

Martial 1051

Chapter 1051, Branch

Flying his Star Shuttle through the Starry Sky while being accompanied by an incredible beauty like Xue Yue did not bore Yang Kai in the slightest. He actually quite enjoyed this little journey.

Xue Yue also seemed to enjoy experiencing this completely different kind of life.

Until now, she had constantly been maintaining her male Xue Yue Third Young Master persona.

She had lived like this for countless years, and only a few people in the entire Heng Luo Chamber of Commerce knew her true gender; she had never been able to openly show her true face.

This chance coincidence had inadvertently allowed her to put down all her disguises and interact with Yang Kai as a woman. On top of that, because of the effects of the Soul Chains, she didn't feel alert around Yang Kai and instead found him to be kind and friendly, as if he was a very important part of her life.

All day long she was in a good mood, her country destroying beauty shining even more radiantly, her pretty face displaying a mesmerizing glow that could attract even the most aloof of characters.

Time flew by, and after a month or so traversing the Starry Sky, the pair finally arrived at a gorgeous coloured star, Rainfall Star!

Because of its name, Yang Kai had thought that this star would be surrounded by thick clouds and storms, but when he saw it from the Starry Sky, he realized Rainfall Star was not how he imagined it would be.

This star was not very big, only about a third the size of Water Moon Star, but it exuded a rich vitality and colourful rays of light shrouded the entire star, making for a dazzling and fantastic display.

A brilliant nearby Sun Star illuminated these bright colours, allowing Rainfall Star to look more and more charming, like a fairyland.

Xue Yue's beautiful eyes clearly revealed a hint of intoxication as she gazed upon Rainfall Star.

Even Yang Kai couldn't help marvelling at the beauty of this star.

"When my strength grows high enough, I must become the Star Master of Rainfall Star, placing this star under my own control!" Xue Yue declared in a tender voice, setting a grand goal for herself.

"Then you'll have to work hard, you'll need to at least be able to defeat the current Star Master!" Yang Kai smiled, thinking little of her declaration, treating it as the whims of a young girl.

Xue Yue's eyes narrowed into crescent moons as she lightly covered her mouth and laughed, "Rainfall Star does not have a Star Master. I know you come from a lower world, but you should at least understand that much."

"No Star Master?" Yang Kai heard this and was stunned, "Why is there no Star Master? Doesn't your Chamber of Commerce have masters worthy of seizing that position?"

Yang Kai knew that characters at the Star Master level were generally masters at the Origin King Realm, and although there weren't many such masters, each major force would have at least a few.

Heng Luo Chamber of Commerce was one of the greatest forces in the entire Star Field, so it was impossible for them to not have Origin King Realm masters.

"Our Chamber of Commerce naturally has hidden masters who possess enough strength to become the Star Master of Rainfall Star, but how should I put this... Wanting to become a Star Master of a Cultivation Star, it's not just about having enough strength, you also need to connect your own soul to the Star Source of the specific Cultivation Star. This process is accompanied by great dangers, and even an Origin King Realm powerhouse may suffer a backlash from trying to merge their soul with the Star Source, possibly even costing them their life."

Yang Kai paled slightly.

Xue Yue continued to patiently explain, "There aren't many Origin King Realm masters, some of them prefer to live lives of seclusion and are not willing to take the risk of fusing with a Star Source. On top of that, once they become a Star Master of a Cultivation Star, it is equivalent to tying their life together with it. If that Cultivation Star suddenly undergoes great changes or is even destroyed one day, then the Star Master will also suffer or die. Such things have happened before, where the destruction of a Cultivation Star led to the death of its Star Master."

"So it is like our current relationship? If one suffers, all suffer?" Yang Kai exclaimed.

"Almost, but the relationship is not quite so simple. In any case, that is why there are some Stars in the Star Field that don't have Star Masters, and Rainfall Star is one of them."

"So you want to become a Star Master?" Yang Kai looked at her strangely.

Xue Yue smiled and said, "Although there are a lot of inconveniences, there are also great advantages to be had after becoming a Star Master. Why else do you think some masters are willing to become Star Masters of Cultivation Stars? Everything has its advantages and disadvantages, it ultimately depends on one's perspective."

She seemed to have thought this through, and Yang Kai also felt her explanation was reasonable, suddenly thinking back to the strange floating continent where he had been stranded for some time.

At the time, under the pressure of Gui Zu, while Yang Kai had been searching for a way to leave, his Divine Sense threads had inadvertently arrived at the deepest part of the floating continent where he came across an extremely powerful energy source.

That mass of energy provided an astonishing nourishing effect, causing Yang Kai's Divine Sense thread, which was on the verge of collapse, to become even more powerful than when he first sent it out.

That mass of energy was likely the floating continent's Star Source; unfortunately, when Yang Kai had asked Gui Zu about it, he hadn't obtained any useful information.

Now after listening to Xue Yue talk about this subject, Yang Kai was almost certain that what he discovered was really a Star Source.

"Do you know how to fuse with a Star Source?" Yang Kai asked.

“Why do you want to know about that?” Xue Yue looked at him strangely.

“Just asking,” Yang Kai shrugged his shoulders, pretending he had simply been speaking carelessly.

Xue Yue’s expression became suspicious, obviously not trusting his explanation, but she did not bother asking any more questions and revealed some information she knew.

She felt that even if she didn’t explain anything, Yang Kai would learn about it someday, so there was no reason for her to conceal it.

Yang Kai secretly remembered every word she spoke while feigning calm, preparing for the day when he had time to return to the floating continent and confirm whether his assumptions were correct or not.

If that mass of energy was really a Star Source, he could attempt to fuse with it; after all, if he succeeded, it would definitely bring him huge benefits.

As the two spoke, they crossed a thick layer of clouds and arrived in Rainfall Star’s atmosphere.

“Fly that way!” Xue Yue pointed towards a nearby spot where the World Energy aura was richest, “My Chamber of Commerce’s branch is located there!”

Yang Kai gently nodded and flew in the direction Xue Yue had pointed out.

A few hours later, a series of rolling hills appeared in the pair’s eyes, and amidst these mountains, countless palaces stood quietly.

At the centre of this mountain range was an enormous open square that multiple Starships carrying loads of supplies flew in and out of.

Most of these Starships were emblazoned with Heng Luo Chamber of Commerce’s insignia while a small portion belonged to other big forces which were here to either sell or purchase items.

Yang Kai was unalarmed by this now familiar scene and simply flew forward following Xue Yue’s instructions.

Apparently Xue Yue had been here before as she was quite familiar with the geography and layout. Following her guidance, the pair soon arrived at a large hall.

Xue Yue leapt off the Star Shuttle before beckoning to Yang Kai to follow her into the hall.

At the entrance to the hall, several cultivators dressed in guard uniforms held long silver spears and wore solemn expressions.

When they saw Xue Yue, these guards’ eyes light up and they all straightened their backs and puffed out their chests, trying to make themselves look reliable and imposing.

The corners of Xue Yue’s mouth curled upwards slightly, seemingly very satisfied with this scene.

She had never had a chance to drive men to distraction as a woman before, so the reaction of these guards greatly satisfied her vanity.

“Girl, please halt, what business do you have here?” One of the guards came up and blocked Xue Yue’s path, putting on a show of his duties.

“I must see Branch President Ha Li Ka!” Xue Yue said as she flipped her exquisite jade hand and summoned out a token. The guard glanced at this token and his expression immediately became more solemn, quickly calling out, “So Madam is an emissary from the Home Star!”

The moment the guard saw the token, the way he addressed Xue Yue changed dramatically and he no longer dared try to show off his masculinity because this token was only issued to high-level Heng Luo Chamber of Commerce executives from the Home Star.

With this grade of status, it was clear that this beautiful woman was not someone a small guard of his ability could hope to befriend.

“Branch President Ha Li Ka has been waiting for some time, please enter!” The guard hurriedly stepped to the side, opening the way.

Xue Yue nodded with satisfaction before motioning to Yang Kai, indicate that he should follow her.

The looks on all of the guards’ faces were incredibly solemn as they displayed the utmost respect for Xue Yue, but mixed in with this was some confusion as well. They couldn’t understand why Yang Kai could follow behind this distinguished Madam. This little brat’s cultivation wasn’t any better than their own, so it was obvious he could only be a guard, but this Madam seemed to treat him quite amiably!

What kind of dog shit luck did this little brat have? How could he have won the right to follow behind such a perfect woman?

Each of the guards silently cursed in their hearts. They had all seen Yang Kai and Xue Yue arrive together on a single Star Shuttle and deeply wished they could swap places with him.

Inside the hall, Yang Kai and Xue Yue had only just entered when they heard someone delivering an angry reprimand. A moment later, several cultivators ran out from inside, each of them looking rather distressed.

Xue Yue smiled and whispered, “The Branch President here is short-tempered and he will often scold or beat his subordinates, so his popularity is quite low. Once we’re inside, don’t speak any nonsense so as not to draw his attention.”

“I know, I won’t say anything,” Yang Kai nodded. He had come to Rainfall Star entirely because of Xue Yue but he didn’t plan on intervening in her matters any more than necessary.

“Who are you? Don’t you know it’s impolite to speak about someone behind their back?” A cold snort suddenly sounded from inside the hall, its owner clearly somewhat disgruntled.

Xue Yue couldn’t help spitting out her tongue, a moment later her entire temperament changing dramatically, becoming bold and courageous, stepping forward confidently.

Yang Kai followed close behind.

Inside the hall, an old man wearing a purple robe sat on his chair and stared indifferently towards the entrance.

His expression was unreadable and his aura was imposing, just sitting there he appeared like a mountain, an invisible pressure unconsciously leaking from his body.

Yang Kai had only taken a few steps when suddenly his feet felt like they weighed tens of thousands of kilograms, making it difficult for him to even move. Xue Yue's brisk pace also slowed down significantly, as if she had been caught in some kind of mire, a slight frown appearing on her face as her tender body trembled lightly.

Because of Xue Yue's remarks, Brand President Ha Li Ka obviously didn't have a good impression of the pair and was now deliberately embarrassing them.

Chapter 1052, I'm Not Peeking

Inside the hall, Yang Kai struggled to just keep standing as a pressure like a mountain weighed down on him, his forehead oozing sweat and his physique trembling as he tried to resist the suppressive force coming from all around him, bitterness filling his heart.

Xue Yue had always been in a position of absolute authority, meaning no one had ever dared act rudely to her, so she obviously didn't know the concept of careless words causing trouble, or that she had implicated him because of it.

Feeling Ha Li Ka deliberately releasing his aura, a cold light flashed across the depths of Xue Yue's beautiful eyes and on her waist, a jade pendant suddenly lit up, a series of powerful roars echoing from it before numerous beast phantoms appeared and formed a defensive barrier around her, isolating her Soul from the impact of Ha Li Ka's pressure.

As this halo appeared, the sound of something breaking rang out and Xue Yue's arduous steps became relaxed again as she lifted her head back up and walked forward.

Yang Kai, who had not been able to move, suddenly felt the pressure around him disappear.

It seemed that under the defensive halo of these strange beasts, Brand President Ha Li Ka's momentum had instantly disintegrated.

Yang Kai suddenly felt relaxed and couldn't help glancing towards Xue Yue's thin waist. Worthy of Heng Luo Chamber of Commerce's President's heir, she was wearing extremely high-level artifacts!

"An Origin Grade Soul type artifact?" In his chair, Ha Li Ka, who had constantly had a cold expression, finally sat up and retracted his aura, a look of amazement soon filling his face.

Not just anyone could possess this grade of Soul type artifact, allowing Ha Li Ka to realize that Xue Yue's identity could not be low. Before he was able to figure out Xue Yue's status and purpose in coming here, he didn't dare try to make trouble for her like just now.

Glancing over at Yang Kai again though, he still didn't pay him any mind, instead focusing all his attention on Xue Yue and asking, "What is this young miss' name?"

Xue Yue smiled and said sweetly, "Xue'er."

Yang Kai's mouth couldn't help twitching as he stood silently behind her, diligently putting on the appearance of a guard.

"Miss Xue'er..." Ha Li Ka gently nodded, "So, what business do you have here?"

Xue Yue didn't answer him directly and instead took out the token she had previously shown the guards outside and handed it over.

Accepting and examining the token, Ha Li Ka's expression changed dramatically as he finally got up off his chair and politely cupped his fists, "So you are one of Young Master Xue Yue's people! This old man had eyes but failed to see, causing him to offend Lady Xue'er a moment ago, I hope you will not take this matter to heart!"

Saying so, he handed the token back respectfully.

"Branch President is too polite," Xue Yue's expression became lighter as she looked around for a moment before walking over to a chair and sitting down.

Ha Li Ka remained standing in the same place, his expression showing clear puzzlement, asking after a moment, "Lady Xue'er, when will Young Master Xue Yue be arriving?"

"He won't be," Xue Yue smiled and said, "He has something to deal with and temporarily cannot leave."

"Young Master Xue Yue can't come?" Ha Li Ka was startled, hesitating for a while before asking, "Then the matter here..."

"He has given me sole responsibility for all the affairs here, Branch President only needs to coordinate with me," Xue Yue said decisively, putting on a bossy appearance.

"You will take solely responsible for this matter?" Ha Li Ka couldn't help but frown, seemingly not completely trusting Xue Yue's words. "This old man must ask, Lady Xue'er, to Young Master Xue Yue... who are you?"

Xue Yue wore a radiant smile and showed an expression overflowing with charm as she replied, "He has given me responsibility for such an important matter, who do you think I am to him?"

Ha Li Ka suddenly wore a look of comprehension, his expression becoming somewhat ambiguous as he stared at Xue Yue, a myriad of emotions coursing through his chest, thinking that Young Master Xue Yue had finally been moved by a woman just like any ordinary young man. He had never heard of this kind of thing happening before. Young Master Xue Yue had never shown interest in any woman, and no matter how devastatingly beautiful they were, he simply wouldn't spare them anything more than a polite nod.

Many of the older generation in the Chamber of Commerce were worried about Young Master Xue Yue in this regard, wondering if he perhaps had some physical or psychological problem.

But now it seemed like he had simply not bumped into a woman capable of moving his heart!

Just... Why did this Lady Xue'er and Young Master Xue Yue share somewhat similar appearances?

This little girl couldn't possibly be the product of one of President Ai Ou's youthful escapades outside... If that was the case, she and Young Master Xue Yue would be...

All kinds of thoughts passed through his mind, and Ha Li Ka couldn't help shivering slightly as his expressions became more and more awkward.

“Lady Xue’er, about that Ancient...” Ha Li Ka was about to deliver her a progress report when he was suddenly cut off by Xue Yue.

“Let’s discuss this matter tomorrow, I have just arrived here and am tired from the journey. One night of rest won’t cause any kind of problem.”

Ha Li Ka thought about it for a moment before nodding, “Very well, then I will arrange for someone to lead Lady Xue’er to her accommodations.”

Saying so, he sent out a Divine Sense Message and a moment later, one of the guards outside the hall hurried inside. Ha Li Ka gave the guard a few instructions before having him lead Xue Yue out.

Yang Kai, who had not said a word the entire time, followed after Xue Yue, a pensive look upon his face.

Ha Li Ka had not been able to finish what it was he was trying to say, but the word ‘Ancient’ had aroused Yang Kai’s curiosity, making him wonder what exactly had happened on this Cultivation Star and how this ‘Ancient’ thing had necessitated Xue Yue to personally come over and deal with it.

No matter what this matter was, it was obviously something of great importance.

Xue Yue not letting Ha Li Ka continue to speak was obviously because she didn’t want Yang Kai to hear about this secret. She currently felt quite close to Yang Kai, but the Chamber of Commerce’s secrets weren’t something even she could casually leak.

Yang Kai naturally understood this and didn’t attempt to pry.

Following behind the guard, Yang Kai and Xue Yue flew across the mountain for a moment before arriving at a location with incredibly beautiful scenery, just far enough away to avoid the hustle and bustle in the branch’s centre; it was just the perfect place to rest.

There was a quaint palace built nearby with an exquisite yet temperate atmosphere.

Outside this palace was a small bridge built over a flowing stream of water that led to a natural hot spring used for bathing. When Xue Yue arrived here, her eyes became bright, seemingly suddenly remembering that she had not bathed for quite a long time. These months flying through the Star Field, escaping from one Dead Star to another, both her and Yang Kai, despite their profound cultivations, had accumulated a good deal of filth on their bodies.

Seeing the natural hot spring, Xue Yue’s tender body couldn’t help feeling slightly itchy.

After the guard left, Xue Yue walked around the palace and surveyed the mountain scenery, smiling as she nodded, “That Ha Li Ka did a good job, actually arranging such a good residence for me, seems he’s smarter than he looks.”

Yang Kai curled his lips into a grin, “If you live life with your current appearance, you’d quickly discover many things you previously hadn’t experienced.”

Listening to him, Xue Yue thought about it seriously and agreed, “What you said makes sense. A difference in identity will create a difference in life, it’s truly a marvellous concept. Unfortunately, I can’t remain in this form forever. After things are finished here, I will have to return to Water Moon Star to restore my Xue Yue Third Young Master status.”

As long as she found the Grandmaster who originally refined the artifact which hid her true gender and had them repair it, Xue Yue could return to her previous life.

“Enough about that,” She suddenly said, as if she didn’t want to continue thinking about this subject. Turning back around, her skirt twirling enchantingly, Xue Yue declared, “I’m going to take a bath to wash away all the dirt and dust from this long journey. You can’t peek, if I catch you trying...”

Saying so, she clenched her fists and shook it towards Yang Kai before walking over towards the open-air hot spring.

Arriving beside the water, Xue Yue lightly disrobed while secretly paying attention to Yang Kai’s movements.

According to her observations during this time, she had determined that Yang Kai was not an honest person; secretly trying to peek at her in this kind of situation was something he would definitely do.

As such, she had warned him in advance.

However, to her surprise, even after she slipped her lithe body into the steaming hot water, Yang Kai didn’t show any particular movements. He seemed to still be standing where she left him, not moving a muscle.

Xue Yue was quite surprised by this and felt she may have misread Yang Kai and misunderstood his true nature.

Just as she was thinking this though, Yang Kai suddenly leapt up into the air above the bath and immediately fell down towards it, shedding all his clothes before he hit the water.

Putong...

Water splashed up greatly and the mist which lingered atop the hot spring was greatly disturbed.

“Yang Kai!” Xue Yue grit her teeth and sent out a thick menacing intent.

Yang Kai surfaced from the hot spring and leaned relaxedly against its edge while casually stating, “I also want to wash off the fatigues from the road, and I’m not secretly peeking...”

Saying so, he stared directly and openly towards Xue Yue.

Xue Yue was extremely annoyed and she spared no words to curse Yang Kai as a shameless bastard while retracting her naked figure into the water.

Her perfect body was instantly covered in a shroud of seven coloured light which, accompanied by the white mist of the hot spring, only served to enhance her appeal, tempting others to move closer to see the wonders that were hidden beneath these layers.

“You and I were only one step away from the most intimate of relationships, why would you suddenly be shy about taking a simple bath together now?” Yang Kai chuckled, not understanding what this woman was thinking.

“Don’t talk about that!” Xue Yue scolded angrily, sending a water arrow out towards Yang Kai’s head, missing by only the narrowest of margins, “If you dare speak any more nonsense, I’ll rip out your tongue.”

“I haven’t spoken any nonsense, I only spoke the truth!” Yang Kai grinned strangely.

Xue Yue didn’t respond, only sinking her head lower into the water and blowing some bubbles in silent protest.

Yang Kai no longer tried to provoke her and instead focused on enjoying the warmth of the natural hot spring.

Sometime later, Xue Yue suddenly said, “Tomorrow I have to go with Branch President Ha Li Ka to handle some things, so I won’t be bringing you along with me.”

“I know.”

“You’re too weak, and there will possibly be danger where I’m going, so...”

“You don’t have to explain it to me,” Yang Kai shook his head, “I have self-knowledge and won’t inquire about secrets I shouldn’t know. Sometimes, knowing less is safer.”

“As long as you understand,” Xue Yue smiled lightly.

“I’ll go rest first,” Yang Kai said, standing up and circulating his Saint Qi to dry the water on his skin before putting on a set of clothes and walking towards the small palace.

Staring at the receding back of Yang Kai through the fog, Xue Yue couldn’t help feeling an urge to tell him everything!

This feeling made her beautiful face pale as she realized the impact the Soul Chains were having on her was actually getting worse.

Chapter 1053, Medicine Garden

Early morning the next day.

The first rays of sunlight emerged from beyond the horizon, illuminating the mountain range, a single beam soon transforming into a golden blanket.

Bathed in this morning splendour, the mountain range appeared particularly beautiful, for a moment even seeming to radiate a golden hue.

Numerous cultivators looked up at these mountains with solemn and respectful gazes.

A rich aura overflowed from these massive mountains, rolling down their slopes like a slumbering dragon which had just awoken.

On the second floor of the small palace, Yang Kai opened his eyes from his meditation and released his Divine Sense, quickly discovering that Xue Yue was no longer here but there was an unfamiliar life aura waiting outside.

Yang Kai turned his head to look outside and found a cultivator dressed in a guard uniform waiting patiently, his cultivation slightly higher than Yang Kai's, most likely a Third-Order Saint.

He stood there with a bored expression, looking a little impatient and displeased. It seemed that someone had arranged for him to take an errand that he didn't appreciate very much.

After thinking about it, Yang Kai leapt off the second floor briskly, landed in front of the guard, and asked casually, "Friend, is there something wrong?"

When the man heard this movement, he turned around and reluctantly cupped his fists, "Are you Lady Xue'er's guard?"

"Yes," Yang Kai gently nodded.

"Lady Xue'er has departed to complete a task together with Branch President Ha Li Ka and it may take a few days for her to return. Since you are not familiar with this place, I have been ordered to entertain you!"

"Entertain me?" Yang Kai's eyebrow slightly lifted.

"I am well informed about Rainfall Star's various sights and scenes, I won't disappoint you!" Saying so, he swept his eyes over Yang Kai, really not understanding how this young man had become Lady Xue'er's escort. Since he was her guard, why was he not following behind his charge to protect her safety, but instead being left here by Lady Xue'er for him to entertain!

How was this justifiable? If all guards could receive such treatment, it would be blissful indeed. He was also a guard, so why had he never had such good fortune?

This guard was more than a little indignant and desperately wanted to follow Lady Xue'er if this was the kind of duty it was.

After hearing what the guard said, Yang Kai suddenly understood that Xue Yue was worried he would get bored so she had left somewhere here to help him kill time. Shaking his head wryly, Yang Kai wore a light smile and said, "I appreciate this friend's offer to show me around, but I have no interest in lively scenes or seeking amusement."

The guard shot Yang Kai a strange look, seemingly not having expected him to have such a serious attitude, nodding lightly a moment later and continuing, "There are some quiet places we could visit. The branch is just about to hold a large-scale auction where many rare treasures will appear. If this friend is interested, we can go take a look. "

"An auction?" Yang Kai's eyes brightened slightly.

"En, about half the items being auctioned will be provided by the Chamber of Commerce while the rest are contributed by foreign cultivators who obtained them from various exploits throughout the Star Field. Such events are held every few years, and sometimes an incredibly rare and valuable treasure will appear."

“That does sound interesting,” Yang Kai smiled and nodded. He had never participated in such a grand event, despite having heard about similar ones in Tong Xuan Realm multiple times and knowing that such auctions were important way for cultivators to purchase exotic treasures.

“Rainfall Star’s grand auction will be held over multiple days, and only Saint Crystals are accepted for transactions; however, after the auction, there will be a private trade fair. The trade fair’s exchanges will depend on personal preferences, once can use Saint Crystal or barter using other types of treasures!” The man saw Yang Kai show some interested in this and couldn’t help saying a few more words, asking again, “Would friend like to take a look? “

He could see that Yang Kai was somewhat ignorant of such affairs, but since he seemed to be valued by Lady Xue’er, the guard still had to treat him with courtesy.

“How many Saint Crystals do I need to get participate?” Yang Kai asked.

The man smiled and said casually, “At least half a million, otherwise, you might not even be eligible bid.”

“Half a million...” Yang Kai’s mouth twitched.

On the floating continent, he had seized all the Saint Crystals from the Purple Star and Sword Union cultivators, but the total number was not that large, and after purchasing his new Star Shuttle and a variety of rare ores, he only had a few hundred Saint Crystals left.

There was obviously no way for him to pull out half a million Saint Crystals right now.

Yang Kai did have a lot of Origin Grade and even Origin King Grade spirit grasses and spirit medicines. If he were to bring these out and sell them, each one would likely fetch an immense price, but Yang Kai himself was an Alchemist, so these herbs were more useful to him for studying the Alchemic Way. He wasn’t prepared to sell them.

“How about it, has Friend made a decision?” The man urged a little impatiently. He had been ordered to entertain Yang Kai, but Yang Kai taking so long to think about it was making him quite unhappy.

“Forget it, I can’t go,” Yang Kai waved his hand, going to an auction just to watch the fun was too boring. On top of that, he didn’t have anything he urgently wished to buy.

“If that’s what friend has decided, I will take my leave,” The man didn’t say anything more, simply cupping his fists to Yang Kai curtly before departing.

Basking in the warm sunlight and feeling the warmth in the air, was something those who cultivated Yang Attribute Secret Arts or Martial Skills like Yang Kai particularly enjoyed.

Standing in front of the palace, his tens of millions of pores wide open, thousands of rays of sunlight beaming down onto him, Yang Kai felt the pure Yang Attribute energy pour into his body.

His mood was calm and his mind relaxed.

Although he had refused the offer from the guard, Yang Kai himself did want to go out.

He had no idea when Xue Yue would be back, so it didn’t make much sense for him to simply stay here doing nothing.

On top of that, Yang Kai was anxious to find a safe way to remove the effects of the Soul Chains.

As long as he and Xue Yue were both willing, the Soul Chains could be unlocked at any time, but this method was far from safe.

Yang Kai had never thought that he and Xue Yue could really forget about all their previous grudges. That was all just an illusion created by the Soul Chains. He had to make sure that Xue Yue would not act against him after the effects of the Soul Chains were lifted, otherwise, it was almost certain she would try to kill him the moment she was freed.

Yang Kai had to guard against this and had secretly been contemplating the issue, but as of this moment, he had yet to come up with a viable solution.

Summoning his Star Shuttle, Yang Kai quickly flew off.

Like a bolt of lightning, Yang Kai soared through the clouds, exploring the world around him, without any kind of specific destination in mind.

Back on Water Moon Star, Yang Kai had spent a whole two months touring the star, firstly to familiarize himself with the structure and customs of the Cultivation Stars in the Star Field, and the other in the faint hope he would be able to find Su Yan.

Now that he had arrived on a different Cultivation Star, Yang Kai wanted to try his luck again.

Rainfall Star was not big, much smaller than Water Moon Star at least.

In just twenty days, Yang Kai had traversed almost the entirety of Rainfall Star but had not found any trace of Su Yan's aura.

Yang Kai wasn't too disappointed with this result; after all, the Star Field was far too large and the number of Cultivation Stars within it was nearly endless. Even if he knew Su Yan and the others from Ice Sect had arrived in the Star Field, Yang Kai had no idea which Cultivation Star they might be on, so he was not expecting to find them in any kind of short order.

Yang Kai stopped atop a great mountain and swept his eyes over his surroundings.

Suddenly, his gaze was drawn to a huge mountain valley in the distance.

This mountain valley covered a massive area and there seemed to be traces of it been artificial expanded. The mountain valley shouldn't have originally been that big, but someone had used powerful Divine Abilities to naturally expand it until it stretched a full one hundred kilometers in length.

At the center of the mountain valley, there was a small palace, and around the palace were vast fields of exquisite Medicine Gardens, each one filled with various colourful spirit grasses and spirit medicines

Standing where he was, Yang Kai felt that these Medicine Gardens were arranged inside some kind of grand Spirit Array which caused the surrounding World Energy to flow continuously into the mountain valley, making the density of the aura reach an extraordinary height.

Even while separated by hundreds of kilometres, Yang Kai was able to smell a medicinal fragrance that made one's soul feel refreshed.

[Inside this mountain valley, there must be a profound Alchemy Grandmaster!] Yang Kai decided.

Setting off again, Yang Kai flew over, wanting to pay a visit to this unknown Alchemist to help pass the time, but as soon as he reached the mountain valley, he felt a strange sense of incongruence.

This feeling came to him when he spotted something out of the corner of his eye!

Pausing, Yang Kai took a more serious look at the vast Medicine Gardens again, contrasting them with what he had seen a moment ago.

Immediately, Yang Kai's eyes narrowed, and he understood where this sudden incongruent feeling came from.

The distribution of the Medicine Garden inside the mountain valley was obviously different from the one he had just seen from the top of the mountain just now. There seemed to be some subtle changes among the planting and placement of the various herbs.

The more Yang Kai observed, the more he began to realize the peculiarity of these Medicine Gardens.

Soon, Yang Kai was surprised to find that there was a very special power flowing beneath these Medicine Gardens and that this power coincided with some kind of Heavenly Law which in itself was a shocking discovery.

The flow of this strange power changed with the various distances between the rows of the Medicine Gardens, allowing each Medicine Garden act as part of a larger, more complicated formation. This grand formation of Medicine Gardens caused the various energies of Heaven and Earth to concentrate in this place. On top of that, it seemed to allow all the spirit grasses and spirit medicines to more easily accept these energies, improving their vitality noticeably.

Yang Kai was shocked, and attracted by the exquisite layout of these Medicine Gardens he stopped mid-air and began releasing his Divine Sense to perceive the hidden mysteries in one of the Medicine Gardens.

Inside the palace, an old man with short stature and messy hair, appearing somewhat deranged, was busying himself in front of a series of large and small pill furnaces. Each pill furnace was filled with various medicinal liquids from different herbs. The old man had a white beard and sunken eyes, as if he was perennially exhausted, his skin was wrinkled and figure somewhat emaciated.

Only his eyes were filled with shining light and incomparable excitement. He devoted almost all his focus to the dozens of dozen of pill furnaces of various sizes in front of him, constantly extracting rare herbs from his Space Ring and tossing them towards different pill furnaces one after another.

He was simultaneously handling dozens of pill furnaces and refining several dozen different pills at the same time without any errors!

Chapter 1054, Pills Are Difficult To Refine

When Yang Kai broke into the mountain valley, the old man who was in the midst of his Alchemy immediately noticed, causing a frown to appear on his face and a terrifying pressure to emerge from his body.

The entire mountain valley where he made his home was one of Rainfall Star's Restricted Areas; no one was allowed to even approach it, and no one dared to either, yet today, some little brat who didn't know how high the Heavens were had actually flew straight in.

The old man was infuriated and his first thought was to take Yang Kai's life directly to warn others what fate awaited those who dared disturb him while he was performing Alchemy.

The lives of minor characters like Yang Kai weren't even worth worrying about for this old man.

But just as he was about to act, one of the pill furnaces placed around him suddenly made a strange hissing sound, causing the old man's expression to fill with bitterness. Pouring his Saint Qi into the pill furnace, the old man quickly stabilized the medicinal liquids inside and muttered, "Pills are difficult to refine. Hmph, I'll let you live for a while, your life isn't worth wasting a furnace of materials on. Damn it, pills are really difficult to refine!"

Muttering to himself while constantly waving his hands in complicated patterns, sending his Saint Qi into different pill furnaces, his Space Ring flashing on and off as different herbs which had been prepared in advance were thrown into the various furnaces.

As more and more strange sounds emerged from the various pill furnaces, the old man's expression remained tranquil, without the slightest bit of tension at all, only the movement of his hands accelerated noticeably.

After half an hour, the sunken eyes of the old man shone brilliantly and all the pill furnaces hummed, crisp ringing sounds echoing from them as a thick pill fragrance filled the air!

Reaching out his hand, the several dozen large and small pill furnaces all opened and a multitude of different coloured pills flew out, dropping like raindrops into several jade bottles which had been prepared beforehand.

With a pitter-patter, three jade bottles were soon completely filled.

The old man didn't feel the slightest bit of fatigue and instead seemed quite excited. Rubbing his somewhat wrinkled hands together, he rushed over to the jade bottles to pick them up and carefully examined the pills which had just come out of the furnace.

"No... no...still no... Every time the old man checked one, he would whisper to himself, the look of anticipation on his face gradually disappearing and being replaced with disappointment.

After checking through all three jade bottles, nearly forty pills in total, he was still unable to find what he wanted.

As if it had received a huge blow, the old man's face became disheartened and he sighed heavily, "Pills are really hard to refine. Why aren't there any Pill Veins? Could it be that this old master's method of mass quantities is actually wrong? No, it can't be!"

Saying so, he threw these three jade bottles aside as if they were worthless trash, not even sparing them a second glance.

In the corner of his pill room, a large number of jade bottles were piled up, over a hundred of them in total, each one of them filled with pills. None of the pills in these bottles was lower than Saint King Grade and there were even several of them that were Origin Grade.

The old man sat down after and began pondering about the successes and failures he had experienced in this latest Alchemy refinement, attempting to determine why he was unable to refine more Pill Veins, scratching his already thin white hair.

The old man actually sat in this position for three days and three nights without any movement, just like a dead man, only his eyes revealing a light of contemplation.

Suddenly, a subtle wave of energy appeared from the Medicine Garden. This burst of energy interrupted his contemplation, making him look up unhappily towards the outside.

Only then did he remember that three days ago some little brat had actually broken into his property, but at the time he didn't have any spare attention to deal with him so he had simply forgotten about him.

"He hasn't left yet?" The old man was surprised and quietly released his Divine Sense, a moment later letting out a light murmur of surprise, as if he had discovered something interesting, focusing more of his attention on Yang Kai's movements.

In the Medicine Garden, Yang Kai had sat down cross-legged, allowing his Divine Sense to spread out in all directions like a tide.

His Divine Sense probed every single inch of the Medicine Garden, trying to understand the secrets it held.

These Medicine Gardens were not arranged randomly, the way they were planted and distributed was in line with some kind of profound Spirit Array. Each individual garden composed a smaller Spirit Array, which in combination with the others gathered the surrounding World Energy to promote the growth of the various spirit grassed and spirit medicines, making them grow both faster and stronger.

Any herb grown here for fifty years would have the equivalent of a one-hundred-year-old medicinal age, possibly even higher.

Yang Kai didn't know who it was that arranged this, but he figured it was the handiwork of the Alchemist residing in valley's central palace!

Yang Kai devoted himself to studying these Medicine Gardens, trying to spy on its hidden mysteries, becoming complete absorbed in this task and even forgetting everything around him!

Yang Kai has studied many different Spirit Arrays from the True Alchemic Way, and back on Tong Xuan Realm, these Spirit Arrays had helped him immensely.

However, the True Alchemic Way was, after all, a product of Tong Xuan Realm.

The Star Field also had its own unique Spirit Arrays.

There were advantages and disadvantages between the two, and while Yang Kai was studying the Spirit Arrays hidden in the Medicine Garden, he was also comparing them to those he had already mastered.

When the old man inside the palace saw this scene, he immediately understood what Yang Kai was doing, and after thinking about it for a moment, he retracted his murderous intent and chuckled, "I suppose it's not such a bad thing to let you continue!"

Seeing Yang Kai like this reminded of his own hardships in the study of Alchemy.

In order to learn different Spirit Arrays, he had travelled vast distances and visited many famous masters, most of whom would laugh at and despise him, slamming the door shut in his face or expelling him directly.

Those Alchemy Grandmasters regarded their own Spirit Arrays as their most important treasures and would not easily teach them to others. Even if it was their own Disciples, these masters would deny most of them any of their core knowledge, so teaching a stranger was even more out of the question.

When this old man was Yang Kai's age, he had been obsessed with Alchemy and often vowed to climb high in the Alchemic Way and amaze the world.

However, in his advanced age, he had realized that the idea was wrong. Alchemy was not studied in order to make the world change their views on him, but rather to fulfil his own lifelong pursuit.

Yang Kai's serious focus reminded him of his past and washed away his desire to kill him. No longer paying attention to this young boy, the old man simply allowed him to continue studying the mysteries of his Medicine Garden.

Sometime later, the old man inside the palace started performing Alchemy again. Just like before, the several dozen pill furnaces all began warming up at the same time as the old man tossed one herb after another into all of them.

Outside the palace, Yang Kai sat in silent contemplation, a thin layer of dust soon accumulating on his body as he eagerly delved into these Spirit Arrays.

One old and one young, neither bothering the other, focused entirely on their own independent tasks.

Every once in a while, after the old man finished a round of Alchemy, he would check to see if Yang Kai was still around, and finding him still sitting in the same place, the old man couldn't help appreciating the patience and perseverance of this little brat.

Youths were often hot-blooded and impetuous, very few were able to calm their hearts and remain focused like this little brat for so long. It was truly impressive.

Yang Kai also noticed that the owner of the palace would often use his Divine Sense to observe him, but seeing the other party not show any intention to drive him away, he thickened his skin and continued studying as if nothing had happened.

After he finished studying the Spirit Arrays here, Yang Kai planned to properly offer this master his thanks.

He didn't intent to steal the knowledge arranged here; he had simply become engrossed in it before he knew it.

This peaceful coexistence continued on for a number of days, with Yang Kai constantly examining the Spirit Arrays hidden in the various Medicine Gardens, comparing them to his previous analysis, but suddenly, a wave of unease spread from his heart.

Opening his eyes, Yang Kai immediately expanded his Divine Sense to check his surroundings.

Soon though, his brow furrowed, because he didn't notice any danger approaching him, and within a few hundred kilometres, besides the owner of the nearby palace, there wasn't even a single bird flying through the sky, much less any other people.

Yang Kai thought he was just imagining things but when he calmed himself down and was about to continue his studies, the feeling of uneasiness became stronger.

It was as if his life was being threatened and he was on the verge of death.

Standing up, his expression became incomparably gloomy.

With his strength having reached his currently level, Yang Kai's senses had also become incredibly keen. He would not be feeling this kind of anxiety for no reason at all and there were only two explanations for it.

Either there was a master who far surpassed him in strength stalking him, or something else was threatening his life.

The former was highly unlikely.

Although Yang Kai didn't know who the master of the palace was, he was certain this person was a powerful master. If someone harbouring ill intent was nearby, the master of the palace would certainly have detected them.

Moreover, Yang Kai felt that no one should be currently targeting him; after all, he hadn't stirred up trouble or forged any grudges with anyone recently and there was no reason for him to be randomly targeted.

The only one he currently had issues with was Xue Yue, but because of the effects of the Soul Chains which currently linked their lives, she would only be trying to protect him and it was impossible for her to be trying to kill him.

Thinking of Xue Yue and remembering about the Soul Chains, Yang Kai's face changed and a hypothesis came to mind.

Had something happened to Xue Yue?

Because of the Soul Chains, their lives had become linked together, and if Xue Yue was on the verge of death, it would be the same as him being in danger.

The more he thought about it, the more Yang Kai was convinced this was the case. Not daring to linger, he immediately summoned out his Star Shuttle and flew off towards the Heng Luo Chamber of Commerce branch.

Cursing in his heart the whole time, Yang Kai had to remind himself that Xue Yue's strength was not low and with Ha Li Ka, an Origin Returning Realm master, accompanying her, there shouldn't have been any danger to her life. He had simply gone about his own affairs with peace of mind to suddenly have this life-threatening situation to occur. This caused annoyance to fill him to no end.

"He left?" Inside the palace, the old man glanced at the direction in which Yang Kai left and slowly shook his head, not paying it much attention.

To him, Yang Kai's arrival was nothing more than a small ripple in the vast pond that was his life, not having any real lasting effect on him. Whether Yang Kai stayed or left mattered not to him.

The old man continued to focus on the several dozen pill furnaces in front of him, forming a series of hand seals while pouring his Saint Qi into them to control each individual heating.

Chapter 1055, Ancient Ruins

Yang Kai pushed his Saint King Grade High-Rank Star Shuttle to its limits, flying back at maximum speed.

The anxiety and sense of crisis in his heart grew stronger with each passing breath.

After half a day, Yang Kai arrived back at the mountain range where the branch was located and directly flew to the palace which Ha Li Ka had arranged for him and Xue Yue.

Yang Kai released his Divine Sense and found that the small palace was just as he left it with no traces of anyone having come or gone. Xue Yue was obviously not here.

Immediately turning around, Yang Kai flew to the branch's headquarters.

A moment later, Yang Kai arrived at the hall where he had met Ha Li Ka.

Several guards who were standing at the gate of the main hall saw Yang Kai rush over and began to frown, wondering just what had happened to make this young guard so nervous.

The last time they had seen Yang Kai, they had learned that he was a guard of Lady Xue'er who was a representative of the Home Star; however, due to his low strength, all of them looked down on him somewhat.

"Is Branch President Ha Li Ka back?" Yang Kai landed in front of them and asked directly.

"What do you wish to see Sir Ha Li Ka about?" One of the guards asked back.

"Did he come back?" Yang Kai growled, his expression sullen, looking like he was on the verge of snapping.

The guard couldn't help but feeling a little frightened seeing this look and shook his head subconsciously.

"Do you know where he went?" Yang Kai asked again.

The guard who shook his head seemed to become angry out of shame because of his unconscious cooperation just now and coldly snorted, "You think you're qualified to question Branch President's whereabouts? Who do you think you are?"

Even if he came from the Home Star, he was just a Second-Order Saint Realm guard. His tone and attitude were really unpleasant.

Yang Kai shot this man a faint glance but didn't ask anything more. These people obviously didn't have a very high status and shouldn't know much in the first place.

Without saying another word, Yang Kai turned around and left, flying towards a different palace.

Inside that palace, there was the aura of a master at the Origin Returning Realm, they should know something.

"Why that little brat..." A few guards couldn't help muttering in annoyance as they stared towards Yang Kai's back in anger. If it weren't for him coming from the Home Star, they wouldn't have let Yang Kai just walk away so easily.

A moment later, Yang Kai arrived at a different palace and landed, walking straight up to the guards at the door and shouting, "I must see the master inside!"

"What's the matter?" One of the guards asked.

"Branch President Ha Li Ka has had an accident!"

The guard's brow furrowed, glancing over Yang Kai, someone not believing him and asking, "How do you know? Sir Ha Li Ka is a master at the Origin Returning Realm, one of the strongest on all of Rainfall Star, what kind of accident could he..."

"Can you go report it already?" Yang Kai interrupted him impatiently.

"Let him pass!" A loud voice suddenly called out from inside. The commotion here had obviously been noticed the mater of the palace.

As soon as these words were spoken, before the guard could even respond, Yang Kai stormed into the palace.

Similar to Ha Li Ka's palace, inside the main hall there was a large desk with a chair behind it. A middle-aged man was working on something behind the desk and when Yang Kai rushed in, he looked up and asked, "You're the guard who came from the Home Star with Lady Xue'er?"

"Yes!" Yang Kai nodded.

"I am Lin Mu Feng, Vice President of this branch," The middle-aged man coldly snorted, "I don't care if you come from the Home Star or which master you follow, here, I have the final say!"

Yang Kai said nothing.

“Why do you claim Ha Li Ka has had an accident?” Lin Mu Feng was satisfied with Yang Kai’s cooperative attitude and asked, “As far as I know, you aren’t eligible to participate in this confidential operation, so how could you know something went wrong?”

Yang Kai frowned before a thought flashed across his mind and he took out a communication type artifact, “Lady Xue’er sent a message saying they encountered great danger.”

“What kind of danger?” Lin Mu Feng paled slightly, somewhat believing Yang Kai’s words now.

Yang Kai just shook his head, “I can’t reach Lady Xue’er anymore so I came to request you try to contact Branch President Ha Li Ka and ask him.”

Lin Mu Feng hesitated a moment before taking out a similar communication type artifact and pouring his Divine Sense into it in an attempt to get in touch with Ha Li Ka.

After a moment, his expression became dignified and he muttered, “It seems something truly has happened.”

Being unable to get any response let him know that Yang Kai was not lying.

“Come with me!” Lin Mu Feng beckoned to Yang Kai and hurried out.

Outside the palace, Lin Mu Feng summoned his Star Shuttle directly and flew off in a certain one direction with Yang Kai following close behind.

As they flew, Lin Mu Feng took out his communication type artifact again and began contacting a number of others, issuing various orders.

After a moment, from all directions, streaks of light flew out and quickly converged around the pair. All of these streaks were Heng Luo Chamber of Commerce cultivators who Lin Mu Feng had summoned.

These cultivators rendezvoused with Lin Mu Feng and matched his speed without asking any questions.

Yang Kai observed secretly and felt a little surprised.

Many of these cultivators were Saint King Realm masters. Few were Saint Realm masters but even fewer were at the Origin Returning Realm masters.

“Mu Feng, what happened, calling all of us out in such a flurry,” A middle-aged woman approached Lin Mu Feng and asked.

“Ha Li Ka’s group seems to have had an accident, I can’t get any response no matter who I try to contact!” Lin Mu Feng explained hurriedly.

The middle-aged woman’s expression changed dramatically as she exclaimed, “Is there really some kind of danger inside those Ancient Ruins?”

“I don’t know. When we first uncovered those ruins we simply reported them to the Home Star. We didn’t dare to investigate it privately. This time, Lady Xue’er came here to lead an expedition into those ruins, so there being unknown dangers is only natural.”

“What about Lady Xue’er?” The middle-aged woman asked.

“She was with Ha Li Ka,” Lin Mu Feng’s expression became extremely ugly, glancing over at the middle-aged woman and whispering, “She seems to be Xue Yue Third Young Master’s woman!”

The middle-aged woman’s face suddenly turned pale, and she quickly realized that the situation was more serious than she thought.

If it had been someone else who had unexpectedly fallen into danger, it wouldn’t have been too big a deal; after all, Branch President Ha Li Ka was also involved, so it was clear this was not the branch’s negligence.

However, if Lady Xue’er was the woman of Xue Yue Young Master, things would be different.

No one dared to withstand the anger of Young Master Xue Yue! If things went badly, the entire branch might be cleansed. When that happened, rivers of blood and mountains of corpses would be made. No one could take such a responsibility.

Everyone knew of Xue Yue Third Young Master’s cruelty and ruthlessness.

As these two were talking, Yang Kai kept silent, and since they hadn’t made any attempt to cover their voices, Yang Kai naturally heard about the Ancient Ruins and also why Xue Yue had come to Rainfall Star this time.

Normally, Yang Kai would definitely be interested in these Ancient Ruins, but right now he didn’t have time to care about such things.

The more he flew forward, the more uneasy Yang Kai’s heart became.

He didn’t know what happened to Xue Yue, but one thing was certain, she wasn’t dead yet!

Because their lives were linked together, if Xue Yue died, Yang Kai would surely die as well.

He secretly decided that after this incident was settled, the Soul Chains needed to be immediately unlocked. Regardless of whether Xue Yue came to find trouble with him afterwards, the feeling of not being in control of his own life was simply unacceptable.

After speeding forward for a long time, Lin Mu Feng and the middle-aged woman suddenly flew downward.

Down below, there was a mine shaft that produced some unknown ore. The ground was filled with cave entrances, many of which seemed dark and bottomless.

The several dozen people all landed next to the largest entrance.

A chamber of commerce cultivator who was apparently standing guard next to the entrance cupped his fists and greeted, “Senior Lin, Senior Qi!”

Lin Mu Feng nodded lightly and asked him, “What happened here?”

The cultivator was confused for a moment and replied, “Nothing has happened ...”

He didn’t seem to know about the situation yet.

Lin Mu Feng shook his head, no longer asking this guard anything, instead taking out his communication type artifact and trying once more but still failing to get any response from Ha Li Ka.

“Did something happen to the Branch President?” The cultivator finally noticed that something wrong from the look on Lin Mu Feng’s face and asked in amazement.

Lin Mu Feng nodded, “Probably, I’ll take some people down to see, you wait here for me to contact you.”

Saying so, he prepared to enter the mineshaft when the middle-aged woman surnamed Qi suddenly exclaimed, “Someone came up ...”

Lin Mu Feng’s face brightened as he quickly released his Divine Sense. At the same time, Yang Kai also began investigating the situation.

From the mouth of the mine, several life auras were rapidly approaching, and judging from the fluctuations in their auras, they seemed to have suffered some injuries. One of them was exceptionally faint, as if they were on the verge of death.

“It’s Ha Li Ka!” The middle-aged woman shouted upon noticing Ha Li Ka’s aura.

Lin Mu Feng smiled happily and waited patiently.

A moment later, a few blue lights emerged from the mouth of the mine, dashing out as if there was some kind of great danger behind them.

Those few blue lights were all flickering. Apparently, these Star Shuttles were all damaged and their performance had become unstable.

Several of the Chamber of Commerce’s cultivators who had followed Lin Mu Feng rushed up to assist their companions.

One of the cultivators who had emerged from the mine was surrounded by a profound chill. A cultivator from the Chamber of Commerce ran up and caught him but immediately began trembling violently, the chill spreading to his body at a speed visible to the naked eye, and before long, he too had turned stiff, unable to move.

These two seemed to be frozen together and soon after fell from the sky.

Hong...

With a muffled thud, these two cultivators hit the ground and shattered like ice sculptures, both of them dying instantly.

“Stay back!” A roar resounded as Ha Li Ka fell down from the sky and landed, looking pale.

Hearing this roar, the cultivators from the Chamber of Commerce who were preparing to rescue their companions stopped and no longer dared to dare to approach them.

Lin Mu Feng and the middle-aged woman stared at Ha Li Ka intently, and after seeing his current state, they both narrowed their eyes and couldn’t help feeling a chill grip their hearts.

Yang Kai also observed Ha Li Ka's condition and couldn't help wearing an expression of dread.

Chapter 1056, Profound Yin Sunflower Water

Being able to become a Branch President of Heng Luo Chamber of Commerce, Ha Li Ka cultivation had reached the Third Order Origin Returning Realm, the strongest realm under the Origin King Realm.

Even so, Ha Li Ka was in an extremely difficult situation at the moment, his left arm completely frozen in ice, and no matter how he urged his own strength, he could not dispel the chill. On the contrary, the profound cold was still expanding and would soon reach his shoulder.

Ha Li Ka grit his teeth and in a flash of determination suddenly let out a great roar burst his power to its maximum.

Along with this roar, his frozen arm was suddenly sliced off and blood poured out from the wound like a fountain. Ha Li Ka's face suddenly paled as he slumped to the ground.

He had cut off his own arm!

Yang Kai's pupils shrank, shocked not only by Ha Li Ka's decisiveness but also by the terrifying cold energy!

Whatever this cold energy was, it was so overwhelming that it had forced the Third Order Origin Returning Realm Ha Li Ka into a life or death crisis which necessitated self-mutilation in order to survive!

Lin Mu Feng and the middle-aged woman rushed up and stopped Ha Li Ka's bleeding shoving several high-quality pills into his mouth.

Several other cultivators who come back with Branch President Ha Li Ka witnessed this act and clenched their own teeth, pulling out sharp weapons and cutting off the frozen sections of their bodies. Instantly, severed limbs and blood covered the ground, and the few people who had survived groaned in misery.

Ha Li Ka sat cross-legged on the ground while urging his healing art, stabilizing his injuries while gasping for breath, a look of fear still lingering on his face.

"What was that?" Lin Mu Feng asked nervously.

"Profound Yin Sunflower Water!" Ha Li Ka answered with gritted teeth.

"Profound Yin Sunflower Water?" The middle-aged woman screamed aloud, "It was really Profound Yin Sunflower Water? Was such a treasure actually buried in that Ancient Ruin?"

Even Lin Mu Feng couldn't help feeling a bit agitated as a look of fascination filled his face.

Profound Yin Sunflower Water was an Origin King Grade material and any cultivator who could successfully refine a drop of it would experience a leap in strength! If their strength was low enough, this precious treasure could even result in a direct increase in realm.

Heng Luo Chamber of Commerce focused on business and its understanding of various treasures was unmatched by any force. Lin Mu Feng and middle-aged woman naturally knew just how valuable Profound Yin Sunflower Water was.

If they could safely collect this Profound Yin Sunflower Water from the Ancient Ruins, it would definitely be a great achievement and they may even be able to transfer to the Home Star, Water Moon Star, to enjoy a better cultivation environment as well as higher status!

It was just that this kind of treasure was extremely rare and the environmental conditions required to produce it were extremely demanding. On top of that, the formation process could stretch across tens of thousands of years.

Heng Luo Chamber of Commerce controlled several Cultivation Stars, dozens of Medicine Stars and Ore Stars, and countless cultivators, yet after so many years, they had never once been able to gather Profound Yin Sunflower Water.

So when they heard Ha Li Ka mention Profound Yin Sunflower Water, whether it was Lin Mu Feng or the middle-aged woman, both couldn't stop their eyes for lighting up and an exhilarated look from appearing on their faces.

"How could there be Profound Yin Sunflower Water under this mine?" Lin Mu Feng still couldn't believe it.

"It was probably left here by some expert from ancient times. We discovered it inside as damaged Space Ring. When we tried to retrieve it, the Space Ring exploded, releasing the Profound Yin Sunflower Water, catching everyone off guard," Ha Li Ka explained quickly, his face turning blue. Just thinking back to the events caused him to feel both the fear of death and the relief of survival.

If he hadn't acted decisively enough just now, he wouldn't have just lost an arm but instead died without burial.

"Where is Lady Xue'er?" Yang Kai stepped forward and asked.

Ha Li Ka looked up at him and sighed sadly.

Yang Kai's face became uglier.

"The Space Ring was in her hands when the Profound Yin Sunflower Water burst out, she bore the brunt of the explosion..." Ha Li Ka sighed heavily and didn't say any more.

He was certain Lady Xue'er was doomed!

After all, she was only a Third Order Saint King, and even he, a Third Order Origin Returning Realm master had been unable to resist the Profound Yin Sunflower Water's erosion, how could Lady Xue'er, whose entire body had been exposed, have possibly survived?

In all likelihood, she was already dead!

Yang Kai coldly snorted, "Is there a map of down below?"

"What do you want that for?" Lin Mu Feng looked at him in surprise.

"She's not dead!" Yang Kai shot him a cold look.

"Do you want to try to save her?" The middle-aged woman immediately understood Yang Kai's intentions and slowly shook her head, attempting to persuade him, "Young man, don't be impulsive,

after being exposed to a large amount of Profound Yin Sunflower Water, she has no chance of surviving; searching for her will just result in you losing your life in vain.”

Ha Li Ka also added, “There are many barriers down below, with such low strength, you won’t be able to reach her.”

“If she’s alive, I must see her in person, if she’s dead, I must see her corpse!” Yang Kai said flatly.

The several branch executives directed a stunned look at him when these words came out, many of them showing some appreciation.

Yang Kai’s external identity was Xue Yue’s guard, so when they saw Yang Kai so eager to save her, not giving a single thought to his own safety, their opinion of him rose significantly. Even if this young man didn’t have great strength, he was still valuable because he possessed the most important quality a guard must have, loyalty!

Everyone present suddenly felt a sense of respect.

The ring on Ha Li Ka’s hand flashed and he pulled out a set of papers he promptly tossed over to Yang Kai, “These are the maps we drew up this time to avoid getting lost, they may be of some use to you.”

Yang Kai caught these maps, gave them a quick glance, then without saying another word dove straight into the mine tunnel.

“What an honourable little guard!” The middle-aged woman gently nodded, looking in the direction where Yang Kai disappeared, muttering somewhat regretfully, “I’m afraid he has no chance at coming back alive.”

“He has to go!” Lin Mu Feng said indifferently, “Lady Xue’er is the woman of Third Young Master, if she dies, as her guard, that young man will definitely die as well.”

Having been reminded by him, the middle-aged woman’s beautiful face couldn’t help paling slightly, the excitement brought on by the discovery of Profound Yin Sunflower Water fading away. Just thinking about how they would now have to withstand the anger of the Third Young Master caused her to feel uneasy.

“I hope the merits from this event can compensate for the losses,” Ha Li Ka sighed heavily, all thoughts of promotion and transfer to the Home Star disappearing from his thoughts. Although they had found Profound Yin Sunflower Water, which was no doubt great merit, the Third Young Master’s woman had died as a result. Who knew how Third Young Master would react?

The best result they could hope for was that the merits and demerits would balance out and that Third Young Master wouldn’t investigate the matter here and the branch maintaining the status quo.

“Old Ha, you rest first,” Lin Mu Feng comforted, “We can discuss what to do next after you restore yourself.”

“Looks like we can only act so,” Ha Li Ka nodded and closed his eyes to refine the medicinal efficacies of the pills he just swallowed.

Inside the mine shaft, Yang Kai rapidly descended.

He didn't know how deep this mine shaft was, but it took Yang Kai the time it would take to make a cup of tea to reach a crossroad. Looking up, only a faint ray of light from the surface reached this place while the mining area all around him was pitch black.

Tunnels extended in all directions.

This mining area formerly produced some less precious ore so the cultivators of Heng Luo Chamber of Commerce had not been very systematic about excavating it.

The Ancient Ruins were discovered during the mining process and the people from the branch didn't dare to investigate it at will, sealing off the area and reporting the matter to the Home Star instead.

Xue Yue had come here this time specifically to deal with these ruins.

She had been extremely cautious along the way, exploring the ruins under the leadership of Ha Li Ka, gaining some harvests in the process, but how could she have known that a simple Space Ring would contain such danger? Having been placed in the ruins for so long, the Space Ring had already become unstable, and when Xue Yue used her Divine Sense to probe what was inside of it, the Space Ring suddenly burst apart, bombarding her with the Profound Yin Sunflower Water stored inside.

She immediately lost consciousness and the Heng Luo Chamber of Commerce cultivators in her immediate vicinity instantly died, only the strongest Ha Li Ka and a few others who were further away managed to flee in time.

Yang Kai recalled the map in his mind and quickly spread out his Divine Sense and began diving through the various mine tunnels.

After half an hour, he finally arrived at the location where the Ancient Ruins were found.

He felt a lot of subtle energy fluctuations from in front of himself and immediately knew that what Ha Li Ka said was right.

The numerous barriers and traps inside these ruins were extremely dangerous.

When Xue Yue's team had been exploring it, they had tried their best to avoid these barriers and only cracked or destroyed those they had to.

Yang Kai was currently in a rush to save Xue Yue, so how could he possibly patiently break these barriers one by one?

Making his Divine Sense leap across space, Yang Kai penetrated deep into the ruins, inspected the situation inside, found a safe location, then tore space to arrive at it.

When Yang Kai appeared again, he was already standing somewhere inside the ruins, then consulting the map given to him by Ha Li Ka, he tore space again.

After repeating this process several times, he suddenly discovered a faint life aura somewhere nearby. This life aura was like a candle in the wind, in danger of being extinguished at any time.

Xue Yue!

She was just about a thousand meters away from where he currently was, but Yang Kai was unable to see her situation because of some obstacles between them. The only thing that was certain was that she hadn't died yet!

Yang Kai took a deep breath to calm his anxiety and sat down cross-legged, tossing a pill into his mouth to replenish his Spiritual Energy.

Half an hour later, he stood up and tore space once last time.

A thousand meters away, Yang Kai appeared leisurely.

Immediately, he saw Xue Yue lying on the ground, covered with frost. Even in this frozen sleep, her charms were only magnified, making her seem even more bewitching than before.

From her body, a seven coloured hue pulsed, making her look like a glowing goddess. This glow as constantly fighting against the frost covering her body, preventing it from sapping the last bit of Xue Yue's vitality, maintaining a strange state of equilibrium.

However, with the passage of time, the seven coloured light was growing fainter.

Yang Kai didn't know what kind of artifact she was wearing or what kind of unique technique she had cultivated which allowed her to preserve her life even under these extreme circumstances, but if the situation continued as is, it wouldn't even take half a day for this seven coloured light to disappear, at which point Xue Yue would die.

When that happened, Yang Kai's life would also expire.

Chapter 1057, Remaining Unconscious

Inside the Ancient Ruins, Yang Kai stood not far from Xue Yue, staring at her silently with a complex mood.

He and this woman were supposed to be life or death enemies, but now that they were linked together by the Soul Chains, with Xue Yue's life on the line, regardless of whether Yang Kai wanted to or not, he had to find a way to save her.

Only if Xue Yue survived could he live.

Yang Kai didn't rush forward though, because suspended around Xue Yue were a number of jewel-like drops of liquid, each of them exuding a horrific power that caused his heart to clench. Even his Divine Sense would freeze as soon as he tried to probe these droplets.

Profound Yin Sunflower Water!

Yang Kai immediately understood that these drops of liquid were the so-called Profound Yin Sunflower Water Ha Li Ka mentioned; however, he never expected this treasure to be so strange.

Yang Kai counted quietly and discovered that there were about fifty drops of Profound Yin Sunflower Water floating in the air. There were some gaps between these individual drops, but Xue Yue was pretty much surrounded by an airtight barrier of them.

It would be very difficult to extract Xue Yue from the Profound Yin Sunflower Water around her.

Yang Kai waved his hand to create a strong wind in an attempt to push these Profound Yin Sunflower Water droplets away, but to his surprise, they remained motionless.

Each of these tiny drops seemed to weigh thousands of kilograms!

Yang Kai's expression became solemn as he increased his strength, eventually managing to move the Profound Yin Sunflower Water droplets around Xue Yue, opening up a safe path to her.

Standing in front of Xue Yue, Yang Kai's brow furrowed deeply.

He didn't know how to move this woman out from here. The scene where one of the cultivators from Heng Luo Chamber of Commerce tried to rescue his companion; yet wound up turning into an ice sculpture and dying the instant he touched them was still fresh in Yang Kai's mind. What's more, both those cultivators were Saint Kings yet neither had any ability to resist.

Understanding this, Yang Kai didn't dare to touch Xue Yue's body casually.

Circulating his strength, Yang Kai covered his hand in dark Demonic Flames and slowly brought them towards Xue Yue, hoping his strange flames could isolate him from the frigid power.

As the strange and contradictory energy fluctuations of his Demonic Flames approached Xue Yue's body, they suddenly seemed to encounter their natural nemesis and immediately began to wane.

Yang Kai's expression became even more dignified and he hurriedly increased the output of his Saint Qi, rousing the weakened Demonic Flames once more as he finally pressed his hand against Xue Yue's jade white arm.

Suddenly, a fierce clash of energy broke out and the frigid cold wrapping Xue Yue's body quickly spread towards Yang Kai, nearly freezing his Demonic Flame in an instant.

The icy strength passed through the Demonic Flame and flowed directly into Yang Kai's arm, causing him to pale and madly push his Saint Qi to resist.

The frozen Demonic Flame roared back to life and began desperately struggling against the invading cold force.

Yang Kai shivered, for the first time ever experiencing what it was like to fully exert himself yet still being unable to resist a cold force.

As time passed, the icy strength of the Profound Yin Sunflower Water was sometimes suppressed by his Demonic Flame while at others invading into Yang Kai's arm, a kind of stalemate temporarily being established.

Although Yang Kai's cultivation was quite low, his Demonic Flame was the combination of two contradictory attribute energies, it's prestige was unimaginable and as long as Yang Kai's realm rose high enough, these Demonic Flames would be capable of incinerating anything and everything in this world.

It had immense potential!

However, at the moment, it seemed that Yang Kai's Demonic Flame still wasn't worthy of contending with the Profound Yin Sunflower Water. He only managed to persist for a moment before the ice-cold strength once again began overtaking him, causing his body and mind to stiffen.

Yang Kai quickly sent his consciousness into the Demon Mystic Tome and shouted, "Help me!"

He had to ask the Divine Tree for help!

The Divine Tree possessed an enormous amount of Yang Attribute Energy, Cold Attribute energy's nemesis.

"Yes!" Divine Tree responded quickly.

The next moment, an incredible amount of Yang Attribute energy suddenly burst out from the Demon Mystic Tome, flowing along the same path as Yang Kai's Demonic Flame to help dispel the invading chill.

The cold energy of the Profound Yin Sunflower Water was thus quickly suppressed.

Yang Kai next urged his Demonic Flame and the Yang Attribute Energy emitted by the Divine Tree to wrap up Xue Yue's tender body.

With the two of them working together, the frost covering Xue Yue was rapidly melted and her pale complexion gradually became rosy, her cold body gradually became warm and a faint heartbeat sounded in her chest.

A smile finally appeared on Yang Kai's face and he redoubled his efforts along with the Divine Tree.

After half an hour, the frost on Xue Yue's body had completely disappeared and the seven coloured halo surrounding her petered out, seeming to have exhausted all its strength.

Probing her with his Divine Sense, Yang Kai found that Xue Yue's condition was still quite strange.

Although the danger of the Profound Yin Sunflower Water had been lifted, she was still wandering the border between life and death while remaining unconscious.

Yang Kai intruded into her Knowledge Sea unceremoniously but found that it was frozen solid, like a glacial world. Xue Yue's Soul Avatar was not present and only a faint trace of her aura lingered about. No matter how Yang Kai called, he didn't receive any response.

Yang Kai frowned, but unable to determine what was wrong with her, he could only leave her Knowledge Sea for now.

"I have to rest for a while, I won't be able to help you again for some time," The Divine Tree called out before falling silent. It seemed like it had overexerted itself this time.

It was not just the Divine Tree that had consumed a massive amount of its strength, Yang Kai too had exhausted an immense amount of Saint Qi. If it weren't for his physique being so special and him possessing nearly inexhaustible Saint Qi, he would not have been able to dispel the Profound Yin Sunflower Water's effects from Xue Yue.

Squatting down, Yang Kai gently picked the unconscious Xue Yue up before tearing space and departing.

He didn't pay any attention to the Profound Yin Sunflower Water floating nearby. Although each of these drops was an extremely rare and valuable treasure, Yang Kai was in no mood to collect them, nor did he know how to collect them.

Above the mine, after half a day of restoration, Ha Li Ka looked much better.

The cultivators from the Chambers of Commerce who had followed him and survived also appeared somewhat better, but all of them had lost arms or legs.

The most miserable person had actually lost both his arms!

He was a Saint King Realm cultivator, but without arms, there was no hope for him to continue pursuing the Martial Dao. As soon as he thought about this, his eyes became filled with gloomy darkness.

Everyone from Heng Luo Chamber of Commerce wore sad expressions with deeply furrowed brows.

A simple exploration of an Ancient Ruin had caused such massive losses to the branch and even the woman of the Third Young Master had died. The responsibility for this matter would not be small, and as the Branch President, Ha Li Ka would inevitably be punished.

"Old Ha, let's go back first. After we go back, we can figure out how to inform the Home Star about this," Lin Mu Feng stepped up and helped Ha Li Ka off the ground.

Ha Li Ka responded with a dejected and weak-spirited nod.

"What about the Profound Yin Sunflower Water?" The middle-aged woman asked.

Lin Mu Feng thought for a moment before saying, "Temporarily seal off this area. After we consult with the ancient records, we can bring a team back to collect it."

Lin Mu Feng didn't know how they were supposed to collect the Profound Yin Sunflower Water either.

"Seems we can only do so..." The middle-aged woman sighed.

Lin Mu Feng calmly arranged things, leaving two Origin Returning Realm masters and a dozen Saint King Realm to seal off this region, finishing the post-processing in short order.

Just as the group was about to depart though, the middle-aged woman suddenly turned to stare in the direction of the mine shaft.

The next moment, everyone else turned around stared with suspicion.

A figure quickly emerged from the mine shaft. It was actually the young Second-Order Saint Realm guard from before!

He was currently carrying Lady Xue'er in his arms, his expression hazy but his body not seemingly having suffered any kind of injuries or distress.

Ha Li Ka, Lin Mu Feng, and all the others were dumbfounded by this scene.

When Yang Kai insisted on entering the mine shaft just now, all of them had firmly believed he would never return; after all, his strength was far too low. Just the barriers inside the ruins would be enough to take his life, they weren't something a mere Saint Realm cultivator could handle.

However, reality was far different from what they had expected; not only had Yang Kai not died, he returned unharmed and even brought Lady Xue'er with him.

How did he do it? Everyone simultaneously wondered to themselves in shock.

"How is Lady Xue'er?" Ha Li Ka immediately calmed down and asked eagerly.

"She's not dead!" Yang Kai shook his head.

Hearing these words, no matter who it was, they felt a great sense of relief in their heart.

All of them had been filled with anxiety, wondering just how Xue Yue Third Young Master would react when he learned of this matter, whether he would hold them responsible and have them punished or even executed. Now that this woman wasn't dead though, their biggest worry had been relieved.

For a moment, eyes filled with gratitude gathered on Yang Kai.

This little guard had not only saved Xue Yue Third Young Master's woman, but also all of them as well!

"However, she remains unconscious and I don't know why," Yang Kai added.

The expressions of gratitude on the three executives' faces grew hazy again and Ha Li Ka quickly came over and swept Xue Yue's body with his Divine Sense, his face gradually becoming solemn.

He also realized something was wrong with Xue Yue, but didn't have any idea at the moment how to treat her.

"Let's head back first!" Lin Mu Feng shouted, "No one is allowed to reveal anything here today, anyone who tries will be immediately executed!"

After declaring so, he turned to look at Yang Kai again, considered his words for a moment then in a rare display of politeness said, "Little brother, can you temporarily not report to the Home Star about Lady Xue'er being injured? We will try to find a method to awaken her."

He was truly worried Yang Kai would report things here to the Home Star, and once Xue Yue learned of the situation, he would still blame them, making it impossible for them to escape punishment.

What none of them knew though was that this Lady Xue'er was Xue Yue himself.

If they did, they would likely already have been thinking of a way to flee.

Yang Kai didn't say much and nodded slightly, "As long as she can be saved, I can conceal this matter for now!"

He also knew what the other party was worried about.

Lin Mu Feng smiled happily and cupped his fists, "Little brother is quite reasonable, many thanks, little brother."

Ha Li Ka and the middle-aged woman also gave Yang Kai a silent but grateful look.

"Let's go, I will call up Rainfall Star's best Alchemists to diagnose Lady Xue'er's condition," Lin Mu Feng shouted to everyone before flying off in the direction of the branch.

Chapter 1058, Zong Ao

Back at the palace in the mountain range, with some blood still leaking from his arm, Ha Li Kai together with Lin Mu Feng and the middle-aged woman stood around quietly outside a certain room, their faces filled with anxiety.

Yang Kai stood not far from them, indifferent and motionless.

No one was able to tell what he was thinking.

A moment later, a dozen people suddenly emerged from the room. There were men and women, old and young, but without exception, all their chests were emblazoned with a symbol signifying their identity as Alchemists.

This symbol was a pill furnace mark and was a common identifier throughout the entire Star Field.

Alchemist grades were differentiated by how many legs their furnace symbol possessed.

Each of these Alchemists had eight-legged pill furnace badges on their chests! This signified that they were all at least Saint King Grade Alchemists.

There were even two of the oldest present who had nine-legged pill furnaces, indicating that they were Origin Grade Alchemists!

Origin Grade Alchemists had an extremely high status in Heng Luo Star Field. Even taking into consideration the entire Star Field, there weren't many Origin Grade Alchemists. As for Origin King Grade Alchemists, there was only a handful, each one belonging to one of the most powerful forces.

Even a giant force like Heng Luo Chamber of Commerce only had one Origin King Grade Alchemist who resided in the Home Star!

These dozen or so people who just left the palace room were the most senior and most skilled Alchemist on Rainfall Star.

Ha Li Ka and Lin Mu Feng had hastily invited these people to diagnose Xue Yue's condition to see if they could find a way to save her.

Ordinarily, these Alchemists were scattered across Rainfall Star, each of them possessing their own territory where they cultivated herbs and refined pills to be sold outside by the Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber of Commerce in return provided them with protection and certain resources. Their relationship with the Chamber of Commerce was closer to a partnership rather than employment, so even Ha Li Ka and Lin Mu Feng had to treat them with courtesy and respect.

Under normal circumstances, they wouldn't dare to disturb these Alchemists, but for the safety of Xue Yue Third Young Master's woman, Ha Li Ka and Mu Feng had no choice but to invite them to come.

When these dozen or so people came out, Ha Li Ka and the other executives rushed up to greet them with Lin Mu Feng cupping his fists and asking, "Respected Masters, what kind of injury is Lady Xue'er afflicted with? Do you have a way to treat her condition?"

The dozen Alchemists all looked around at each other, seemingly a bit hesitant to speak.

Seeing their expressions, Ha Li Ka and Lin Mu Feng's couldn't help but sink, in their hearts realizing things weren't good.

"What is the situation?" Ha Li Ka hurriedly asked.

Everyone turned their eyes to one of the nine footed furnace Alchemists, an old man with a snow-white beard, who eventually sighed and replied, "Two Sirs, this Old Master will be blunt. We have performed an extensive examination of Lady Xue'er but cannot explain why she suddenly slipped into a coma. All we can tell is that she was invaded by potent cold energy and all her bodily functions have been frozen. She has no consciousness and cannot respond to any outside stimulus."

Ha Li Ka listened quietly.

The old man continued, "Can you not at least tell us what happened to this Lady Xue'er? Without knowing the circumstances of her condition, we cannot prescribe a pill to treat her."

"En, you need to at least tell us how she was injured," The other Origin Grade Alchemist echoed, "That way, we can determine what kind of pill she requires to recover."

Ha Li Ka suddenly felt embarrassed.

The mere existence of the Profound Yin Sunflower Water was a big deal and anyone who learned of it would surely covet it. Once news of it leaked out, it was likely that some great master would come to try to seize it, so before they figure out a method to collect it, Ha Li Ka didn't dare expose the truth.

However, keeping it secret also greatly hamper the ability of these Alchemists to treat Lady Xue'er. Unable to decide immediately, Ha Li Ka glanced over towards Lin Mu Feng to solicit his opinion.

Lin Mu Feng shook his head helplessly.

Ha Li Ka wore a grim expression and said, "Respected Masters, it is not that we wish to hide the situation from you, but this matter is beyond our ability to manage so we do not dare discuss it at will."

Hearing him say this, the dozen or so Alchemists realized that this was something they could not ask about and did not insist. The old man who spoke first frowning for a moment before saying, "If so, please forgive us for being unable to help."

"Respected Masters, can't you try again?" Ha Li Ka asked anxiously, "You are the best Alchemists on Rainfall Star, if none of you can help Lady Xue'er..."

Lady Xue'er's wellbeing had nothing to do with him; what Ha Li Ka was worried about was if something were to happen to her whether it would provoke Young Master Xue Yue's rage. That was something he could not bear.

The dozen or so Alchemists shook their heads, indicating they were truly helpless.

Ha Li Ka, Lin Mu Feng, and the other executives also wore grim expressions as they glanced around at each other.

After a short silence, one of the Saint King Grade Alchemists said, "Sir Ha Li Ka, saying we are the best Alchemists on Rainfall Star is granting us an undeserved honour; everyone here knows there is another person whose Alchemy proficiency eclipses our own. If you are able to invite him to examine Lady Xue'er, he may be able to find a solution."

After hearing what he said, the old man who spoke before couldn't help raising his eyebrows, seemingly knowing who this Saint King Grade Alchemist was referring to and nodding, "Yes, if it is him, he may be able to help."

The other Alchemists all nodded in agreement, freely admitting that this mysterious master was the top Alchemist on Rainfall Star.

Alchemists were a proud group, and none of them would freely admit that another Alchemist of the same grade was better than themselves. They would always feel like they were the best Alchemist among their peers and that the others were fools, the pills they refined no better than garbage!

So to allow these dozen Alchemists to all agree unhesitatingly that this Grandmaster was superior, there was only one explanation, that Alchemist ranked higher than them, an Origin King-level Alchemist!

Ha Li Ka's expression brightened for a moment, but soon, a bitter look covered his face as he muttered wryly, "Wanting to invite him... is difficult, far too difficult, even when I went to meet with him in the past, I was often swept out unceremoniously!"

Lin Mu Feng cringed as well and added, "The last time I went to visit that Grandmaster was five years ago, but because I had disturbed his concentration, he chased after me for half a month. In the end, his anger calmed down and he returned home. Haa, I don't want to experience that ever again."

When he brought up this dark past, most of the people nearby couldn't help revealing a look of remembrance.

"Who do you speak of?" Yang Kai asked.

When these people were speaking just now, he had kept silent, even when Ha Li Ka and Lin Mu Feng had concealed the truth of the matter and these dozen or so Alchemists were speaking with reverence about this mysterious Grandmaster. It wasn't until now that Yang Kai took the initiative to speak.

The dozen or so Alchemists cast a faint glance toward him but didn't answer.

In their opinion, Yang Kai was just a Saint Realm brat who didn't have the qualifications to speak here, so they didn't bother responding to his question.

On the other hand, Ha Li Ka hesitated a moment before saying, "A highly skilled Alchemist who lives on Rainfall Star, but doesn't belong to any force."

"He doesn't belong to the Heng Luo Chamber of Commerce?" Yang Kai was surprised.

Ha Li Ka shook his head.

Since he was living on Rainfall Star, but not under the jurisdiction of Heng Luo Chamber of Commerce, there is only one explanation, Heng Luo Chamber of Commerce didn't dare to easily offend him.

"However, the Chamber of Commerce has an agreement with him, we provide him with herbs for Alchemy as well as a three thousand kilometre territory, and in exchange, the pills he refines all belong to our Chamber of Commerce."

"He provides them for free?" Yang Kai frowned, wondering what this Alchemy Grandmaster was thinking. Since his Alchemy skills were so profound, there was definitely no need for him to provide Heng Luo Chamber of Commerce with pills for free.

He could simply open up his own school and gather disciples broadly to gain wealth and supply his needs.

"In a sense. Although we don't know what that Grandmaster's objective is, we still do everything we can to meet his requirements... However, the number of pills he refines is truly shocking. Every three months, we will send someone to him to deliver various spirit grasses and spirit medicines while at the same time retrieving the pills he had refined. Each time this happens we receive at least two hundred bottles, and one time there were as many as five hundred bottles!"

Five hundred bottles!

With ten pills per standard jade bottle, that was five thousand pills, all refined within a three-month span. Such a number made every Alchemist present shiver with shocked and embarrassment.

They were all Alchemist contract to Heng Luo Chamber of Commerce for a large price, but even if they performed Alchemy for three months without rest, none of them would possible refine such a staggering number of pills, even reaching a third that number was impossible unless they were refining low-grade pills.

"Where does he live?" Yang Kai asked again.

"Does little brother want to look for him?" Ha Li Ka immediately understood Yang Kai's intentions.

"Is there another choice?" Yang Kai glanced over at him.

Ha Li Ka let out a sigh and nodded, "Good, I'll take you there!"

Despite being extremely unwilling to in his heart, Ha Li Ka could only brace himself and lead the way.

Yang Kai nodded back, rushed into the nearby room, gently carried out the unconscious Xue Yue, then followed after Ha Li Ka as he flew off.

Staring at their disappearing back, Lin Mu Feng let out a sigh, "I hope Old Ha won't be chased down by that old man for half a month ..."

The middle-aged woman also wore a look of worry, feeling the situation was becoming trickier.

Along the way, Ha Li Ka briefly explained the Alchemy Grandmaster's story and temperament. Yang Kai learned that the man was called Zong Ao and he seemed to have arrived on Rainfall Star nearly a hundred years ago, not leaving even once since then.

He had reached various agreements with Heng Luo Chamber of Commerce and held a much higher status than the previous Alchemists Yang Kai had just met.

“He asked us for three thousand kilometres of territory and he built his home inside that mountain valley. In that mountain valley, he divided the land up into various Medicine Gardens and planted many rare herbs. What he hates the most is being disturbed while he is performing Alchemy, so ordinarily, no one will approach his territory. Even when the people of our Chamber of Commerce deliver herbs to him, they all must strictly follow his instructions and only arrive at the designated time...”

Ha Li Ka was afraid that Yang Kai was too young and impulsive, not knowing the immensity of Heaven and Earth, and would accidentally offend Zong Ao, so he took great care to explain about Zong Ao on the road, focusing on this old man’s illustrious status and bad temper.

The more Yang Kai listened though, the stranger his expression became.

He felt like he had already been to Zong Ao’s home!

Half a day later, Ha Li Ka suddenly pointed towards the front and said, “Do you see that great mountain valley? That is where Grandmaster Zong Ao lives.”

Yang Kai looked forward and couldn’t help letting out a wry laugh. The mountain valley in his view was clearly the place where he had spent several days studying the strange Medicine Garden Spirit Arrays.

Chapter 1059, Chew And Feed It To Her

When they had approached to within thirty kilometres of the mountain valley, Ha Li Ka stopped and hesitated for a moment before saying, “Little brother, I’ll wait for you here. If it looks like this matter may not be, leave immediately. Don’t try to insist, Grandmaster Zong Ao most despises those who pester him and the consequences of annoying him are not something you can withstand.”

Yang Kai glanced over suspiciously and with an embarrassed look, Ha Li Ka explained, “Little brother, you are young, and your cultivation is low. Even if Grandmaster Zong Ao becomes angry, he won’t discard his face to kill you, but if I go with you...”

“I understand,” Yang Kai guessed his concerns and didn’t force the issue, holding on tightly to Xue Yue before flying forward.

Ha Li Ka stood still, stretching his neck as he stared forward anxiously, wondering whether Yang Kai’s trip would be smooth or whether he would be beaten by Zong Ao.

Yang Kai crossed the thirty-kilometre gap in the blink of an eye.

Landing right outside the small palace, Yang Kai shouted, “Senior, my family’s Young Lady has suffered disaster and has fallen into a coma, I have heard that Senior is the greatest Alchemist on Rainfall Star so I have come here to beg Senior to diagnose and treat her.”

From inside the palace, no response could be heard, but Yang Kai could feel that there was a life aura present so the Alchemist called Zong Ao was indeed here, he just refused to reply.

Yang Kai repeated his request three times.

In the distance, Ha Li Ka almost touched felt his heart leap up into his throat, secretly deciding that if Zong Ao rushed out in rage, he would immediately flee and not look back.

Outside the palace, Yang Kai also anxiously waited.

Powerful master always had unpredictable temperaments, this was something Yang Kai understood clearly, so he didn't dare act recklessly. Even Ha Li Ka and Lin Mu Feng were wary of Zong Ao, so as a mere Second-Order Saint, Yang Kai knew well enough not to irritate this Grandmaster otherwise he would absolutely have a miserable end. As such, Yang Kai just held Xue Yue and stood outside respectfully, waiting for Zong Ao to reply.

Yang Kai also thought about what to do if Zong Ao refused to act.

Xue Yue remaining unconscious was not an issue Yang Kai could ignore, their lives were connected, once something happened to her, he wouldn't be able to survive.

So Yang Kai was anxious to wake Xue Yue up and then release the Soul Chains' binding, restoring his freedom.

Just as Yang Kai was debating what to do next, an aged voice suddenly came from inside the palace, "Come in!"

Yang Kai froze up, surprised that things were actually proceeding so smoothly. He had carefully listened to Zong Ao's tone and found that this Grandmaster wasn't dissatisfied or angry, so Yang Kai quickly collected himself and stepped into the palace.

The doors to the palace were wide open and there were no guards or servants around. It seemed that only Zong Ao lived here.

After walking through the palace's corridors for a moment, Yang Kai arrived at a massive room from which a strong medicinal scent wafted. Walking inside this room cautiously, Yang Kai scanned his surroundings, his eyes narrowing slightly as he did.

This large room should be Zong Ao's Pill Room.

Inside, there were several dozen large and small pill furnaces, each one still retaining some residual heat, apparently having just been used for Alchemy.

In one corner of this room, a large number of jade bottles were piled up, each one filled with different types of colourful and spectacular pills.

Yang Kai roughly estimated that there were two hundred jade bottles, piled up on the floor in a disorderly manner like they were trash waiting to be disposed of.

Yang Kai was secretly shocked, realizing that Ha Li Ka was not exaggerating before when he said the number of pills Zong Ao produced was phenomenal.

At this moment, Zong Ao was sitting on an animal skin chair, holding a jade bottle in his hand, seemingly examining something.

After a quick glance, apparently not finding what he was looking for, Zong Ao tossed the bottle he was holding onto the pile of jade bottles in the corner.

There were several jade bottles on the table in front of him.

After checking through them one by one, Zong Ao suddenly grinned and said to himself, "Another one, heh heh, not bad, it seems this old master did not exhaust himself in vain, en, pills are truly difficult to refine..."

Saying so, he took one of the pills out of the jade bottle he was holding and placed it into another one he had prepared.

Yang Kai observed carefully and noticed that all the pills in the latter jade bottle had formed Pill Veins.

This Zong Ao seemed to be only interested in keeping pills that formed Pill Veins, all others were discarded regardless of their grade or value.

While Zong Ao checked his pills, Yang Kai didn't bother him, simply standing there silently.

After a while, Zong Ao finished, placing his bottle of Pill Vein pills into his sleeve, raised his eyes, and looked towards Yang Kai, chuckling meaningfully, "So it's you, the boy who tried to steal the secrets of this old master's Medicine Garden, right?"

Yang Kai blushed and replied embarrassedly, "Junior came to this place a few days ago and was attracted by the mystery of these Medicine Garden; unable to contain my curiosity, I stop to study them for a few days, if I have offended Grandmaster in any way, I humbly ask for forgiveness."

No matter what the circumstances or intentions were, stealing a master's secrets was a taboo, Yang Kai also understood that he was in the wrong here.

At the time, he had simply been too absorbed in studying the unique aspects of these Medicine Gardens and hadn't thought much about it, but now that their owner was investigating the matter, Yang Kai had no way to defend himself.

"En," Zong Ao was satisfied with Yang Kai's frank admission, got up from his chair, and laughed, "Forget it, it's not a big deal. Seems your luck is quite good, today this old master just finished performing Alchemy and had some positive harvests. Since you are a fellow Alchemist, this old master won't hold you accountable."

Zong Ao understood well that the secrets of his Medicine Gardens would only attract the attention of other Alchemists.

"What happened to your family's Young Lady?" Zong Ao took the initiative to ask.

Yang Kai expression became solemn as he replied, "She has fallen unconscious, her vitality frozen, her consciousness scattered, and her Soul Avatar is nowhere to be seen!"

"You dove into her Knowledge Sea?" Zong Ao looked at Yang Kai in surprise.

Yang Kai nodded slightly.

Zong Ao suddenly let out a strange laugh, "Seems your relationship with this little girl isn't simple."

Saying so, he gave Yang Kai an ambiguous grin, seemingly a little more interested now.

Only those who were incredibly intimate with one another would dive into the other's Knowledge Sea. If Yang Kai was really just Xue Yue's guard, it would be impossible for him to have committed such an act.

Zong Ao was an old soul and could see the hidden meaning behind these words.

Yang Kai didn't deny anything and instead simply said, "I hope Senior can lend his assistance!"

Zong Ao grinned and asked, "Ha Li Ka came with you as well, so this little girl's status can't be low. Were the other Alchemist on Rainfall Star helpless?"

"A dozen or so were invited to diagnose her condition, but they could not determine anything."

"A bunch of wastes who know nothing other than Alchemy!" Zong Ao spurned without mercy, casually strolling over to Yang Kai while checking Xue Yue's condition with his Divine Sense, a moment later his expression becoming dire.

Yang Kai clearly felt that Zong Ao's Divine Sense strengthened, as if he had discovered something.

Seeing this, Yang Kai also held his breath and waited anxiously.

Zong Ao's expression fluctuated, seemingly hesitant, seemingly excited, his eyes widening more and more, only after a long time asking, "Boy, was this little girl injured by Profound Yin Sunflower Water?"

His tone was somewhat uncertain, apparently even he didn't dare to draw this conclusion.

Even so, Yang Kai couldn't help but admire this old man. The dozen or so other Alchemists who had performed an extensive examination of Xue Yue before were unable to discover anything, but after only a quick glance Zong Ao was able to determine the root of the problem. It was obvious that Zong Ao's skill and experience were far more profound. Yang Kai thus nodded sincerely, "Yes!"

"It really was Profound Yin Sunflower Water?" Zong Ao yelled, somewhat losing his self-control.

"En, Profound Yin Sunflower Water!"

"Ha!" Zong Ao old face shivered as he found it difficult to hide the excitement in his heart, letting out a riotous laugh, "Profound Yin Sunflower Water! It's really appeared here?"

Dancing around excitedly, Zong Ao shouted continuously for a while before stretching out his hands and grabbing Yang Kai's shoulders like an iron vice, his eyes flashing a startling light, eagerly saying, "Boy, where is that Profound Yin Sunflower Water? Quickly bring this old master to it!"

"Senior, please rescue my family's Young Lady first!" Yang Kai remained unmoved.

"You dare discuss conditions with this old master?" Zong Ao's expression became cold and a little displeased, focusing his gaze on Yang Kai and threatening, "If this old master wants to kill you, you cannot resist, yet you dare try to discuss terms with me?"

“Please forgive my insistence, Senior!” Yang Kai stood his ground.

Zong Ao was slightly taken aback, directing a strange look towards Yang Kai in the next moment and smirking, “Your courage isn’t small! No one has dared speak to this old master like this for many years. It seems that this little girl is truly important to you, is her life worth your own?”

Yang Kai frowned and declared, “If she dies, I die too!”

This was not a lie, so Yang Kai’s words betrayed no falsehood.

Whether it was his words or his expression, something about Yang Kai moved Zong Ao, causing him to withdraw his pressure, frowning thoughtfully for a moment before nodding, “Good, you follow me!”

Saying so, he led Yang Kai to another room inside the palace.

After a short while, the pair arrived in front of a certain room and Zong Ao instructed Yang Kai to place Xue Yue on the bed before he took out a brown pill and handed it to Yang Kai, “Feed it to her!”

Yang Kai reached out and pinched Xue Yue’s cheeks, intending to throw the pill into her mouth.

Seeing this, Zong Ao rolled his eyes, “Chew and feed it to her! She can’t circulate any of her strength right now, if you don’t help her refine the medicinal effects, how is she supposed to absorb them?”

Yang Kai stared at Zong Ao in amazement.

Zong Ao laughed wickedly, “Too embarrassed? If that’s the case, this old master can step outside for a moment.”

“No need.” Yang Kai shook his head, popped the pill into his mouth, chewed it, then fed it to Xue Yue calmly.

He had already touched and traced every part of Xue Yue’s body, seen everything there was to be seen, what shame was there in kissing her now?

Xue Yue’s red lips were cold but still quite soft, and after Yang Kai fed her the pill and straightened up, the experience provided him much food for thought.

“Step aside!” Zong Ao said without the slightest politeness, shoving Yang Kai away while holding a small kettle-like container filled with a bubbling turquoise liquid.

Yang Kai couldn’t identify what this liquid was.

However, upon seeing Zong Ao’s confident look, Yang Kai didn’t bother asking anything and just stood by and watched.

Chapter 1060, Deal

Zong Ao tipped his hand and the turquoise liquid began pouring out, quickly dispersing into individual droplets that seemed to have their own spirituality. Each of these drops then fell onto Xue Yue's body and seeped into her pores.

Xue Yue's pale complexion gradually became rosy as she absorbed these droplets and the sound of her heartbeat grew stronger than before.

Yang Kai stared at this scene intently, his own heartbeat steadying as he watched.

Zong Ao really had profound skills. Yang Kai could clearly feel that Xue Yue's condition was now much better than a moment ago.

After the turquoise liquid was all absorbed by Xue Yue, Zong Ao took two steps back and a grimace appeared on his face. It seemed this pill and liquid combination was something quite valuable to him.

"Senior, has she been cured?" Yang Kai asked in surprise.

"Cured?" Zong Ao gave him a sideways glance and sneered, "If you believe the effects of the Profound Yin Sunflower Water can be so easily cured, you're far too naive! Profound Yin Sunflower Water is an incredibly precious cultivation treasure, but it is also extremely destructive in nature, any ordinary person who comes into contact with it will surely die! Even Origin Returning Realm cultivators cannot resist the power of Profound Yin Sunflower Water. This little girl's physique seems to be a little special and the grade of artifacts she has on her are also very high, if not for these factors, she would already be dead."

"Then just now..."

"I only stabilized her vitality, extending her life for a year and a half!"

"What about a year and a half later?" Yang Kai asked anxiously.

"That's uncertain," Zong Ao slowly shook his head, "If the appropriate pill can be refined, she will be able to recover, if not... En, you best prepare to collect her corpse."

Yang Kai paled and immediately cupped his fists respectfully, "Senior's righteousness is praiseworthy, please provide this Junior with your guidance!"

"Righteousness?" Zong Ao frowned before letting out a big laugh, "This old master isn't some righteous fellow! I helped stabilize her condition, so now it is time for you to pay up. En, if you can tell me where the Profound Yin Sunflower Water is, this Old master doesn't mind providing you some more guidance!"

Yang Kai didn't even think about it before nodding, "I can tell you!"

Ha Li Ka, Lin Mu Feng, and the other executives wanted to conceal the existence of the Profound Yin Sunflower Water, but naturally, Yang Kai wasn't concerned with their intentions, his only priority right now was saving Xue Yue!

Zong Ao nodded in satisfaction, "Good! If you take me to the Profound Yin Sunflower Water, I will tell you how to save her!"

“Deal!” Yang Kai nodded repeatedly, adding after thinking, “But the place is now guarded by the cultivators of Heng Luo Chamber of Commerce, Ha Li Ka and Lin Mu Feng probably won’t let you approach it.”

“They dare! If this old master wishes to go, would they dare to stop me?” Zong Ao snorted, “It’s not a problem, I just need to give them some benefits!”

It seemed Zong Ao didn’t want to strain his relationship with Heng Luo Chamber of Commerce too much; after all, the Profound Yin Sunflower Water’s value was too great, and if he tried to take sole possession of it, he would definitely receive retaliation from the Chamber of Commerce.

Sometimes, taking a step back was necessary!

“However, this old master has to make a quick trip first, to collect the Profound Yin Sunflower Water, it’s necessary to create a special container,” Zong Ao said lightly before addressing Yang Kai, “Boy, you stay here, this old master will be back in half a month, we’ll pick up where we left off when I return.”

Yang Kai nodded lightly.

Zong Ao acted swiftly, immediately flying off without saying another word, disappearing to some unknown place.

However, since he had said he needed to create a special container, Yang Kai figured Zong Ao was off to see an Artifact Refiner.

Artifact Refiners held the same level of prestige as Alchemists and were also extremely scarce. High-grade Alchemists and Artifact Refiners were always coveted by major forces.

It wasn’t surprising thought that someone like Zong Ao knew one or two highly skilled Artifact Refiners.

When Zong Ao departed, Ha Li Ka’s voice suddenly called out from outside the palace, “Little Brother, Little Brother!”

He hadn’t left yet! Perhaps he had simply been observing from outside and seeing Zong Ao suddenly leave worked up the courage to approach the palace and inquire about the situation.

Yang Kai walked out and briefly explained what had transpired, and upon learning that Zong Ao was now eyeing the Profound Yin Sunflower Water, Ha Li Ka’s complexion darkened as some panic filled his head, wondering how he was going to deal with Zong Ao.

He did not dare to report this incident to the Home Star. The woman of Xue Yue Third Young Master was still unconscious, her life or death uncertain, this had to be concealed at all costs, so how could he make a report?

Grumbling for a while, Ha Li Ka eventually didn’t blame Yang Kai for exposing this secret and simply sighed, “Since Grandmaster Zong Ao has a method to save her, Little Brother should remain here and wait for him to return. I must return to the branch and discuss with Lin Mu Feng about how to handle what comes next.”

Saying so, he too departed quickly.

Yang Kai returned to the room again, sat by the bed, and stared at the sleeping Xue Yue.

This incredibly enchanting woman now appeared especially tranquil, her breathing even, as if she was simply resting peacefully.

Seeing this, Yang Kai frowned, reached out, and groped her chest maliciously.

He felt that he had suffered a great loss this time! If it weren't for the Soul Chains effects, he wouldn't have to go through so much hardship or worry about whether Xue Yue lived or died.

What frustrated him the most though was that even if he managed to save Xue Yue this time, once the Soul Chains were unlocked, he didn't know what this woman's attitude towards him would be or whether she would become angry out of shame and hunt him down for the next ten thousand years.

This kind of unpredictable future angered Yang Kai greatly.

However, back on that Dead Star, the situation had forced him into this predicament where his life was linked to Xue Yue. First and foremost he had to preserve his life.

The bitterness in Yang Kai's heart was unbearable to him and he simply couldn't find a mental balance unless he profited a bit here and there.

Zong Ao disappeared for half a month, during which, Yang Kai lived in his palace. Xue Yue remained unconscious and didn't need him to care for her, so he instead explored Zong Ao's Pill Room wholeheartedly.

Inside the several dozen large and small pill furnaces, there were many Spirit Arrays used for Alchemy. These Spirit Arrays weren't the same ones hidden in the Medicine Gardens outside, but they were all exquisitely portrayed and perfectly fused together without the slightest signs of conflict.

Yang Kai studied these Spirit Arrays freely, absorbing their structure and formation into his mind, adding them to his own knowledge.

There was also a type of study in the palace that contained many ancient books, and once day when Yang Kai was idling, he decided to go in and browse through them.

To his surprise though, he immediately found a lot of good things which aroused his excitement.

There were many books with pill recipes he had never seen before, so Yang Kai immersed himself in studying them, soon forgetting about the outside world entirely!

The pill recipes Yang Kai had mastered all originated from Tong Xuan Realm, but after coming to the Star Field, the grade of spirit grasses and spirit medicines had become higher and he came to know of many species of herbs he had never heard of before.

These collected pill recipes perfectly complemented his current shortcomings, allowing him to integrate the Star Field's unique knowledge and skills into his own knowledge of Alchemy.

Half a month passed by without Yang Kai even noticing.

Zong Ao's life aura suddenly appeared in the palace one day and went straight to the study. Seeing Yang Kai flipping through the various pill recipes and Alchemy's notes, he actually didn't mind and instead just

called out, "Let's go, take this old master to the place where you found the Profound Yin Sunflower Water, after this old master successfully collects those treasures, you can read the contents of this place for as long as you want."

"Alright!" Yang Kai put down an ancient book in his hand, got up and walked out with Zong Ao.

"Will there be any issues leaving my family's Young Lady here?" Yang Kai asked anxiously.

"How could there be problems?" Zong Ao smirked, "No one dares to break into the palace of this old master; no one has the skill either unless several Origin Returning Realm masters storm this place together! On this Rainfall Star, no one dares to offend this old master. You can rest assured that this is the safest place on Rainfall Star!"

His tone was arrogant, but Yang Kai didn't think Zong Ao was exaggerating, his words were spoken simply because he was confident in them.

The pair summoned their Star Shuttles and flew off towards the mine.

After half a day, Yang Kai brought Zong Ao to the previous mine shaft.

There were a lot of cultivators waiting down below including Ha Li Ka, Lin Mu Feng, the middle-aged woman, and several other Origin Returning Realm master from the Heng Luo Chamber of Commerce branch.

They seemed to have been waiting for a while.

"A bunch of little brats," Zong Ao scolded without reserve, a look of dissatisfaction appearing on his face.

Seeing Zong Ao's figure, Ha Li Ka and others also wore solemn expressions, seemingly a little nervous and helpless, glancing at each other for a moment before stepping forward together.

"Greetings, Grandmaster!"

Zong Ao and Yang Kai swiftly landed and Ha Li Ka and the others saluted the old man respectfully and humbly.

"En!" Zong Ao nodded indifferently.

"I heard that Grandmaster recently used his profound methods to save Lady Xue'er's life. For that this Ha is extremely grateful. Lady Xue is an honoured guest from the Home Star, if any accident were to befall her, we would not be able to withstand the repercussions. Grandmaster's generosity and righteousness in saving Lady Xue'er are without equal, and..." Ha Li Ka immediately began a colourful and elaborate flattery campaign, rapidly heaping praise onto Zong Ao.

Lin Mu Feng and the middle-aged woman couldn't stop their mouths from twitching somewhat as they observed this uncomfortable display.

Even Yang Kai got goosebumps just watching Ha Li Ka, a look of disappointment creeping onto his face, not having thought this gruff Branch President was actually this kind of person.

“Enough nonsense!” Zong Ao waved and cut off Ha Li Ka, squinting towards him and snorting, “Cease trying to flatter this old master, this old master has no interest in such drivel!”

Ha Li Ka suddenly looked embarrassed and didn’t dare open his mouth again.

“This old master’s purpose in coming here today, I assume you all know,” Zong Ao said on his own initiative, “Don’t blame this old master for not giving any face to anyone who tries to stop me!”

Ha Li Ka’s expression grew bitter as he quickly said, “Grandmaster, why you’ve come here today, naturally we understand. Grandmaster came to Rainfall Star a hundred years ago and has refined countless pills for our Chamber of Commerce, yet never asked for any kind of remuneration. Grandmaster’s service has not gone unnoticed and President Ai Ou himself has repeatedly instructed that we regard Grandmaster as the most distinguished of guests, to meet any request you have while never offending you!”

Zong Ao snorted and said, “As long as you understand!”

Ha Li Ka continued though, “If it were something else, why would we not freely deliver it to Grandmaster? But this Profound Yin Sunflower Water...”

“Hm?” Zong Ao’s face grew cold as a bad light flashed across his eyes.

“It’s just that this Profound Yin Sunflower Water... is not something we can take responsibility for!” Ha Li Ka insisted.

“Yes, Grandmaster, if this matter were to become known to the Home Star, we will definitely not escape punishment, please understand!” Lin Mu Feng also stepped forward and begged.