recruit you. He is known for gathering capable people. His circle is wide and rumored to have many experts from all over the world."

Li Qiye smiled and said: "My Zi Yan, if I were him and had ambitions of reaching Immortal Emperor, then I would also use all of my ability to recruit an unfathomable alchemist. Think about it, if you wanted to become the Immortal Emperor, just imagine how arduous this path would be. Nothing could be better than to have many great characters as your dao protectors, especially the old geezers on their deathbeds. These are the ones who can wipe out the obstacles on his path towards the throne."

"So Ye Qingcheng needs alchemists." The madam was not foolish, so she understood right away.

Li Qiye nodded and said: "Yes, an unfathomable alchemist should be able to refine decent longevity medicines. How many old geezers would be attracted by this and work under him? If an unfathomable alchemist without any background or powerful backing joins Ye Qingcheng, then one of these days, he would be sucked dry by him. Perhaps, his dao of alchemy would one day become Ye Qingcheng's property."

The madam couldn't help but murmur: "An upfront investment would truly be worth the price..."

[spoiler title='740 Teaser']Under the madam's lead, the Cloud Soaring Venerable came in. Moreover, he was not the only person. Behind him was the White Cloud Master who hung his head low.

The venerable had a middle-aged appearance along with an elegant air, making people think that he was born a noble. However, he had a pair of fierce eyes, so it was apparent that he was an unfathomable character.

Don't be fooled by his outward appearance and gallant temperament, he was actually a centipede demon that had access to extremely ruthless methods.

He came in and immediately cupped his hands towards Li Qiye in a very polite and even respectful manner before saying: "Your great fame resounds like thunder, I have been an admirer for a long time."

Although he was still relatively young, the venerable was already a very powerful Heaven's Equal King — the peak of this realm. Outside of the old undyings that had already been famous before the Difficult Dao Era, very few characters in the same generation as him were stronger. Because of this, he was strong enough to create his own sect