Pet Store 1341

Chapter 1341 Understanding (2)

Su Ping entered cities and towns like a normal traveler with the money he received from the Heaven Path Institute.

He passed through swamps and deserts, encountering beasts and desolate woods.

He also met some of the local adventurers.

It was the first time for him to truly sense the uniqueness of the Archean Divinity ever since he went to that world.

When he turned into a middle-ranked god, he discovered that most gods were friendly to him, all their arrogance and prejudice gone.

After he traveled for a few days and turned into a high-ranked god, not only was their arrogance gone, he even saw modesty and respect in them.

They call themselves gods, and they're omnipotent to humans; but the fact is, they're just relatively stronger beings. Gods and deities are all like this. Is there truly an emotionless and unbiased existence keeping order?

Su Ping fell silent.

You would have to be devoid of all emotion in order to be absolutely fair.

Emotions were the opposite of rationality, which demanded indifference and objectiveness.

If I abandon my emotions, will I be able to transcend and become a real dominator?

The idea occurred to Su Ping. Deep in his heart, his rationality told him it was a feasible approach.

Furthermore, it seemed to be a road that led to some ultimate height.

However, he dropped the idea when he remembered the Little Skeleton and then saw the Inferno Dragon, the Purple Python and the Dark Dragon Hound near him.

In the world that the Golden Crows' ancestors saw, lives were made of grains of sand that bumped into each other. Are they really alive?

Or maybe, are lives what accommodate thoughts and ideas?

The shadows that were deep in the universe... The floating Great Dao... They all seemed alive. It's just that their life forms were absolutely incomprehensible to us.

One must cultivate by imitating nature. Since ancient times, humans have gained strength by observing and copying nature; nature and the universe are the best teachers...

Lightning gave us fire; it's a gift from nature. We make tools by learning from nature; flowers, grass and trees have their unique ways of living that we can learn from.

How does rain fall? How do flowers blossom? Everything contains the Great Dao...

"Everything contains the Great Dao..." Su Ping mumbled. A sentence suddenly occurred to him,

Everything could be trained!

That was what the system said.

So... the Great Dao can be trained too?

Su Ping's eyes widened at the thought, and countless others rolled dazzlingly in his mind. The question that had been puzzling him seemed to have found an answer, and he was ready to grasp it.

If everything can be trained, the Great Dao can also be trained... Then, what kind of existence can nurture the Great Dao?

Su Ping's mind shook. He had a vague trace of the direction to find his Dao Heart.

What he didn't expect was that the key to the question was actually something the system had said to him a long time before.

Everything could be trained.

Su Ping had always thought that the system was just being snobbish when it said that. However, it seemed that those words contained an ultimate secret.

Su Ping couldn't help but smile. He had found a direction for his Dao Heart.

"Brother Su, why are you smiling?" a pleasant voice floated over.

Su Ping turned around and saw a beautiful girl staring at him curiously inside the carriage. The girl's brother, sitting next to her, was brawny and handsome; he was also looking at Su Ping in surprise.

The latter withdrew his gaze from the window. He was in such a great mood that he smiled again and said, "I just thought of something delightful."

"What is it?" asked the girl curiously.

The siblings were part of a cross-continent trade group that Su Ping had met two days earlier. They were shipping a batch of resources to the neighboring continent. Aside from resources, they had extra space for gods who intended to smuggle items. They usually charged higher prices than cross-continent teleportation arrays for such a service. Most of the people who hired them for such things had their own problems. Some were even of the criminal sort. "Val, watch it," immediately said her brother. Most people who hired them carried secrets. Even if they weren't criminals, they might have secretly escaped from their homes. Most teleportation arrays had records, and they could get caught if they chose to teleport.

The girl stuck out her tongue and gave Su Ping a cute smile.

She looked like a teenager, but she was actually thousands of years old and had already reached the Ascendant State. She was one of the stronger guards of the trade group.

After all, the higher-tiered God Kings were well respected on every continent. They could hardly be seen on adventuring or trade groups. Even when they did show up, they would always become the center of attention.

Su Ping smiled, not feeling bothered by the questioning. He sat up straight on his seat, now in a good mood after having found the key to the question in his heart. Although he couldn't condense a Dao Heart immediately, at least he knew where to start. All he needed was an opportunity to condense the Dao Heart.

He had seen all sorts of gods and plenty of beautiful, miserable and even cruel scenes during his trip. All of it served as nourishment for his soul.

"I'm leaving," said Su Ping, as he was now ready to leave for the Red Dome Realm at a moments' notice.

The destination of that caravan was too far away from the Red Dome Realm. There was no need for Su Ping to take a detour anymore. He would ask for more Heavenly Fire from the Red Dome Realm and then return to his store.

"You're leaving?"

Stunned, the girl quickly said, "But we haven't arrived yet. We're in the static void between continents; it's very dangerous outside. We..."

Before she finished the carriage stopped all of a sudden.

There were three dragons blocking their path, with crimson scales from head to toe. There were thousands of people with them, and more than thirty carriages, all hauled by the same dragons. Those beasts were in the Ascendant State; they too could be useful in battle.

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"What is going on?"

The young man inside the carriage slightly changed his expression and spread his senses. The next moment, he revealed his aura and said in a low voice, "Val, come with me."

The girl also realized that something was wrong. She said to Su Ping, "Just stay here, we'll be right back. There might be a problem, but don't worry; we'll take care of it."

Su Ping didn't respond, and simply spread his senses. At this moment, the carriages were traveling in a channel through the void. Said channel was established between two continents; outside the channel was a static void that contained illusory and blinding power. It was also home to the Void Beasts that everybody was scared of.

Void Beasts could weaken their godly power and were deemed as banes to all gods. Such channels were usually established by God Emperors through the Original Dao World. They were considered safe areas.

A spaceship was currently in the way of the carriages. The spaceship had forcefully squeezed into the channel; there were a dozen people inside the vessel communicating with the leader of the convoy.

Su Ping listened for a while and realized what was going on. He didn't know that there would actually be bandits wandering in the void.

What a dangerous profession. That spaceship seems to be an excellent artifact; no wonder they're able to travel across the void and come to this place... Su Ping remarked. He could sense a few powerful Void Beasts lurking in the void nearby. Those people would become easy prey without the channel protecting them.

Void Beasts could easily kill gods who were at the same level. Most gods kept clear from such creatures.

Su Ping watched quietly. If his companions ran into trouble, he would solve it for them. Such a situation wasn't a big deal for him. It would also count as a reward for the girl's kind reminder.

Very soon, the two parties reached a deal. The convoy would pay some money to avoid the conflict.

Su Ping was reassured. He was about to take out the Red Dome Realm's badge and leave, when he suddenly raised his eyebrows.

Chapter 1342 The Red Dome Realm (1)

In front of the convoy—the bandits took away the treasures they demanded. Then they looked at each other and chose to leave.

Right when they boarded the spaceship, an enormous shadow surfaced outside the channel near the spaceship. It was a behemoth-like creature that had risen from the deep void. Its scary appearance shocked all those present.

Bang!

The behemoth struck the channel fiercely, producing a crack.

The crack had already been there for a while. It was the hole used by the spaceship to break in. That was why the aura was leaking to the exterior and the Void Beasts noticed it.

"Damn it. run!"

The people on the spaceship slightly changed their expressions. They quickly took off with their spaceship and ignored the Void Beasts.

"Those assholes!" cursed the people of the trade group upon seeing them flee, then summoned their guards, ready to resist the enemy.

Exactly at that moment-a magnificent figure thousands of meters tall emerged in the region of space outside the channel. It looked like a floating island.

The spaceship had just broken out of the channel, when it was suddenly frozen in the void. After that, the spacecraft exploded in a dazzling manner.

No one could tell what kind of power had attacked the spaceship, but all the people on board panicked and fled to the void. However, they were ensnared by some sort of power before they could run off. It seemed that there was an attraction force from a certain point, pulling them over. Screams burst out when they reached the final point.

Screams were let out by every single one of the people caught. Bloody scenes occurred; everybody on the spaceship was minced by some sort of power.

Bang.

While everybody was watching—the channel trembled and cracks appeared.

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The enormous figure waved its claws and smashed at all the people inside the channel. "It's a beast king!"

"How can there possibly be a beast king in this place?"

"Contact the God Emperors immediately..."

Exclamations came from the convoy; all the guards were panicking. That Void Beast was too frightening for them to resist. They had to flee.

Whoosh!

The siblings who had just left their carriage flew back fast. Once they passed by the carriage, the girl named Val paused and lifted the window curtain. "Don't stay here anymore. Run...!"

She was stunned when she realized the situation inside the carriage.

It was empty. Not only was Su Ping nowhere to be seen, but the kids traveling with him had also disappeared.

"How about that? They've already fled." The burly man quickly pulled his sister. "Let's run; just ignore them. We're truly unlucky this time... Let's try to survive first."

The girl was really quick to react, immediately running off with her brother.

Exactly at that moment-a devastating scream was heard coming from somewhere behind them.

The scream was so loud it seemed to sound right next to their ears; both of them were quite taken aback. They turned around and saw the most shocking scene: That Void Beast King—which was thousands of meters tallhad been beheaded!

There was a terrifying, glowing sword aura on its body, leaving a trace hundreds of meters long, which had pierced through.

"Well..."

Both of them were dazed.

Aside from the pair of siblings, the others who were fleeing in panic stopped, also shocked by the scene.

Did one of the God Emperors show up?

Very soon, they saw a slim and tall man in front of the beast king. His black hair fluttered in the wind; there were also a few youngsters around him, who looked like his servants.

"This is..."

Val widened her eyes in disbelief.

Her brother's eyeballs were almost popping out as he looked at the man in disbelief. They couldn't be mistaken: the guy was none other than the lazy man sharing their carriage.

This looks like a beast from the Illusory World...

In midair-Su Ping slew the Void Beast, that was as strong as a God King. He had the special feeling again and was astonished by it.

It was his first time fighting a Void Beast. It reminded him of when he first grasped the law of illusion.

Once he thought about the law of illusion, Su Ping remembered the figures he had encountered when he studied said law. The nine layers of space making up the universe didn't include the Illusory World nor the Path Source World; they seemed to be in a place that was beyond that universe.

Su Ping dismissed those random thoughts and looked back at all the people behind him. He chose to leave once he noticed that the brother and sister duo were fine. He snapped out with a few more sword auras, killing the other Void Beasts gathering nearby; then he took out the Red Dome Realm's badge and teleported away.

For him, that had been just a trivial incident during his journey.

But after Su Ping left... Everybody was still replaying that scene in their minds.

"I didn't know he was that strong..."

Val looked at the last place where Su Ping floated before leaving, still in a daze. She finally understood why he had told them he was leaving. The guy had no need to cross continents through that channel; he could use a personal teleportation at any moment.

"He's so strong. He finished off the beast king so quickly; he must be one of the strongest God Kings, if not a..." her brother mumbled in astonishment, regretting not having been more enthusiastic when they were in the carriage with Su Ping. He could have received some pointers had he made a good impression.

In the Fire God Palace of the Red Dome Realm.

That place was at the realm's core. The Fire God Palace was also the strongest force, which dominated the entire Red Dome Realm.

The place was scorching hot. The soil was blackened and cracked; there was nothing green within a range of tens of thousands of kilometers. Few plants grew in that place, and all of them were extremely precious. Some of them were ever-burning blades of grass, while some were blackened trees, with burning red fruits hanging from their branches. They were all defended by divine beasts.

Chapter 1343 The Red Dome Realm (2)

There were thousands of stairs on the steep palace, and temples of various sizes were interconnected. Disciples of the Fire God Palace were training hard in their respective areas.

A crowd had gathered in the palace's square. Aside from disciples, there were also elders and deacons.

"Seventh stage of the Sky Fire Technique!"

At the front, a crimson stone pillar began to burn all of a sudden, making the temperature rise at a fast rate; the crowd couldn't help but retreat. Only a few people remained impassive.

After the announcement of an elder, a figure retreated from the stone pillar, attracting a lot of attention.

Above the square, in a palace-two figures were standing in front of a window. One of them had an attractive body figure clad in a thin, revealing dress. "Jing'er has cultivated to the seventh stage already. As expected of the disciple you taught personally."

"Not bad. If she works harder, there's a chance she will knock the Chaos Bell and rise to the Chaos Talents Rank," said the other woman who looked like an angel from heaven.

The crimson mark on her forehead made her look even more beautiful.

The temperature down below rose abruptly, and the waves of heat almost reached them instantly. Meantime, exclamations burst out.

Someone shouted, "Eighth stage of the Sky Fire Technique!"

There was a fuzzy figure made of flames in front of the square's crimson stone pillar. It was as high as the thick pillar; it was like an ancient statue with a blurry face.

The two people up above couldn't help but feel astonished after seeing such development.

"It's Miss Lina!"

"How long has she been with us? She's already reached the eighth stage?" The thinly dressed woman was stunned. "Lina..." said the master of the Red Dome Realm with a soft voice, eyes glittering, "She carries the purest bloodline of our clan; it's only natural for her to grow this fast. Jing'er cannot compare to her. She was sent here according to the clan master's arrangement; her goal is to become a God Emperor. If possible, she might compete to become the next clan master."

"Miss Lina is truly the chosen one," said the other woman, carrying flattery in her tone.

The square was in an uproar at the moment.

"She actually summoned the Fire God's projection. Unbelievable!"

"I heard that Miss Lina went to the pit's third level. That's not a place for gods."

"Not even Senior Brother Jing Feng can compare. She came here later than he did, right?"

"It can't be helped. She's the lady of the Yan Clan; cultivating here is only part of her training. She'll probably go somewhere else once she's done here."

Everybody whispered.

When nobody was paying attention, in a remote corner at the rear of the square-a teleportation array glittered and a man walked out.

"Huh?"

Hardly had Su Ping teleported when he saw the crowd in front of him.

Furthermore, there was abundant fire power in that place. He also sensed that a terrifying power was surging underneath his feet. He was familiar with that power... It was Heavenly Fire!

The Heavenly Fire is right below me?

Su Ping looked down through the thick rocks and soil underneath his feet, and was able to see a crimson light burning fiercely. It was none other than the Heavenly Fire.

He looked away and raised his head to check his surroundings. The temperature in that scorching environment was at least a thousand degrees; normal clothes and water would be vaporized immediately in such conditions. All the stuff found there contained divine power and was strongly resistant to heat; ordinary people would be burned alive if they were sent to that place.

"Huh?"

While he looked around-a figure suddenly rushed over.

The disciples of the Fire God Palace attending the event noticed something. They raised their heads in astonishment; then, they became respectful and showed delight. Some looked at the girl in front of the stone pillar with envy, thinking she had surely caught the master's attention.

In front of the stone pillar-a crimson haired girl also raised her head. She looked at the master who was flying towards her, her eyes glittering. She came from a faction of her family that was different from the master's. The purpose of her cultivation there was partly to gain more strength, and partly to rope the master into her faction.

She stared at the latter, already considering what she should say.

But exactly at that moment, the expert whom she had been gazing at went straight past her...

Huh? Did she overshoot her move?

The girl was dazed. That idea occurred to her, but the conjecture was immediately disproved.

The other disciples were also surprised. Then, their eyes found the stranger standing in front of the teleportation array.

"You're here!"

The master of the Red Dome Realm looked at Su Ping with great delight. She didn't expect the newly risen Dao Child to go there so soon, and she was aware that the Rain Clan was hunting him. The fact that Su Ping had risked his life to get there was proof of his sincerity and respect! "Senior."

Su Ping recognized her, the realm master who had presented a proposal to join them. He nodded and said, "Did I interrupt anything?"

He realized that those people were performing some sort of ritual.

"No. Nothing is more important than your arrival," said the realm master with sincerity and a smile. "How was your trip? Did you come alone?"

She looked around and saw no elders of the Heaven Path Institute protecting him. That in itself angered her. What were the old farts of the institute thinking? They don't cherish their own Dao Child at all? If anything had happened to Su Ping, she might have demanded an explanation from them. After all, she had paid a great price to attract that genius.

"Yes. The trip wasn't long, so I traveled alone; but I'm not here to take over anyone's position. I simply wanted to fetch more Heavenly Fire," said Su Ping.

The realm master couldn't help but curse inwardly when her suspicion of him traveling alone was confirmed. However, she smiled on the surface and said, "Now that you're here, let me give you a tour around the Red Dome Realm. As for Heavenly Fire, you can have as much as you want, but it's extremely ferocious. What about the seed I gave you last time?"

"I've already consumed it," said Su Ping. "So I wanted to fetch more."

The realm master felt dazed for a moment. Heavenly Fire was a rare treasure even for God Emperors, and yet Su Ping had already used it up.

However, she then recalled that there were many experts in the Heaven Path Institute. Some elder had surely helped him absorb it.

After considering that such a thing wasn't a big deal, she chuckled and said, "That's fine. The last thing our realm is short of is Heavenly Fire."

"That's great." Su Ping examined the erupting power underneath his feet and felt as if he were standing on top of an active volcano. He said, "Senior, there's something else I wanted to ask you. Do you know where the Heavenly Fire came from?"

The realm master smiled and said, "The old fellas at the institute didn't tell you? Never mind; I'll tell you later. Let me introduce you to everyone first, that way nobody would be stupid enough to offend you."

After that, she turned around and flew to the sky above the square. Su Ping followed her closely.

"Everyone."

The realm master looked down at those present. The smile on her face was replaced by solemnity. "This is the Dao Child from the Heaven Path Institute, and the new Deputy Master I've sincerely invited over. His name is Su Ping, of the human race. Remember his name and do not offend him!"

Everybody was astonished. No wonder the realm master was so giddy that she simply overlooked Miss Lina.

"A Dao Child from the Heaven Path Institute?"

"I heard that all their Dao Children are on the top of the Chaos Talents Rank. Is he the Dao Child the realm master went to invite earlier?"

"Odd. Why do I feel that he's at the same level as I am?"

All the disciples were whispering, and so were the elders and deacons, who gazed at Su Ping and sensed his peculiar nature. There was an incomprehensible and abyssal aura deep inside him.

In the crowd—the crimson-haired girl mumbled with glittering eyes, "Dao Child?"

Chapter 1344 Broken Finger (1)

"Well..."

Su Ping only wanted to fetch some Heavenly Fire and leave quietly; he never expected such a grand reception. Seeing that everybody was looking at him, he could only say, "Hello, everybody. I am Zha Zha Hui[1]..." "????"

Everybody was puzzled.

Su Ping coughed lightly. It was truly embarrassing to play around with memes in an alternate world.

"Dao Child?"

The master of the Red Dome Realm looked at Su Ping, feeling confused. She didn't think that Su Ping was intimidated by the crowd, but his behavior was indeed unusual.

Su Ping stopped joking around; he asked, "Realm master, what's this?" He solemnly stared at the stone pillar in front of him. He hadn't paid attention to it earlier, but now that he was closer, he discovered a familiar aura inside the eye-catching pillar. However, such a familiar feeling didn't make him feel close or intimate; instead, he was vigilant and even repelled by it.

"Huh?"

The realm master was surprised. Su Ping sensed the unusualness of this thing the moment he got here?

She didn't say it out loud. Instead, she explained expressionlessly, "This is an innate artifact of the Fire God Palace to test one's control over Heavenly Fire. Are you interested in giving it a try?"

"An innate artifact?"

Su Ping had picked up a lot of knowledge from the library of the Heaven Path Institute, and knew it was an artifact born in nature. He narrowed his eyes and his pupils changed, and with it the world before his eyes also changed. The surface of the pillar—which was covered in red rocks—was gone, revealing the horrifying scene inside.

"This is..."

Su Ping was shocked, as the pillar was actually a finger!

The appendage's surface was rotten, some of the flesh gone; the bone could be seen in some parts.

Su Ping looked at the bottom of the finger; it had been severed and buried underground. He was slightly relieved. It would have been appalling to find the finger still connected to the body.

His gut told him that the previous owner was not a God Emperor; it was more likely to have been an Ancestral God. There was also a small chance it was similar to the Golden Crows' ancestor, but quite slim at that. After all, existences like the crow ancestor were rare, even in the age of chaos.

"Just an artifact?" Su Ping looked at the master of the Red Dome Realm. He had just seen the item's real appearance through the Original Dao World. He didn't think that the realm master, a God Emperor, wouldn't know the truth of the finger.

"Huh?" The realm master felt slightly dazed. Did Su Ping discover the secret inside? Impossible. He's just become a Dao Child and his vitality aura is awfully young. How could he possibly do that?

She answered with a question of her own, "What did you see?"

Su Ping stared at her for a moment but chose not to dig further. He said, "Nothing. It's just very interesting."

"Interesting?"

The realm master considered what Su Ping said. On the surface, she said, "Are you interested in taking the test too? Although you have yet to practice the Heavenly Fire Technique, it can still measure your fire expertise."

"Is that so? I can give it a try. How should I go about it?"

Su Ping's eyes glittered since he was willing; he wanted to find out how marvelous that finger was.

"Unleash your power of fire and direct it towards the pillar," she said with a chuckle, "Being the deputy master of this realm, you're qualified to cultivate the Heavenly Fire Technique. I'll transmit it to you now."

"Okay."

Su Ping didn't decline the offer, as there was no such thing as learning too many skills.

The realm master raised her slim finger and light gathered at the tip. She then pointed at Su Ping's shoulder. He instantly sensed that she was trying to visit his mind, but she didn't try breaking in. He instantly accepted the transmission.

A tremendous amount of information was swiftly transferred to his mind.

The data was like a series of brooks running towards an ocean; all of it was abundant, yet Su Ping's mind was more than spacious. He was quick as he sorted it out and found it was indeed a skill related to fire.

Su Ping browsed through the information and found thirteen volumes, each containing a stage.

However, it's drastically inferior when compared to the Original Divine Fire Technique of the Golden Crows. Su Ping read through it carefully; time passed at a very slow rate inside his mind. He soon discovered more training possibilities beyond the thirteen volumes; after all, the thirteenth volume only addressed the topic of cultivating the Heavenly Fire Dao Heart.

Considering the world that Su Ping saw with the Golden Crows' ancestor's help, creating a Dao Heart in the universe was only the first step.

The full control of one's universe couldn't be attained without becoming an Ancestral God.

Su Ping opened his eyes and looked at the realm master, who couldn't have passed him an incomplete skill on purpose; maybe he wasn't qualified to obtain the rest of the information just yet.

"Given your talent, you should be able to reach the tenth stage very quickly. This is the core technique of our clan; you might become an Ancestral God if you use it. However, the rest of the technique is a top secret of our clan. You can only get the complete version if you're willing to be married into our clan," said the realm master while chuckling.

All the people gathered below were stunned. The realm master is that confident in the Dao Child? Whoever cultivated ten stages would be a remarkable God King.

"I'm not interested in marrying anyone just yet... But I wouldn't say no to a concubine," said Su Ping.

The realm master smiled, knowing that he was too much of a genius to be tempted by a single technique. After all, the Heaven Path Institute was not short of Ancestral God techniques and Su Ping would certainly have access to them since he was a Dao Child.

"Let me familiarize myself with it," said Su Ping. He closed his eyes and practiced the technique in his heart.

Everybody exchanged bewildered looks, not knowing the reason why Su Ping would close his eyes all of a sudden.

"Young Master Jing Feng, this Dao Child is on the Chaos Talents Rank. He looks so extraordinary!"

A few guys in the crowd whispered amongst themselves.

A handsome young man who was at the center slightly raised his head and frowned. Even though the guy was a Dao Child, he was unused to looking up at anyone else, which rubbed him the wrong way. He said, "He's being so rude to my master. What's with the manners of this Dao Child?"

The others felt wary; bewildered, they looked at each other, none of them dared to say a thing.

Even though they were his followers, the Dao Child of the Heaven Path Institute was too powerful a figure for them to disparage.

Realizing what they were thinking, Jing Feng snorted but didn't say anything else. He was eager to find out what the legendary Dao Child of the Heaven Path Institute could do.

The best geniuses in the entire Archean Divinity were the Dao Children of the Heaven Path Institute, except for those on the Chaos Talents Rank.

Either identity was a great honor to have, but the latter was harder to acquire, because not everyone on the Chaos Talents Rank was a Dao Child, while every Dao Child had a spot on the ranking

A moment later-Su Ping opened his eyes and said to the realm master, "I'm ready."

The latter was slightly surprised. The invitation had been done casually; she didn't really care about the result. After all, Su Ping had proven his potential as a Dao Child; even if the result was subpar, it could

only suggest that fire was not his strong suit. If his result was favorable, it would only be a natural outcome.

"Let's go then, Dao Child," said the realm master with a smile.

Su Ping nodded and landed.

At the square—the crowd couldn't help but make way for Su Ping, awed by his identity.

Such a reaction angered the crimson-haired girl mingling in the crowd; she frowned as she watched. Even though she was only there to cultivate for a brief time, that was an organization of her clan anyway, while the attendees were disciples trained in her clan. She felt slightly uncomfortable as she noticed how everyone was being subdued.

"Huh?"

Feeling the hostility in the crowd, Su Ping raised his eyebrows and glanced at them. He noticed that they weren't too strong, so he simply overlooked it.

There would always be people who didn't want others to show off. The stronger you were, the more enemies you would have. There might be some smiling faces around them, but their sincerity was questionable.

Su Ping chose to ignore them and went straight to the pillar. While looking at the finger in the rocks, he took a deep breath and raised a hand. A scorching power instantly burst out.

A caw resounded; a figure suddenly erupted behind Su Ping's back and soared in the sky.

Chapter 1345 Pinnacle (1)

The scorching figure flapped wings that blocked the sky. Flames covered the wings, as if ready to melt the entire world.

"The Fire God's projection? Wait, it's a projection of another being!"

"He's visualizing the power of fire. Has he reached the eighth stage of the Heavenly Fire Technique already?".

Everybody looked at the brilliant, scorching figure in astonishment. That was a symbol of the Heavenly Fire Technique' eighth stage. However, the projection invoked for Su Ping was slightly different from theirs. "Huh?"

The Red Dome Realm master slightly changed her expression. Given her expertise, she easily realized what level Su Ping had reached. It was indeed the technique's eighth stage; however, Su Ping activated a projection from his own bloodline, which had overridden the projection of the Fire God. There could only be two possibilities

Either his bloodline's projection was more powerful than the Fire God of her clan.

- Or... Su Ping's bloodline was so pure that the projection of his bloodline exceeded the technique's.

Judging by the appearance... Is it an ancient Golden Crow?

The realm master narrowed her eyes solemnly. If that was the Golden Crows' bloodline from the age of chaos, the first possibility was more likely.

The Fire God of her clan was a mythical creature from the age of chaos too, but it couldn't compare to the Golden Crows.

After all, they had once preyed on Fire Phoenixes and stars.

The Golden Crows' bloodline... No wonder he's reached the eighth stage of the Heavenly Fire Technique so quickly. The realm master calmed down. She wasn't surprised to find that Su Ping had such a powerful bloodline. She didn't think he could have achieved everything with nothing but his human bloodline.

In the crowd—the crimson-haired girl looked at the projection behind Su Ping's back. She mumbled with shock in her eyes, "It's... a Golden Crow!"

She narrowed her eyes. Su Ping had just acquired the Heavenly Fire Technique and he already reached her level; it was understandable with the Golden Crow's bloodline.

Exactly at that moment, the scorching Golden Crow unleashed brilliant flames and became increasingly substantial. Feathers were gathering in the flames, and its eyes and claws were becoming clearer. It was like the arrival of a real Golden Crow.

In addition, Su Ping's hair turned red. Patterns of the great Dao appeared on his skin, releasing a terrifying aura. The temperature around him was rising rapidly and everybody avoided the waves of heat in

fear.

"I feel like my body is on fire!" "Hurry! Hurry and dodge!"

"Move back! Move back now!"

The crowd was panicking. The heat generated by Su Ping was too terrifying. It was almost burning the place to the ground.

Those are... the Divine Patterns of Fire!

The realm master looked at Su Ping with shock in her eyes. She knew he was strong, but she didn't expect him to be so unbelievable. That was the sign of the Heavenly Fire Technique's eleventh stage! The crimson-haired girl also changed her expression in shock. "The eleventh stage!"

On the other hand, the young man who was the realm master's disciple already had a contorted face, eyes wide.

It was the first time he had experienced the lofty status of a Dao Child from the Heaven Path Institute.

No wonder it's even more remarkable to become a Dao Child of the Heaven Path Institute than to rise in the Chaos Talents Rank!

What kind of genius is he?

"Huh?"

Su Ping, who was taking the test at the moment, examined the finger in the rocks. He discovered that—even though the finger was rotting, it seemed to be recovering as it absorbed his power of fire.

The flesh in the finger was healing slowly!

Once the finger healed a bit more, the surrounding laws became disordered, as if panicking. The result was that, when his law of fire was invoked, it simply manifested as the Golden Crow.

If this goes on, wouldn't this finger heal completely in the end?

What will happen by then?

Su Ping was secretly shocked. He suddenly felt the test wasn't so simple.

Considering his output, the finger would recover completely if it absorbed energy for a thousand years.

It's impossible that the realm master didn't see the change take place. Is she doing this on purpose? If so, what's the purpose of her clan? Where did this finger come from?

Su Ping thought of many possibilities, suddenly feeling that all the high-ranked clans contained a lot of secrets.

He tried concealing the power of fire and quietly transforming it into the power of darkness.

The power of darkness was hidden in the power of fire in the form of threads and injected into the finger. Su Ping examined it carefully, only to discover that the finger didn't absorb it.

It only absorbs the power of fire? Is it because of the race of this finger's owner?

Su Ping's eyes glittered. He tried changing the fire's output power, only to discover that the intensity of absorption was changing accordingly. As expected, the finger was highly sensitive and responsive to the power of fire.

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He thought of something and released a portion of the Heavenly Fire.

A scorching aura surged out in a flash, and the finger shivered ever so slightly. The surrounding laws became even more alert and fled.

Bang.

The Golden Crow behind Su Ping's back landed on the square, making it tremble violently. The beast was no longer an illusory projection, but an existence of concrete energy.

It looked down at those present like a living Golden Crow.

An ancient aura of chaos was instantly spread out; the dominating aura of an ancient king enveloped them all.

"Manifestation of the Grand Dao..."

Back in the crowd, someone was so shocked that they actually moaned.

Almost everyone had their eyes peeled, almost forgetting how to breathe.

That was the ultimate symbol of the thirteenth stage, the highest level!

Su Ping had cultivated the Heavenly Fire Technique, which he just acquired, to the top?!

Not only did the scene dumbfounded both disciples and elders; the realm master was also shocked.

She knew that, as long as one's expertise was profound enough, it wouldn't take too long to grasp a cultivation technique.

Therefore, it was within her expectation when Su Ping showed the eighth and even the eleventh stage of the technique.

However, the thirteenth stage... That was only for God Emperors!

Only the God Kings of her clan, who were extremely talented and with pure bloodlines could do that. However, such figures were brilliant geniuses even in her clan; few of them had ever emerged.

And yet, Su Ping had just done it.

Is his understanding of Dao comparable to a God Emperor's?

The realm master was suddenly awakened, as if a bucket of water had been poured over her head. Su Ping had surely tapped into the Original Dao World and could even condense a Dao Heart at any moment!

It was no surprise that he had dared to travel solo, unconcerned about the Rain Clan.

Having reached that level, it was impossible for the Rain Clan to track him down.

But he's just become a Dao Child... The real master's eyes glittered. She was both shocked and extremely delighted, since she had actually managed to rope in such a genius.

After having reached the Original Dao World, it was almost certain he would rise to become a God Emperor!

Such powerful beings were the top forces of every clan in that world.

It was barely possible to nurture a God Emperor every ten thousand years, even when investing all the clan's resources.

The price she had paid was much less than it would cost to rope in a real God Emperor.

"The thirteenth stage..."

In the crowd again the crimson-haired girl gazed at the scene, feeling the scorching heat on her skin. That was like the third floor of the pit, if not worse.

Are all the Dao Children of the Heaven Path Institute like him?

She finally understood why those Dao Children were as famous as the seven greatest clans, among countless races on every vast continent, and why they were remembered and sung.

"Huh?"

Su Ping slightly changed his expression as he faced the pillar. He sensed that the finger was clearly changing faster when he unleashed the Heavenly Fire; it seemed to be extremely sensitive to it. They were almost of the same origin.

Chapter 1346 Bloodline Transplant (1)

The Golden Crows' ancestor mentioned that the Heavenly Fire belonged to the mysterious Heavens...

Su Ping was rather shocked and suspicious. Did this finger belong to one of the Heavens?

If that was the case, then why was this finger erected in this place?

He stopped his fire output upon seeing that the finger was continuously absorbing the Heavenly Fire, his expression changing, but he quickly calmed down and considered the situation.

Heavenly Fire was obviously appealing to the finger; the damages done to the finger were clearly mended, if only a little bit.

Once enough time passed, the finger might be repaired fully!

Is that the realm master's true purpose?

Or maybe, is it the purpose of her clan? Besides this finger, maybe they're in control of other body parts?

Wait a moment. If they're trying to repair this finger and other body parts, there's no need to set it up like this. It would have been fixed in no time if they asked a few emperors to throw Heavenly Fire at it, or if they placed it where the Heavenly Fire is...

Su Ping's eyes glittered. He sensed that the clan dominating the Red Dome Realm had some secrets, and they weren't simply trying to fix that finger.

Those present were silent while Su Ping was in deep thought.

The Golden Crow behind Su Ping had slowly faded away, but the scorching heat in the air still lingered. The previous image was like an illusion, but the remaining heat told everyone that it was real.

The man had cultivated all the way to the thirteenth stage of the Heavenly Fire Technique, just moments after acquiring it!

Was that the terrifying talent of a Dao Child from the Heaven Path Institute?

There were only a handful of people in the entire Fire God Palace who had reached such a result.

They were the realm master, an elder of the Yan Clan, a deputy master, and an elder who was unusually talented.

Su Ping had become the fifth person to reach the thirteenth stage.

It was the ultimate goal for all disciples of the Fire God Palace, yet Su Ping had accomplished it in the blink of an eye. The shock was etched to their hearts; it was something they would never forget.

"The thirteenth stage..." The crimson-haired girl fell silent, her expression troubled.

She knew that such a level was not the technique's final destination; there were higher stages. Still, it was certain that the thirteenth stage was a necessary step.

Even in the Yan Clan, among her pure-blood colleagues, very few had reached the level.

It was also the goal she was pursuing in that place.

The goal and plan she had intended to accomplish in ten thousand years had been completed by Su Ping in just a short moment.

My master said that it's necessary to understand the unparalleled Dao in order to reach the thirteenth level... In the crowd-the handsome young man had already lost his cool. His pride had crumbled to pieces. He was broken and bitter; he had never felt more pained or frustrated. What made things even more unbearable was that his opponent had never even seen him.

He probably was just a grain of dust to his would-be rival.

"Master."

In front of the pillar-Su Ping had already finished his pondering. He looked at the realm master with glittering eyes, only to see shock in her eyes. There was no killing intent present.

I've cultivated to the thirteenth stage. She must have already figured out that I've reached the Original Dao World. I believe she also knows I discovered the secret of this pillar...

Su Ping quietly looked at the alluring realm master, ready to run away at any moment. It was a good thing he could resurrect. He would be able to find out some secrets if she really forced him to stay.

"Dao Child..."

The realm master snapped out of her reverie; the shock on her face was gone, replaced by conflicting feelings. They exchanged looks, instantly knowing what the other was thinking

"Please come to my palace, Dao Child," said the realm master in a low voice.

Su Ping nodded.

She instantly led the way, and Su Ping followed closely.

The two of them left, leaving the rest exchanging whispers.

On the top floor of the Fire God Palace, inside a splendid crimson room.

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Once entering the room, the realm master waved a hand, asking the servants for some privacy; only Su Ping and her remained.

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"No wonder you came alone. I didn't know you had already set food in the Original Dao World. I thought the Heaven Path Institute was being too careless, letting you travel alone." The realm master sat down on her throne and looked back with a smile.

Noticing the thoughtfulness in her eyes, Su Ping said calmly, "Realm master, what exactly is inside the pillar?"

"Indeed, you noticed it, Dao Child." The master of the Red Dome Realm narrowed her eyes. "What do you think it is?"

"How would I know? But I think it's a finger of some ancient corpse. It's extremely sensitive to the Great Dao. Was this ancient corpse an Ancestral God?"

She suppressed her smile and said, "It was indeed an Ancestral God. This ancient corpse was dug out from the ruins of an ancient mysterious realm. We don't know where it was from, but we do know that it was extremely powerful. The Heavenly Fire of this place is the corpse's remaining power."

Su Ping narrowed his eyes.

He hadn't even tried a subtle approach, and yet the woman had already told him the finger's origin.

The Heavens!

Indeed, it has to do with the Heavens. One of their bodies was buried here? According to what she said, there's more than just a finger... Su Ping was shocked; he took some time to calm down. The Heavens, the proverbial Boogeymen to the Golden Crows, really lingered in that world?

Chapter 1347 Bloodline Transplant (2)

"Master, if I'm understanding correctly, did you find the entire body?" Su Ping tried to keep his voice calm. "Are you trying to resurrect that ancient corpse?"

"It would be great if it could be resurrected, it would be great. After all, it used to be an Ancestral God." The master of the Red Dome Realm chuckled and added, "However, according to the examination of my clan's Ancestral God, this ancient corpse is completely dead; even though you repaired the finger a bit by letting it absorb the power of fire, only the body can be fixed.

"Even after being fully repaired, it would still be a dead object.

"If we really want to fix it, I would have to infuse the finger with Heavenly Fire day and night for a thousand years. It would end up as good as new."

Su Ping nodded; she was not lying about that.

"Then what's your plan?"

The realm master chuckled and said, "This is a core secret of my clan. Are you sure you want to hear it?"

Su Ping slightly raised his eyebrows. "What will happen if I do?"

She replied with a smile, "Nothing much. We simply hope that you won't spread the information. In addition, you'd better marry someone of our clan as soon as possible and have a child. That way you'd be a son-in-law to our clan, and we could certainly share the secret with you."

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Su Ping was lost for words. Do I have to sell myself for this?

"If the one I have to marry is you, I'll think about it," said Su Ping.

The realm master rolled her eyes at him and said, "Stop making excuses, Dao Child. If you're willing to go through with the marriage, we certainly wouldn't wrong you; your wife would be a pure-blood genius of our clan. There's a candidate right here in my palace; she's quite cute. If you like her, I can talk to the clan master about your marriage immediately."

She waved a hand and displayed a schene while she spoke.

A crimson-haired girl stood out from the crowd around her. Her red hair and cold aura made her eyecatching.

Su Ping didn't expect her to be that serious about an arranged marriage. He said helplessly, "Even if I like her, she might not like me at all."

"You're so handsome and talented, she would surely see you fondly," said the realm master after a short laugh, "Even if she doesn't, it's fine. You can work on baby making before you develop love."

Su Ping was lost for words. He had conflicting feelings as he looked at the disappearing girl in the scene.

Although the special geniuses of the gods were honorable and exceptional, they would sometimes have to sacrifice themselves at any moment for the interests of their clans.

There was sadness behind the outward splendor.

"I'm okay with an arranged marriage, but I want to be the one to choose the person I'm going to marry," said Su Ping after thinking for a moment.

That was just a delaying strategy, as he was quite curious about the Yan Clan secrets, which had to do with the Heavens from the age of chaos.

"Seriously?"

The realm master was rather surprised, not expecting him to be willing.

She had failed to lure Su Ping with treasures, even when offered Ancestral God techniques. However, he seemed to be tempted by the ancient corpse.

"Sure."

Su Ping said, "Besides, I get to decide the time of the marriage. It has to be at least after I become a God Emperor."

The realm master glanced at Su Ping and said, "Deal. We will both swear a divine vow, that way no one will have any regrets!"

"No problem." Su Ping accepted without hesitation.

He had to pick his wife anyway. Might as well pick the woman right before him and see how she would respond.

The realm master narrowed her eyes and realized Su Ping's plan, but she didn't say anything. She could seriously consider marriage if Su Ping did become a God Emperor.

The realm master recorded their agreement with a divine skill. She then said, "Why are you so curious about this ancient corpse?"

"Who's not curious about an Ancestral God's body?" Su Ping asked back.

She choked for a moment. Ancestral Gods were superior in the world of gods; she was even more shocked and curious than Su Ping when she saw the ancient corpse for the first time.

After all, how could someone as strong as an Ancestral God only leave a body behind?

Who could have killed an Ancestral God?

That is, unless two Ancestral Gods went all out in the past!

"The ancient corpse is from a mysterious place in the Red Dome Realm. It was surrounded by eternal Nine-Flavored Heavenly Fire."

She added, "Once we found it, we chopped it into three thousand pieces because there were three thousand complete Dao Domains inside that body!

"We're not trying to revive the ancient being; we're trying to enslave it and raise existences that carry its bloodline."

She slowly told him about the Yan Clan's greatest secret, "We're trying to transplant the flesh and blood of this ancient corpse. We've nurtured some descendants through this method. It's the greatest secret of our clan."

"You're raising descendants of this ancient

corpse?"

Su Ping's heart was pounding. He was terrified by what the realm master said.

They were too crazy.

They were trying to steal the Heavens' bloodline!

"Did you succeed?"

"No," she said and shook her head, "Although we raised the ancient corpse's descendants, they're all flawed and can't absorb Heavenly Fire. However, they are indeed more talented than some geniuses of our clan; they can even compare to the pure-blood geniuses."

Su Ping breathed in relief.

That's great.

They would have raised more Heavens if they succeeded!

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Even though he had never seen them, he knew how terrifying the race was, based on the Golden Crow ancestor's reaction.

That was not a race to be brought to life!

"What you're doing is too risky. This ancient corpse might not be from a friendly race," said Su Ping with a sigh, feeling that the Yan Clan was being too reckless.

"Huh? Why do you think that, Dao Child?" The realm master.

He gave a slight head shake and replied, "You don't even know the background of this ancient corpse, and yet you're trying to transplant their bloodline. If the bloodline is too powerful, the people you raise will easily overturn your clan."

She was enlightened. "I didn't know you meant that, but there's nothing to worry about. The candidates we pick are all loyal; they won't betray our clan no matter how strong they are." Su Ping naturally knew they had ways to control the geniuses they nurtured. But, was it so easy to control the bloodline of the Heavens? If so, why would the Golden Crows live in seclusion?

Su Ping believed that in the age of chaos, when mythical creatures fought the Heavens, some of the latter had surely died and ended up as experiment subjects.

But even after that, the Golden Crows still chose to hide from the world. This meant that such a method was probably ineffective.

"What did you mean by 'enslave' just now,

master?"

Su Ping stopped persuading her, knowing it would be pointless for him to talk considering his identity; it would only throw her off.

"By enslaving it, we can control part of the remaining corpse through divine skills," said the master of the Red Dome Realm with a smile, "It's one of the core combat abilities of our clan. Still, it's not really a secret among high-ranked clans, since we've used this publicly in the past. We just haven't shown its full effect..."

She looked at Su Ping and added, "You'll be able to try the technique when you become a son-in-law of our clan."

"Good."

Su Ping had nothing else to say.

"You know something about the ancient corpse, right?" asked the realm master curiously.

Su Ping was alarmed by the question, and was impressed by her instincts. Still, he gave off a nonchalant attitude as he answered, "How can I know if you don't?" "That's true..." The realm master thought it was just her imagining things.

"Master, where's the Heavenly Fire?" Su Ping didn't want to stay any longer.

The realm master gave him a gloomy look, as if admonishing him for not being appreciative. Still, she was never much of a talker; she would have ended the conversation long before if she weren't talking to Su Ping.

"Follow me, Dao Child."

The master of the Red Dome Realm rose, and a crack appeared in front of them.

Su Ping followed her and entered the fissure. He instantly felt a scorching heat.

There was abundant Heavenly Fire surging about. Su Ping saw that the white flames were burning fiercely.

Chapter 1348 Polishing (1)

"This is the ninth floor of the underground

pit."

While standing in front, the master of the Red Dome Realm explained, "The Fire God Palace was established over the natural crater of the Nine-Flavored Heavenly Fire. Nine barriers were set up here to stop the Heavenly Fire from melting this continent.

"Each of the barriers act as a buffer, blocking the Heavenly Fire's power a little bit. Now, they work also as cultivation places for the Fire God Palace disciples. But most of them can only reach the fifth floor at most."

Su Ping was looking intently at the white flames. Before him was a vast world, which seemed to be boundless. It was obviously in a special time and space.

There was a gigantic hole that looked like an abyss ahead of him. Inside the hole, scorching white flames were burning bright. They were so unimaginably hot that even stars would have melted. It was none other than the Heavenly Fire.

Su Ping saw golden fiery patterns surfacing on the Red Dome's realm master. It was some sort of law similar to the Heavenly Fire Technique. She was able to resist the heat and remain calm through the fiery patterns.

"Who's over there?"

Su Ping had just noticed that two people were sitting next to the hole, cross-legged. Their auras suggested that they were God Emperors.

The realm master was slightly surprised that Su Ping was resisting the heat with nothing but his body. The Dao Child seemed to be even more terrifying than she expected. "You mean them? They're here to fetch Heavenly Fire. The gray-robed one is an artifact master from the Tan Clan; he's forged seven God

Emperor weapons, and all of them are powerful. He's here to forge an eighth weapon with Heavenly Fire."

The realm master said, "The purple-robed one is a pill master from the Yao Clan. He's here to refine medicine with the fire.

"There used to be a man who polished his body with Heavenly Fire about two hundred years before you came. He accomplished his goal and left a while ago."

Su Ping was rather astonished, but he found it understandable when he remembered the purposes of the Heavenly Fire.

"In other words, you have a lot of connections, realm master. A lot of people must owe you favors," said Su Ping.

The latter chuckled and said, "The Yan Clan is the only clan in this world that has Heavenly Fire. Aside from the deterrence of our Ancestral God, it's all thanks to our operations and connections. We can't be too greedy, and there are indeed people who owe us favors, including people from the Rain Clan. Unfortunately the favors aren't big enough for us to speak on your behalf."

Su Ping understood her implications and didn't comment on it. He said, "I'd like to borrow some Heavenly Fire and cultivate here for a while."

"You're being too polite, Dao Child. You can fetch as much Heavenly Fire as you want," said the realm master with a smile.

"Okay."

Without further ado, Su Ping flew right towards the pit of Heavenly Fire.

"Dao Child, what are you doing?" shouted the realm master, noticing that he went straight toward the Heavenly Fire.

Su Ping turned back and said, "Cultivating."

"Cultivating..." She lost her cool for a moment, seemingly at a loss. "You'll probably get hurt if you get too close. This Heavenly Fire burns everything; I can fetch you some flames if you want to polish your body."

Su Ping waved his hand and said, "That won't be necessary. I'll just stay by the edge."

Then, he directly set foot in the Heavenly Fire.

"Well..."

The realm master was dumbfounded. He entered the Heavenly Fire just like that?

She knew that Su Ping wanted to polish his body, but that was not a proper method!

Even the barbarian who polished his body with Heavenly Fire earlier on had barely dared to attract some of the flames with an artifact to cleanse and fortify his body.

He certainly wasn't as daring as Su Ping, who jumped right into the fiery pit...

The Heavenly Fire found in the pit suddenly changed and became restless. While the realm master was still thinking whether to act or not, Su Ping had gathered all his power and allowed the fire to enter his body through his pores. Using the Original Divine Fire Technique taught by the Crows' Chief Elder, he controlled the Heavenly Fire and soaked his body in it.

Meanwhile, he opened the chaos universe in his body and allowed the fire in. He refined his universe while polishing his body.

"Huh?"

The realm master was dumbfounded yet again. Her eyes widened in disbelief.

She could tell that Su Ping was controlling the Heavenly Fire with some sort of secret technique.

What shocked her was that the fire around Su Ping was clearly being controlled in a subtle manner. Instead of burning and hurting him, it was actually refining his body!

He is actually able to cultivate right in the source of Heavenly Fire!

"What kind of skill is that, to actually manipulate Heavenly Fire?" The Yan Clan was best at controlling fire; the master of the Red Dome Realm was a genius of her clan, but she had never learned a comparable skill.

She couldn't help but remember the Golden Crows' bloodline in Su Ping's body. Is it an ancient technique passed down through bloodlines?

If it was passed down, it has to be a skill from the age of chaos. It's said that there were many Ancestral Gods in that age, and that it was easy for mythical creatures to contemplate and cultivate. Because of this, countless techniques were invented and perfected. It was the most glorious and powerful era...

The realm master changed her expression. It was quite possible that a powerful skill from that brilliant era had resurfaced.

Chapter 1349 Polishing (2)

"Who's there?"

"What is going on?"

The two God Emperors on both sides of the pit noticed that Su Ping was cultivating right in the Heavenly Fire. Their eyes widened in shock.

Where is this monster from? Why does he dare set foot in the Heavenly Fire?

It had to be noted that the fire was used to forge weapons and refine ultimate pills. Even experts like them stayed clear from that fire.

The Heavenly Fire could burn everything. Not even their protective items were safe from being corrupted by the fire.

"The realm master brought him here. Is he a genius of the Yan Clan?"

"What a sturdy body. What an amazing skill!"

Both God Emperors stopped what they were doing; their eyes glittered as they looked at Su Ping cultivating in the pit. A body as sturdy as his was comparable to a top artifact. Inside the Heavenly Fire

Su Ping gradually entered a cultivation state. He turned around and looked at the master of the Red Dome Realm; she was still there. He waved at her, as a way to assure her that he was fine. He then closed his eyes and controlled the Heavenly Fire to polish his body with the Original Divine Fire Technique. He also absorbed the energy to further his cultivation.

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This Heavenly Fire seems able to crush and disperse normal laws and paths; they fall apart the moment they come into contact with the fire. Su Ping's eyes glittered.; that fire was more strange and domineering than powerful.

The realm master took a while to recover from her stupor; she stood there, watching how Su Ping was completely devoted to absorbing Heavenly Fire. In the end she withdrew her gaze with a bitter smile.

The Dao Child she invited seemed to be carrying countless secrets. She even suspected that, given enough time, his body would reach the God Emperor level before his own cultivation did.

There were gods who never cultivated any paths and simply refined their bodies. However, they could only become God Emperors at best, and couldn't advance further. Still, they were all monsters in their level; they could crush everything with fists and feet alone. Only the Ancestral Gods could suppress them... The realm master's eyes glittered. She felt that Su Ping would grow to their height if he kept cultivating in the Heavenly Fire.

It was a fire used to forge God Emperor's weapons.

Even weapons of such levels would deform under such heat, not to mention living creatures.

Once Su Ping's training was completed, his body would become sturdier than an artifact and he would be able to crush anyone at his level.

Just as expected, none of the Dao Children are ordinary... the realm master thought.

While she considered herself a genius, she was fully aware that she wasn't as talented as the Dao Children from the Heaven Path Institute.

At least, she never became one of them.

The realm master decided to stay there, setting up a barrier to sit down at the edge of the ninth barrier. She wanted to see how long the boy could persist.

Time flew.

In the Fire God Palace—there were a lot of disciples discussing the Dao Child who had just arrived.

They had managed to gather a lot of rumors about the Dao Child. Some were exaggerations, while others were downright false. Still, all the people were talking about them excitedly.

Seeing is believing. They had personally seen Su Ping cultivate the Heavenly Fire Technique to the thirteenth stage and invoke his fire incarnation

Such a miracle happened right before their eyes. Their minds couldn't help but run wild, finding the Dao Children of the Heaven Path Institute even more mysterious than before.

In the pit underneath the Fire God Palacemany disciples were cultivating.

The further down, the fewer disciples were present.

Some elders were also cultivating in the pit. It was a holy cultivation land for them.

"I've recently made a breakthrough. I could only cultivate on the second floor in the past, but now I'm able to reach the third floor."

"What a coincidence. So can I."

"Me too."

On the fourth floor-a crimson-haired girl was training in seclusion. The space behind the barrier was extremely vast and hot. Despite the barrier's protection, she felt she would be consumed the moment she touched the Heavenly Fire directly.

That pressure made her work even harder.

"Is it me? Somehow the Heavenly Fire's power seems to be weakening." The girl opened her eyes in confusion, suspecting it was all in her imagination. After all, the Heavenly Fire had been there for countless years. It was as stable as the rise and the setting of the sun. How could it possibly wane?

Her family's experts told her that the fire was eternal. It would never perish or decline.

"Have I grown stronger?" The girl examined herself, only to find that it wasn't so.

Aside from the girl, the elders of the Fire God Palace on the fifth and sixth floors were having the same impression.

In the deepest part of the pit-behind the barrier on the ninth floor.

That barrier isolated the pit from the outside world. Heavenly Fire could be touched directly on that level.

In the middle of the ever-burning Heavenly Fire—there was a tiny black spot that looked like floating ash. Those who had an obsessive-compulsive disorder would probably think that such a blot was an eyesore.

It's been half a year...

At the edge of the barrier—the realm master's face was red, and her forehead was covered in sweat. She had been with Su Ping for half a year; it would usually be like the blink of an eye for her, but it technically was as long as span of a thousand years in that place.

Even though she was protected by the barrier, she was becoming exhausted after staying there for so long.

She felt at a loss when she looked at Su Ping, who was still inside the Heavenly Fire. This Dao Child is an absolute monster. She had no doubt that even if he ran into a God Emperor, he would have the means to escape.

"As expected of a Dao Child from the Heaven Path Institute..." The other two God Emperors did their jobs and collected fire energy while glancing at Su Ping from time to time. They had chatted telepathically with the realm master and learned of the young man's identity.

Such a Dao Child had yet to become a God Emperor, but he had accomplished what most God Emperors couldn't.

They wouldn't have accepted such development if he weren't one of the Institute's Dao Children who were usually unreasonable.

Su Ping slowly opened his eyes. The burning flames all over his body were absorbed into his skin; his flesh contained enormous power. The Heavenly Fire had burnt the many laws and paths he knew; he then reorganized them and made them even more powerful.

The Heavenly Fire burns everything coldly and mercilessly. It's not the Dao Heart I'm looking for...

He examined the matters of his Dao Heart while polishing his body, but the fire's nature was not what he was looking for; he didn't want his universe to turn into a barren and desolate world.

Su Ping slowly canceled the Original Divine Fire Technique. The surrounding fire covered his body and made the temperature rise at a fast rate. Su Ping felt a little bit of pain, but it was still bearable.

He was currently able to stand inside the Heavenly Fire without relying on the Golden Crows' skill.

Although he hadn't tested it yet, he knew that his body was much sturdier than before.

It's been a long time since I returned to my store. More than two weeks have passed in the outside world; I wonder if those guys have come around and made an alliance... He became cold upon remembering the worm tide and the Celestial State experts; then he stopped cultivating as he planned his return.

Whoosh!

Su Ping flashed out of the Heavenly Fire.

The realm master felt refreshed upon seeing him exit the place, then she approached him. She held back upon sensing the rapidly rising temperature, not revealing any discomfort. She asked, "Is your training complete?"

She evaluated Su Ping's body. His clothes had long been burned by the Heavenly Fire and was completely naked at the moment. Her eyes were shining, as if she were looking at a delicate statue.

Su Ping wasn't bashful, nor was he embarrassed. He simply controlled his skin and condensed some clothes.

For someone as strong as him, not just turning skin into clothes; he could even transform into the opposite sex or a different species if he wanted to. However, Su Ping was still a normal man, and he wasn't planning on doing anything weird.

Chapter 1350 The Breeze (1)

"It's complete for now. I'll come back later," said Su Ping

That body polishing was extremely rewarding. However, he didn't think his body had been fully polished yet; there was still room for improvement. His estimate was that his body would become as strong as that of an Ancestral God once it was fully polished!

However, it would take a very long time to achieve such refining. Su Ping was planning on going back to the world outside and see what was going on.

"You can come back any time," said the realm master, "Don't forget our deal."

Su Ping nodded and was about to leave, when two voices sounded all of a sudden. "Young friend, please wait a moment."

Su Ping turned around and saw they were the other two God Emperors who were collecting Heavenly Fire's energy there.

"You must be a Dao Child of the Heaven Path Institute, right? I am Qing Bing of the Tan Clan. I'd like to make friends with you; feel free to look for me if you ever need to forge a weapon. I know a thing or two about weapons. I surely won't disappoint you," said the gray-robed man with a smile.

The other old man also tried to make friends with Su Ping. "I am Tian Dan from the Yao Clan. You can come and find me if you're short on herbs; I dabble a bit in medicine refining."

The realm master was slightly surprised, but she quickly understood their intentions and secretly heaved a sigh. Geniuses were welcome everywhere; others would probably never get a chance to receive their help even if they asked. However, those two were actually fighting to befriend the young man; it was clear that they had noticed his terrifying potential.

"You're too kind, seniors." Sensing their kind attitude, Su Ping would certainly not slight them. Any connection he made would act as a deterrent to protect his fellow humans in that world.

"Dao Child, how I envy you. These two masters are usually very proud. It would have been impossible to request weapons or pills if I hadn't lent them the Heavenly Fire," said the realm master, subtly pointing out that their identities were special.

She didn't mind him making friends with those two seniors. After all, Su Ping was a member of the Yan Clan in a sense; the stronger his connections, the better. "You're making fun of us, master." The two old men smiled helplessly but didn't deny the fact. They wouldn't have accepted the realm master's every request if not for the access to the Heavenly Fire, unless she had paid a good price.

"You polished your body with Heavenly Fire. Your body must be as sturdy as that of a God Emperor, if not better. I will refine a Chaos World Pill and a Mythical Dao Body Pill for you if you enter the fire and fetch me a piece of Divine Fire Crystal!" said Tian Dan.

"Hey!"

Qing Bing from the Tan Clan was quite surprised by such a request.

The realm master narrowed her eyes and said in a daze, "Master Tian Dan, how generous of you; both are rare pills. You said before that you were short of materials when I asked for some..."

"I was. I've just found all the necessary materials." Tian Dan stared at Su Ping with a normal expression. "I'm sure you haven't taken these two pills yet; they will surely help you rise to new heights."

Based on her reaction, Su Ping knew it had to be some marvelous medicine. He said with a different expression, "What are Divine Fire Crystals?"

Master Tian Dan was clearly delighted, given that Su Ping's interest was piqued. He quickly replied, "Divine Fire Crystals are the essence of the Nine-Flavored Heavenly Fire, which contains the most abundant fire. It's the best fire you can use to refine unparalleled medicine. If you want to fetch some, you must go to the deepest part of the Heavenly Fire..."

While speaking, he glanced at Su Ping and said, "If you think it's too hard, I can wait until you can resist entering deep into the fire."

The realm master slightly raised her eyebrows. She casually said, "What kind of medicine are you trying to refine? Does it require such divine crystals? Normal Heavenly Fire can't satisfy you anymore? In any case, even if the Dao Child doest get a Divine Fire Crystal for you, it's still a treasure of this realm that mustn't be given away easily, or I won't be able to explain to my family."

Tian Dan realized what she was implying. He instantly said, "I would certainly make up for your loss. As long as you provide materials, I will refine you three pills for free! In addition, I will give you a Mythical Dao Body Pill. How does that sound?"

The realm master was secretly dazed for a moment. Tian Dan's offer was too tempting for her to refuse.

Although Divine Fire Crystals were quite precious, it wasn't of much use to her. Besides, they were constantly condensed by the fire, and would be replenished in twelve thousand years or so.

Seeing that the realm master was deep in thought, Tian Dan looked at Su Ping again. "Dao Child, what do you think?" Su Ping thought for a moment and said, "All right. I'll get you a divine crystal next time when I'm ready."

"All right!"

The senior was delighted by the agreement. "I'll be waiting for you. I hope you won't keep me waiting for long." Su Ping nodded and smiled. "In the meantime, you can start preparing the pills, master."

"Of course," said Tian Dan with a smile.

Qing Bing heaved a sigh, but chose to remain silent.