

Emperor 4511

### **Chapter 4511: 20,000,000,000**

Turtle-seeker Ancestor had a direct disciple with exceptional talent. Wise had met the youth and praised him repeatedly, congratulating Turtle-seeker for having a capable successor.

The disciple didn't let the seniors down. Everyone in the sect had high expectations of him.

Unfortunately, he wished for success and became impatient. Moreover, his cultivation soared too quickly without ample consolidation, resulting in qi deviation.

Alas, the seniors did everything they could to bring him back from the brink of destruction. They saved his life and dao foundation but ultimately, his cultivation and dao suffered damage.

For so long now, they tried everything to mend the damages. The countless pills only had tolerable results.

This secret auction gave Turtle-seeker hope because these fire dragon pills were the best of the best to treat qi deviation. If he could win, his disciple might actually be cured.

After deliberation, the sect decided to muster all of its resources to win the ten bottles. Though Archipelago was a major power after eras of accumulation, there was still a large gap between them and the behemoths.

Therefore, he could no longer afford to bid anything after 4,000,000,000. Doing so would have detrimental effects on Archipelago.

Moreover, they naturally had more than one disciple. To focus on a single youth was not something the ancestors wanted.

"I have some savings." Wise decided to help his old friend.

"Brother Wu..." Turtle-seeker was deeply grateful because Wise was willing to let go of the other auctions.

"4,500,000,000." He bid afterward despite not having that much confidence.

"4,600,000,000." Cloudgrasp wanted to win for the monarch's sake.

"4,700,000,000." Alchemy Child had his own master in mind. This price was still acceptable for True Immortal.

"4,800,000,000." A big shot from an ancient clan desired the pills as well.

"5,000,000,000." Turtle-seeker made his final bid.

5,100,000,000." Alchemy Child didn't hesitate for a second.

"5,200,000,000." Cloudgrasp followed right behind him.

The two friends exchanged glances and couldn't go any higher.

"Another three hundred." Wise gritted his teeth and put everything he had on the line.

“5,500,000,000.” Turtle-seeker said the words and felt a sense of freedom. This was truly the last-ditch attempt.

“5,600,000,000.” On the contrary, Cloudgrasp felt no pressure at all with another bid.

Turtle-seeker gave up, realizing that this was not meant to be. He cupped his fist and said: “Thank you, Brother. Archipelago will always remember the kindness shown here today.”

Though he failed to win, at least he found out that he had such a good friend.

“I’m sorry that I couldn’t help.” Wise sighed and said.

“6,000,000,000.” Meanwhile, Alchemy Child, Cloudgrasp Elder, and the big shot from an ancient clan continued their competition.

“10,000,000,000.” Someone else suddenly interrupted them with a casual tone.

“10,000,000,000!” Some participants gasped after hearing the bid.

“Another ten times the original price.” A few of them became exasperated since this was his second time breaking the implicit rule.

All the participants tried their best to keep the final price as low as possible. This was the logical thing to do, except there was a dissident in this case. They felt unsafe because he could do it whenever he wanted, especially during the auction with the item they desired.

Nonetheless, there was nothing they could do because his bids were guaranteed by the auction house.

“Don’t tell me he’s working for the auction to bring up the price.” One big shot murmured, feeling awfully suspicious.

After all, Li Qiye bid an amount that was ten times the original starting price. Moreover, the auction house gave him unlimited credit as well.

“Hey, you’re working for the auction house?!” The big shots cared about face and didn’t say this out loud but one youth questioned.

The former didn’t want to disrespect Grotto Courtyard but younger cultivators had no qualms. They could also be forgiven because of their ignorance.

“What do you think?” Li Qiye smiled.

“Hard to say due to your suspicious bids.” Alchemy Child interjected.

“Then play along, I don’t mind participating in this auction. The highest bidder gets the item.” Li Qiye smiled.

Others exchanged glances while Cloudgrasp Elder felt the worst since he was a prior victim.

“10,100,000,000.” Alchemy Child didn’t think that Li Qiye would dare to go all the way.

“10,200,000,000.” Cloudgrasp tried to read Li Qiye to no avail and decided to continue.

“20,000,000,000.” Li Qiye didn’t think for a second.

This bid made the crowd gasp loudly. Even Wise and Turtle-seeker couldn't believe it. This was far beyond the ten bottles' value.

"Still want to play?" Li Qiye stared at the crowd with a focus on Alchemy Child and Cloudgrasp Elder.

The two of them thought that he was just messing around, not expecting him to actually double the bid again. This new bid was too much for their pockets.

### **Chapter 4512: Casually Given**

No one else would bid in a similar manner as Li Qiye. Alas, this seemed to be his style.

Other participants viewed this style as being malicious and overly provocative - the opposite of productive from a financial viewpoint.

Of course, the auction house would never forbid malicious bidding. It's just that this particular one had an implicit agreement with all the big shots. Li Qiye simply chose to stir the pot.

"Hmph!" Alchemy Child uttered coldly: "What is your intention behind bidding so recklessly?!"

"As I said, he's hired by the auction house." One youth couldn't help but blurt out.

This was a common notion the moment he trapped Cloudgrasp Elder into buying the void jade for an unacceptable price. Now, he once again elevated the price of the ten pills.

"Gentlemen, please mind your words." The auctioneer became unhappy and said: "We have a gold-clad reputation and for millions of years, we have auctioned numerous valuable items that are even more precious than the ones here tonight. We do not need to resort to despicable means."

This pertained to the grotto's reputation so he didn't appreciate these unwelcomed comments.

"My junior is ignorant for saying these offensive words, please forgive him." A big shot immediately apologized.

The majority of the participants here did not want to offend such a major auction house.

The auctioneer scowled in response, showing off his dissatisfaction without pursuing the matter.

"Does it matter whether I'm working for them or not? The bid is as real as can be. If you don't want to give up, then keep going. When no one else bids, then I'll be paying for the item." Li Qiye smiled.

"20,000,000,000. Any other bidder?" The auctioneer shifted the focus back to the auction.

Others exchanged glances. They thought about the smooth nature of dao cultivation with the help of the ten bottles. However, the price was unreasonable now given the massive quantity of finest-grade refined jades. The true value far exceeded 20,000,000,000 Heavenly Sovereign Refined Jades.

This was a considerable sum for any great power that exceed the bottles' worth.

"And here I thought that even 50,000,000,000 is only a small sum for the great Three Thousand Dao. This should be even truer for True Immortal, a sect with a peerless foundation. I'm sure your sect can handle 50,000,000,000 dao lord jades, let alone this entry-level crap." Jian Ming's mouth spared no one.

He paused for a second before continuing: “The two of you should push the price up to 100,000,000,000 to make it grander. That bid is more fitting for people of your status.”

Cloudgrasp and Alchemy Child snorted and didn’t say anything else. They still wanted to bid but the price was too unreasonable. Moreover, they still thought that Li Qiye might be playing with them.

“20,000,000,000, sold.” The auctioneer eventually smashed the hammer and formally announced the winner.

“Wow.” Turtle-seeker became sentimental at the sky-high price. His entire sect wouldn’t be able to muster this sum.

The auctioneer then handed the ten bottles to Li Qiye. Though he hasn’t paid yet, he was on credit so he could take the items first.

Li Qiye accepted the bottles and didn’t bother to look at them before raising them in front of Turtle-seeker: “Give them to your disciple.”

“W-what?” Turtle-seeker and Wise were stunned despite being old ancestors.

“Is this a joke?” A big shot in the crowd found this unbelievable.

Both the pills and the winning bid were insane. No one here would want to hand over them to someone else, especially a stranger. Alas, this was unraveling before their very eyes, hence everyone’s astonishment.

If anyone were to offer the pills to Turtle-seeker, the latter would think that it was a cruel joke.

“F-for me?” Turtle-seeker stammered since he was overwhelmed with emotion.

“Who else but you? Your disciple needs them, no?” Li Qiye replied.

“...” Turtle-seeker had given up on the pills but here they were, right in front of him.

“I, I can’t repay you...” He spoke like a junior.

“I don’t need you to repay me, you can’t come up with 20,000,000,000 anyway.” Li Qiye chuckled.

He waved his hand and then said: “It’s no big deal, just consider it a part of fate.”

Wise regained his wits and was ecstatic for his friend: “Accept the young noble’s gift.”

Turtle-seeker eventually realized that this was actually happening. He got on his knees to show his gratitude: “If you ever need Archipelago’s assistance, just say the words and we will do everything we can.”

### **Chapter 4513: Shaking Immortal Grass**

The crowd was still in a stupor because Li Qiye gave all ten bottles to Turtle-seeker Ancestor instead of just a few.

Not to mention a stranger or an acquaintance, one would hesitate on giving them to their own disciples or best friends. No one else here could do the same as Li Qiye. Only supreme characters such as Dao Sanqian had the ability to do so.

It took a while for Turtle-seeker to accept this dream-like reality. Remember, they have only spoken briefly.

He could feel the heat coming from the bottles in his hands. This kindness was virtually impossible to repay, not even if he were to spend the rest of his life in Li Qiye's service.

While the crowd still felt perplexed, the fourth auction was brought up to the stage.

This was an immortal grass placed inside a flower pot. Upon closer inspection, it didn't grow from the pot but was transplanted from another place.

The pot had an ash-gray color, seemingly a relic of the past. Its coarse surface gave the impression of it being capable of connecting with worldly energies.

The soil was special, a combination of violet terra mud and abyss flower buds. It had enough moisture and emitted a flowery fragrance. Even a fool could tell that this soil was meant for something brilliant.

The grass itself was only four inches tall with only nine leaves. It seemed rather feeble and the leaves could be blown off by a breeze. The grass was clear, looking like it was carved from precious jade.

The leaves had a violet glow to them and seemed rather heavy. If one fell to the lake, it would certainly sink to the bottom. Most importantly, the veins on the leaves were all different and golden, seemingly depicting unique diagrams.

These golden lines seemed to be alive, always flowing like the grand dao itself and looking like dragons. Their golden glow illuminated the surroundings and turned into scattering particles.

"Shaking Immortal Grass." One big shot recognized it.

"Indeed." Everyone else agreed with this and felt their heart beating faster. This was an immortal grass desired by all since it contained the grand dao and could communicate with heaven and earth.

In other words, it could help a cultivator reach the next realm without facing a bottleneck, a catalyst for cultivation improvement.

Of course, it wasn't omnipotent. It simply raised the chance of reaching the next realm by a considerable number.

For cultivators, bottlenecks could exist at any realm. However, not all of them were unsurpassable. Time was usually the limiting factor. This type of grass was too precious and rare. Only the supreme masters would keep them around and wait for a crucial moment to use it.

The big shots here were at a high realm, meaning that it would be difficult to keep on improving. Furthermore, if they didn't need it, perhaps an ancient ancestor from their sect could use it.

"This is a mature grass with nine leaves." A big shot from an immemorial sect praised.

“Indeed, and after our careful grooming, its medicinal potential has zero impurity.” The auctioneer revealed.

“And here I thought that it would be a budding grass. This is completely different.” Another clan member said.

This meant that the grass could be used right away without a waiting period. The younger grass would have limited medicinal potential. The waiting period could be anywhere ranging from tens of thousands of years or more than a hundred thousand years, perhaps even longer.

“It’s not easy to find a mature one.” An ancient ancestor said: “Where did your grotto find it?”

The problem with finding a mature grass was the procurement process. This grass would start running and the moment it came out of the soil, it would wither and die.

Capturing one successfully required immense power or a heaven-defying technique to bring the grass back. Otherwise, an unknowledgeable cultivator coming across one would only end up ruining it.

Now, this mature grass has been successfully transplanted into the pot, meaning that the buyer could wait for the right time to use it.

“Taken here from long ago, we have been growing it for 50,000 years and it sure was not easy.” The auctioneer responded.

This casual statement made listeners imagine how hard it was, from the transplanting to the cultivating process.

#### **Chapter 4514: Must Have**

The magical grass was desired by countless big shots. Moreover, this was an adult one.

The participants couldn’t look away, especially those experiencing a bottleneck.

“What is the starting price?” One of them became impatient.

“A mature Immortal Shaking Grass is truly precious. The starting price is 3,000,000 dao lord refined jades. Each increment will be 10,000.”

The youths here couldn’t believe the astronomical starting sum. In fact, it disqualified most cultivators from the great powers.

“How illogical, the dao lord sword art was only 300,000. This grass is somehow worth ten times more?” One youth murmured.

“Correct.” His senior responded: “There might be dozens of dao lord sword arts in the world, maybe a hundred.”

The junior thought about it and agreed. There have been many dao lords before who left behind a legacy for their sect. This grass might be rarer, especially one at this stage.

“Dao lord sword arts are certainly mighty but they’re still non-living. An expert that has the ability to buy this grass doesn’t need these sword arts. Moreover, if it somehow helps a genius become a dao lord, then there will be no lack of sword arts in the future.” The senior went on.

Other youths changed their mind about the value of the grass right away.

Many of the big shots here were from dao lord lineages. They already cultivated top laws. Moreover, they could also create rather capable ones. Therefore, the effect of this grass was far better than a dao lord sword art in their eyes.

Breaking through to the next realm meant gaining limitless potentials for them. A key example of this was Alchemy Child and his master, True Immortal Young Emperor.

This wasn’t to say that the grass would guarantee him the throne. Nonetheless, the percentage would certainly improve. After becoming a dao lord, he would then produce numerous techniques for the sect.

All of these justified the grass’ starting price for the big shots present.

“The auction begins, 3,000,000 to start.” The auctioneer announced.

“4,000,000.” Alchemy Child immediately bid.

The crowd exchanged glances, displeased with this aggressive bid. It was no different from Li Qiye’s style.

“Again?” One big shot murmured.

However, none of them showed any sign of relenting since they weren’t afraid of Alchemy Child.

Alchemy Child bowed towards everyone and said: “Our young emperor is looking for this grass, please show mercy, Ancestors.”

No one answered because at the start, they assumed that it would just be a budding grass far from maturity. Now, no one wanted to go easy on Alchemy Child, not even his master was a scion.

“4,050,000.” A cultivator in stealth bid.

“4,100,000.” The big shot who received a fortune-telling about the eastern fence joined.

“4,200,000.” Sky-judge Ancestor bid.

“4,300,000.” Another from a dao lord lineage bid.

“5,000,000.” Cloudgrasp also bid, reminding people that Three Thousand Dao also had a supreme genius, Shen Juntian. He naturally wanted to become a dao lord as well and this grass would be just as helpful.

Alchemy Child’s expression soured. He tried to get the crowd to give True Immortal and his master some face. Alas, reality slapped him without showing any mercy.

“6,000,000.” He became annoyed and raised the bid again.

“6,300,000.” The cultivator in stealth didn’t hold back because of True Immortal.

“6,400,000.”

“6,500,000.”

“6,800,000.”

“7,000,000.”

...

“10,000,000.” Eventually, the bid reached this frightening amount since everyone either wanted it for themselves or their genius disciples.

The bidder was none other than Alchemy Child, ready to play to the very end.

“10,050,000.” Cloudgrasp continued.

Everyone thought that he was capable of competing since Three Thousand Dao wasn't inferior to the current True Immortal.

“10,500,000.” A member from an ancient clan Eastern Desolace joined. He rarely bid in the previous auctions but this was an impressive one.

“For Five-sun King?” Someone asked.

The person didn't respond and focused on the auction.

“11,000,000.” Alchemy Child always raised generously each time.

“11,300,000.” So did Cloudgrasp Elder.

Meanwhile, Li Qiye only watched with a smile. Nonetheless, people still paid attention to him because he was a scary competitor who didn't hold back.

Because of this, they heaved a sigh of relief, thinking that he wasn't interested in the grass.

Jian Ming knew that he was only here for one thing. The other bids were only coincidental.

### **Chapter 4515: Money Isn't An Issue**

“20,000,000.” Alchemy Child made a ridiculous bid and glanced over at Li Qiye.

The crowd hesitated since many were knocked out of contention. Even a few dao lord lineages couldn't handle this price, only the behemoths such as True Immortal and Three Thousand Dao.

The fact that a servant dared to bid so high was a testament to True Immortal's immense resource. This meant that the young emperor had given him an even higher limit. He still looked rather calm so this was far from the ceiling.

Others wisely backed off since it would only be a waste of time to continue. Of course, members of ancient clans and dao lord lineages could still handle this bid.

“Forget it.” Sky-judge Ancestor hesitated from making another bid. There were other top medicines with similar effects, there was no need to go all out here.



Cloudgrasp and the person from Eastern Desolace exchanged glances. This was only the fourth auction.

If they were to buy the grass at a sky-high price, they would no longer be competitive later on. In fact, it was strategical to waste others' buying power if it wasn't for the implicit agreement of gentlemanly bids.

These two had a good reason to continue due to Shen Juntian and Five-sun King, members of the five conquerors. This immortal grass might actually make a difference.

Therefore, this auction was essentially reduced to a contest between the three conquerors.

The representative of True Immortal Young Emperor, Alchemy Child, didn't seem to worry about his opponents. It seemed that he was confident in his given financial authority to defeat the two.

On the other hand, he worried about Li Qiye since this guy was a madman who could bite anyone with a ridiculous bid. Worst of all, he even had unlimited credit from the auction house itself - something that suffocated all the other participants.

"What are you looking at?" Jian Ming noticed his gaze and glared at him: "Never seen someone so cool before? It's true, our young noble sits at the top. No one else can compare to him so you never saw anyone on the same level before."

Alchemy Child turned red as a result. Due to his status as a member of the young emperor's camp, not to mention a junior, even ancestors from the great power needed to show him respect.

"Arrogant hound!" Alchemy Child shouted: "Our True Immortal is who sits at the top! Our young emperor is the ultimate genius while you're nothing more than an insect..."

"Yeah, yeah, True Immortal, so scary." Jian Ming pretended to be afraid before changing his expression: "Hmph, our young noble can turn it into dust if he wants, no need to be haughty."

"You!" Alchemy Child's expression became unsightly. He took a deep breath and managed to speak: "Words are cheap but everyone can see the truth, we from True Immortal are afraid of no one."

"Is that so? I clearly saw you being afraid earlier." Jian Ming retorted: "Always stealing glances at our young noble while bidding. At least you're aware that if our young noble decides to bid, it would be the end of the grass for your sect."

"Our sect has never backed down from a contest before. Our resources are endless with oceans of refined jades, never running out for an eternity. A nobody like you can't compete with us..."

"Alright, you've convinced me, you're not afraid of our young noble joining the auction at all." Jian Ming smirked, clearly implicating something.

"Damn right, bring it, we're no cowards!" Alchemy Child's blood rushed to his head and stopped him from thinking. He realized his mistake but words were like water. Once poured, there was no taking it back.

"You got me interested." Li Qiye finally joined the conversation: "Let's see how high your authority is, I bid 30,000,000."

This bid naturally left everyone slack-jawed, especially Cloudgrasp Elder and the big shot from the ancient clan.

“30,000,000...” This put everyone out of contention.

“You!” Alchemy Child was left speechless.

### **Chapter 4516: Supreme Black Card**

A while ago, people already viewed Alchemy Child’s bid as too aggressive. Now, there was no word to describe Li Qiye’s raise.

“Game’s over.” A big shot from a prestigious clan murmured: “What’s the point in bidding? Just let him make the final bid and get this over with.”

“Seems that way, no point bidding with the brat involved.” A famous character said helplessly.

They all wasted so much time making small bids just for this guy to jump in and give them zero chance of winning.

“30,000,000...” Cloudgrasp and the eastern cultivator smiled wryly and gave up.

Judging by Li Qiye’s nonchalant demeanor, this might only be the starting bid. No one wanted to give it a shot.

What if Li Qiye were to suddenly give up and then they would have to pay the ridiculous price just like Cloudgrasp Elder not long ago?

The only one left still thinking about it was Alchemy Child. In terms of resources, maybe True Immortal would be able to contend.

“30,000,000. You bidding?” Jian Ming gestured provocatively.

Alchemy Child’s expression kept on changing. This was pushing close to his limit.

“31,000,000.” He gritted his teeth and went for it.

“40,000,000.” Li Qiye said without a care in the world.

“40...” The crowd felt as if Li Qiye could crush any of them in terms of sheer financial prowess.

“What kind of auction is this?! He’s just here to cause trouble!” Alchemy Child bellowed.

This made Li Qiye chuckle while Jian Ming stared at the youth with disdain: “Isn’t it obvious by now that there is no rule against a high bid? Plus, having no limit is the whole point of an auction. Just accept that you can’t play this game meant for the rich.”

He was perfectly right. Though this annoyed the crowd, there was nothing they could do.

“This is 40,000,000 dao lord refined jades we’re talking about.” One youth whispered: “He already spent so many heavenly sovereign jades before, can he actually pay the sum? I don’t think many great powers can.”

A few big shots heard this and stared at Li Qiye. The majority didn't think this was a problem because of the auction's guarantee.

Alchemy Child had no choice but to latch onto this: "He still needs to have a guarantee or a deposit to make a bid this large. Our sect can put down 20,000,000 dao lord refined jades right now, can he do it? We need to prevent any complications!"

They came prepared with dao lord jades but Li Qiye might not. Some big shots wouldn't bring currencies along and would just settle with the auction house at a later date.

However, Li Qiye didn't need to defend himself because the old man from the grotto immediately spoke: "As mentioned previously, Young Noble Li has unlimited credit at our auction house so there is no need to worry. However, since people have still been asking, we will give him our supreme black card."

Having said that, the old man put down a shiny black card on Li Qiye's table.

"A black card..." The knowledgeable big shots smiled wryly after seeing this.

This was the ultimate symbol in Grotto Courtyard. The holder would be able to participate in any auction on top of borrowing refined jades up to an agreed limit.

In this case, Li Qiye had unlimited credit meaning that he could use all of the auction house's resources.

"They only give out a few cards in each era yet Li Qiye has one now?" Someone with knowledge regarding this card said. It was insane how much the auction trusted Li Qiye.

Alchemy Child's complexion turned red then white, speechless. He had heard about the black cards before because in fact, his sect had one too. It was in the possession of a peerless ancient ancestor, not his master.

Therefore, his argument to stop Li Qiye no longer worked since the guy had a black card now.

"Now can you stop accusing people? There are plenty of rich cultivators in this world outside of your sect." Jian Ming stared contemptuously at him and said.

"You!" The youth's face became unsightly.

"40,000,000. Are you going to bid or are you giving up?" Jian Ming went on.

"Is this a challenge to True Immortal?" The youth then asked.

### **Chapter 4517: Solo Auction**

Alchemy Child's threat during an auction didn't win him any love from the crowd. For the big shots, doing so was despicable and unbecoming of their status.

Nonetheless, Alchemy Child was far from a big shot. To put it nicely, he was a trusted aide of the young emperor. To put it bluntly, no more than a mere servant in the grand scheme of things.

Therefore, he could say whatever he wanted without besmirching his reputation and status for he had none. It wouldn't affect True Immortal's reputation in the slightest.

On the other hand, he was a special servant due to his master. He could whisper to his master and be rather influential.

After thinking this through, some big shots understood why the young emperor sent him as a representative.

If anything were to go awry or improper, the young emperor could just say, "he was only a servant". Moreover, Alchemy Child could still intimidate others using the sect without suffering proportional backlash.

"Having to resort to threat, I see. Is this what True Immortal does to win an auction?" Jian Ming asked.

"Provoking True Immortal, boasting shamelessly, and maliciously slandering my young emperor are all unforgivable sins deserving of death. Be aware of your precarious circumstance and change your way. Otherwise, my sect will annihilate you." Alchemy Child switched the topic from the auction to something else.

No one here was a fool so they naturally understood his intention - wanting Li Qiye to back down from the auction.

On one hand, they didn't want to lower their status by arguing with a servant. On the other hand, this servant was actually influential enough to carry out the threat.

"So many words only to say that your sect is too poor to compete. Our young noble has no time for the likes of you." Jian Ming said with disdain.

"40,000,000. Keep it coming." Li Qiye waved his hand and urged the auctioneer to hurry up.

"40,000,000, going once." The auctioneer shouted.

"41,000,000." Alchemy Child gritted his teeth and made another bid. He would need to ask for permission in order to go any higher.

"50,000,000." Li Qiye casually responded.

Alchemy Child felt as if he had just been slapped in the face repeatedly after hearing this.

"50,000,000, going once." The auctioneer said.

"Just give me a second." Alchemy Child had no choice but to go communicate with his master.

"60,000,000." It only took him a moment to return. He immediately made a generous bid.

It seemed like True Immortal was going to go all the way for this immortal grass. Most importantly, the young emperor didn't want to lose to Li Qiye.

"While you were gone, Young Noble Li has bid against himself. It is 100,000,000 now." The auctioneer revealed.

"..." Alchemy Child's expression couldn't be described with words. He successfully convinced his master to grant him a higher limit. Alas, Li Qiye has beaten him even before he got back, shattering his confidence and leaving him breathless.

This was akin to a cultivator breaking through to the next realm during a tough battle. They believed that they would be able to stomp on their foe now. Alas, what happened next was a swift defeat. This could drive someone crazy.

Alchemy Child's eyes turned red, seemingly wanting to feast on Li Qiye's blood and flesh.

"He actually bid against himself." The big shots smiled wryly while shaking their head.

There wasn't a rule against this because it meant more revenue for the auction house. Why wouldn't they allow it?

In this case, the raise was sheer lunacy. All of their preparation was for naught when someone like Li Qiye was around.

100,000,000 was a ridiculous price even for a mature Shaking Immortal Grass. No lineage would do something so silly.

"He's a madman." This became the common opinion of Li Qiye.

"Did you hear that? 100,000,000. But judging by your destitute style thus far, I don't think your sect can gather this much, just give up." Jian Ming, the sycophant, continued his act.

Alchemy Child started shaking in rage; his face was as red as can be.

"I'm clearly provoking your sect right now, what are you going to do?" Li Qiye asked with a smile.

The big shots exchanged glances after hearing this. Few would dare to state this publicly and trivially.

"Where is he from? How is he so confident?" One of them whispered.

Alchemy Child felt blood streaming up his throat from anger but he couldn't do anything about it.

"100,000,000. Sold." The auctioneer slammed his hammer, signaling the end of an uncompetitive auction.

"The next item is very special." He handed the item over before introducing the next: "It is from an immemorial lineage known as Seven Martial Pavilion."

### **Chapter 4518: Seven Martial Pavilion**

The crowd showed no sign of recognizing this title.

"Seven Martial Pavilion? Doesn't ring a bell to me. Their item is listed fifth?" One youth said.

Only a few old men have heard of this title before. They were specifically chosen for the secret auction due to their wealth and power. They had relationships and friends everywhere as well.

"Seven Martial Pavilion was an actual lineage, not just a name?" One big shot said.

"Yes, it was real. Puresun Dao Lord talked about it before, so it has to be true." Another important character responded.

"What item will this be?" One more became curious.

"I can't believe something from that era is still around until now." A famous character felt the same way.

This magical lineage was mentioned by numerous invincible masters. Alas, their members had never been seen before.

Nothing was known about its location and structure. Their merit laws and techniques were unknown as well.

This sect only existed in the words of top masters for generations now. Usually, this meant that it was a thing in the past, having been destroyed or disbanded. This wasn't the case for Seven Martial Pavilion.

Therefore, it was rather puzzling. It would make sense for a small sect to be this unknown, but Seven Martial Pavilion was mentioned by various beings - Puresun Dao Lord, Blessed Dao Lord, Duality Master, and many others...

A lineage mentioned by these masters must have been frightening and inscrutable. Alas, its elusive nature made regular cultivators think of it as a legend only.

Only a minority was sure of its existence and stated that it was hiding for a particular purpose unknown to others.

The auctioneer coughed to get everyone's attention and said: "We are certain that this item is from Seven Martial Pavilion. We guarantee it."

The auction house was putting its reputation on the line, proving the existence of the pavilion in the process.

"Have you met any disciple from there?" A big shot asked the auctioneer.

The latter only smiled without answering. He didn't divulge further information on Seven Martial Pavilion. Perhaps he didn't know anything in the first place. Only the top ancestors from the grotto were privy to this information.

"Has anyone actually seen them before?" A sacred ancestor from a prestigious clan asked.

"They do exist." A sacred ancestor from the east answered: "In fact, they have ties to many dao lord lineages. For example, the Puresun Clan has always been very close with them."

"Really?" One big shot was skeptical.

The sacred ancestor nodded and said: "It's definitely true. The problem is that not just anyone can make contact. Only a few ancient ancestors from the Puresun can communicate with them. Wait, Void Imperfection Three Schools and Heavenvine Citadel, those ancient lineages, they might have connections to the pavilion as well. If anyone in the world were to know more, it would be them."

"Not to mention the pavilion, the names you listed are becoming illusory existences. They rarely appear at all." One big shot said.

"True, but at least their disciples have walked the world. The same can't be said about the pavilion." One ancestor shook her head.

"Then let's go ask the Puresun." A hotheaded ancestor suggested: "They're still around."

No one answered because this clan was officially reclusive. A few big shots might have contact with them but who would be bold enough to go there?

Ever since their seclusion, Eastern Desolace became leaderless. Nonetheless, their previous prestige remained and no one dared to disrespect them.

"It's difficult to visit Void Imperfection and Heavenvine as well. We're about to lose communication with them altogether." An eastern big shot said.

In reality, they didn't understand why these ancient lineages would choose to go into seclusion. They had dominated for so long and were still powerful.

"If we can't find or don't want to go, there is still another lineage that can answer this question, Bones." The sacred ancestor from the east suggested: "Rumor has it that Bones Dao Lord has visited Seven Martial Pavilion before. This might be the most reliable piece of information regarding this place."

The group exchanged glances. Few knew about this but the ancient ancestor was right.

"Why the hell do we need to go so far?" Someone else said: "The auction house clearly had contact for this transaction."

Everyone then turned towards the auctioneer. If Seven Martial Pavilion's item was here, the auction house must have met a member from there.

"Ahem." The auctioneer said: "Esteemed Guests, I and the grotto know nothing about this. We are only responsible for the auctions, nothing else."

The auction house clearly had no intention of revealing information about the pavilion.

### **Chapter 4519: Shadow Conference**

"Let's get this going already." One big shot urged.

Everyone was interested in this treasure because it came from a legendary lineage. A few wanted to find out more about the lineage through this treasure, hoping to see some clues.

"Seven Martial Pavilion..." Jian Ming started talking to his group: "I heard there is a shadow conference that takes place there, really secretive stuff."

"You know quite a bit." Li Qiye glanced at him.

"Hehe, I've only heard about it out of coincidence, don't know much more." Jian Ming smiled.

"Spying on someone else's secret can end with decapitation. You are always sneaking around trying to find forbidden things, be careful now." Li Qiye smirked.

Jian Ming felt a chill coursing down his spine. He shuddered in response: "I don't do anything like that, it's just that I got lucky and occasionally heard a few things, not on purpose though."

He tried hard to defend himself: "Yes, I was blessed by the heaven and somehow stumbled into that place. I saw something shadowy. Ancient existences were conversing but I was polite enough not to stick around for too long..."

“Quite a coincidence, huh?” Li Qiye smiled.

Jian Ming smiled awkwardly. He wasn't sneaking around that time and only came there out of coincidence and luck. He became curious and couldn't help himself. However, that scene was terrifying so he immediately ran.

“The shadow you mentioned looks like an ocean? Where did it come from?” The daoist became vested in the conversation.

“A swindler like you know about this too?” Jian Ming was surprised because he only got there by chance. However, the daoist seemed to know without having the same experience.

“As if you're the only one who knows.” The daoist stared haughtily at him and said: “When I was reading the heaven, your ancestors were still playing in the mud.”

“Please.” Jian Ming glared at him and said: “Enough boasting, you wouldn't be saying that if you were there to see it. I'm sure someone told you, you didn't find out on your own...”

“Don't look down on others with your dog eyes.” The daoist uttered coldly: “Our clan knows every eternal mystery and secret in the world, a regular person like you wouldn't understand about the changes of the ocean and the existence of the shadow.”

“Hmph, then do tell, what is the shadow conference? Don't tell me you don't know after all the strong words.” Jian Ming retorted.

“That's a...” The daoist opened his mouth, nearly falling for the trick. He immediately realized it and glared at Jian Ming: “Brat, don't even dream about tricking me.”

“Haha, what trick? I just wanted you to prove your knowledge. Seems like I'm mistaken.” Jian Ming tried again.

In reality, he was just a frog under the well regarding this matter. He knew that the daoist had more information than he did.

Of course, this wasn't the daoist calculating himself but rather, leftover pieces from his clan. Therefore, Jian Ming wanted to pry it out of him.

“You won't understand even if I tell you. The secrets of the world are beyond your comprehension.” The daoist said.

“Still at it? At least tell me some proof of your knowledge.” Jian Ming said.

“...” The daoist turned red but refused to speak. He knew how to keep his mouth shut about certain things and wouldn't bite.

His clan was privy to forbidden information. Alas, divulging these secrets could result in disasters. Therefore, the daoist ignored the brat.

Eventually, Jian Ming mumbled and complained then gave up.

Meanwhile, the auction was still ongoing with one bid higher than the previous.



Outside of the item from the pavilion, there was a supreme artifact from an ancient dao lord, an immortal treasure, and something from the river of time itself...

One auction originated from Blessed Dao Lord. This one caused quite a stir and everyone went all out, not just Alchemy Child from True Immortal.

All in all, any of these treasures would cause a bloodbath in the outside world. Cultivators would kill for them.

The big shots came prepared and had ample resources. They just didn't bid early on so they had enough for the later rounds.

One thing kept on recurring - whenever someone made a high bid, the crowd would steal glances at Li Qiye.

They didn't want to provoke and cause him to randomly make an insane bid. They assumed that he was here only to antagonize the other participants.

During the item from Blessed Dao Lord, Alchemy Child was as nervous as can be. Eventually, they understood that as long as they didn't say something to offend Li Qiye, he wouldn't make a bid. They heaved a sigh of relief after realizing this and refrained from saying anything negative.

In reality, he didn't need any of the auctions. The fire dragon pills were only to help out Turtle-seeker Ancestor. As for the Shaking Immortal Grass, he disliked Alchemy Child and wanted to toy with him.

The subsequent treasures didn't interest him either. Eventually, the item from Blessed Dao Lord had an owner. This was the ninth auction.

"Alright, there is still one last auction. Esteemed Guests, please take a break right now." The auctioneer announced.

### **Chapter 4520: Final Auction**

The big shots became anxious as the final auction was being brought up. They started calculating their financial power and resources.

The auction house had told them about the various items, just nothing in detail.

"Very well, here is the final auction." The auctioneer clapped and his sect's disciples carried out a trunk with numerous seals from top masters - a testament to the value of the thing inside.

The auctioneer then opened the seal under watchful gazes.

"Buzz." Temporal fabrics opened after the lid was lifted. Everyone got an illusion that time came to a brief halt.

Although this only lasted for the blink of an eye, it made them exchange glances. This temporal halt clearly came from the treasure.

They saw rays oozing out from the treasure. They had the shimmering of rubies, being as bright as can be with a temporal affinity.

Time was definitely the source of life. While they were illuminated by the rays, they felt an unending life source.

The treasure was as large as the trunk, tall enough to reach the chest of an adult. The entire thing was a translucent amber. However, there were several layers to them due to the varying shades of red.

Inside was a girl wearing a timeworn style of clothes. The big shots here haven't seen anything like it, certainly not the style from this epoch.

Moreover, they looked rather expensive even from a cultivator's viewpoint. This meant that she came from a prestigious lineage in the past.

She had clear skin and sculpted features on a small face. Her nose was the most perfect work of art. She appeared to be around eight years old but looked superior to anyone else.

At the moment of her birth, she was destined for greatness and ready to rule. She lacked the vivaciousness of a child and possessed a dignified temperament instead. This wasn't something that should be found in a young girl. Alas, it somehow felt right when seen on her.

They couldn't tell whether this natural-born noble was alive or otherwise. Nonetheless, they still felt intimidated by her presence.

Though they were prepared for the final auction, seeing it left them emotional.

Li Qiye finally showed interest in an auction. His gaze pierced through the amber layers to see the girl. The other treasures failed to garner his attention, not her.

Everything about her was a mystery. However, the encapsulation preserved her throughout the years.

"Swindler, is she alive or not?" Jian Ming whispered.

"I don't know." The daoist shook his head.

"Don't lie to me, I know that you have calculated her before." Jian Ming insisted.

The daoist paused for a moment before whispering: "Fine, I didn't see anything, it was too chaotic."

"I thought your clan's divination was peerless. I guess you didn't learn well enough, maybe not even at the elementary level." Jian Ming egged him on.

The daoist swiftly responded: "You don't know shit. That thing sealing her can separate all else. It's not as simple as just calculating because you want to. It can stop time along any fortune-telling. She herself is a chaotic entity, trying to figure out this temporal flow will take an insane amount of time and effort."

The daoist had some clues and wanted to calculate the girl's identity. Alas, during this process, he found that it was virtually impossible and not worth the price. Moreover, it might even end with death.

"Who is she?" One big shot asked.

"I don't know, but possibly not from our epoch." An old peer with knowledge of antiques said: "Her clothes are from an ancient era. There are a few ancient clans from the east that might be from the same one, like Void Imperfection."

"I agree." Someone from the east nodded: "I saw a portrait before, an ancestor from Void Imperfection. The outfit is similar but I can't be sure."

"Is it a self-seal or did someone else seal her?" Another asked.

"Either way, the result is unreal." An adept master at temporal seals said: "Something like this required an immense force, resources, and manpower."

"Therefore, the sealing intent aside, this character must be very, very important." His friend added.

They agreed that a seal surviving an entire epoch wouldn't be used for a regular cultivator.