

## **Martial Arts 961**

### **Chapter 961: The Past Makes One Emotional!**

“grandmaster-level!”

“Are you kidding me?”

Pittman shouted after a moment of silence.

He could accept a master-level runemaster who hadn't turned 20 yet. After all, he had seen many talents. However, such a young grandmaster was impossible!

Pittman didn't believe him. Jiang Wenxing didn't believe him either. He quickly regained his composure and smiled. “If you said this to stimulate me, you win. I can't be compared to someone who has reached the grandmaster level before hitting his twenties.”

Although he was admitting defeat, the disdain and contempt in his tone were apparent.

Wang Teng frowned. He wanted to disregard Jiang Wenxing at first, but the contemptuous tone irked him. He replied calmly, “Do you think you can fight with me if I participate in the master-level assessment?”

Jiang Wenxing's expression froze.

His words made sense!

A 20-year-old master was definitely better than a 32-year-old master. The difference in talent and potential between them was vast.

“Mr. Wang Teng, runes are a broad and profound field. Even grandmaster-level runemasters maintain a humble attitude. I don't think you should be so arrogant,” Pittman said.

Wang Teng glanced at him and said, “When you came over to find your sense of superiority, were you thinking of remaining humble?”

“You!” Pittman's face turned black.

“Also, I'm not looking down on anyone. You were the one who came to compare with me. You stretched your feet out and waited for me to step on it. Is it my fault?” Wang Teng asked calmly.

He had never lost when it comes to refuting!

“Pfft!” Jiang Wenxing felt a stab in his heart.

Pittman was speechless too. He was right. They were the ones who came to speak to them first. He couldn't find any reason to refute Wang Teng now.

“Hahaha, Master Pittman, why don't you bring your Master Jiang Wenxing to the assessment area first? If you're late, you'll have to wait for the next one.” Fan Taining laughed when he saw Pittman choking on his own words.

“Hmph!” Pittman knew that he was in the wrong, so he snorted and entered the assessment room with Jiang Wenxing.

“Master Wang Teng, thank you. Although I have some grudges with Pittman, I didn’t want to pull you in. Sorry to implicate you. However, he found the wrong person to tease this time,” Fan Taining said to Wang Teng gratefully.

“Nothing, it’s just a small matter,” Wang Teng said.

“Let’s go to the venue,” Fan Taining said hurriedly.

He thought that what Wang Teng said about taking the grandmaster-level assessment was just to help him.

“Erm... I’m not lying. I really want to participate in the grandmaster-level exam!” Wang Teng was speechless.

“What? You’re serious?” Fan Taining widened his eyes in shock as he exclaimed.

He knew that Wang Teng’s rune mastery was high. That was why he was able to enlighten him just by answering a few of his questions. However, when he thought about how extraordinary grandmasters were, he started to feel a little uncertain.

The grandmaster-level assessment was extremely difficult. Many master-level runemasters got stuck here and couldn’t break through.

There was a chasm between a master and a grandmaster. This wasn’t a gap that could be overcome purely through time and effort. It required talent too.

This was the reason why more than 80% of master-level runemasters failed to reach that stage.

“I can’t take it?” Wang Teng asked.

“You can.” Fan Taining was a little hesitant. “However, it’s a little more troublesome as compared to the master-level assessment. We need to inform three or more grandmaster-level runemasters for this assessment.”

Dr. Leonardo and Master Blacksmith Hobson also came over. They didn’t interfere just now, but they were equally astounded.

“Master Wang Teng, how confident are you?” Leonardo asked.

“At least 70%.” Wang Teng was acting humble. If he said 100%, they probably wouldn’t believe him. He would have to explain to them again.

“That’s really high!” Fan Taining’s expression changed. He was elated. If Wang Teng was honestly so confident, as his recommender, he would gain great benefits too!

This was a grandmaster!

A grandmaster runemaster who hadn’t reached 20!

What did this mean?

Even his master might come to snatch the position of the recommender if he learned about this.

He said hurriedly, "Master Wang Teng, if you're certain you want to participate in this assessment, I'll have to make an application immediately. However, you need to wait. I'm not sure if there are three or more grandmasters available today."

"Is it this troublesome?" Wang Teng was surprised.

"It can't be helped. After all, this is a grandmaster-level assessment!" Fan Taining said with a bitter smile.

"In that case..." Wang Teng paused for a second.

He was in a dilemma. Should he tell them that he wanted to take the grandmaster-level assessment for smithery and alchemy too?

After all, three grandmaster-level assessments were a little exaggerated!

What if they got frightened?

But he recalled his current situation. If he didn't display his ability now, his enemies would come and look for him soon. He cemented his resolve and said, "In that case, help me to apply for the grandmaster-level smithery and alchemy assessments too."

(ΩДΩ)... Three in a row!

Master Fan Taining: ???

Dr. Leonardo: ???

Master Blacksmith Hobson: ???

This time, they weren't just stunned. They lost their thoughts for a split second. It was as if their minds were switched off.

"Are you guys alright?" Wang Teng asked worriedly.

He didn't think that they would be so surprised!

*Come on, y'all are not young anymore. Why is your mind so weak?*

"Cough... Master Wang Teng, you scared me," Fan Taining said with a forced smile.

"I think it's alright. I heard that there are many talents in the universe. Isn't it common to find someone with three grandmaster titles?" Wang Teng asked.

"Three grandmaster titles are common?" Fan Taining almost vomited blood. He started cursing in his mind. *Your head! Do you think grandmaster titles can be bought in the market like cabbages?*

"One grandmaster title is rare enough, much less three!"

"You must have some misunderstanding about the grandmaster level!"

“Really?” Wang Teng tried his best to suppress his smile when he saw their expressions, saying innocently, “I thought that three grandmaster titles can be found everywhere. To think that I worked so hard to raise my ability. I stayed up many nights and days cultivating just to reach this stage. The past is making me emotional.”

1

The three masters: ...

Wang Teng’s achievement was the result of his hard work?

Indeed, they were not working hard enough!

Even a rare talent like Wang Teng was toiling so hard. What reasons did normal people like them have to slack?

The three masters started to look at Wang Teng in a different light.

### **Chapter 962: Unfilial Disciple, You’re Creating Trouble For Me!**

People who worked hard were worth respecting!

Wang Teng’s image rose in their hearts.

“Master Wang Teng, I’ll apply for the grandmaster-level runemaster assessment now.” Fan Taining regained his calm.

“I’ll apply for the smithery assessment for you,” Master Blacksmith Hobson said.

“Yes, you can. However, we agreed that if we get the reward, we’ll split half with Master Wang Teng,” Fan Taining said.

Wang Teng glanced at Master Fan Taining in surprise. Of course, he was happy to have someone watching his back.

“No problem. My main aim is to befriend a rare talent like Master Wang Teng. The reward is a bonus,” Master Hobson said righteously.

Wang Teng looked at him strangely. He couldn’t tell that this humble-looking Master Hobson was quite good at talking.

Master Fan Taining and Dr. Leonardo looked at Master Hobson as if it was their first time knowing him. They were astonished too.

“Cough, what about the alchemy assessment?” Master Hobson coughed awkwardly.

“I’ll look for my master and ask him to help find an alchemist as your recommender,” Fan Taining said after contemplating.

He looked at Wang Teng and asked, “Master Wang Teng, what do you think?”

“I’m fine with it,” Wang Teng replied.

Of course, he was fine with it! There was someone running errands for him!

Master Fan Taining and the others immediately went to apply for the grandmaster-level assessment. These were three grandmaster-level titles!

Just thinking about it made their hearts shudder. Fan Taining wondered what kind of monster he had referred to the Secondary Career Alliance.

...

Fan Taining and the others were so efficient that it shocked Wang Teng. Or rather, he had underestimated the importance of having a person with three grandmaster titles in the Secondary Career Alliance.

When the grandmasters in the Secondary Career Alliance heard that there was a candidate who wanted to take three grandmaster-level assessments today, they were flabbergasted. They put down whatever matters they had and came to meet Wang Teng with Fan Taining.

Fortunately, there were many grandmasters in the Secondary Career Alliance today or they wouldn't be able to gather enough people for the assessments.

At this moment, in a lobby especially for grandmasters, the grandmasters of the Secondary Career Alliance were attending to Wang Teng. When they saw his face, they were dumbstruck again.

This was a young man!

He was too young!

As grandmasters, their spirits were all powerful. One look and they could tell that Wang Teng hadn't hit his twenties yet.

Fan Taining was in a rush, so he forgot to tell the grandmasters Wang Teng's real age. This was why they were caught unprepared when they saw him for the first time.

They felt that Fan Taining was fooling around with them after seeing the real person!

Could this young man be a grandmaster in three fields?

Wasn't this a joke?

There was a white-haired man with three eyes who looked around 30 walking in front of Fan Taining. He had a third eye on his forehead. He looked like the fake baron Wang Teng saw in the past. However, Wang Teng knew that there were many races in the universe with three eyes, so he wasn't surprised.

The white-haired man turned back and glared at Fan Taining. He found him unreliable.

*This young man is a grandmaster in three fields? Who are you trying to fool?*

"Master, I'm not lying. Wang Teng's rune mastery is very high. I managed to achieve a breakthrough after receiving some enlightenment from him," Fan Taining said carefully. He was as timid as a child in front of his master.

"What about his smithery and alchemy? How much do you know?" the white-haired man with three eyes asked angrily through voice transmission.

He wouldn't say it outright. With his status and position, he wouldn't step on anyone's face, especially when that person was a talent introduced by his disciple.

Actually, even if Wang Teng wasn't a grandmaster in three fields, just being a master-level runemaster younger than twenty meant that he had a higher mastery than Fan Taining. It was enough to prove his talent, and he was happy to accept this talented junior under his wings.

However, the boasting went a little too far!

Three grandmaster titles? Where did they get the guts to say this? Weren't they afraid of slapping their faces?

"Erm... I don't know much about his alchemy and smithery mastery," Fan Taining replied in embarrassment after a moment of silence.

The white-haired man with three eyes glared at him. *Unfilial disciple, you're creating trouble for me!*

"However, I believe that he will pass," Fan Taining promised with a stern expression.

"Are you sure?" The white-haired man with three eyes frowned.

Fan Taining didn't have great talent, but he respected him greatly. He would never lie to him in serious matters.

Could Wang Teng really be a rare talent who managed to achieve three grandmaster levels at a young age?

"Master, Wang Teng probably hails from an underdeveloped planet. He thought that there are many people with three grandmaster titles here, so he worked hard in reaching this stage. That's also the reason why he managed to achieve such astonishing results at a young age," Fan Taining said confidently.

"... Really?" The white-haired man with three eyes was speechless. "Are you trying to fool me?"

"No way. I'll never lie to you."

"I'll believe you for now." The white-haired man with three eyes glanced at him.

"Alfred, is the young man your disciple referred to really a grandmaster in three fields?" The other grandmasters started asking him through voice transmission.

"Don't ask me. I got pulled by Fan Taining here too." Alfred replied, "Since we're here, we'll know after testing him. Let's start from my runemaster assessment first."

Since Fan Taining was the one who started this matter, as his master, Alfred had to bear whatever consequences it might cause.

Wang Teng noticed their reactions, but he remained quiet. He knew that some things couldn't be explained with words. Ability was the best proof.

After some time, the white-haired man with three eyes in front of Fan Taining opened his mouth, "I'm Fan Taining's master, Alfred. We have processed your application. Are you okay with taking the rune assessment first?"

"Grandmaster Alfred!"

He mustn't be impolite to a grandmaster. Wang Teng bowed to the other party using their empire's etiquette. "I'm fine with this. We can start."

Alfred looked at Wang Teng's humble and confident expression and started to believe his disciple a little. He gave him a kind nod.

"Follow me." Alfred led the way. There were two other rune grandmasters moving along with them. One had green skin and three silver patterns on his face. The other was a human who seemed to be in his fifties.

They were the three grandmasters who would be assessing Wang Teng this time.

The grandmaster-level assessment room was not far away from the lobby. It was just next door. After all, grandmasters must be treated properly.

When Wang Teng walked in, he realized that this assessment room was extravagant. There were all sorts of facilities here, all prepared for him alone. This was incomparable to the master-level assessment.

2

### **Chapter 963: I'll Be Mad At Anyone Who Fails You!**

"The contents of the grandmaster-level assessment are very simple. You just need to carve three grandmaster-level arrays within five hours.

"Of course, the examiners will come up with the arrays for the assessment."

Alfred informed Wang Teng as he was sizing up the room.

"No problem. Please begin." Wang Teng nodded.

"Then let me come up with the first array." Grandmaster Alfred smiled as he looked at the other two grandmasters.

"Please!" The other two grandmasters nodded and sat aside with a smile as they watched.

"My array shall be the Crimson Celestial Array!" With a wave of Alfred's hand, an array diagram appeared in front of Wang Teng.

"Crimson Celestial Array!" Wang Teng had never seen such an array before, but he knew that it wasn't a simple one when he looked at the diagram. The runes were complex and far exceeded ordinary arrays.

Wang Teng glanced at Grandmaster Alfred. This old man was cunning!

He had come up with an extremely challenging array.

The other two grandmasters exchanged glances and smirked. Grandmaster Alfred was obviously trying to avoid suspicion.

Wang Teng wasn't afraid though and began after looking at the array carefully. Three huge metal plates were placed in front of him, and they were all of moderate sizes.

The difficulty of the array was also related to its size. The larger the array, the harder it was to carve. If it was too small, it would be challenging as well. On the other hand, a moderate size array wouldn't be too difficult.

Wang Teng glanced at the rune pen that was sitting on the table. With his spiritual power, he brought the pen over and started to carve runes on the metal plates.

"Spiritual kinesis!" Grandmaster Alfred raised his eyebrows in surprise.

In the universe, there were relatively more divine spirit masters, but they were still quite rare. Those who wield spiritual kinesis were generally not weak in their spirit talent.

However, using spiritual power to carve arrays was much more difficult compared to carving them by hand.

It seemed like Wang Teng was very confident!

A meaningful smile appeared on Alfred's face.

The other two grandmasters had the same expression. They straightened their bodies and started observing seriously.

Wang Teng carved the runes on the metal plate with great speed. One after another, runes appeared on the metal plate, accompanied by golden light. As soon as one rune appeared, the next one followed without any pause...

The grandmasters' eyes widened gradually.

Wang Teng was too fast, enough for them to find it a little unbelievable. They even wondered if he had engraved the Crimson Celestial Array before. Otherwise, he couldn't possibly be so skilled.

After half an hour, Wang Teng suddenly stopped his rune pen. A complete array appeared on the metal plate, and a blinding crimson light shone. It was clear that the array was finished!

Otherwise, there wouldn't be such a reaction!

The grandmasters let out a long sigh at the same time. They were even more nervous watching Wang Teng inscribing the runes than when they were doing it themselves.

Unbelievable!

The grandmasters exchanged glances and their gazes changed completely when they looked at Wang Teng again.



That was definitely the skill of a grandmaster. Although Wang Teng had only inscribed one rune array, they already believed that Wang Teng was at the grandmaster level. Otherwise, he wouldn't be able to inscribe the rune array so quickly. Not many grandmasters would be able to do that.

"Grandmasters, the second array please." Wang Teng's voice pulled the three grandmasters back to reality.

"Aren't you going to take a break?" Grandmaster Alfred asked.

"There's no need for that. I think I can still do a few more." He sounded calm as if he was saying that he could eat two more bowls of rice.

The grandmasters were speechless.

"Then I shall come up with the second array." The green-skinned grandmaster smiled and waved his hand. An array diagram appeared in mid-air. "This is the Polar Meteor Array, a third-rank grandmaster-level array. Please begin!"

After learning about Wang Teng's prowess, he acted polite and gestured kindly. However, the Polar Meteor Array was much more complicated than the Crimson Celestial Array.

Grandmaster-level rune arrays were categorized into nine ranks. The higher the rank, the more complicated it was. The previous Crimson Celestial Array was at the second rank, while Polar Meteor Array was a third-rank array.

It was clear that the grandmaster was a little curious and wanted to figure out Wang Teng's talent after witnessing his skills.

There was a hint of surprise in Wang Teng's eyes as he scanned the diagram. This time, he took a longer time to memorize and analyze the array before he started inscribing.

Nevertheless, he wasn't slower. Very soon, after half an hour, Wang Teng completed the array again. A silver light lit up, and the Polar Meteor Array was completed!

The grandmasters exchanged glances and were unable to hide their shock.

"Continue!" Wang Teng said.

"The third array—Aqua Sea Dragon Array. It's a third-rank grandmaster-level array as well!" The human grandmaster chose his array and gestured kindly.

The array was not much different from the Polar Meteor Array. It wasn't that the grandmaster didn't want to make it more difficult for Wang Teng. It was that this was the more difficult array that he had mastered.

Wang Teng didn't know about the truth and looked at the diagram. He took a while before starting.

Likewise, after half an hour, a blue array appeared. It shone brightly along with a roar of a dragon. A nine-headed blue dragon appeared above the array. One could feel its overwhelming aura.

The Aqua Sea Dragon Array was completed!

Wang Teng stopped his rune pen and placed it back in its original position. His expression remained unchanged as he looked toward the grandmasters.

They were astounded and speechless.

He didn't even take two hours and had already completed three grandmaster-level rune arrays. Excluding the time to memorize and analyze the diagrams, he only took half an hour each.

He managed to complete three grandmaster-level arrays in such a short time without any mistakes. This was no longer something that an ordinary grandmaster could achieve.

Grandmaster Wang Teng was not just a genius, he was a monster!

Now, Alfred finally knew why Fan Taining admired Wang Teng so much. If he knew how amazing Wang Teng's skills were, he would have done that too!

It was fortunate that they didn't stop Wang Teng from taking part in the grandmaster assessment. Otherwise, they wouldn't have seen a peerless talent like him.

The grandmasters stared at Wang Teng with fiery hot eyes as if looking at a golden drumstick.

They wanted to hug that golden drumstick!

In their eyes, Wang Teng's skills were exceptional. He completed the three arrays without any challenge. They couldn't comprehend the depth of his skill.

"Grandmasters, have I passed the assessment?" Wang Teng asked.

"Passed. You must pass. I'll be mad at anyone who fails you," Grandmaster Alfred replied hurriedly.

#### **Chapter 964: Nine Essence Soul Congealing Pill!**

"That's good. I'll head to my next assessment then." Wang Teng turned around and left.

He was a busy man. This assessment was a walkthrough. It possessed no difficulty for him.

"Grandmaster Wang Teng, are you really going for the other two grandmaster-level assessments?" Grandmaster Alfred caught up with him and asked curiously.

"Yes." Wang Teng nodded.

*Has he really reached the grandmaster level for all three fields?* Alfred exchanged glances with the other two grandmasters. They were astounded.

They were starting to believe Wang Teng. His rune mastery was already extremely high so it might be possible that he had reached the grandmaster level for the other fields. After all, they probably couldn't understand the world of a genius.

They exited the assessment room. Fan Taining hurriedly walked over. "How is it? Master Wang Teng, did you pass?"

"Slap!" Grandmaster Alfred slapped his head. "Is this what you should be calling him? Greet him as Grandmaster Wang Teng next time."

“Grandmaster!” Fan Taining touched his head and muttered in astonishment, “He’s really a grandmaster!”

His gaze changed when he looked at Wang Teng again. Wang Teng suddenly became a grandmaster, just like his master. He was a little unused to it.

He knew that Wang Teng would probably pass the assessment, but when he really did, it felt like a dream. Despite being a grandmaster, he was modest and even spent a beautiful night with him. He also answered many of his questions!

Master Wang Teng... No, Grandmaster Wang Teng was indeed easily approachable.

To hell with spending a beautiful night!

If Wang Teng knew what Fan Taining was thinking, he might give him a kick.

At this moment, the grandmasters from the other fields walked over. One of them, who was in the alchemists’ robe, exclaimed, “Grandmaster Alfred, has Mr. Wang Teng passed your assessment?”

“Yes, Grandmaster Hua Yuan, Grandmaster Wang Teng has passed the assessment with flying colors. He’s definitely a grandmaster now,” Alfred said firmly.

Grandmaster Hua Yuan’s eyes lit up. “In that case, Grandmaster Wang Teng, do you want to start the alchemy assessment?”

“Of course.” Wang Teng smiled.

“Please follow me,” Grandmaster Hua Yuan said hurriedly.

The fact that Wang Teng had passed the rune grandmaster assessment gave them hope, hope that he was really a triple grandmaster candidate. They didn’t mind trying it out with him.

If he was honestly a grandmaster in three different fields, he would be a great asset to the Secondary Career Alliance. They had found a treasure.

There was a competition within the Secondary Career Alliance too. With branches in every high-tier civilization or powerful faction, a friendly competition existed between all these branches.

The Great Qian Empire branch hadn’t found an outstanding candidate in a long time. If Wang Teng was a grandmaster in three fields, they would be able to amaze the other branches.

There were four alchemist grandmasters, and all of them were present. They greeted Wang Teng enthusiastically and walked towards the alchemy assessment room at the side.

“Grandmaster Wang Teng, do you want to rest?” Grandmaster Hua Yuan asked after they entered the assessment room.

“It’s alright, we can start directly.”

“Okay.” The four grandmasters were surprised.

Wang Teng had just finished the rune grandmaster assessment, so he should have exhausted much of his spirit. However, he didn’t need to rest. Was his spirit so powerful?

But since he said that he didn't need it, they couldn't force him.

"Grandmaster Wang Teng, we'll need you to make a first-rank grandmaster-level and above dan medicine for this alchemy assessment," Grandmaster Hua Yuan said.

There were nine levels of dan medicine. First to third were low-rank, fourth to sixth were middle-rank, and seventh to ninth were high-rank.

The higher the rank of the dan medicine, the higher the mastery of the grandmaster.

This assessment only required the alchemist to make a first-rank grandmaster-level dan. This was the lowest requirement.

Of course, grandmaster-level dan medicines weren't easy to refine. Not only were the requirements high, but the dan-making process was also extremely complicated. One needed to control the fire properly. The difficulty was unimaginable.

Every single grandmaster-level dan needed at least 500 different herbs. The number was astonishing. The changes during the process were hard to predict too. Any carelessness could cause an explosion and a failure.

Many master-level alchemists were unable to make grandmaster-level dan medicine even after spending their entire life studying it. That was why they could only stay at the master level.

Also, the appearance of grandmaster-level dans were accompanied by a lightning calamity. It would only become a grandmaster-level dan if it overcame it.

If not, it was a useless dan!

One bolt of lightning meant it was a first-rank dan. Two bolts meant that it was a second-rank dan. The greater the number of bolts, the higher the rank.

"Grandmaster Wang Teng, what grandmaster-level dan are you planning to make? I'll ask them to prepare the ingredients. We can provide three sets of ingredients for you," Grandmaster Hua Yuan asked.

"Let me see." Wang Teng took a look at this attributes panel.

Suddenly, he remembered that his alchemist level was still at the master level. He hadn't had the time to raise it.

But... there was no need to panic!

"Grandmasters, I'd like to visit the washroom first," Wang Teng said suddenly.

The four grandmasters were stunned. They thought that Wang Teng was going to say something important, but he just wanted to visit the washroom.

This was... a little unexpected!

Normally, powerful martial warriors could control their urge to visit the washroom, but if he wanted to go, they couldn't stop him.

“Go ahead.” Grandmaster Hua Yuan nodded. The corners of his lips were twitching.

The assessment room had everything but a washroom. Thus, Wang Teng had to leave the assessment room and head to the public toilet.

Of course, his aim wasn't the washroom. He needed an excuse to go out and pick up some alchemist attribute bubbles.

It wasn't hard to find the place where the alchemists were at. You could just ask around.

There was a huge bunch of rooms for the alchemists, where alchemists were busy refining pills.

Wang Teng released his spiritual power and picked up all the attribute bubbles dropped on the ground.

Alchemy\*150

Alchemy\*300

Imperial Realm Spirit\*100

Alchemy\*500

Planetary Realm Spirit\*200

Alchemy\*350

Dan Prescription\*1

...

The quality of the attribute bubbles was unequal. Some had a higher value while others had a higher realm. However, Wang Teng didn't mind. He collected all of them.

His alchemy and spirit rose greatly.

Especially his alchemy level. It finally broke through the master level and reached the grandmaster level.

Alchemist: 2100/10000 (grandmaster)

There were many master alchemists in the rooms and one or two grandmasters. They helped to raise Wang Teng's mastery. He even had 2100 extra points.

He also gained a grandmaster-level dan prescription...

The Nine Essence Soul Congealing Pill!

This would be his prescription for the assessment!

### **Chapter 965: What A Big Treasure!**

After Wang Teng collected the attribute bubbles, he paced around a little before returning to prepare for his alchemist assessment.

*The Secondary Career Alliance is a good place!* Wang Teng lamented as he toured the area where he had received the dan prescription.

This was his first dan prescription dropped as an attribute bubble. He did receive dan prescriptions in the past when he picked up alchemy attributes, but they all got merged within alchemy attributes.

It looked like to the system, only grandmaster-level dan prescriptions were worth an individual bubble.

The Nine Essence Soul Congealing Pill was an amazing pill. It was extremely rare, and it could help in retaining one's soul. It was a miracle medicine for people whose souls were heavily injured.

Even if one's soul wasn't injured, eating one or two as a healthy supplement had great benefits for the soul too.

This was why this third-rank grandmaster-level dan was worth more than other pills of a similar rank.

Of course, its difficulty was greater than normal third-rank dan medicines.

In the assessment room, Wang Teng pushed the door and entered.

"Grandmaster Wang Teng, you're finally back. What took you so long?" Grandmaster Hua Yuan greeted him and asked curiously.

"Oh, it was a huge one," Wang Teng came up with an excuse.

The four grandmasters: ...

This was a smelly conversation. It should be stopped immediately.

"Cough, Grandmaster Wang Teng, have you decided which dan you wish to refine?" Grandmaster Hua Yuan asked.

"I want to make the Nine Essence Soul Congealing Pill," Wang Teng replied directly.

"Nine Essence Soul Congealing Pill!" The four grandmasters exclaimed in surprise simultaneously. There was astonishment on their faces.

The Nine Essence Soul Congealing Pill wasn't easy to make.

Grandmaster Wang Teng wanted to refine a third-rank dan medicine with a higher level of difficulty. Was he so confident?

They didn't know the prescription for the Nine Essence Soul Congealing Pill, but Wang Teng did. He even knew how to refine it. This was highly unexpected.

"Grandmaster Wang Teng, you can choose an easier grandmaster-level dan medicine," Grandmaster Hua Yuan hesitated before saying.

Wang Teng wanted to, but this was the only prescription he knew. However, he couldn't tell them the real reason so he felt helpless.

But...

He mustn't destroy his image!

Since he wanted to portray that he was a rare talent who was a grandmaster in three different fields, he couldn't let others know that he only knew one dan prescription. Thus, he replied calmly, "It's alright. I'll make the Nine Essence Soul Congealing Pill."

"Erm, fine. Tell me the ingredients you need, and I'll ask them to prepare immediately." Grandmaster Hua Yuan was even more surprised when Wang Teng stayed firm in his decision. He stopped persuading him.

Wang Teng immediately listed the ingredients he needed.

"You might need to wait. The ingredients required are a little uncommon. We probably need some time." Grandmaster Hua Yuan frowned. Then, he turned around and ordered the staff to prepare the ingredients.

"Grandmaster Wang Teng, why do you want to make the Nine Essence Soul Congealing Pill?" one of the grandmasters asked.

This grandmaster was a female from the rabbit race. Her name was Harol, and she was quite pretty. Besides the protruding front teeth, there were no other issues with her looks. She seemed young, but her real age was probably quite high.

"I just randomly chose a simpler one," Wang Teng said.

"Randomly chose a... simpler one?" Grandmaster Harol was stunned. She didn't know how to continue this conversation.

If the Nine Essence Soul Congealing Pill was an easy pill, what about the other grandmaster-level dans?

Although Grandmaster Harol felt that Wang Teng was putting on an act, she had no evidence.

Wang Teng's serious expression made her wonder if she was kicking up a fuss. She might think that it was difficult, but he probably didn't think so.

This was the difference between them.

Grandmaster Harol almost got depressed.

"Grandmaster Wang Teng, do we need to prepare a furnace for you?" Grandmaster Hua Yuan hurriedly changed the topic.

"No need, I have my own furnace." Wang Teng was stunned. He suddenly remembered that he had a good furnace stored in his space fragment. He hadn't been using it much.

*Black Meteorite, I've been neglecting you.*

Wang Teng felt guilty.

"Grandmaster-level dans have a higher requirement for furnaces. The quality of the furnace must be good, or it might explode during the process due to high heat. Also, don't forget that you need to overcome a calamity after you finish refining the dan. The furnace will be within the proximity of the lightning bolt, so if it gets damaged, it might affect the final product," Grandmaster Hua Yuan explained.

He had learned from Grandmaster Alfred that Wang Teng came from a faraway planet, so he probably didn't have a good furnace. He reminded him in case anything untoward happened during the dan-making process.

"Is it?" Wang Teng frowned. He remembered that his Black Meteorite was a legendary furnace that had accompanied many grandmasters. It should be able to withstand the lightning calamity.

"If the quality of your furnace isn't good enough, we can lend you ours. You don't have to be polite," Grandmaster Hua Yuan said.

He wanted to buy a favor and create a good relationship with Wang Teng.

As someone who was able to make the Nine Essence Soul Congealing Pill, his alchemy mastery must be high. Even if he didn't succeed in the end, it still meant that he had no problems making easier grandmaster-level dan medicine.

Most importantly, Wang Teng was young. Being young meant that he had great potential.

He mustn't miss a chance to befriend this genius!

"Grandmaster Hua Yuan, can I use this furnace?" Wang Teng didn't know if his Black Meteorite could be used, so he took it out and asked the grandmasters to take a look for him.

Swoosh!

A black shadow flew in the air.

A pitch-black ancient furnace with patterns of fire and clouds carved around it appeared in everyone's vision. Under the control of his spiritual kinesis, it landed lightly on the ground.

The fire and cloud patterns changed shape continuously. Sometimes, they took the form of a dragon while other times, they looked like a phoenix. They kept turning into different mythical beasts, appearing divine and majestic.

The four grandmasters couldn't shift their gaze away after seeing the furnace.

"This is..." Grandmaster Hua Yuan jumped out of his chair and leaned close to get a better look.

The other three grandmasters reacted similarly too. They sprung up and gathered around the furnace like children who saw their beloved toy.

"This is an exceptional grandmaster-level furnace!" Grandmaster Hua Yuan complimented. His eyes were shining brightly.

"That's right, this is an exceptional grandmaster-level furnace. Listen to the sound. It's magical." A grandmaster knocked on the furnace with his hand and placed his ear on the furnace to listen to its vibration.

As grandmaster alchemists, they were extremely familiar with furnaces. Even from its sound, they could hear what others couldn't.



“This is a precious treasure!” Grandmaster Harol caressed the patterns of the surface of the furnace and said in fascination.

“Pfft... cough!” Wang Teng almost spurted the tea he was drinking. “Grandmasters, is my furnace okay?”

The four grandmasters: O(∩\_∩)o

“Yes, of course. My furnace pales in comparison to yours. To think I wanted to lend you mine. I’ll be embarrassed if I take it out,” Grandmaster Hua Yuan said with a forced smile.

“Grandmaster Hua Yuan, you’re too polite.” Wang Teng’s expression turned weird. He felt that it was a great stimulation to this old man.

### **Chapter 966: The Ji Family! (1)**

Although Grandmaster Hua Yuan told him he needed to wait, the staff soon gathered the ingredients.

Grandmaster Hua Yuan took over the space ring and said to Wang Teng, “We don’t have the prescription for the Nine Essence Soul Congealing Pill, so only a few people know how to refine it. We don’t have many ingredients. The alliance can only find two sets. I’ll ask people to search for the last set outside.”

“It’s alright, two sets are enough.” Wang Teng waved his hand and said, “If I can’t make it using the first two sets, the third set would most likely be wasted too.”

Grandmaster Hua Yuan was a little hesitant. He wished that Wang Teng could pass the alchemy assessment, so he wanted to get three sets of ingredients for him. That way, his success rate would be higher.

However, since Wang Teng didn’t mind it, he remained quiet. He just asked the staff to prepare the third set of ingredients silently.

“Okay, these are the two sets of ingredients. You can use them to make the Nine Essence Soul Congealing Pill first,” Grandmaster Hua Yuan passed Wang Teng the space ring.

Wang Teng nodded. Taking the space ring, he walked to the middle of the room. Black Meteorite floated up and followed him automatically.

There was a fire vent in the middle of the room, connected to the fire below. Black Meteorite landed on the vent.

Wang Teng took out the ingredients and placed them before him. He closed his eyes, going over the process of refining the dan in his mind.

The grandmasters sat down a few meters away from him. This distance was just right. They wouldn’t disturb him, but they could still observe him.

They didn’t panic when they noticed that Wang Teng didn’t start immediately. Instead, he seemed to be resting. They waited quietly too.

After some time, Wang Teng opened his eyes abruptly, and a smart glint flashed past them. He wrapped multiple ingredients, spiritual herbs and spiritual flowers, with his spiritual power and tossed them into the furnace.

Swoosh!

At the same time, an emerald flame burned on his hand. He threw it to the bottom of Black Meteorite.

Wang Teng didn't use the fire provided by the alliance, preferring the Emerald Glazed Flame instead.

Divine flames were the best support for alchemists. They were much better compared to the normal fire. Also, Wang Teng was the owner of the Emerald Glazed Flame, so he could use it smoothly. He had a better grasp of it compared to the normal fire.

The four grandmasters stood up from their seats again when they saw the Emerald Glazed Flame. They stared at the flame intently.

Divine flame!

They forcefully suppressed the astonishment in their hearts, lest they disturbed Wang Teng. However, they were dumbstruck.

"That's definitely a divine flame!"

"Grandmaster Wang Teng possesses a divine flame! He's so lucky!"

"He has an exceptional grandmaster-level furnace and a divine flame. Grandmaster Wang Teng has many good things. I'm so jealous!"

...

The four grandmasters started chatting through voice transmissions. Their eyes turned red.

Both the furnace and the divine flame were items highly desired by grandmaster alchemists. However, they were rare and could only be found by luck. Yet, Wang Teng had both of them. How could they not be envious?

They might be grandmasters, but they almost lost their senses.

Wang Teng didn't know what they were thinking. He was focused on refining the ingredients.

The emerald flame seeped through the gaps of the furnace and wrapped around the ingredients.

There was a black spiritual flower. No ashes were left after it got burned by the emerald flame. Only a ball of grayish-black liquid floated in the furnace.

Wang Teng was multitasking. All the ingredients he threw into the furnace got refined. They either turned into liquid or powder...

This required precise control of the fire. A single careless mistake and the entire spiritual herb or flower might get burned, leaving no essence behind.

The four grandmasters felt cold sweat dripping down their foreheads when they saw Wang Teng refining 18 ingredients at once.

This operation was a little... suffocating!

They couldn't do it.

The scary thing was, Wang Teng didn't make any mistakes. All the 18 ingredients were refined successfully, and then, he threw another 18 ingredients in.

The four grandmasters held their breaths. They were staring at him intently. At this rate, he would be able to refine all the ingredients and make the dan in less than three hours.

...

While Wang Teng was making the Nine Essence Soul Congealing Pill, at the location where he received the prescription, a dusty elder with red hair walked out of a grandmaster-class furnace room.

Black smoke blew out behind him, accompanied by a burnt smell.

The furnace room had an automatic air circulation function. Once an alchemist failed and released some odor, the system would automatically release the odor out of the room.

But this time, the red-haired elder had failed miserably. The entire furnace room was filled with black smoke, which couldn't be cleared instantly. Hence, he had to run out.

"Cough..."

The red-haired elder coughed violently. He almost choked to death in the thick fumes.

This elder was a grandmaster alchemist of the Secondary Career Alliance. He was helping someone to make a grandmaster-level dan today, so he didn't participate in Wang Teng's alchemy assessment.

A few people were waiting agitatedly outside his room. There were males and females. When they saw the red-haired elder coming out, they crowded around him and asked anxiously, "Grandmaster Kirton, what happened?"

"Cough... the furnace exploded!" Grandmaster Kirton waved his hand. His expression was a little ugly.

"Exploded? How did that happen?"

"Grandmaster Kirton, isn't your success rate of making the Nine Essence Soul Congealing Pill 60%? Why would your furnace explode?"

## **Chapter 967: The Ji Family (2)**

"What will we do with Grandpa's injury if we don't have the Nine Essence Soul Congealing Pill?"

...

The expressions of the youngsters changed. However, they could only speak through voice transmission as this was a grandmaster.

Grandmaster Kirton was the one who had dropped the dan prescription of the Nine Essence Soul Congealing Pill.

The middle-aged man standing in front got anxious. "Grandmaster Kirton, did you fail for all five sets of ingredients?"

"Yes." Grandmaster Kirton felt a little awkward. "There's always a failure rate. I've found the feeling though. Give me a few more sets, and I'll definitely succeed."

The middle-aged man sighed in his heart. However, he couldn't reprimand him. He hesitated before saying, "You're right. However, you know that the ingredients for this dan are hard to find. It took a lot of effort to get the five sets."

"Don't worry, there should be a few ingredients left in the alliance. I think I should be able to use them with my status," Grandmaster Kirton said with an embarrassed smile.

"I'll have to trouble you then. I'll repay you later. My family will bear the cost of the ingredients," the middle-aged man promised hurriedly as his eyes lit up.

"It's nothing. The main thing is the Nine Essence Soul Congealing Pill. I'll fulfill my promise to you." Grandmaster Kirton waved his hand.

He contacted the staff in the alliance, wanting to get the sets of Nine Essence Soul Congealing Pill ingredients.

But soon, his face turned black.

"Grandmaster Kirton, what's the matter?" The middle-aged man knew that something was wrong when he saw his expression.

"Someone took the ingredients just now," Grandmaster Kirton said helplessly.

"Huh? Who is it? Is it too late to get them back? The Ji family is willing to pay any price," the middle-aged man said hurriedly.

"Grandmaster Hua Yuan took it. There's a grandmaster-level assessment today, and the candidate knows how to refine the Nine Essence Soul Congealing Pill. Let's take a look. We might be able to stop him. One can make other dans for the grandmaster-level assessment. There's no need to make it complicated," Grandmaster Kirton said as he rushed toward the assessment room.

The middle-aged man and the others followed him.

...

Grandmaster Alfred and the other grandmasters were waiting outside the room. It was quite a magnificent scene to see a whole group of grandmasters gathered in one place.

"Do you think Grandmaster Wang Teng will pass the alchemy assessment?" a grandmaster asked uncontrollably.

Despite being in the audience, they felt even more nervous than Wang Teng.

“I think so!” Alfred pondered before replying.

“Grandmaster Alfred looks very confident in Grandmaster Wang Teng,” a grandmaster smiled and said.

“Hahaha, if you saw his assessment, you’d think the same way,” Grandmaster Alfred said.

The other two rune grandmasters nodded in agreement.

The grandmaster blacksmiths were surprised by their reaction. They were the only ones who hadn’t seen Wang Teng’s assessment, so they were filled with curiosity.

While they were discussing, Grandmaster Kirton charged over fiercely with a bunch of people. Seeing the situation outside the room, they were stunned.

“What’s the matter? Why are there so many grandmasters here?” Grandmaster Kirton was dumbfounded.

“Grandmaster Kirton, what are you doing?” Grandmaster Alfred got up and asked.

Grandmaster Kirton remembered the purpose of his visit and replied hurriedly, “Grandmaster Alfred, is Grandmaster Hua Yuan holding the assessment for the candidate now?”

“Indeed. You know about this too?”

“Of course, I know. Did they take the ingredients for the Nine Essence Soul Congealing Pill?” Grandmaster Kirton wanted to barge in as he spoke.

“Wait, what are you doing?” Grandmaster Alfred’s expression changed, stopping him furiously.

“Grandmaster Kirton, you can’t go in.”

“There’s someone taking the grandmaster assessment inside. You will offend him if you enter now.”

“That’s right. This assessment is very important. You can’t go in.”

...

The other grandmasters ran over hurriedly and stood in Grandmaster Kirton’s path.

“What are you guys doing?” Grandmaster Kirton’s expression changed. He didn’t expect so many grandmasters to come and stop him.

He wondered who the person inside was. How could he have such power?

Grandmaster Kirton recalled the Ji family. If he could make the Nine Essence Soul Congealing Pill, he could gain a favor from them, benefitting him greatly.

He decided to take the risk and said, “I have an emergency use for the Nine Essence Soul Congealing Pill. I’ll explain to the candidate and apologize to him.”

“No, this candidate is different. We can’t offend him,” Grandmaster Alfred said.

The other grandmasters nodded fervently. They agreed with Grandmaster Alfred’s decision.

This was a triple-grandmaster candidate. His significance to the alliance was different. Even if the probability was low, they mustn't take the risk.

Grandmaster Kirton didn't think that these grandmasters would still stop him after he repeated his request. His heart dropped.

Did this candidate have such a powerful background? Why were these grandmasters helping him?

"Grandmasters, can't you give the Ji family some leeway? The Nine Essence Soul Congealing Pill is extremely important to us." A middle-aged man stepped out from behind Grandmaster Kirton and cupped his fists at the grandmasters.

"The Ji family!" The grandmasters' expressions changed.

"Is it one of the eight dukes, Duke Xukong's Ji family?" Alfred took a deep breath and asked.

"Not bad!" the middle-aged man replied proudly.

Alfred exchanged glances with the other grandmasters. In the end, he shook his head and said apologetically, "I'm sorry, we still can't permit you to enter."

The middle-aged man's expression turned black. Even though he had used the Ji family's name, these grandmasters were still unwilling to give him face.

Were they looking down on them?

"Grandmaster Alfred, who's the person inside?" asked Grandmaster Kirton.

Alfred read his expression and explained, "The candidate inside might be a triple-grandmaster. We don't want to offend the Ji family, but this potential triple-grandmaster title is extremely important to our alliance. We're really sorry!"

"Triple-grandmaster!" Grandmaster Kirton was shocked.

He finally understood why Grandmaster Alfred and the others stopped him. If he offended the other party, he might have to cut ties with these grandmasters.

A triple-grandmaster was too important for the alliance. He wouldn't want to get on the bad side of this genius either.

The middle-aged man's expression changed. Naturally, he understood what this triple-grandmaster title meant. No wonder the grandmasters treated him as such even after learning he was from the Ji family. It was understandable.

The middle-aged man sighed uncontrollably. He couldn't enter forcefully since he didn't want to offend all these grandmasters. Shaking his head, he said, "I understand, I'm the reckless one."

"Actually, you don't have to be disappointed. What if he succeeds?" Alfred smiled and said.

"Oh right!" The middle-aged man's eyes lit up.

"It's just an assessment. He might not need the Nine Essence Soul Congealing Pill. You can buy it from him," Alfred said.

“Hahaha, indeed. Thank you for reminding me,” the middle-aged man laughed and said.

Grandmaster Kirton couldn't bear to douse his happiness when he saw the smile on the man's face.

He had refined the Nine Essence Soul Congealing Pill before, so he knew how difficult the process was. The person inside might not succeed.

### **Chapter 968: The Final Moment**

The group of people waited anxiously outside the assessment room.

Grandmaster Alfred and the other grandmasters were waiting to see if Wang Teng could pass the alchemy grandmaster-level assessment. They truly wanted a triple-grandmaster candidate.

The Ji family didn't care about that. Compared to the triple-grandmaster title, their focus was on the Nine Essence Soul Congealing Pill.

As for Grandmaster Kirton, he was wondering who the candidate was.

Triple-grandmaster! This was extremely rare!

Only an exceptional genius could achieve this. He wanted to see how impressive this person was to be able to let these grandmasters disregard the Ji family and help him.

“Grandmaster Alfred, which life planet is this talent from?” Grandmaster Kirton knew that the assessment had just started for half an hour, so there was a long way to go. He opened up a conversation with Grandmaster Alfred.

“I'm not sure either. However, I heard that he's from a faraway planet.”

“A faraway planet?” Grandmaster Kirton frowned. “Will a faraway planet be able to breed such a genius?”

“Don't look down on faraway planets. As time goes by, these planets have raised many amazing talents,” the middle-aged man from the Ji family shook his head and said.

Grandmaster Kirton was stunned. After some pondering, he realized that the man was right.

Many impressive talents came from faraway planets!

Most of them became the leaders of their generation. When they matured, they became indomitable martial warriors in their territory and enjoyed the fame of being unparalleled in the universe.

“This candidate has passed the rune assessment and is a grandmaster in runes. If he passes this alchemy assessment, he will have two grandmaster titles,” Grandmaster Alfred said.

“He has already passed the rune assessment!”

Everyone was shocked. That meant that the candidate inside had at least one grandmaster title.

“Most importantly, he's younger than 20!” Alfred smiled.

“Less than 20!”

This time, everyone was dumbstruck.

A less than 20 year-old-grandmaster and a hundred-year-old grandmaster were two different concepts.

A young grandmaster had a bigger possibility of reaching a higher level in the future. Even a hegemon like the Ji family would have to treat this person with care.

The middle-aged man was extremely polite towards Grandmaster Kirton because they needed his help.

But if any other grandmasters provoked them, the Ji family wasn't afraid of retaliating. This was why he stood up when Grandmaster Alfred and the other grandmasters stopped him from barging into the assessment room.

The difference in ability was apparent. The Ji family was a huge and powerful faction. They had the ability to handle a few grandmasters.

But if the person reached a higher level, even they wouldn't dare to promise that they could deal with them.

A grandmaster already had a strong network. They could even befriend universe-stage or-eternal stage martial warriors. Conversely, these martial warriors would have to think thrice before going against a powerful faction like the Ji family. Grandmasters needed to pay a high price before they could convince these martial warriors to help them.

“No wonder! No wonder!” Grandmaster Kirton gave a bitter smile. He cupped his fists at Grandmaster Alfred and said, “Fortunately, you stopped me earlier. If not, I'd be the sinner of the alliance.”

“Grandmaster Kirton, you're being too polite. You were worried too. We're both thinking for the alliance. It's good that we understand each other now,” Grandmaster Alfred said with a smile.

Polite remarks could be made by anyone.

As a grandmaster, since the other party had admitted his mistake, he wouldn't hound onto it and offend him unnecessarily.

“Grandmaster Kirton, you have helped me greatly. The Ji family will send some gifts to show our appreciation,” the middle-aged man cupped his fists and said.

“You're too polite. I didn't complete my task. I'm embarrassed by the undeserved praise.” Grandmaster Kirton waved his hand.

...

As they were waiting, Wang Teng was refining his dan quickly. Indeed, he did it quickly.

More than an hour later, all the 628 ingredients needed for the Nine Essence Soul Congealing Pill were refined.

There were 120 main ingredients and 508 auxiliary materials. The difficulty of their refinement was different. Main ingredients were harder to refine, so one needed to control the fire carefully.



However, to Wang Teng, there was no difference. He just had to refine them.

He would throw 18 ingredients in the furnace randomly at once and process them simultaneously. No ingredient was treated differently.

Hua Yuan, Harol, and the other grandmasters suddenly felt that alchemy was extremely easy when they watched him. In the blink of an eye, all the 628 ingredients were dealt with.

The grandmasters glanced at one another, unable to hide the astonishment in their eyes. Suddenly, they straightened their backs. They saw Wang Teng's next action.

He was merging the ingredients!

They stared straight at the furnace. Although they couldn't see the situation inside, they knew that it was time for the ingredients to mix together.

Wang Teng used his spiritual power to control all the ingredients. They were either in liquid or powder form. They spun in the furnace before congregating in the middle one by one. Then, they started merging with one another.

Wang Teng strictly followed the dan prescription. There was a specific order for the merging of the ingredients. The amount of each ingredient was specific too. Not one milligram of difference could be accepted.

Grandmaster alchemists had undergone many trials before they came up with the final dan prescription. One wouldn't be able to get the prescription just by looking.

This was why Wang Teng didn't care if the four grandmasters watched his dan-making process. They couldn't see much anyway.

There were more than 600 ingredients in the furnace. If he didn't refine them personally and mark them using his spiritual power, he wouldn't be able to differentiate them, much less others.

Thus, the dan prescription was extremely important. Many alchemists treasured their prescriptions dearly and kept them to themselves. They would never share them.

For instance, this Nine Essence Soul Congealing Pill was a rare dan medicine. Grandmaster Kirton had relied on it to make his name. Many formidable warriors would look for him to ask for a pill.

After all, injuring the spirit was inevitable during a battle between powerful martial warriors since the majority of them would use spiritual attacks. To them, the Nine Essence Soul Congealing Pill was a life-saving trump card.

While Wang Teng was merging the ingredients, the four grandmasters held their breaths. They didn't shift their gazes away even for a split second.

Wang Teng turned serious. He was even more focused than when he was refining the ingredients.

The merging of the ingredients was much more difficult than refining them. Any carelessness could cause his efforts to go to waste. Hence, he was prudent.

Psst!

The sound of liquid touching the bottom of the furnace and burning was heard continuously. Everyone was tense. They were afraid that the sound would suddenly change, signaling a failure at the last step.

Time passed slowly in this tense atmosphere...

### **Chapter 969: Success, Lightning Strikes! (1)**

“How long has it been?”

The four grandmasters were interacting using voice transmission. They kept staring at the black furnace and the young figure who was sitting beside it with closed eyes.

“Five hours!” Grandmaster Harol glanced at the time and replied.

“It’s longer than expected,” Grandmaster Hua Yuan said.

“That’s right. Based on his speed, I thought that he would be able to complete it in three hours,” another grandmaster said.

“Could there be a problem?”

“I don’t think so. No accidents happened during the refining and the merging process. It should be a success.”

“Let’s wait and see.” Grandmaster Hua Yuan let out a long sigh.

Five hours had passed since Wang Teng merged all the ingredients.

If anyone could see the situation inside Black Meteorite. they would see three purple dans twirling slowly at the bottom of the furnace. There were nine crevices on the surface of each dan, giving off a glow and looking magical.

That was right, there were three dans!

Wang Teng’s refining process went extremely smoothly, so he didn’t waste any ingredients. There was enough to make three dans.

He didn’t want to waste any ingredients, so he decided to make three Nine Essence Soul Congealing Pills.

Actually, after Wang Teng digested the pill formula, he knew that the Nine Essence Soul Congealing Pill was a rare dan and was slightly expensive. He was lacking money currently. Since the Secondary Career Alliance provided him the ingredients, he would definitely maximize its value.

As there were three dans, it would naturally take a longer time.

But the four grandmasters didn’t know about that.

Wang Teng covered the three dans with his spiritual power so that the fragrance wouldn’t scatter, not allowing his secret to leak.

If the four grandmasters smelled the strong fragrance, they would definitely know what was happening.

Wang Teng didn't do this on purpose. He did it so that he could preserve the efficacy of the pill.

All kinds of problems could crop up during the refinement. The alchemist needed to control the procedures firmly. If a mistake occurred in any step, the final product would be defective.

Of course, if all the procedures were handled with extreme care and control, there would be unexpected gains.

No matter what, to ensure the effects of the dan, normally, sixth-level and above dans were considered successful. If they reached the eighth or ninth level, they were of excellent quality.

In the dan market, the price of excellent quality dans was many times that of normal dans.

However, such high-class dans usually appeared during auctions so that they could fetch the maximum price.

Wang Teng remained calm. He wasn't impatient. He was gradually infusing the efficacy of the ingredients into the dan. At this stage, the Nine Essence Soul Congealing Pill was almost complete. Only the lightning calamity was left. After that, it would be a true grandmaster-level pill.

Time seemed to have slowed down again. Another five hours passed. The sky had turned dark outside.

Grandmaster Hua Yuan finally noticed something amiss. He stared at Wang Teng in astonishment. Then, he exchanged glances with the other grandmasters.

"This situation might mean that Grandmaster Wang Teng's dan is of an extremely high quality!" Grandmaster Hua Yuan's tone was serious. He was using voice transmission.

"Yes, the possibility is high."

The other grandmasters agreed with him. They were all grandmasters and were experienced in making dans. They could guess what was happening.

"It looks like we'll need to wait longer!" Grandmaster Harol gave a forced smile. Then, her eyes lit up, and she looked toward Black Meteorite as if there was a treasure hiding inside.

"If he succeeds, it will be an extraordinary dan! I'm happy to wait!" Another grandmaster smiled.

"Most candidates will choose an easier dan for the assessment, rarely producing a high-class one. This isn't a scene we can see every day," the other grandmaster chimes in.

"Let me inform the people outside. They have been waiting for a long time." Grandmaster Hua Yuan got up silently and walked out of the room. He didn't disturb Wang Teng.

The instant he walked out, everyone crowded around him.

The middle-aged man from the Ji family and Grandmaster Kirton thought that Wang Teng had failed. After all, Grandmaster Hua Yuan came out before any lightning calamity.

"Grandmaster Hua Yuan, did he fail?" Grandmaster Alfred frowned and asked.

Grandmaster Hua Yuan was stunned for a moment. Then, he laughed and said, “You’ve misunderstood. I came out to inform you that this assessment might last for a few more hours. I don’t know when it will end.”

“As long as he didn’t fail!” Everyone heaved a sigh of relief.

“Why is it so long? Grandmaster Hua Yuan, how many sets of ingredients did you prepare?” Grandmaster Kirton frowned and asked.

He thought that Grandmaster Hua Yuan had prepared many sets of ingredients for Wang Teng, which resulted in the long refining time.

“Grandmaster Kirton, why are you here?” Grandmaster Hua Yuan finally noticed Grandmaster Kirton. He was surprised.

“I was making the Nine Essence Soul Congealing Pill, but I didn’t have enough ingredients. I wanted to borrow from the alliance. However, I was a step slower than you. I heard that there is a triple-grandmaster candidate taking the assessment, and he also knows how to make the Nine Essence Soul Congealing Pill,” Grandmaster Kirton explained.

### **Chapter 970: Success, Lightning Strikes! (2)**

“I see.” Grandmaster Hua Yuan nodded in enlightenment.

“So what’s going on? Why the hold-up? How many sets of ingredients did you prepare? Even if he’s a triple-grandmaster candidate, this isn’t right,” Grandmaster Kirton said.

“Grandmaster Kirton, you’re thinking too much. We only prepare three sets of ingredients for the grandmaster-level assessment. You should know that the ingredients for the Nine Essence Soul Congealing Pill are rare, so we only managed to get two sets,” Grandmaster Hua Yuan shook his head and replied.

“Two sets!” Grandmaster Kirton was dumbfounded. “Why is it taking so long then?”

“Grandmaster Wang Teng’s dan might be of a high quality.”

Grandmaster Kirton’s gaze changed. He knew what Grandmaster Hua Yuan meant. The other party didn’t fail. Instead, he was gradually infusing the ingredients into the pill. This was most likely a high-level dan.

“Does this mean that he’s at the last step?” Grandmaster Kirton asked agitatedly.

“Yes. What’s more, he only used one set of ingredients,” Grandmaster Hua Yuan complimented with a smile.

“One set!” Grandmaster Kirton felt a stab in his heart.

Everyone looked at him with different emotions in their eyes.

The Nine Essence Soul Congealing Pill had made Grandmaster Kirton famous. His success rate was said to be 60%. At the same time, the quality of his pills could reach the fifth level.

However, Wang Teng managed to succeed with only one set of ingredients. From the time he was spending, the quality of his pill would probably exceed the fifth level too.

Based on this, Grandmaster Kirton seemed to have been defeated by Grandmaster Wang Teng.

The middle-aged man from the Ji family couldn't care less about the mood. He asked excitedly, "Does that mean that this grandmaster's dan will be of a high level?"

"You are?" Grandmaster Hua Yuan asked curiously.

"This is Mister Ji Yuanqing from the Ji family," Grandmaster Alfred introduced.

"The Ji family!" Grandmaster Hua Yuan was shocked. He nodded and replied, "Mister Ji Yuanqing, you're right. The Nine Essence Soul Congealing Pill made by Grandmaster Wang Teng will be a high-level dan."

"That's great!" Ji Yuanqing clapped his hands happily.

The higher the quality, the better the effects. This was a widely known fact. To him, it was a great piece of news.

"This is?" Grandmaster Hua Yuan didn't know what was happening. He was puzzled.

"One of my family members injured his soul and needs the Nine Essence Soul Congealing Pill urgently."

"I see. What a coincidence. You can ask Grandmaster Wang Teng to sell his pill to you. I think he won't reject the chance to befriend the Ji family," Grandmaster Hua Yuan smiled and said.

"Hahaha, as long as the refinement is successful, the Ji family will give Grandmaster Wang Teng a fair price." Ji Yuanqing laughed.

Grandmaster Kirton didn't feel good. He should be the one gaining this favor, but in the end, it landed in the hands of a grandmaster he had never seen before. He had pushed the chance in this person's face.

"I wonder when he will succeed. Why don't you go back to have some rest?" Grandmaster Hua Yuan suggested.

"No way. We'll wait here until Grandmaster Wang Teng succeeds." Grandmaster Alfred shook his head firmly.

"That's right, we'll wait here," Ji Yuanqing agreed hurriedly.

Grandmaster Hua Yuan didn't persuade them further. At their stage, staying up for one night wouldn't affect them.

He turned around and returned to the assessment room.

Grandmaster Kirton also wanted to go in, but he was too embarrassed to ask. Thus, he remained outside.

Wang Teng was still working on the refinement patiently. He didn't know that the audience outside the room had gotten bigger.

Time passed slowly. Soon, dawn arrived.

The sun rose up into the sky, heralding a new day. Many people came to the Secondary Career Alliance early in the morning and started working on their own businesses as always.

But in this calm and peaceful atmosphere, a beam of white light suddenly shot out from the Secondary Career Alliance.

The Forces in the surrounding vibrated, and a powerful string of energy was sucked over.

After the white beam of light appeared, dark clouds started to gather above the Secondary Career Alliance. Within a few seconds, as more and more dark clouds gathered, the sky turned completely black.

However, the other areas of the city were still bright and shiny. The weather was sunny.

This strange scene attracted many people's attention.

Bolts of lightning swarmed among the dark clouds like silver snakes. A terrifying pressure bore down on the alliance building.

"This is... the lightning calamity!"

Someone recognized the origin of the dark clouds and lightning and exclaimed.

"Which grandmaster made a grandmaster-level dan? Or a grandmaster-level weapon?"

"I haven't seen a grandmaster in action for some time!"

"I didn't expect this huge surprise early in the morning."

"Prepare your peanuts and popcorn. Get your seats. There's no need to squeeze..."

Everyone rushed out of their houses to witness this lightning calamity.

At the same time, in the assessment room, Grandmaster Hua Yuan and the other three examiners were overjoyed when they saw the sudden pillar of light. They screamed in delight.

"Success!"

"Quick, open the dome of the alliance!"

Actually, he didn't need to say it. When the beam of light appeared, the dome opened automatically.

A thicker beam of white light shot out of Black Meteorite, causing the original beam of light to widen. It soared right into the sky.

Boom!

The lightning in the dark clouds seemed to have been provoked. The silver bolts danced wildly, and thunder roared, echoing in the entire city.

Wang Teng stood up. The dark clouds had become thicker and denser. They seemed to be pressing down. Yet, he remained calm. He looked up at the dark clouds just a few meters above his head.

Bolts of lightning clashed among the clouds and released thunderous roars that clapped right beside his ears. It was a magnificent and frightening scene, sending chills down one's spine.

*So this is the lightning calamity of a grandmaster-level dan!*

There was a tinge of awe in the depth of Wang Teng's eyes.

This was the dream of countless alchemists. They hoped that they could make a dan that would attract the lightning calamity!

This was the only way they could overcome the invisible barrier and advance to the grandmaster level. It would be a great honor for them.

*You can't suppress yourselves too, right?*

Wang Teng smiled and waved his hand. The lid of Black Meteorite flew away, and three purple streams of light charged out. They formed a tail of purple light as they flew into the sky.

"Three lines of purple light!"

The grandmasters in the room were staggered. Their eyes widened in amazement.

"I didn't see anything wrong, right? Those are three pills!"

"Am I having an illusion?"

The grandmasters stared at the sky in disbelief.

Wang Teng flew into the sky, following the three dans closely as they charged out of the opened dome of the building.

"Let's go and take a look."

"Let's go!"

"Go, go, go!"

...

Grandmaster Hua Yuan and the other three grandmasters regained their senses. They glanced at one another and rushed out.

The people waiting outside the room saw the same scene and darted out of the building. They floated in the sky.

"Success!"

"Grandmaster Wang Teng managed to refine the Nine Essence Soul Congealing Pill... wait, why are there three dans?!"

Everyone stared at the three flaring balls of light spinning around the beam of white light. They were in a daze. The only emotion left in their hearts was astonishment.

“Three dans at once? This...” Grandmaster Kirton couldn’t find his voice anymore. The shock on his face was apparent.

2

“Three pills!”

“Oh my god, this grandmaster made three pills at once!”

“Does anyone know this grandmaster? He’s so frightening!”

“He seems unfamiliar, and he’s not wearing the Secondary Career Alliance attire. Is he not from the alliance?”

...

There was an uproar among the spectators below. Their voices went right up into the sky.

Wang Teng changed his appearance after he saw so many people. After all, he hadn’t settled his affair with the Cao family, so he shouldn’t reveal his ability too soon.

Grandmaster Alfred, Grandmaster Hua Yuan, and the others were confused. They didn’t understand why Wang Teng’s facial features had changed.

But they didn’t have the time to think...

A terrifying lightning bolt boomed in the sky.

Three bolts of lightning shot down from the dark clouds, bringing along a powerful and frightening power of the heavens with them. They smashed into the three purple dans within the beam of white light like three silver lightning dragons.