

Refining 211

Chapter 211 – You're Jealous

The group soon left Snowfall City. Led by Jiang Li and Daoist Wang, they walked into a hidden mountain crevice. They opened a sealed cave to reveal a transmission array prepared within. Although it was covered in a thick layer of dust, after a bit of cleaning and inserting spirit stones, it began to emit light.

Qin Yu's eyebrows rose up, revealing a surprised look.

Daoist Wang lifted an eyebrow. "Immortal Eclipse Valley is incredibly rich. Throughout their existence, they have laid down countless secret arrangements. This isn't considered anything at all." He looked at Qin Yu as if mocking him for being an inexperienced little boy.

Jiang Li made some final corrections. After making sure that there was no problem, he said, "Alright, you may all come in."

Gu Ling'er and the others were somewhat worried. To a cultivator, a long-distance transmission array represented a considerable amount of pressure. If their cultivation was low they might even be injured during the process.

Qin Yu smiled. "Don't worry, it will be fine."

Hum –

The transmission array erupted with a blinding light. Space started to twist and then everyone vanished from sight.

Kacha –

Kacha –

There was a loud cracking sound. When the light scattered, the transmission array was already broken, no longer able to be used.

Immortal Eclipse Valley.

An array formation suddenly lit up. A fierce light bloomed as multiple figures appeared within it.

"Greetings Elder Jiang Li, Elder Wang!" The guarding disciples hurriedly bowed. They were stunned as they saw who had arrived, and then quickly bowed once more. "Greetings Junior Granduncle!"

The Eclipse Clan juniors began to complain in their hearts. The valley had finally managed to calm down for a period of time, and then this great ancestor decided to return from nowhere. They feared that the valley would become lively once more. Of course, they only thought this in their heart. They remained as respectful as possible, not showing any of their grievances.

What nonsense. Their Junior Granduncle Qin was a fifth-grade alchemist. Just this point enough was to earn their worship. Of course, they also didn't want to go nosing about for trouble. The facts proved that as long as one became enemies with their Junior Granduncle, their fate was bound to be horrible!

Gu Ling'er and her several senior-apprentice sisters were completely bewildered as they heard this. Their eyes widened...this person was Big Brother Qin Yu, the one they called Senior Qin? Although they knew that there was an extremely close relationship between him and Immortal Eclipse Valley, this completely surpassed their expectations.

Junior Granduncle?

Just thinking about that rank gave them a headache.

Qin Yu smiled. "It's just a title. There's not much to say about it. It's enough to know that I have a cheap senior-apprentice brother."

"Cheap senior-apprentice brother? Humph! It seems that this old man should not have allowed Old Jiang and Old Wang to go out and back you up!" Pill Crucible's baleful face appeared, his expression fierce.

Qin Yu grinned, not thinking that this old fellow would arrive so quickly. He smiled in greeting. "Senior-apprentice brother, it's been such a long time since we've seen each other. This little brother of yours has really missed you!"

Pill Crucible's complexion changed. "What do you plan on doing?"

Qin Yu: "..."

"I already know the type of person you are. Since you speak so kindly, you definitely aren't up to anything good. So, I am just going to tell you now. If you have any sort of scheme running around in your head, you had better hurry up and put it away!" Pill Crucible sneered. Then, he turned to Gu Ling'er and the others and his expression instantly changed into one of kind benevolence. "These several girls are quite good, what beautiful young ladies. You are just the type of people that our Immortal Eclipse Valley is lacking. I welcome your arrival here."

Concerning Gu Ling'er and the others joining Immortal Eclipse Valley, Jiang Li and Daoist Wang had already reported this to Pill Crucible. In the end, he was the master of Immortal Eclipse Valley and although this matter couldn't be considered much, they had to at least report this to him and obtain his agreement.

Qin Yu was left speechless. He thought that with this old man's status, didn't he fear losing face by revealing an expression like that of an old matchmaker? Moreover, Pill Crucible had always put forth a 'virtuous and heroic' facade, and paid great attention to his image. After not seeing him for some years, how could he have been reduced to such a state?

Could it be that he had suffered some sort of psychological attack and decided to give up?

He coughed. "Let me introduce you. This is Immortal Eclipse Valley's Valley Master, Senior Pill Crucible!"

These words gave Gu Ling'er and the others another fright. They knew of Immortal Eclipse Valley's status and strength, and as they realized that this common-looking old man was the one who possessed the greatest authority here, they all quickly bowed.

Pill Crucible smiled. "That's enough, there is no need to be overly courteous. I have already finished making arrangements. Soon, some people will come and lead you to your new residence." He slapped

his forehead and walked over to Gu Ling'er. "You are Ling'er, right? This is the first time we've met, and as the elder, I naturally must give you something. Here, take this token. If anyone dares to bully you in the future, just take it out and smash them in the forehead with it. I guarantee that no one will dare strike back."

Qin Yu's eyes twitched, thinking that this was truly ridiculous. If you gave this token that indicated an Elder's status to Gu Ling'er and she decided to use it to hit someone, of course they would be too scared to fight back. But, this was a decision that Pill Crucible had made only after careful consideration. He knew that Qin Yu valued his little sister and was worried that some people in Immortal Eclipse Valley would try to take advantage of her and stir up trouble. So, he decided to take out this token and just get it over with.

Gu Ling'er blushed red. She waved her hand, wanting to explain that she would never hit anyone. But, as she nervously tried to speak and found herself unable to, sweat began to drip down her forehead.

Qin Yu patted her head. "Since my senior-apprentice brother gave this to you, just accept it, it's alright."

Gu Ling'er then received the token and earnestly bowed to express her gratitude.

Pill Crucible smiled and said some words of praise, saying that Ling'er was indeed polite. Then, he curled his lips and said, "It's just that your big brother here is a bit too unreliable! Don't just stand over there, I have some things to ask you so hurry on over."

Qin Yu was a bit puzzled. What was Pill Crucible being so resentful about? Could it be that he didn't like being called his cheap senior-apprentice brother, so that was why he was taunting him so much? That didn't seem right at all.

But when standing beneath the roof of another person's house, he could only pinch his nose and endure it. He spoke some final words to Gu Ling'er and then cupped his hands together. "Senior-apprentice brother, please!"

Pill Crucible coldly snorted and walked away.

Xuanxuan and the others were a bit worried. Senior Qin Yu didn't seem to be very welcomed here. Since they came to Immortal Eclipse Valley, would they have a good time here? Could it be that as soon as they arrived, they would be taken by others to be concubines or something like that?

The racing imaginations of these girls left them scared.

Daoist Wang glanced at them, correctly guessing their thoughts. He smiled and said, "Don't worry, the Valley Master and Qin Yu have a very good relationship. It's just that today he is a little...mm, his mindset isn't too balanced."

Beside him, Jiang Li lightly said, "It's just like how you were."

Daoist Wang's face stiffened. He clenched his teeth, "Old Jiang, are we even friends?"

Jiang Li walked away. His voice came floating back from afar. "Sometimes, the boat of friendship is one that I can row alone."

Pill Crucible lived in his original place. His face was frosty the entire time they walked. Qin Yu rubbed his nose, deciding not to speak at all. With Pill Crucible's temper, even if he didn't ask anything he would eventually spill it all out.

"Humph!"

"Humph humph!"

"Humph humph humph!"

When Pill Crucible used so much effort that even his breathing became labored, Qin Yu finally asked helplessly, "Senior-apprentice brother, just what do you want to say?"

At this time, the two of them had already entered the hall and sat across from each other.

Pill Crucible sneered. "How fierce. Your wings have grown, right? You don't even show a minimum level of respect towards this senior-apprentice brother of yours! Cheap senior-apprentice brother? Just thinking about how you referred to me leaves me cold! In the past, who was the one that saved you from the Demon Monarch? Who was it that helped you become the master of the Eighth Furnace, and also obtain the furnace's inheritance? And who was it that let you learn the Five Element Sword Diagram and obtain your current cultivation?"

The more he spoke, the faster he spoke and the more frantic he became. His wrinkles began to shake and tremble as he shouted out, "You brat, you are simply an ingrate without any virtues! You are heartless and cruel, without any sense of gratitude!"

Qin Yu's eyes widened, thinking how were these things connected to each other? His senior-apprentice brother had indeed rescued him from the Demon Monarch so he couldn't argue about this, but becoming the master of the Eighth Furnace all depended on the Fleeting Flame Furnace. As for the Five Element Sword Diagram, who was the one who had been so strongly opposed at the start and even presented all sorts of facts to try and scare him away? It was only after he persisted that he was able to obtain the Five Element Sword Diagram from Jiang Li's hand.

However, as Qin Yu slowly savored these words, he inevitably felt a little sourness to it. And then, thinking more carefully, he realized that he was indeed right.

His eyebrow arched up. Qin Yu said, "Senior-apprentice brother, you are jealous."

Pill Crucible's enthusiastic face stiffened and he sneered three times at once. "What ridiculousness. With my cultivation and status, do you really think I need to be jealous of you? Keep on dreaming!"

"You are jealous."

Pill Crucible stormed up to his feet. "I am jealous of you? Qin Yu, you little brat, if you say that again then believe me I will enforce sect rules on behalf of our teacher and ruthlessly punish you!"

Qin Yu switched his stance and comfortably leaned back on his chair. "First, neither you nor I have seen teacher, so if you mention anything like enforcing sect rules, those don't exist to begin with. Of course, if you try to establish new rules right now, then I will have to refuse. Since we are the only two left then the votes will be one to one, and thus invalid. Moreover, senior-apprentice brother you really are

jealous, and this isn't good at all. You are quite old now so it's best if you calm down, or else you'll just be searching for trouble for yourself."

Pill Crucible coldly snorted, his complexion extremely smelly. Yes, the reason he had such a great temper was because he wasn't feeling too happy at all.

For what reason? When anyone became a Nascent Soul, they spent a great deal of effort and suffered even more. It wasn't an exaggeration to say they had to journey through mountains and seas of fire. But, what about Qin Yu? In a quick several years of time, he had risen from a Golden Core to a Nascent Soul; this was completely illogical. Moreover, and most importantly, he didn't seem to fear heavenly tribulation at all...that wasn't right; that wasn't the full truth. Not only was he not scared, but he even chased after heavenly tribulation.

The mainland monster races had been suppressed by humanity for numerous years, preventing them from having a Nascent Soul realm monster king being born amongst them. But now, with just a wave of his hand, he had completely overturned this precedent. Not just that, but this brat seemed to have already gone to the sea region and it appeared he also stirred up a considerable amount of trouble there so he couldn't even return anytime soon.

Just think about it, how reckless could one be; how much trouble could one person possibly create? Pill Crucible thought that as a senior-apprentice brother, he had to make Qin Yu realize his own mistakes. Qin Yu might be strong, but just because he was strong didn't mean he could do whatever he wanted without any scruples at all. Sooner or later he would provoke some great trouble that no one could deal with.

And what, Qin Yu said that he was jealous? He, Pill Crucible, was the solemn ruler of Immortal Eclipse Valley, a super master at the peak of Nascent Soul! With just a stamp of his feet he could shake the heavens, so why would he need to envy him? He didn't believe him? Why didn't he believe him? He wasn't jealous at all, he wasn't!

Qin Yu revealed a happy smile, thinking that the current Pill Crucible was like an old child. But, the feeling he gave off now was much better than how he was initially. But then, as he thought about how he still needed to ask for help, he coughed and straightened himself. "It was I who spoke wrongly. Just what sort of character is senior-apprentice brother? Of course you wouldn't be envious of me. But, I also ask that senior-apprentice brother be broad-minded and not lower yourself to my level."

Pill Crucible's face turned red. He coughed and humphed, "I'm glad you know!"

This ridiculous matter ended like that.

Qin Yu decided to change the topic. "Senior-apprentice brother, I heard that things have been particularly tense with the demonic path lately; just what happened?" When Jiang Li and Daoist Wang activated the transmission array to return to Immortal Eclipse Valley, it was obvious that they did so not just because they wanted to save time. If even they were so cautious, it could be imagined how critical things were with the demonic path right now.

Pill Crucible's complexion darkened. He coldly coughed. "Not too long ago, some bastard ruined the demonic path's branch division at Homehold City. Bloodthirsty Demon died a miserable death and all this was blamed on Immortal Eclipse Valley. That bastard Demon Monarch seemed to have gone crazy

and wildly attacked Immortal Eclipse Valley. During the initial attack, we lost a great number of people and we're still being affected in various areas even now.

"Although it could be said that if there was any force within the entirety of the Southern Empire and Northern Dynasty that would dare to kill off a branch division of the demonic path, it would be my Immortal Eclipse Valley, the truth is that we really didn't do this!" Pill Crucible clenched his jaws. "I want to know just which bastard framed us! If I find him, I want to skin him alive!"

Chapter 212 – Reentering the Pill Disposal Department

Qin Yu hacked out a cough.

Pill Crucible frowned unhappily. "What do you mean?"

Qin Yu continued to violently cough. He waved his hand with some difficulty, but if one glanced at his face, one could see several points of a guilty conscience.

Pill Crucible's lips twitched. He lifted a shaking finger and pointed towards Qin Yu. "You...are you telling me that you are responsible for this?"

Qin Yu smiled awkwardly. "Ah...first of all, I would like to say that there was a reason for it. Then again, I never expected so much trouble to follow."

Pill Crucible's complexion paled and he looked as if he could eat Qin Yu alive. He gnashed his teeth, "Qin Yu, you're incredible, truly incredible!" He was originally cursing the demonic path for indiscriminately targeting Immortal Eclipse Valley without any proof, but now it seems that they weren't wrong at all. No matter how he viewed things, everything led to Immortal Eclipse Valley.

This...just what sort of evil was this!?

Qin Yu dryly laughed. "Senior-apprentice brother, don't be angry, don't be angry...oh, well, I think I'm going to visit Ling'er and the others and see how they are doing. They just arrived at Immortal Eclipse Valley so they don't know the rules."

He turned and scurried away.

Concerning the matter about the Pill Disposal Department, he would hold off on mentioning that until later. Otherwise, he was really worried that Pill Crucible would storm away or even catch him and beat him up for a time.

After Qin Yu left, the anger on Pill Crucible's face slowly abated. He frowned, as if worried about something. Then, he sighed for a long time. "I originally thought that I miscalculated, but after confirming everything one at a time, it seems that the final result is unable to be changed."

He shook his head to rid himself of these depressing thoughts. Since he had determined the result, then he had to make arrangements as soon as possible.

To Immortal Eclipse Valley, Qin Yu's appearance was a danger as well as a lucky chance. But as for what the result would be, he didn't know.

Hah, just thinking about it, he was truly not resigned!

...

Gu Ling'er and the others were placed in a place called the Little Bamboo Grove. The environment was gorgeous and quiet, and the surroundings were cultivated medicinal fields.

As the fragrance of medicine floated in on the wind, taking a breath of it inspired the spirit.

When Qin Yu arrived, several girls were gathered together, excitedly discussing everything they saw and experienced after entering Immortal Eclipse Valley. Their gestures and motions were full of joy and anticipation.

"Greetings, Senior Qin!" Several girls hurried onto their feet.

Qin Yu waved his hand. "There is no need to be so courteous." He sat down. He had wanted to waste some time here, but just as he spoke two words he was interrupted by someone.

Zeng Zhongxiu rushed over, his face full of smiles. "Brother Qin, I just learned that you returned. You should stay a bit longer this time; we can drink to our heart's content!"

When Qin Yu left in the past, he had forced the Eighth Furnace to approve of him. For the next several years, Zeng Zhongxiu worked diligently, putting in all his effort. When combined with Pill Crucible's careful guidance, he had officially obtained the status of being the master of the Eighth Furnace. Now, his actions were a bit more dignified and regal than before. With his flowing black and white hair and his delicate and beautiful face, he instantly caused the eyes of the Rainbow Sect girls to haze over and their cheeks to blush.

Qin Yu looked around, thinking that being so attractive was actually quite useful. However, he didn't feel any envy at all. He smiled and sat up, "Hello, Brother Zeng."

Only now did Zeng Zhongxiu discover the flower-pretty girls in the room. A blank look crossed his face. "Brother Qin, this is..." It was obvious that he had just obtained the news of Qin Yu's arrival before he rushed over, and hadn't fully inquired into the situation.

Qin Yu's heart stirred. He smiled and introduced both sides to each other. When the girls heard that this enchantingly handsome uncle was a Furnace Master of Immortal Eclipse Valley, their faces heated up even more. The only thing that Qin Yu was happy about was that Gu Ling'er's gaze was calm and serene, not changing the entire time.

As if sensing Qin Yu's gaze sweeping across her senior-apprentice sisters, Gu Ling'er looked up and winked at Qin Yu, as if saying, 'Big Brother Qin Yu, I'll support you!'

Zeng Zhongxiu had an awkward expression. "Brother Qin's little sister is my Zeng Zhongxiu's little sister. Unfortunately, I hurried over here today so I wasn't able to prepare a gift. It is truly disrespectful of me."

Gu Ling'er shook her head. She thought that her Big Brother Qin Yu really was good at connecting with others; whenever she went somewhere and met someone new, they would always give her a first meeting gift. She knew that this wasn't because everyone liked her, but because they highly valued Qin Yu. But even so, she felt nothing but joy for Qin Yu from the depths of her heart. This was because he had already become a genuinely great person.

Zeng Zhongxiu stayed behind. Several girls fought against each other to serve him food. Looking at their earnest expressions, it was clear that they were bringing out every trick in the book to attract his attention.

Qin Yu followed him to a pavilion in Little Bamboo Grove and sat down. He teasingly smiled, "Brother Zeng is so popular that I really feel envious. You must have been pursued many times these past years."

Zeng Zhongxiu revealed an embarrassed look. "That is...right now I am devoting all my attention to my studies. After agreeing to learn under teacher, it was only then that I realized how vast and proud the dao of alchemy was. Even if I spend my entire lifetime studying it, it will be difficult for me to grasp, so how could I have any thoughts of dividing my attention for these things?" As he spoke, his face was full of deep veneration and his voice was pious. When Qin Yu heard this, his lips twitched. Just how was Pill Crucible teaching his student? He had turned the handsome, elegant, and stunning Zeng Zhongxiu into the current block of wood he was.

Qin Yu coughed. "This is actually a human problem and should be put under careful consideration. After all, the road is long and if there is no one to accompany you, it will be very lonely."

"Is it?"

Qin Yu put on an authoritative look and slowly nodded. "It is."

Zeng Zhongxiu hesitated, not saying much. In his mind, Qin Yu was an idol-like existence. Not only because of his cultivation and status, but more so because of his amazing alchemy skill. A fifth rank alchemist was enough to dominate the world. His teacher sometimes talked about this, though there was disdain on his face as he did. It was more along the lines of how a little brat could never understand the meanings of a great teacher, but still, he could feel some envy in his words.

So he couldn't help but consider Qin Yu's words. He thought and asked, "Brother Qin, in the future will you also look for someone to accompany you in life?"

Qin Yu was stunned. He laughed and said, "Stop trying to switch the topic; why are we speaking about me? You need to consider this earnestly. To spend the rest of your years being lonely is really absurd!"

Would he find such a person?

Ning Ling's figure appeared in his mind. A feeling of remembrance and helplessness appeared in Qin Yu's heart. Sure enough, he was an indecisive person. It had already been such a long time and yet he wasn't able to forget about her. In Homehold City when he destroyed the demonic path's branch division and exterminated Bloodthirsty Devil, when he thought about it, part of the reason he did so was because of her.

Food and wine were brought to the table. The flavor was good; it was clear that the girls were putting forth their utmost capabilities. Xuanxuan was the boldest. She poured a cup of wine and started her offensive against Zeng Zhongxiu. Unfortunately, her attacks didn't seem to have much effect.

After experiencing the trials of youth, the fall and rise of the Zeng Family, and reaching his current status, Zeng Zhongxiu's mentality had been tempered repeatedly and he could no longer be easily moved by things like this.

They drank for a long time. Neither of them used their cultivation to cleanse their body. Qin Yu's vision turned blurry. He leaned against one of the pavilion pillars and fell asleep.

Gu Ling'er took out a handkerchief and wiped the sweat from his forehead for him. She listened as he mumbled in his sleep, "Ning Ling...Ning Ling..."

Her heart was pained. She had already learned what happened to Ning Ling from Qin Yu. She thought about how calm Qin Yu tried to keep himself, and how he only revealed his true thoughts when he was drunk, and her eyes started to turn red and teary. She held his hand, "Big Brother Qin Yu, don't worry. No matter what happens, Ling'er will accompany you. As long as you need me, I will never allow you to be alone."

Qin Yu slept for two days and two nights. When he opened his eyes, he could see Gu Ling'er's smiling face. "Big Brother Qin Yu, you've awoken. Did you want to wash up?"

"How long was I asleep for?"

"Two days. My senior-apprentice sisters were very surprised. They said that Big Brother Qin Yu really knows how to sleep!"

Qin Yu's thoughts stirred. "So you've been waiting here for two whole days?"

Gu Ling'er blushed. "I didn't. I just came over to look because I have nothing else to do."

Qin Yu's heart warmed. He patted her hand, "Thank you, Ling'er."

Gu Ling'er smiled happily. "Big Brother Qin Yu, you should wash your face. I will prepare something for you to eat."

Eating didn't matter. With his current cultivation, he would be fine if he didn't have food or water for ten years.

The key was in his mind.

So he ate as he wished until he was full. After drinking the last of his soup, he praised, "Our Ling'er is truly skilled! I wonder just who will have the good fortune of marrying you."

Gu Ling'er was embarrassed. She stamped her feet, "Big Brother Qin Yu is bullying me!"

Qin Yu laughed in return.

After staying for a while longer, he said some words to her and left.

He decided he couldn't wait any longer. He would go straight to Pill Crucible and lay down his cards. After all, if he really wanted to go to the Pill Disposal Department he needed his approval.

Because of what happened to the little blue lamp, his cultivation had been delayed for a long time already. Time was like sand drifting in the wind; it was the thing in the world that shouldn't be wasted the most.

It was only when he reached Pill Crucible's dwelling that he discovered he was in seclusion. Qin Yu was stunned. Could his performance have stimulated that cheap senior-apprentice brother of his? Since

when was he so diligent? And, the crux of the issue was that if Pill Crucible was in seclusion, what would he do about the Pill Disposal Department?

“Junior Granduncle, please wait a moment. The Valley Master has made arrangements with Elder Zeng – he will soon be over.”

And Zeng Zhongxiu did come over quickly. He took out a token and said, “This is what teacher asked me to give to Brother Qin before he went into seclusion. He said that whatever you want, you can decide yourself.”

There was the seal of a furnace cut atop the token; it symbolized the supreme authority of Immortal Eclipse Valley and was Pill Crucible’s own status token. If Pill Crucible wasn’t here, then someone could rely on this token to control the entirety of Immortal Eclipse Valley.

This cheap senior-apprentice brother of his didn’t speak kindly often, but he was actually quite reliable. This amount of trust left Qin Yu a bit moved. Of course, he would never express this publicly. He complained a bit to Zeng Zhongxiu about how troublesome it was and then received the token.

With this token in hand, entering the Pill Disposal Department would be no problem at all.

Not long after, under Cao Han’s grateful and respectful look, he took several steps forwards. Then, several years later, he once again stepped into Immortal Eclipse Valley’s Pill Disposal Department.

If things went as expected, he would be cultivating here for a long time.

Chapter 213 – The Mysterious Spirit

Junior Granduncle Qin may have returned, but the chaos that the Eclipse Clan cultivators expected to come actually didn’t appear. Qin Yu entered the Pill Disposal Department where no one knew what he was doing, and he didn’t emerge for a long time. The valley remained as tranquil as it was in the past. No, it should be said that it was even more tranquil, because the Valley Master was in seclusion – true seclusion – not like in the past where he said he was in seclusion so he could laze around.

But, in the end there were some changes. For instance, inside Little Bamboo Grove, there were now a number of beautiful young ladies who came from the Rainbow Sect. They were all beautiful girls that attracted many heated gazes. While there were some secret admirers and some pursuers, there was actually no one that dared to look at Miss Gu Ling’er.

She was Junior Granduncle’s little sister; just that identity alone was enough to cause people to withdraw in fear. If they somehow managed to provoke Junior Granduncle, the consequences would be unimaginable. And even if they successfully pursued and obtained her and Junior Granduncle Qin didn’t stop them, what would they do afterwards? Marriage?

Did anyone even dare to consider this seriously? This wasn’t even some wonderful dual cultivating couple at all, it was simply marrying an empress and bringing her back home. No matter which aspect it was considered from, it was best to remain a respectful distance away.

Gu Ling’er was happy and glad with her current situation. She watched her several senior-apprentice sisters not tire of the endless pursuers, and she often smiled. She invested all of her efforts into cultivation. It was just that she would think of her Big Brother Qin Yu every day. She thought about how

long he had been in seclusion for already and a notion crossed her heart. She finally understood just why her Big Brother Qin Yu had such a formidable cultivation.

Disregarding talent and not mentioning lucky chances, his diligent efforts should be an extremely important reason. Big Brother Qin Yu was so fierce because he devoted his heart and mind to cultivation. Accordingly, she also had to be just as earnest. Otherwise if she was introduced to others in the future, they might look down on her because of her low cultivation and also mock her big brother.

She couldn't be a burden on Big Brother Qin Yu.

The girl carried this naive and silly idea with her as she put forth all her effort into cultivating. Though her talent wasn't naturally good, because of Qin Yu she possessed a special supply of pills. Her cultivation rose 10,000 miles in a day, and she would soon reach Foundation Establishment.

On this day, as she clenched her teeth, she swallowed two Foundation Establishment Pills. Magic power fiercely fluctuated within her and her aura changed. She opened her eyes and a smile appeared on her pale face.

She had reached Foundation Establishment!

The door was pushed open from outside. Xuanxuan and the other anxious senior-apprentice sisters all crashed into the room. "Ling'er, are you alright?"

Gu Ling'er weakly smiled. "I'm fine. I feel very good right now."

"Humph! No matter how I look at it, you don't seem fine at all!" Qin Yu appeared with a cold face. As he saw Gu Ling'er's pale complexion, he couldn't help but warm up. He quickly walked over to her bedside and sat down, "What are you trying to show off for? If you can't break through, then prepare some more before you try again. Why do you want to suffer like this?"

He had also experienced forcibly breaking through to Foundation Establishment and knew just how painful it was. At that time, he found it hard to hold himself up, much less Gu Ling'er.

Gu Ling'er was happily surprised. "You came, Big Brother Qin!" Then, after realizing that he seemed angry, she stuck out her tongue and smiled. "I'm alright, I feel very good right now. Don't waste your worry on me."

Qin Yu held her hand and probed her condition. After determining that she had only suffered a slight impact from magic power and her meridians were fine, he was finally able to relax.

"It's only this time. Don't do this in the future."

"Mm, I will listen to Big Brother Qin Yu."

Xuanxuan and her senior-apprentice sisters all looked at each other and saw envy in their eyes. They had already learned from Gu Ling'er what her true relationship with Qin Yu was. Although they weren't true blood sister and brother, their feelings far surpassed that. To have this sort of big brother was really too lucky! The girls drew back, allowing them space to be alone.

Qin Yu spent some time with Gu Ling'er, but as he spoke to her he could see her weariness as she strained to stay upright. He asked for her to close her eyes and rest, but she shook her head. After guaranteeing that he wouldn't leave, only then did Gu Ling'er close her eyes and soon fall asleep.

In her dreams, she was holding Qin Yu's hand the entire time. Her small and pale face didn't have its normal smile, and her expression aroused one's pity.

Qin Yu sighed. He slowly poured warm water-attribute magic power into Gu Ling'er's body, helping her restore her injuries.

Six hours later, Gu Ling'er opened her eyes. In her drowsiness, she was startled to discover that her injuries had recovered and her cultivation also seemed to have stabilized.

"Thank you, Big Brother Qin Yu!"

Qin Yu waved his hand dismissively. "Is there a need to say thanks between us?" He opened his hand, revealing a storage shell in his palm. "This thing is something I brought back from the sea region. I placed some pills inside that I especially prepared for you. When you cultivate in the future, you can use them freely. There will be more later."

After a brief pause, he added, "Continue to accept the pills from Immortal Eclipse Valley and don't tell anyone else about me giving you pills. Also, it would be best to not give any away too. Do you understand?"

Gu Ling'er appeared to understand but also not understand. But, since her Big Brother Qin Yu was intentionally reminding her of this, she nodded. "I understand, Big Brother Qin Yu."

Qin Yu smiled and held her hand. "Alright, I'm leaving. The road of cultivation is like a boat sailing against the current: you can only move forwards without retreat. Otherwise, you will inevitably be left behind. This is my advice to you that you must remember later."

"Big Brother Qin Yu..." Gu Ling'er revealed an unwilling expression but she soon nodded. "I will remember. Go on and leave, you don't need to come back and see me. Since I know that Big Brother Qin Yu is in Immortal Eclipse Valley, my heart will be stable."

Qin Yu revealed a bit of hesitation. He smiled, not saying anything, and then stood up to leave.

Gu Ling'er whispered to herself. "Big Brother Qin Yu, even if you don't tell me, I also know that you are destined to soar into the highest heavens. How would you ever stay here?"

After making a trip to the Eighth Furnace Station, Zeng Zhongxiu hurried out to greet him. Pill Crucible was still in seclusion, and this left Qin Yu feeling that something wasn't right. Could something have happened that he didn't know about? Otherwise with Pill Crucible's lazy personality, how could he have suddenly become so hard-working?

Had he been stirred up by the Demon Monarch?

He thought about it and then denied this thought. The Demon Monarch had wanted to kill Pill Crucible for a long time already. If he was really stimulated by him, then he would have worked himself to the bone these past years.

As he bid his farewells, the 10,000 foot mountain of the Eighth Furnace station began to light up. A giant alligator phantom rushed over, roaring angrily at Qin Yu and revealing its fierce teeth!

Zeng Zhongxiu was surprised. Just what was the Eighth Furnace doing? As a furnace spirit, it had an extremely sharp sensing ability. Could it have noticed Qin Yu's current cultivation?

Qin Yu laughed and turned around. "There's nothing to be surprised about. When hormones rush to your brain, sometimes it causes you to make decisions without caring for the consequences that happen afterwards. But, soon after making these decisions, you will feel incomparable regret." He looked up at the flaming fire alligator, "Don't you agree?"

The fire alligator shrank its head and continued to roar. The anger in its voice had been reduced by more than half, and now it seemed more aggrieved than anything.

As if it were saying that Qin Yu didn't keep his word, that Qin Yu didn't fulfill his promise!

Qin Yu lightly coughed. He lifted his hand and the Fleeting Furnace appeared. The fire alligator's eyes immediately lit up. It howled out loud and rushed over but was immediately slapped away.

But looking at its expression, it was clearly even more excited, not a trace of its sadness left. It turned back and rushed forwards again.

Zeng Zhongxiu forced a smile. He finally realized that his Eighth Furnace had an extremely lascivious furnace spirit. In the past when Qin Yu had forced it to obey, he had used this move, so how had he forgotten about it? But, as he looked at it right now, he couldn't help but feel it was just too...shameful!

The Fleeting Flame Furnace held an arrogant and tender stance. The fire alligator swung its tail about, diving up and down, with a very 'thirsty' expression.

Qin Yu rubbed his nose. A very dirty thought rose up in his mind. These were two hard and solid furnaces, so what could they do even if they were together? This was a truly difficult and complex puzzle.

"Brother Qin, what should we do?" Zeng Zhongxiu asked. He was currently refining pills so he needed the cooperation of the Eighth Furnace. But looking at how it was now, it clearly couldn't be depended upon.

Qin Yu smiled. "I will leave the Fleeting Flame Furnace behind, since I promised you that in the past." He ignored the grumbling bitterness that seemed to instantly rise in the Fleeting Flame Furnace, then turned and walked away, "After some time I will come and bring you away."

Even though you seem to be grumbling about this, you just aren't believable at all. If you didn't like punishing the fire alligator, would you have been so light with your actions? You are clearly happy here.

I will just consider this as helping to push the boat along.

Qin Yu returned to the Pill Disposal Department. Cao Han had already prepared a table and tea set. His cultivation had broken through to the sixth level of the Golden Core realm, and he could step into the late Golden Core realm at any moment.

"I won't drink any tea today. Next time."

Cao Han was a bit disappointed, but he respectfully bowed. "Of course."

After stepping into the Pill Disposal Department, he looked up at the boundless curtain of swords. A voice sounded out in his ears, "You've returned."

It was a cold and light voice. Though it was gentle, one couldn't help but be moved by it.

Qin Yu's eyebrows lifted up. He turned around, "Hello, Miss Spirity."

Spirity nodded. "The Soul Mushroom has already reached a hundred years of age. How did you accomplish this?"

Qin Yu had some understanding of her personality. To be kind, she was honest, but to be truthful, she was naive. If you knew this secret then you should have kept that to yourself. Disregarding the fact that you mentioned it, but you also wanted to know the reason why?

Why should I tell you?

However, the origin of the Five Element Sword Diagram came because Spirity had mentioned it, so from this aspect, it could be said that he owed her a great sentiment. Thinking about it, he said, "Some time ago I went to the sea region and obtained a sort of soul bead there. It was bred from a powerful specter, and once the Soul Mushroom absorbed it, a transformation occurred."

"Sea region..." Spirity mumbled to herself. After several breaths of time she looked up, her gaze earnest. "You will go back to the sea region, right?"

Qin Yu furrowed his eyebrows and nodded.

"Then you will certainly try to find a way to obtain even more soul beads. In other words, there is a high chance that the Soul Mushroom will transform into a thousand years of age." Spirit had a deep expression. "I will give you some advice. When the Soul Mushroom transforms into a thousand years of age, it will need to absorb a massive amount of spiritual strength, a quantity that far surpasses your imagination. So, I hope that you will be prepared for that."

Qin Yu's gaze deepened. "Who are you and how do you know of these things?" Even Pill Crucible didn't know much about the Soul Mushroom. This little girl was far too mysterious.

Spirity said, "When the Soul Mushroom matures, you will know."

She turned and left. After several steps, she vanished from sight.

These words were somewhat familiar-sounding.

Looking at the direction she left towards, Qin Yu's thoughts raced. After a moment, his mind shook as he thought of a possibility. After hesitating for a long time, he suppressed his thoughts. Making any baseless guesses was useless. Once a chance arrived in the future, he would naturally understand.

Chapter 214 – Holding Back for a Great Uproar

Time could not be disappointed, time could not be controlled, and although it was everywhere, there was no being that could touch it. When the trees outside began to turn yellow and their leaves fell, and once sprouts rose up from the ground, a year had passed.

Immortal Eclipse Valley was still the number one sect within the Southern Empire. Though it was still in conflict with the demonic path, this didn't affect its status at all. Every day, a massive amount of alchemy materials was sent into Immortal Eclipse Valley. A majority of these materials were successfully refined into pills and then resold via special connections. However, there were still many failures, and these failures were sent to the Pill Disposal Department.

Everyone knew just how horrid waste pills were. Only by passing through specialized decomposition methods could they be thoroughly destroyed to avoid harming the world.

However, there was something that confused the cultivators of Immortal Eclipse Valley. In an environment that was littered all over with waste pills, how did Junior Granduncle Qin survive? Although this wasn't the first time, they still watched from the side of their eyes and remained surprised. Many people wanted to know just what Junior Granduncle Qin was doing inside. But as soon as they thought of this and asked about it, they would soon fall silent and say nothing, no matter who asked.

Slowly, even though no one clearly stated it, everyone knew that Junior Granduncle Qin and the Pill Disposal Department was a new taboo topic in the valley.

Only by doing this could the cultivators of Immortal Eclipse Valley be suppressed and prevent them from inquiring into it. But, this was unable to eliminate their curiosity, and as more and more time passed, this curiosity only became increasingly intense.

Some people said that Junior Granduncle Qin was practicing some sort of supernatural power and needed to draw support from pill toxins to do so. But, because it was extremely dangerous, any disturbance was forbidden and thus no one was allowed to investigate.

There were also some people that said Junior Granduncle Qin was tempering his body and using pill toxins to give himself a Ten Thousand Poison Body, making him immune to all poisons beneath the heavens. This was a very funny rumor and only a small number of people believed it, but in actuality it was the one that was slightly close to the truth. After all, the little blue lamp could chase out pill toxins and concentrate them into a finger. This could barely count as cultivating a poison body.

Of course, if others learnt that Qin Yu was taking the materials from waste pills to refine into new pills, their mouths would have dropped open!

Ever since the Fleeting Flame Furnace was left at the Eighth Furnace station, he hadn't taken it back. The one he used now was one of the furnaces from his cheap senior-apprentice brother's collection, and it was passable in quality.

Qin Yu always paid great attention to raising his alchemy skills. So while he wasn't some mighty alchemy figure, his strength wasn't too bad. Moreover, all he needed to do was guarantee that the pills successfully formed. There was no requirement concerning the quality, so the efficiency and success rate was quite good. There was enough for both his cultivation needs and helping Gu Ling'er.

Star Pills to make one stronger, Cloudrain Pills that increased one's magic powers, and Blood Energy Pills that nourished the body – these three types of pills comprised the majority of those that Qin Yu refined. He lifted a hand and slapped down, and the furnace popped open. 13 Star Pills flew out. He flicked his sleeves, gathering them in a jade bottle.

After a brief rest, he gathered more materials and continued to refine.

He continued refining pills for five days. A massive amount of pills was placed in jade bottles scattered on the ground. This was because following this, Qin Yu was preparing to attack the Nascent Soul realm. And he would inevitably use up a tremendous amount of pills. He needed to make full preparations to avoid any sort of embarrassing situation where he ran out of pills.

Of course, Qin Yu was well aware that it would be impossible to successfully make a breakthrough. First, he knew how high his talent was, and second, there was the Demon Body. You Qi had once informed him that the Demon Body had an incredibly tyrannical characteristic; it didn't allow a person's magic power to surpass its strength. Thus, if he wished to become a Nascent Soul, he needed to find demon blood to enhance his Demon Body.

This would not be an easy task. Perhaps You Qi could help him, but ever since that day when they parted at the Land of Sealed Demons, she had disappeared without a trace and he had no idea where she was.

He temporarily didn't need to worry about that. At the very least, there were benefits to failing a Nascent Soul breakthrough. This was what Qin Yu had learned after failing to reach Golden Core multiple times in the past – the purification of magic power.

Every time he failed a breakthrough, it would cause an increase in the quality of his magic power. Although the range wasn't too high, small amounts eventually stacked up. One didn't need to be a genius to understand that if he continually failed 10 or 20 times, the overall quality of his magic power would rise to an astonishingly pure degree.

This could be called good fortune within misfortune, prosperity within tragedy. However, for the time being, Qin Yu was the only one capable of obtaining this good fortune.

Another five days passed. Qin Yu opened his eyes and lifted a bottle of pills, swallowing them down. There were Star Pills, Clouddrain Pills, and Blood Energy Pills contained within. In any case, if there was no chance for a successful breakthrough then he might as well take them all.

The life of someone with unlimited pills was like this. Bold, valiant, there was no need to try and explain their actions.

And Qin Yu wouldn't acknowledge that there was a bit of anticipation deep in his heart. From the aspects of his soul, magic power, and mortal body, would he be able to break into Nascent Soul from all three?

Even if the hopes of doing so were so small to be negligible, he should still try at least.

Within his dantian sea, atop that great dao platform, the five white, black, blue, red, and yellow Golden Cores suddenly erupted with a blinding light. Five beams of colors crazily surged out, merging together into a rainbow kaleidoscope of dazzling lights.

Bang –

A powerful aura broke out from Qin Yu's body and his robes flapped around him. The five element magic powers within his body tumbled like the sea in a storm. Every time it rose and fell there were loud earthshaking rumbles from his body, as if several tsunamis were crashing into the land within him.

Cao Han was silent and still. Like this, he had calmly and steadily guarded the Pill Disposal Department for all these years. But, those that were familiar with him would be able to tell that there was a trace of absent-mindedness clouding his face. This was an extremely rare event coming from Cao Han. With his formidable willpower, he was normally able to easily control his mood.

It was just that Junior Uncle Qin hadn't come out for a long time. In truth, compared to the past, it was only a week longer. Still, his Junior Uncle was an extremely orderly and timely person, and he would come out every month on the dot to drink some tea and quietly visit Little Bamboo Grove for a day before returning.

Suddenly, he could hear some noise in the distance. Cao Han looked up, a bit of icy coldness in his eyes. Someone had clearly come. Could it be that they didn't know that the Pill Disposal Department had become a restricted zone right now? Or were some people unable to suppress their curiosity any longer and wanted to come here to snoop?

However, what happened was unexpected; the one who came was a little girl with a worried face. "I know that I shouldn't have come, but I was worried. Big Brother Qin Yu hasn't come out for the last week, so could you tell me where he is right now?"

Cao Han was startled for a moment before determining the identity of this visitor. He walked forwards and said in a low voice, "How dissolute, do not be impolite to Miss Gu Ling'er!" He squeezed out a smile, "Miss Ling'er, how do you do, I am Cao Han, the one responsible for guarding the Pill Disposal Department."

Gu Ling'er bowed respectfully. "Greetings Senior Cao, I have heard Big Brother Qin Yu mention you before. May I ask you where Big Brother Qin Yu has gone?"

Cao Han said, "Junior Uncle has yet to emerge. He should have been delayed due to some reason. Miss Ling'er should know that for us cultivators, there are always times where unexpected events occur. Please rest assured."

Gu Ling'er nodded, but her eyes clearly revealed more worry. She actually hoped that her Big Brother Qin Yu had already come out but just hadn't come to look for her...after all, this was the Pill Disposal Department, and since she knew that he was going into seclusion here, she had asked around and found out just how deadly and dangerous it was.

If her Big Brother Qin Yu didn't come out, could it be that some accident had occurred? As soon as this thought appeared, it was like an invisible great hand that took hold of her heart, causing her face to pale. She wavered for a moment and then bowed once more, "Senior Cao, I know that it might be rude to ask this, but I really hope you will agree to let me go in and have a look. I...I'm worried that something has happened to Big Brother Qin Yu."

Cao Han's heart warmed. He thought that it was no wonder that Junior Uncle held this little sister of his in such high regards. Their feelings for each other were truly deep. He revealed an awkward expression. "Miss Ling'er, although I know that Junior Uncle would not refuse you entering, the Pill Disposal Department is not like other areas. It is too risky, so I cannot allow you to enter."

Gu Ling'er clenched her fists. "But I...but I..." After several breaths of time, she lowered her head and took out a token.

Cao Han's complexion changed. He respectfully bowed, "Cao Han greets the Elder!" Within Immortal Eclipse Valley, Elders were Golden Cores, but Golden Cores weren't necessarily Elders. Although their cultivation was at the same realm, the differences in status were actually enormous.

Gu Ling'er was a bit anxious. "I apologize to Senior Cao, but I order you to open the entrance to the Pill Disposal Department."

Cao Hao furrowed his eyebrows. With her status as an Elder, she did possess the qualifications to enter the Pill Disposal Department. But, if something were to happen to her, then Junior Uncle might not listen to his explanation. Just as he was caught in a dilemma, his complexion changed and he reared back his head to look up high.

At the same time, all Golden Core and above cultivators within Immortal Eclipse Valley revealed looks of surprise. They looked into the skies together. There, in the skies, faint traces of black clouds began to appear from nothingness, weaving together into one. This caused the bright and clear weather to suddenly darken.

This was...heavenly tribulation?

Any cultivator that had reached Golden Core had once experienced a baptism of core tribulation, so they were more sensitive to its aura. The black clouds forming high above emitted an oppressive aura; this was clearly heavenly tribulation, but why wasn't there any lightning? Not only was there not any lightning, there were no sounds either. If it weren't for the pressure that was falling down, they would have thought this was nothing but an illusion.

The invisible pressure filled the air, becoming increasingly strong, so heavy that it was like a stone pressing down on one's chest. Many people slowly began to have difficulty breathing. Then, the gazes of the watching Golden Core cultivators began to fill with envy and awe. If there was something that could make them feel like this, it could only be Nascent Soul heavenly tribulation. Someone in the valley was breaking into Nascent Soul!

But who was the person breaking through? How come they had never heard news about this? Could it be that someone didn't make any preparations before their breakthrough? Did they want to commit suicide?

Not worrying about it, many people started hurrying over to take a look. It was a rare experience to witness Nascent Soul heavenly tribulation and this would surely be a great advantage to them in crossing their own tribulation in the future.

Whoosh –

Whoosh –

Figures shot up into the skies, soaring towards the heavenly tribulation.

As soon as the Golden Cores arrived, they discovered that the great figures of the valley had arrived a step ahead of them. Jiang Li, Daoist Wang, Eclipse Lenqing, Eclipse Wuji – four Nascent Souls had gathered together. Everyone bowed at once and carefully stood to the side.

Someone looked up and could clearly see where the tribulation clouds' aura had locked onto. They were left stunned with a bizarre light in their eyes.

This...this is...the Pill Disposal Department...

Cao Han was there, but with his cultivation it was impossible to animate heavenly tribulation.

Then, who was it?

Within the hearts of countless people, a name suddenly appeared: Junior Uncle Qin!

Everyone knew that Junior Uncle was in seclusion within the Pill Disposal Department. Who else could it be but him?

Some people actually believed that Junior Uncle had changed his ways; how naive and silly of them. One could easily see that when it came to a person who always stirred up such a mess wherever he went, after returning to Immortal Eclipse Valley, how could things possibly remain quiet?

So it was because he was holding himself back for a great uproar!

Chapter 215 – Ten Heavenly Tribulations

But wasn't it said that Junior Uncle was also a Nascent Soul? Then how was he crossing tribulation now? Or, could it be that he made another breakthrough?

Countless people leapt up in fright, but soon comforted themselves and told themselves not to think so haphazardly. This was definitely not a possibility.

Daoist Wang frowned. He turned and said, "This heavenly tribulation is a bit strange!"

Jiang Li's eyes narrowed. "Something isn't right."

Eclipse Lenqing and Eclipse Wuji couldn't be said to be on good terms with Qin Yu. When they heard that he had reached Nascent Soul, they had felt personally attacked, as if this were a major blow to them. But as they saw this scene today, they felt some joy in their hearts, some comfort, as well as some confusion.

"This aura is undoubtedly Nascent Soul heavenly tribulation, but it isn't complete..." Eclipse Wuji slowly said, "It appears as if it only possesses a part of the heavenly tribulation attribute."

This summarization was accurate and precise. Daoist Wang clapped his hands, "That's right, that's exactly what I'm feeling." He looked up at the black cloud and muttered, "This brat, he causes too much trouble. Anything he does just becomes an abnormal mess."

Gu Ling'er stood in the crowd, somewhat happy as she saw that nothing had happened to her Big Brother Qin Yu. But, as she watched the gathering black clouds, she couldn't help but be worried that some accident would occur during this heavenly tribulation.

As if feeling her worries, without any notice, the tribulation clouds in the sky began to dissipate at a rapid pace. In maybe just several breaths of time, they thoroughly vanished from sight.

Like this, four great Nascent Souls and everyone else was left in a stunned daze. They had only ever heard of heavenly tribulation descending, and had never heard of a situation where heavenly tribulation appeared and then vanished.

Please tell, was this crossing tribulation? To cultivators, this was a very solemn and sacred event, a test which their lives hung upon. But right now why did it feel a bit playful? When could heavenly tribulation be played around with like this?

Eclipse Lenqing and Eclipse Wuji were left speechless. Daoist Wang and Jiang Li revealed a thoughtful look. They knew about Qin Yu swallowing heavenly tribulation, so what occurred in front of them right now wasn't much at all.

The heavenly tribulation disappeared and the Golden Cores glanced at each other. They sighed inwardly, thinking that their Junior Uncle Qin was truly an extraordinary person. But at the same time, they also thought about what happened and how there had been such a strong start that fizzled out in a weak ending. Then they thought, Junior Uncle, wasn't this a bit too embarrassing?

Jiang Li swept his eyes around. He said, "Enough. Since there is nothing wrong, you should all disperse."

The Golden Cores wondered just how could there be nothing wrong? But even though this thought appeared in their minds, no one dared to speak it out loud. They all bowed and retreated.

Eclipse Lenqing coldly frowned. His intuition told him that Jiang Li and Daoist Wang surely knew of something. He thought for a moment then asked, "Do you two know what is happening?"

Daoist Wang laughed out loud. "Eclipse Lenqing, you must be joking around. We are all standing over here, so how could we know what is happening over there? If you are so curious as to what Qin Yu is doing, then you can ask him when he comes out."

Eclipse Lenqing's complexion sank. Although he didn't mind dealing with Qin Yu, there was no way he would speak to him on his own initiative. He coldly snorted and turned to leave.

Daoist Wang curled his lips. "Just what sort of person is he? I just offered some advice to him, and it's fine if he doesn't appreciate it, but why does he have to put on such a smelly face when he leaves? It's not like I owe him anything."

Eclipse Wuji revealed a helpless look. He cupped his hands across his chest and turned to leave.

"Hey, they've already left, so how about we go in and take a look?" Daoist Wang winked and then coughed. "Hey, don't look at me like that. It's not like I'm curious or anything, I just want to make sure that nothing happened to Qin Yu."

Jiang Li thought for a moment and nodded. "Then let's go and take a look."

Gu Ling'er bit her lips. "Seniors, can you bring me with you?"

Jiang Li furrowed his eyebrows. "You must stay close to me, lest you are contaminated by pill toxins."

Facing Jiang Li and Daoist Wang, Cao Han naturally didn't dare to stop them. He respectfully drew to the side.

Gu Ling'er nervously followed behind Jiang Li as they stepped into the Pill Disposal Department.

The surroundings suddenly changed, and a barren land of deathly stillness appeared. A light sword intent spread out and wrapped around her, twisting and eliminating all the approaching pill toxins.

"Cough cough...you came." Qin Yu sat on a stone boulder, his face white. As he saw Gu Ling'er, he revealed a warm smile. "Why did you come here? It's too dangerous for you."

Gu Ling'er looked at the corner of his mouth and the blood that had yet to be wiped away. Her eyes instantly reddened and she covered her mouth, "Big Brother Qin Yu, you...what happened?"

Qin Yu smiled. "It's alright. I experienced a small accident during my cultivation. Don't cry, don't cry, my body is quite good and this tiny wound will soon heal."

Jiang Li gazed deeply at Qin Yu, and there seemed to be a faint tremble in his eyes. He had clearly already realized some things. He said, "If you want to heal yourself, then leave here first."

Qin Yu didn't refuse. "Alright." He walked forwards and wiped away Gu Ling'er's tears. "Let's leave. Why are you still crying? Aren't you afraid that others will laugh at you?"

Gu Ling'er forced out a smile and reached out to help support him. Qin Yu smiled and went along with it; at least she would feel more at ease doing this.

Cao Han hurried forth to greet them. He was also quite shaken about Junior Uncle being wounded.

Without delay, after leaving, the group went directly to Little Bamboo Grove. This was a gorgeous and peaceful environment, and it was also a good training area.

After speaking some words, he made an excuse that he wanted to eat some porridge and sent Gu Ling'er out. Qin Yu then fell onto a bed and said, "If you want to ask then ask away. You look like you're sick from holding it in."

Daoist Wang impatiently asked. "You haven't broken through to Nascent Soul?"

Qin Yu nodded.

This simple and honest reply caused his eyes to pop open and his lips to twitch. His expression became even stranger to behold.

At Snowfall City, they had witnessed Qin Yu fight in direct combat against Liu Zhi.

But now you are saying that you haven't crossed tribulation and broken through to Nascent Soul? It would be nice if this were a joke, but the key point was that it was actually true!

Jiang Li's eyes brightened. "Is it the Five Element Sword Diagram?"

Since he had already acknowledged it, there was no point in hiding it any further. Qin Yu nodded again. Of course, he didn't explain the exact details, but the two old men knew discretion and although they were curious, they didn't probe further. Still, what they learned was enough to shock them.

He was still at the Golden Core realm and yet he could contend against the all-out strike of a middle Nascent Soul. They wondered, once Qin Yu broke into Nascent Soul, just how fierce would he become?

Perhaps looking through the entire world, only super powerhouses like the Valley Master or Demon Monarch would be worthy opponents for him.

They continued to think further. Once Qin Yu's cultivation reached the middle Nascent Soul realm or even the late phase, just who in the world would be his match? This brat, he was far too horrifying!

Qin Yu bitterly smiled. "In this world, there are gains and losses. The difficulty of me breaking into Nascent Soul is over ten times more difficult than it would be for an ordinary cultivator. You don't have to overthink this."

Only upon hearing this did Daoist Wang and Jiang Li think that the world was a bit more normal.

"You brat...it's about time you encounter some difficulties, or how else do you expect ordinary cultivators like us to live!" Daoist Wang was filled with righteous indignation.

To force a Nascent Soul to refer to themselves as an ordinary cultivator, the only one who could do this was Qin Yu!

Jiang Li simply stated. "If it is because of the Five Element Sword Diagram, then I might be able to help you. If you have need of any assistance, come and look for me."

Qin Yu smiled and nodded.

"Alright, we won't disturb you any more. Rest well and recuperate."

Jiang Li and Daoist Wang rose up and bid their farewells.

Soon after, Gu Ling'er returned, carrying a bowl of fragrant porridge. It definitely didn't take long to cook porridge, but she had waited for the two old men to leave before she went in. After all, she was an extremely intelligent young girl, so how could she not be aware of how to follow social cues?

Three days later.

Qin Yu allowed Gu Ling'er to carefully inspect him. He even restrained his magic power to allow her weak magic power to enter his body and investigate his condition, verifying that he wasn't injured any longer.

Once Gu Ling'er closed her mouth and took back her magic power, Qin Yu smiled. "How about it? I haven't lied at all. My injuries are already healed, so I am going back to cultivate."

Gu Ling'er was surprised, but the ones who were even more surprised were Daoist Wang and Jiang Li. As Nascent Soul cultivators, they naturally knew how unusual Qin Yu's injuries were.

If others were able to barely recover in a month, that would already be a good result. But what about him? From start to end it only took three days!

Daoist Wang mumbled beneath his breath, "This brat, he is simply a freak of nature!"

This time, Jiang Li agreed with a rare nod.

In order to refine the Five Element Sword Diagram and accommodate so much more magic power, it was normal for Qin Yu's body to be extremely sturdy. But, the more potent the body was the more

troublesome it was to recover from injuries. The freak Qin Yu had fully restored himself in three days, and this was completely unbelievable.

Qin Yu returned to the Pill Disposal Department. News of this quickly spread through Immortal Eclipse Valley and immediately created a great disturbance. Countless cultivators sighed. Junior Uncle was truly Junior Uncle; he was so strong that no one could compare!

But soon, their attention was drawn away by another matter. This was because heavenly tribulation...had returned! The only reason they said it had 'returned' was because it occurred above the Pill Disposal Department and was completely similar to the heavenly tribulation that appeared the last time.

Junior Uncle, Junior Granduncle, just what are you doing? After a moment, the tribulation cloud vanished from sight once more. Many people watched with wide eyes, not sure what to say.

But the most powerful ability in the world was habit. Even if it were something like heavenly tribulation, if it appeared every now and then, even the cultivators in Immortal Eclipse Valley would remain calm. At most they would look at the Pill Disposal Department and say, "Oh, Junior Uncle (or Junior Granduncle), has returned."

Hu –

Strong winds rose up.

Hu –

Black clouds gathered.

Shua –

A strong pressure arrived.

An alchemist was refining pills at this time, and a sudden shake in his hand nearly caused the entire furnace of good pills to be wasted. Luckily, he steadied his mind and was able to mix in the materials accurately. Now, all he needed to do was to wait for the pills to come out and collect them. He then turned and asked, "Hey, how many times has it been already?"

"The first month it was three times, the second month it was two times, and last month one time, for a total of six times." Another alchemist helplessly said.

The last month while he was refining pills, during a critical refining process he had encountered the aura of heavenly tribulation and it nearly caused his furnace to explode.

And of course, he had failed in the end.

Because of these six heavenly tribulations, there were now many more ruined materials than in normal times. When anyone was refining precious pills, they always chose to start after Junior Uncle crossed tribulation...perhaps calling it crossing tribulation was a bit inappropriate, but in the end that was the approximate meaning and they just needed to understand what it meant.

"Six heavenly tribulations! Hehe, I really wonder just how Junior Uncle has continued keeping this up."

“Heh, I heard some people have already started a betting market. The highest bet was ten times!”

“I know. And I also made a bet. It’s just that I didn’t dare make such a fierce bet on ten times, but chose eight times instead.”

“I bet on nine times!”

“It looks like everyone is confident in Junior Uncle!”

“What nonsense, it’s Junior Uncle we’re talking about!”

...

Another two months later, there was the seventh heavenly tribulation.

...

Another five months later, there was the eighth heavenly tribulation.

...

Another seven months later, there was the ninth heavenly tribulation.

...

Another year later, there was the tenth heavenly tribulation.

After that, there were no more. Qin Yu was lying on a bed, completely wrapped in bandages and facing the tearful Gu Ling’er. He couldn’t help but promise that he wouldn’t cross tribulation anymore.

Jiang Li’s eyes shined with a bright light. He was incomparably surprised that Qin Yu was able to live with such serious wounds.

These injuries lasted for over half a year, and it was only then that he barely managed to recover. But after that, he was given the nickname of Undying Cockroach.

To put it in Daoist Wang’s words, this brat was simply a monster in human skin!

It was said that the cultivator who bet on ten times was thereafter called the Gambling God, and his purse was filled up.

His gratitude towards Junior Uncle Qin Yu was simply like an endless river flowing off into eternity.

Chapter 216 – The Young Man

Cockroach Qin decided to leave. By the time this thought appeared, it had already been four years since he returned to Immortal Eclipse Valley. With the aid of the Pill Disposal Department, his Five Element Golden Cores had all reached perfection, and he had failed ten breakthroughs...let’s not mention the process, but the effect was actually extremely good.

Now, Cockroach Qin was still a Golden Gore, but he had gathered his Five Element Magic Swords and his magic power was almost twice as tyrannical as it was when he first returned. The difference between his strength now and his strength four years ago was like the heavens and earth. If he fought with Liu Zhi again, while he might not be able to easily overpower him, winning wouldn’t be too difficult.

Now, Cockroach Qin...alright, this nickname didn't sound too good, so maybe it's best to change it back. Right now, Qin Yu was at the threshold of a breakthrough; one step further and he would reach Nascent Soul. When a Golden Core became a Nascent Soul, to others this was a transformation, and for Qin Yu especially it was a world of difference!

As long as he reached Nascent Soul, Qin Yu would have sufficient skill to look down on all lives in this part of the world. Even if he met the Demon Monarch or Whale Sovereign he wouldn't need to fear them anymore.

And all this required just a single step forwards.

But at the same time, Qin Yu knew just how difficult it was to take this final step forwards. Not to mention how ridiculously challenging it would be to have his five Golden Cores simultaneously break into Nascent Soul, but if he wanted to further enhance his Demon Body, he would have to obtain the hard-to-find demon blood.

Qin Yu had no clue where to begin. But, he knew that in this world, there was a place that held the most secrets.

He comforted Gu Ling'er and took the Fleeting Flame Furnace from the Eighth Furnace station. During the process he had no choice but to ruthlessly beat the fire alligator before it allowed him to peacefully leave.

Pill Crucible was still in seclusion. Qin Yu was worried; his cheap senior-apprentice brother's actions left him feeling anxious. He asked Daoist Wang and Jiang Li, but both of them had no idea what was happening.

However, Jiang Li's words caused Qin Yu to feel slightly more relieved. "Perhaps the Valley Master has made a breakthrough in his cultivation."

Pill Crucible was a ninth level Nascent Soul super powerhouse with a mystical cultivation. If he went another step further he would be at the legendary Divine Soul, a realm in which one's soul would not extinguish. One could live forever, as it meant eliminating the limits of one's lifespan. Thinking about it, he had been stranded at the ninth level for many years, so it was possible that he had saved up his strength for all these years to make a breakthrough in a single go. This was especially true after he was attacked and suffered stimulation.

Thinking about it, Qin Yu pressed down these thoughts. He bid his farewells to Daoist Wang and Jiang Li and quietly left Immortal Eclipse Valley.

Looking at his fading figure, Daoist Wang sighed. "Brother Jiang, the next time we see this boy, do you think he'll have reached Nascent Soul?"

Jiang Li thought for a moment. "I don't know."

"If it were anyone else, I would only laugh at them if they thought they could break into Nascent Soul in such a short period of time, and scold them as an idiot who was bringing about their own destruction. But, Qin Yu, he...he can't be analyzed using common sense. Brother Jiang, you've known him for a long time already. How come I feel as if all my years of cultivation have been inherited by a dog? It really makes me feel helpless!" Daoist Wang forced a smile, "Hah, don't say anything. It's so saddening!"

He turned and left.

Jiang Li lightly said, "I also feel the same way. But Old Wang, even if you intentionally try to remain indifferent and calm, I will still bring up the bet we made on the number of tribulations Qin Yu would bring about. Those several jars of nice wine you bet, when do you plan on delivering them?"

Daoist Wang staggered.

...

Xu Cheng emerged from the brothel. He turned back and glanced at the beautiful woman waving to him from the window, and a sinful smile appeared on the corners of his lips. He walked the road of body tempering cultivation, and it was already a heaven-defying stroke of luck that he was able to achieve Golden Core. Without anything unexpected happening, he would be like this for the rest of his life.

Since there was no path forwards for his cultivation, he might as well live a life of indulgent pleasure. He joined the Hundred Mountains Sect as an Elder, and every year he received a large amount of offerings, enjoying good wine, good food, and good women.

In particular, that last bit. As a cultivator with a strong body, not everyone could withstand his endurance and strength. Even those women who had cultivated bedroom techniques were still sent into a hazy daze by him, all of them shouting and moaning. Only by doing this would Old Xu feel the most satisfaction within.

He had experienced a great battle last night. That woman was renowned far and wide as being the top courtesan, and every method she used was first-class. She even seemed to know some mind altering arts. If it weren't for his rich experience and powerful combat strength, then he would have been utterly routed and destroyed. But in the end, he had managed to preserve his reputation as the 'Infallible Golden Spear'.

As he thought about recuperating for a few days and then returning to ask her for a rematch, he suddenly heard the sound of wind behind him. A cold brilliance burst out from his eyes. Someone actually thought of targeting him? They were just courting death...

But before he could finish this thought, his field of vision turned black and he slumped to the ground.

After a moment, Xu Cheng emerged from the remote alley. He looked around to determine the direction and then quickly left.

Heavenseek Pavilion.

A giant plaque, a towering building – the atmosphere was still as majestic and imposing as before.

Xu Cheng looked up and stepped forwards.

Soon, a beautiful female cultivator approached. She bowed and said, "Junior greets Senior Xu!"

They evidently knew each other...

Xu Cheng furrowed his eyebrows. He lightly asked, "There is a problem I wish to inquire into."

The woman extended a hand. "Please follow me, senior."

After entering a private room, the woman closed the door. Her eyes suddenly turned limpid and her voice unbearably sweet. "Senior Xu, did you remember to bring a gift for me this time?"

She tossed over a charming wink and leaned over, her 'weapons' ravaging Xu Cheng's arm. He stiffened for a moment before composing himself.

"Miss, I came here for proper business today."

It was better not to say anything. Upon mentioning proper business, the woman blushed redder and exuded even more allure. "The last time you were here you kept speaking about proper business while messing with me...Senior Xu, you're so naughty. Are you doing this on purpose?"

Xu Cheng's eyes revealed a trace of awkwardness.

Luckily enough, there was a knock on the door that helped solve Xu Cheng's dilemma. The woman pushed herself off and hurriedly opened it.

The one entering was a beautiful middle-aged woman. There were light wrinkles at the corners of her eyes and her body was thick and curvaceous. She emitted an abundant charm and her warm smile made one feel close to her.

"Fellow daoist Xu, we haven't seen each other for a long time. Have you been doing well?" The beautiful woman also had a familiar attitude.

Xu Cheng nodded, not saying anything.

The beautiful woman waved her hand. "You can leave. I will personally entertain fellow daoist Xu."

The female cultivator hurriedly bowed and closed the door behind her as she left.

The beautiful woman took a seat across the table and said with a smile. "Fellow daoist Xu, may I ask why you came here today?" Upon mentioning proper business, there was much more seriousness in her face. It contrasted with her overall appearance, making this atmosphere particularly dignified.

Xu Cheng coughed. "I wish to seek some information about how to break into Nascent Soul if one has more than one Golden Core. Also, due to certain reasons, I have a need for high quality demon blood; please remember that it is high quality. I only want the best. I wonder whether or not Heavenseek Pavilion has any information concerning this?"

The beautiful woman revealed a surprised look. It seemed that she never thought Xu Cheng would ask such questions. She thought for a moment and said, "I ask fellow daoist Xu to wait. After inquiring, I will give you a reply."

Xu Cheng lifted a hand, "Go ahead."

The beautiful woman straightened herself. She bowed deeply, the deep crevice of her chest in full display before him. Then, she left the private room.

Soon, the beautiful woman arrived in front of a black cabin. "Master, someone came seeking information today, and I thought there was something unusual. I ask you to review it." As she spoke, she extended a red jade slip with both hands. Qin Yu's two questions were inside.

Several years ago, she had received a notice that no matter who it was or how they inquired, if they asked about how to make a breakthrough with more than one Golden Core, then this must be immediately reported. Throughout the years, even counting today, this had only happened twice. The first person had been a Golden Core cultivator, and after leaving Heavenseek Pavilion he soon vanished without a trace and didn't appear again. She didn't know who did it and she didn't want to know why. She only knew to complete the task she was given and that was it.

After several breaths of time, the red jade slip floated up on its own. It flew forwards, and when it touched the surface of the black cabin it seemed as if it fell into the surface of a rippling lake, quickly disappearing from sight.

An unknown distance away, at a mountain top where mist lingered, there was a black cabin. When a gust of wind blew over it seemed to touch the air, leaving it distorted. This caused countless phantom images to overlap on the black cabin.

Suddenly, a red jade slip flew out from one of those illusory black cabins. It landed in the hands of a young man who was fishing in a brook not too far away. He glanced through it and chuckled. In complete contrast to his youthful appearance, his voice was incredibly old, as if it were hoarse and sandy.

"Have you already noticed something? What a shocking junior. It looks like you've already succeeded. A Five Element Nascent Soul alone is enough to tempt others, but there is even a high chance that you've cultivated the Demon Body. How perfect.

"How generous are the heavens? In such a difficult time, they actually deliver you right up to this old man. I will definitely try to help you fulfill your wish as soon as possible."

The beautiful woman silently waited. Then, her complexion changed. She looked up towards the black cabin, and from between the ripples she could see a figure slowly step out.

This person was a handsome young man. There was a lazy smile on his lips and his eyes were warm and kind.

The beautiful woman fell to her knees. "Servant greets master!"

The young man waved his hand. "Bring me to him."

The beautiful woman respectfully bowed and led the way. Along the way when she met other cultivators of Heavenseek Pavilion, they had puzzled looks.

Because in their eyes, there was no young man.

She pushed open the private room's door and retreated to the side. "Master, your servant will stand guard outside."

The young man smiled and nodded. He stepped inside.

Xu Cheng frowned, his eyes cold. But, what left him startled was that even though he faced this unexpected visitor, not even the tiniest bit of alarm rose up within him. The young man's smiling face seemed to defuse any hostility. Just glancing at him made one drop their every defense!

How bizarre!

Xu Cheng sucked in a breath. "Who are you?"

The young man smiled and sat down. "Who I am is unimportant. What is important is whether or not I can give you the information you want, right?"

Xu Cheng's complexion changed.

"Don't be anxious. Sit." The young man gestured to the air.

Xu Cheng frowned. He sat down, his waist stiff.

The young man didn't seem to care; he delved straight into the topic. "I will start with your first question. You wanted to know how to make a breakthrough with more than one Golden Core. If I'm not wrong, then what you want to know should be related to Five Element Golden Cores."

Xu Cheng's frown deepened, but then immediately relaxed. "Heavenseek Pavilion is indeed Heavenseek Pavilion; you are truly unfathomably formidable."

The young man's eyes brightened. "Your Five Element Golden Core breakthrough can be solved and even the demon blood you need can be found somewhere. However, you will need to wait because the opportunity has yet to arrive. One year from now, return here and I will tell you everything you want to know."

Xu Cheng's gaze sharpened. "Why did you come out today? It shouldn't be that you just wanted to meet me."

The young man smiled. "That's right, it was exactly that. Don't forget, come back in one year, or you'll miss out on your chance." He stood up and left.

Xu Cheng narrowed his eyes. After several breaths of time he left the private room. The beautiful woman was waiting outside. She respectfully said, "Fellow daoist Xu, that person just now can represent our Heaven Pavilion; there is no need to suspect him. If you have no other business here, I will accompany you out."

Soon, Xu Cheng stepped out of Heavenseek Pavilion. A moment later he appeared in a remote alley of the city. After coming to a pause, he muttered to himself, "Heavenseek Pavilion..."

He closed his eyes and slumped to the ground. After another period of time his eyes opened up once more. His first response was to leap into the air and rapidly inspect his body. Then, after looking in all directions, he hurried away with a gloomy face.

Chapter 217 – The Brave Seafolk Willing to Die

In a forest outside the city, Qin Yu opened his eyes, his face weary. As he thought, this sort of method of forcibly controlling another person's body couldn't be used casually. He had specifically chosen a Golden Core body cultivator whose soul cultivation was low, yet his losses had been terrifying. If it were any other cultivator they wouldn't have been able to last.

Moreover, the camouflage plan he especially came up with didn't seem to have any use at all. Heavenseek Pavilion had somehow managed to recognize his identity.

It was obvious that his two questions had given him away. Or to be more precise, when he asked how to break through to Nascent Soul with more than one Golden Core. This was the question that had given him away. Heavenseek Pavilion seemed to be paying attention to him, otherwise, with the countless cultivators they received each year, how could they place so much effort on him?

Just what was their end goal?

Qin Yu's complexion darkened as he thought of the young man who had suddenly appeared afterwards. Although this person had a warm and gentle personality, one that was extremely affable and even somewhat intimate, Qin Yu inexplicably felt a sense of fear and apprehension. In particular, that young man's eyes seemed to have some strange strength that peered into the depths of his soul.

Who was that person?

Qin Yu looked up, staring at the city in the distance. Then he turned and walked away, vanishing after a few breaths of time.

...

In front of a black cabin, a young man held his hands against his back. There was a light happy smile on his lips; it was clear he was in a very good mood.

A figure swathed in black, revealing only its eyes, quietly drilled out from a shadow in the corner. "Master, as you expected, he has already left."

The young man smiled. "My appearance has made him uneasy. With his cautious personality, it's normal for him to leave. But as long as he wants to break through to Nascent Soul, he will certainly come back. Ghost, the perfect body that I have waited so many years for is soon going to appear. I am truly happy."

Without any warning, a wrinkle climbed up his handsome face. Then, the number of wrinkles quickly increased, age spots appeared, and his hair turned a dead flowery gray.

It was like the flow of time had rapidly accelerated. In just a few breaths of time, a hundred years, a thousand years had passed.

"Master!"

"I'm fine." He waved his hand, his voice light. "Ghost, continue according to plan. This time, I plan on a true rebirth...and no one can stop me!"

...

Qin Yu hesitated for a long time. His intuition told him that Heavenseek Pavilion was harboring evil intentions towards him. But, if he ignored them then there would be no way for him to find the method of reaching Nascent Soul.

This left him in a dilemma.

But after wasting some time thinking over this matter, Qin Yu pushed these thoughts to the side. No matter what, he still had a year, so perhaps he would be able to find a solution by then.

Then what should he do during this year?

Qin Yu's cultivation had fallen into a total bottleneck. After failing ten breakthroughs, the magic power within his body had achieved the limits of purity. Even with his potent Demon Body, there would be major issues if he continued to try breaking through.

In the past when he tried breaking into Golden Core, he had nearly died on the scene. It was only You Qi's appearance that had saved his life. Qin Yu didn't believe he would experience the same good luck; he had to pause his cultivation. The most he could do was swallow pills to strengthen his soul and body. But, doing this for an entire year was undoubtedly a waste of time.

Perhaps it was time to find a solution and resolve the hidden danger of the little blue lamp being extinguished.

Qin Yu thought deeply about this for a long time and then came to a decision.

...

Several days later, facing the boundless sea, Qin Yu sighed with emotion. He never thought that after leaving for just four years, he would step back in. But just like Jiang Li said, the land wasn't suitable for him to keep making an uproar. In the end, the fewer people knew about the little blue lamp's secret, the better. The sea region was the best choice.

With the pure number of powerhouses in the sea region, there were bound to be numerous seafolk stuck at the Golden Core realm. Perhaps it wouldn't be too long before the little blue lamp could eat whatever it wanted.

Shua –

There was a flash of light. Qin Yu's figure exploded forwards as he soared deep into the sea region.

...

In its depths, there was a mountain range that rose up from the sea floor. It possessed a grand and astonishing aura, and what was most surprising was that atop this seabed mountain range, there was actually a giant moon that hung above it. According to the passing of time, this moon would wax and wane, but regardless of what size or shape it was, the bright moonlight constantly sprinkled down, covering this giant mountain tribe.

If one came closer and carefully looked, they would discover that this full was carved and polished from a giant boulder. It seemed to be one with the mountain, as if it had grown from it.

This land was the land of Moon Praying Shrine, the tribe with the most ancient inheritance in the sea region, the most formidable strength, and with power that could even contend with the capital city! The tribe was built into the side of the mountain, which was dense and thick, almost impossible to see the end of. Compared to the capital city, it was actually much larger.

With this mountain as the center, the surrounding half million miles of the sea region were all within Moon Praying Shrine's sphere of influence; here, they were the supreme rulers.

Countless caravans came here each year, bringing treasures from all over the sea region to trade with this formidable tribe. At the same time, special products were purchased here and transported to other places in the sea region.

Ever since the Lord Priest took control and opened up passages of free trade, even assigning wolf riders to guard the main trading routes, Moon Praying Shrine had clearly become livelier and more prosperous. All of the seafolk here looked towards the Lord Priest's kindness with gratitude and took him as their life's teacher.

So each time the Lord Priest went on a trip, the seafolk he passed would all kneel in reverence on the ground. They would lower their heads and kiss the very ground he walked over.

Under the bright and regal robes of his station, the Lord Priest smiled warmly, often gently smiling to his followers and reaching out to stroke their heads. And any seafolk that could obtain the caress of the Lord Priest would become the target of envy for those watching. According to custom, that person could not comb their hair or wash their face for the next three years, lest they destroy the blessings granted by the Lord Priest.

After reaching out to gently stroke the cheek of a baby, he said in a low voice, "May the sea spirit be with you." The Lord Priest had performed this countless times before, so it was natural for him to maintain a scared and solemn expression. As the woman carrying the baby nearly choked with excitement, the Lord Priest continued forwards. But at this time, he suddenly stopped and looked towards the crowd.

With some strange and inexplicable strength, the seafolk automatically parted to the sides, revealing the edges of the long street and a black-robed figure that stood there. He should be someone who arrived with a caravan. But even though his face was covered in shadows, one could see that there was no awe or reverence in his gaze.

This caused the seafolk to be angry!

To keep one's appearance hidden while in the presence of the Lord Priest was in itself a great disrespect. But to even be rude enough to stare him in the eyes, this was something worthy of death!

The caravan master had an ugly complexion. Just as he wanted to curse at this mysterious person out loud, the Lord Priest suddenly spoke up, "Visitor from a far off land, I can see that you are a caretaker of the sea spirit. I wonder whether or not you are willing to return to Sea God Palace with me?"

The black-robed figure smiled. He bowed slightly, "It would be my honor."

Like this, envy filled the eyes of all the seafolk.

Caretaker of the sea spirit...they had never heard of this title before. But, it seemed to possess an incredible momentum, one that was rich and burning.

The other caravan members were all stunned. They thought about this young boy who had just joined them a few days ago. He was clearly some common scrubby boy, so when did he become the caretaker of the sea spirit?

And, did they offend him somehow before this? Should they leave Moon Praying Shrine ahead of time?

As they were lost in their thoughts, the Lord Priest expressed his apologies to his followers. He ended that day's walk early, and brought the mysterious sea spirit caretaker with him as they vanished into the end of the street.

Sea God Palace was luxurious and dignified. Since it was considered the direct reflection of Moon Praying Shrine, it was enormous in scale, so large that it could even compare with the royal palace in the capital city. It occupied the largest and highest mountain peak in the mountain range, and overlooked the sprawling tribal lands below.

The Lord Priest waved his hand, ordering his followers to leave. He smiled, "It is truly a happy surprise that little friend has come to my Moon Praying Shrine. Could it be that you have thought things through?"

The man in the black robes pulled down the hood to reveal a smiling face. Although he couldn't be considered handsome, every line of his face was filled with firm resolve. "Lord Priest, the reason this junior came today is that I wish to make a transaction with you."

The so-called sea spirit caretaker was the aura of the flower gifted to him by the Saint Flower. He had released it from his body deliberately, allowing the Lord Priest to recognize him.

The Lord Priest's eyes flashed. "For little friend to brave the dangers and return to the sea region once more, it seems that this transaction isn't simple."

"Of course." Qin Yu faintly smiled. "Lord Priest, do you want Moon Praying Shrine to become even more formidable?"

An hour later, the Lord Priest raced out of Sea God Palace as if he were being chased by the wind. Countless priests watched with wide eyes, even suspecting that they were seeing things.

That sacred, noble, and regal Lord Priest, how could it seem like he was drunk? He nearly stumbled to the ground a few times and there was even a bit of drool on the edges of his mouth; just what was going on?

They were mistaken, they were definitely mistaken. This must be an illusion!

On the same day, there were strict orders issued. Concerning this 'illusion', no one was to utter a single word about it.

A day later, a secret order of the highest degree was sent out by Sea God Palace. It was delivered to the hands of 10 seafolk. These seafolk were puzzled. They had been requested to keep this strictly secret and not disclose anything about it. Otherwise if they were exposed, they would be subject to the most severe punishment.

When they arrived at Sea God Palace and gathered in an underground hall, the 10 people glanced at each other. They were anxious, but soon straightened their backs.

Moon Praying Shrine was very large, but in a way it was also very small. Everyone here knew each other or had heard the others' names before. They soon found a common ground they shared.

First, they were all at the peak Golden Core realm and hadn't made much progress in these past years. Second, they had all gone through tests to ensure their loyalty to the tribe.

There was no need to speak of anything else.

The tribe was certainly sending them on some secret mission. Was it to assassinate an important figure in the capital city?

The emotions of the 10 seafolk surged. Although they knew they were destined to die, and perhaps die without any reputation or fame, they were still willing to do so, without any hesitation at all.

Everything was for Moon Praying Shrine!

So when the Lord Priest arrived, what greeted him were fearless eyes that blazed with passion.

Many of them were in a heroic stance, as if wanting to tell the Lord Priest that they were willing to splash their blood on the ground if necessary!

The Lord Priest was a shrewd and astute person. He looked around and could clearly see what these people were thinking. He earnestly said, "Everyone, the reason I gathered you all here today is because I have an important mission to pass to you. The success or failure of this mission concerns the prosperity or decline of the next thousand years of my Moon Praying Shrine. So, I hope that you can confront this matter with all your hearts!"

"We will not disappoint Lord Priest!"

But what followed that was far simpler. There wasn't much nonsense spoken. Everyone obediently listened; none of them asking a single question.

The Lord Priest stroked his beard and smiled, pleased by his own quick wit.

Chapter 218 – The Black-eyed Lord Priest

The first one chosen was a seafolk called Iron Shield. He was a sturdy man of great fortitude, and his firm and resolute face revealed his great willpower. He was brought away from the underground chamber, but what happened afterwards actually left him perplexed. However, as he saw the bustling priests around him and their serious expressions, he took a breath and cast away all extraneous thoughts, fully coordinating with the requests from the priests.

First, he bathed and changed clothes.

Iron Shield soaked in a hot bath for almost two whole hours and scrubbed himself until he was very red, just like a boiled shrimp. Then, he put on a thin outer coat and was brought to another sealed off chamber. Really, there was nothing but a thin outer coat, so when he walked he inevitably felt a cold wind all around him, making him subconsciously clamp his legs together.

What followed was a sumptuous banquet with a number of expensive tonics included. Iron Shield thought that this might be the last meal he would ever eat, so he didn't hold himself back. He freed his

arms and ate until he was full. It was only when his cheeks were red and he burped that he stopped. It was like there was a fire lit inside his body, and his mouth was a bit dry, making him feel uncomfortable.

Then, as if seeing he was thirsty, the priests brought forth a cup of tea. Iron Shield drank the cup dry and immediately felt wonderful both inside and out. But, this joy continued for only a short period of time before it was torn apart by the burning within him. His strength tumbled in his body and his field of vision began to gradually blur. Before he fell unconscious, his only thought was wondering what the hell he was doing!

After that, Iron Shield fell into a deep stupor. He was in a dream, and in it he was floating up and down on the surface of the sea, tossed about by endless waves with severe pain wracking his body.

He didn't know how much time passed, but at some moment his eyes flashed open. He could immediately feel that something wasn't right with his body. He looked down to discover that he was stark naked, without any clothes on at all. And, what was most horrifying was that he saw a pair of bright eyes fixed tightly on him, as if they were gazing upon the most precious jewels in the world. The burning heat in that gaze left Iron Shield terrified.

He thought back to how he had bathed and changed clothes, that great buffet, that tea he drank, and the burning rush in his body that seemed to ignite from within. Then, he also thought back to that dreadful dream, where he felt as if he was sent tumbling endlessly along the way...Iron Shield's eyes instantly widened and indignant grief surged within him. He roared out in anger and punched, sending the owner of those eyes flying away!

Pa –

The person fell onto the ground, violently coughing. When he looked up, that person now had a pronounced pair of panda eyes.

Iron Shield's complexion changed. "P-p-p-riest! How could it be you?" Could it be that the one who did this to him was the Lord Priest he had worshipped like a god? How could this be? This person was supposed to be the representative of the sea spirit's will, so how could he be so dirty!

The priest supported his old and injured waist and struggled up with difficulty. This sight caused Iron Shield to pale. It was unknown what sort of image he was thinking of, but he seemed to have lost his soul.

In the end, the priest was an old and mature person. He didn't notice anything unusual at the start, but now he realized what was going on. The priest looked at the brat's thick and sturdy body and nearly spat out blood. Did this fellow think he was some sort of beautiful and utterly irresistible person or something? Even if he were homosexual, he still wouldn't go looking for someone so rough and coarse!

Peh! Peh! Peh! Who is homosexual? Your family is homosexual!

The Lord Priest had a gloomy complexion. "Iron Shield, stop thinking such ridiculous things and carefully examine your own cultivation. Is there anything wrong?"

Iron Shield was stunned. In the next moment he examined himself and then he was truly stunned. His eyes widened in disbelief and shock.

He had b-b-b-b-broken through!

Unexpectedly, he was now a Nascent Soul.

Could it be that by being...ravished once by the Lord Priest...he could make a breakthrough? If things were like then, then this was something he could accept.

His lips twitched and he put on some clothes that were near the bed. He rose up, "Thank you, Lord Priest."

Blue veins started to bulge on the Lord Priest's forehead, as if he wanted to storm off in a fit of anger. "You bastard, who the hell do you think you are that I would take a liking to you? The one who helped you break through was not me. But, we'll talk about that later. First, check and see if there is anything wrong with your current condition!"

Iron Shield was startled for a moment before being immediately overjoyed. So, could it be that the Lord Priest actually hadn't taken advantage of him? He hurriedly said, "Lord Priest, I feel great, no problems at all." However, the Lord Priest's words seemed to have another meaning behind them. If the Lord Priest said that he didn't take a liking to him, could it be that he had a liking for others? The hairs on Iron Shield's back rose. He thought that it was lucky it wasn't him; that was for others to deal with.

The truth was the Lord Priest had already determined this before Iron Shield had awoken. The reason he asked again was to serve as a final confirmation that what he saw was real. Now that he knew Iron Shield had made his breakthrough and didn't suffer any side effects, the Lord Priest was ecstatic with joy. It was simply hard to describe in words, thus the reason for the strange look in his eyes as he stared at this bastard.

"You may leave first. Stay in Sea God Palace for the next few days and observe your condition. Remember that you cannot tell anyone of this!"

Iron Shield nodded with reverence.

Three days later the Lord Priest, with his still black eyes, brought the Vice Priest and other high level figures of Sea God Palace to a small hall. He had a bright smile on his face.

"Men, hurry and bring Priest Qin Yu's robes here. And clean out one of the 12 main temples and ask that Priest Qin Yu move in."

Qin Yu's eyes flashed. "That doesn't sound right. I remember that when I left the capital city, Lord Priest had already announced to the world that my status as a guest priest was cancelled."

The Lord Priest waved his hand. "When did that ever happen? When my Moon Praying Shrine cancelled the status of someone, it was the status of another priest. It had absolutely nothing to do with you. Now that you have come to our Moon Praying Shrine, it is the same as returning home. You don't need to worry about anything else. If anyone dares to seek trouble with you, that is the same as becoming my Moon Praying Shrine's enemy!"

Qin Yu smiled. This old fellow's skin was so thick that it had become an admirable trait, especially when he could use it so freely and in such a righteous and considerate appearance. "That's fine. I won't

mention these things for now. Since Lord Priest has come here today, I'm sure that you've already determined there is nothing wrong with that fellow daoist Iron Shield."

The Lord Priest nodded. "I have always held the utmost trust towards Priest Qin Yu!"

Qin Yu smirked inwardly, too lazy to argue about these things. He dove straight into the subject. "Then, we can begin discussions in earnest."

The Lord Priest flipped out his sleeves. "Priest Qin Yu, feel free to speak freely. As long as I can accomplish it, I will try my best!"

This old thing, he had such a heroic performance and yet secretly added a limit to the negotiations. What was this about him being able to accomplish it? If he wanted to do it then he would accomplish it, and if he didn't then he wouldn't.

Qin Yu didn't have any intentions of playing around; he was pressed for time. "Lord Priest, I can help Moon Praying Shrine gain a new batch of Nascent Soul powerhouses. But, the price you need to pay is the flowers of the Saint Flower. One flower for one Nascent Soul."

Across from him, the complexions of the people from Moon Praying Shrine changed. The Lord Priest absolutely refused. "That is impossible! The Saint Flower's flowers are limited in number, and each one is extremely vital to my Moon Praying Shrine. When I gave one to Priest Qin Yu in the past, that was because the Saint Flower wished for it, otherwise there would have been no way for you to obtain one!"

Qin Yu lightly said, "The Saint Flower will continue to grow. As long as it doesn't cast off too many, the flowers taken will eventually regrow." He paused for a moment and continued to say, "Lord Priest need not deny this. For better or worse I am still a Purple Card and I personally treated the Saint Flower, so I am well aware of this."

The Lord Priest coughed. "One flower for one Nascent Soul is impossible; the losses to the Saint Flower are too great." This old thing wasn't even embarrassed about being seen through, and instead directly entered into negotiations.

Qin Yu didn't mind. He smiled and said, "Then what is Lord Priest's intent?"

Two hours later, after both sides bravely fought in a back and forth struggle, the discussions finally ended with all parties coming to an amicable agreement: Qin Yu would help Moon Praying Shrine gain Nascent Souls and they would pay a reward in kind. For every three Nascent Souls, Qin Yu would be given one of the Saint Flower's flowers and an additional 30 million spirit stones.

The Lord Priest had an ugly complexion; it was clear that the bite Qin Yu took was extremely painful. But even in the sea region, a Nascent Soul was an extremely powerful existence. If they could gain a new group of Nascent Souls, then Moon Praying Shrine's strength would rise dramatically. Thus, no matter how much it pained him, he had to do it!

Qin Yu rejected the idea of moving into one of the 12 main temples and decided to continue living here. He watched the Lord Priest leave with the others and his heart relaxed. At least right now it seemed that his decision of coming to Moon Praying Shrine had been correct. This old Lord Priest was extremely intelligent, and Qin Yu hoped he would continue to act intelligently for the benefit of everyone involved.

...

After exiting the side hall, the high level figures of Sea God Palace seemed to want to speak, but hesitated.

Finally, a purple-robed priest spoke up. “Lord Priest, Qin Yu is only a human. In the sea region he has no foundation and no one he can depend on, so why don’t we capture him? I’m sure that we can eventually obtain the reason for how he can make heavenly tribulation vanish. Of course, this might not be some righteous or glorious act, but compared to the 10,000 year inheritance of my tribe, what is shouldering a bit of sin? If Lord Priest isn’t willing to then I can do it for you.”

This was obviously the thought that was reverberating in everyone’s hearts. Their eyes looked over, their expressions deep.

The Lord Priest frowned. He slowly said, “You don’t understand.” He walked several steps forwards and then turned around. “This Qin Yu, he is far more formidable, far deeper than any of you can imagine. Since he dares to step into my Moon Praying Shrine alone to discuss a transaction with me, then there is certainly something he can depend on.”

The Lord Priest said, “Qin Yu once used the Saint Flower to threaten me. He said that if he had the means to revive the Saint Flower then he also had the means to destroy it. These past years, I have been investigating continually. Though I haven’t found anything yet, what if this is his advantage? The Saint Flower concerns the rise and decline of my Moon Praying Shrine. If something happens, are any of you willing to take responsibility?”

Everyone’s complexions changed, a bit more fury in their eyes. This was the first time that the Lord Priest mentioned this, and now they realized how wild and unruly Qin Yu was!

It was no wonder the Lord Priest had chosen to patiently endure it.

“That’s enough. Concerning Qin Yu, none of you should act unreasonably.” The Lord Priest had another phrase he didn’t say out loud – if any of you did anything, you would surely bring down a great calamity.

The present Qin Yu was far more formidable than he was four years ago. Moreover, what left the Lord Priest cold was that he could feel a threat coming from Qin Yu. This was a mysterious type of presence. The Lord Priest was sure that there was definitely something on Qin Yu’s body that was extremely terrifying and could even prove a true threat to him!

In addition to the strange response from the Saint Flower and his priest colleagues in the capital city...if it weren’t for these things, did people really think he was a vegetarian? A big piece of meat brought itself right to his lips, but he would use his hand to push it away?

Chapter 219 – Collaborating to Make a Fortune

Iron Shield was the first person to break through. Next, there was a second, third, and even more. Every five days, Qin Yu helped a seafolk cross tribulation. The little blue lamp swallowed heavenly tribulations if it were eating food or drinking water. Still, he maintained the same rhythm as before and also had a long list of strange requirements. For instance, the person had to bathe and change clothes and the person also had to be unconscious while they were crossing tribulation. He did this all in order to create

a mysterious atmosphere around everything and guarantee the secret of the little blue lamp. At the same time, it was also to convince Moon Praying Shrine that crossing tribulation was not an easy matter.

Two months later, the 10 seafolk that Moon Praying Shrine selected had all reached the Nascent Soul realm. This left the Lord Priest beaming with happiness, but at the same time he was also extremely worried! The shrewd Qin Yu had collected the rewards first before helping them cross tribulation. No matter how sly or wily the Lord Priest was, there was no way he could deny him.

Without rewards, the cooperation between the two was over and Qin Yu could leave whenever he wanted. The sea region was vast and there was more than Moon Praying Shrine that could pay such an astronomical price.

The 10 Moon Praying Shrine Nascent Souls had provided 10 heavenly tribulations to the little blue lamp. In addition, there were three flowers of the Saint Flower and around 130 million spirit stones. The extra 30 million was because Moon Praying Shrine was unable to provide more flowers, so after another round of discussions, the Lord Priest clenched his teeth and came to this agreement.

To Moon Praying Shrine which possessed an endlessly long inheritance and deep background, spirit stones weren't much at all. Let alone a trivial 100 million, they could even take out 10 billion. But, when it came to the Saint Flower's flowers, each one required a countless amount of strength to be used up before it could grow one; they in themselves were the most precious treasures. Within Moon Praying Shrine, counting everyone, there were fewer than 10 people who possessed one of the Saint Flower's flowers. This was already Moon Praying Shrine's bottom line!

The Lord Priest bitterly smiled. "Priest Qin Yu, can't you look at our friendship to stretch the rules a little? Our Moon Praying Shrine may put forwards a higher amount of spirit stones or other treasures as compensation, as long as Priest Qin Yu agrees to help our powerhouses resist heavenly tribulation."

Speaking of heavenly tribulation, a strange light shined in the Lord Priest's eyes. Ten heavenly tribulations had occurred, and he had seen this with his own eyes, but each time they had suddenly vanished. Even with the Lord Priest's cultivation, every time heavenly tribulation appeared he couldn't help but feel a cold chill in his heart.

Qin Yu shook his head. "Lord Priest should be well aware of how terrifying a Nascent Soul's heavenly tribulation is. If it weren't for the Saint Flower's flowers, I wouldn't have helped." The power of the Saint Flower's flower had played a significant role in him resisting and recovering from failing 10 Nascent Soul breakthroughs. It had allowed Qin Yu to understand how incredible they were.

Now, three of the Saint Flower's flowers were fused into his body. In the future as long as he wasn't immediately killed, then no matter how serious his injuries were, with the Demon Body's powerful regenerative abilities he was confident he could live on.

This was the reason he insisted on the Saint Flower's flowers as a reward.

The Lord Priest's face fell with disappointment. Qin Yu's attitude was firm and it was clear he wasn't willing to budge. But for the next period of time it was impossible to pluck any more of the flowers.

At this time, Qin Yu's eyes flashed. "Although I cannot continue helping Moon Praying Shrine cultivate powerhouses, I have a proposition that may help Lord Priest gain tremendous benefits."

The Lord Priest frowned. "Priest Qin Yu's meaning is...?"

"For example, if Moon Praying Shrine can come forward and act as a guarantor for me, then any sea race that comes forwards to break into Nascent Soul would have to pay Moon Praying Shrine a portion of the rewards. And, if Moon Praying Shrine can provide total protection for me so that no outside influences can touch me, then I wouldn't mind helping Moon Praying Shrine gain several more Nascent Souls."

The Lord Priest's eyes brightened, but his expression was one of awkwardness. "Priest Qin Yu, you should be well aware of your own status. Once this becomes public, it will be hard for me to do anything."

Qin Yu nodded in understanding. "If Lord Priest feels this is too difficult, then please pretend I haven't said anything. After all, the sea region is wide and vast, so I will simply find another road to take."

The Lord Priest nearly spat out a mouthful of blood.

Did anyone ever negotiate like this brat? He took the upper hand and didn't even give a chance to bargain back and forth, and wanted to walk away as soon as he heard anything he didn't like. Did he really think this old man was mud to be played around with!?

Bang –

The Lord Priest slapped the table and stormed onto his feet. "Priest Qin Yu, you are being far too excessive! Who do you take me as? What do you take my Moon Praying Shrine as? Disregarding the fact that you once saved the Saint Flower in the past, but as a guest priest of my Moon Praying Shrine, of course we would guarantee your safety! When it comes to outside matters, you don't need to care about them at all, I will handle everything in a satisfactory manner!"

Qin Yu was stunned for a moment. He was thinking, just how had this Lord Priest climbed up to such a high position? Were the people of Moon Praying Shrine all blind? But no matter what else they discussed, this was already the best result for Qin Yu.

The Lord Priest smiled. "Now, shouldn't we begin discussions about how to distribute the income? Priest Qin Yu should take the majority, but you should still leave some soup for our Moon Praying Shrine to drink."

Discussions continued for half a day, one young and one old fox chattering away. Finally, they reached an agreement and smiled at each other, laughing.

The Lord Priest bid his farewells and left, saying that he had to make arrangements to guarantee absolute safety for the future.

But as he left the side hall, the smile vanished from his face and his eyebrows furrowed together as if he were considering something. He seemed to be hesitating, but in the end he gently sighed and quickly walked away.

Qin Yu sat in the side hall and waited calmly for a long time. When everything was tranquil, he finally relaxed. He muttered to himself, "The old wily priest, he must have smelled that something wasn't right, but he didn't do anything in the end. If so, there shouldn't be any more problems."

Moon Praying Shrine was puzzled by the Lord Priest's decision to collaborate with Qin Yu. They quickly called for a conference.

"No way, I oppose! Lord Priest, Qin Yu has helped my Moon Praying Shrine gain 10 Nascent Souls, allowing us to take the upper hand in the previous power balance. If other influences were to learn of this, they will quickly catch up to us and our advantage will disappear!"

"That is true. Lord Priest, please reconsider. Just how deep is the background of our Moon Praying Shrine? Why would we care about mere spirit stones?"

"Even if there are other benefits, you should not have agreed to join together with Qin Yu!"

The Lord Priest had a calm expression. He looked around, observing everyone, and then said, "Do you all believe that it would be useful for me to refuse?"

Everyone was stumped.

"Qin Yu isn't controlled by our Moon Praying Shrine. If I didn't decide to work with him, then he would have left. He can easily find a new place and make a fresh start. And that time, instead of allowing other influences to make a profit, it would be better for our Moon Praying Shrine to swallow them down instead." A light flashed in the Lord Priest's eyes. "Moreover, for these past two months there has been heavenly tribulation frequently arriving above our Moon Praying Shrine – do you think this hasn't aroused the interest of anyone?"

The voices of opposition were quickly suppressed. The Lord Priest's will was carried out. Soon, Moon Praying Shrine intentionally released news that spread through the sea region in the shortest time possible.

The mysterious Sea Spirit Caretaker could help seafolk stranded at the Golden Core realm reach Nascent Soul!

The entire sea region began to boil over with excitement!

There were countless seafolk who were stranded at Golden Core and too afraid to break into Nascent Soul. Now, their eyes began to blaze like the sun and fill with excitement and ecstatic joy.

But as for the great figures of the truly highest echelons of power, they actually knew more, because they had spies in Moon Praying Shrine.

...

Capital city.

The Sea Sovereign knit his eyebrows. "Qin Yu, it is actually him? He hasn't left, but hid himself away in Moon Praying Shrine? Mister, what do you think of this?"

Mister Turtle shook his head. "If it were anyone else that said they could help Golden Cores reach Nascent Soul, I would not have believed them at all. But the one saying he can do this just happens to be Qin Yu...this brat, he is so nefarious!"

The Sea Sovereign nodded. "Mister has the same thoughts as this Solitude. No matter what the truth is, this Solitude hopes that mister may take a trip over in place of this Solitude."

Mister Turtle stood up and bowed deeply. "Your Majesty, rest assured that I will not disappoint your trust."

...

The Whale Sovereign clenched his fist and the jade slip in his palm was instantly crushed into dust, sprinkling down from between his fingers. "Qin Yu, I never thought that you would dare return. This time, I will make sure you die without a grave!"

"My liege, Qin Yu is now an honored guest of Moon Praying Shrine and it is rumored that he has helped their Golden Cores break into Nascent Soul. If we were to move against him I fear that this would ignite public anger."

"What absurd ridiculousness. There are actually some people who believe this, just laughable!" The Whale Sovereign had an indifferent expression. "The prestige of heavenly tribulation represents the will of the world; it is the most formidable strength in existence. Even I do not dare to criticize it, so how could Qin Yu? This must be a play he is putting on together with Moon Praying Shrine."

"But..."

"There is no further need to speak. I have already made my decision!"

..

Sega City.

Sang Yueyue ran over, her face flushed red. "Mother, mother, I heard news about Big Brother Qin Yu! He is in Moon Praying Shrine!" In these last four years, she seemed to have only grown up a little, not changing too much from the past.

There was an elegant woman sitting in the hall, her demeanor regal. At this time she was slightly frowning, and there was admonition in her eyes. "Just how old are you that you still run about so flustered? Watch your manners!"

Sang Yueyue stuck out her tongue before bowing. "It was your daughter's mistake. I ask mother to forgive me."

The woman's eyes flashed. She thought that this brat Yueyue really treated Qin Yu differently, otherwise why would she lower her head in apology so quickly?

She probably wanted to go there and meet him.

She thought for a moment, then said, "Yueyue, you may go to Moon Praying Shrine, but you must promise me that you will obey all of Seventh Aunty's instructions. You absolutely cannot act recklessly."

Sang Yueyue jumped with joy. She hugged the woman and cheered, "Thank you mother, I will be absolutely obedient and I won't embarrass Seventh Aunty!"

The woman forced out a smile. "Go and prepare."

After the girl left, the woman lightly said, “Red Mask, go and inquire into what is actually happening. If the rumors are true, then use any means necessary to win over Qin Yu and bring him to my Sega City.”

The woman bowed. “Yes, madam.”

...

Various groups began to set out, traveling towards Moon Praying Shrine at the fastest speed possible!

But in truth, although there was the endorsement of Moon Praying Shrine, there were actually only a small number of people who believed that this so called Sea Spirit Caretaker could help people break into Nascent Soul.

But even if this were only a faint ray of hope, there were many people who weren't willing to miss out on it.

Soon, Moon Praying Shrine started to become lively, attracting the attention of the entire sea region.

Chapter 220 – Sky High Price Soul Bead

Outside Moon Praying Shrine, a troop of weary travelers arrived. There was a tiredness in their eyes that couldn't be hidden, but their bodies exuded a valiant aura. Even when facing the wolf riders, they remained tall and straight, their eyes calm and cold as if they were as solid and immovable as mountains.

This was because they originated from the capital city's war division. Just like the wolf riders, they belonged to one of the most formidable war divisions in the sea region. Their seniors had fought many years ago, and both sides had won and lost battles.

Xue Zhen patted the sea wolf he was riding, having it quiet down. He cupped his hands together, “I am Xue Zhen. I welcome Mister Turtle Origin.”

The carriage opened to reveal the serene face of the old turtle. “There is no need to be so polite, Commander Xue.”

Xue Zhen nodded. “Mister, please enter the city with me.”

The soldiers of the capital city started to adjust their army as they walked into the territory of Moon Praying Shrine with the best possible posture. All along the street, many seafolk turned and watched the troop pass through. Their eyes were filled with awe, but even more hostility and cold intent.

The previous was a new arriving party and the latter were mostly the tribesmen of Moon Praying Shrine. To most influences, the capital city was an existence that no one could contend with. Moon Praying Shrine was the only exception.

It was like this in the past, it was so in the present, and would continue being so in the future!

The wolf riders led the way. From the carriage, Turtle Origin suddenly asked, “Commander Xue, I would like to see fellow daoist Qin. I'm wondering if that is possible?”

Xue Zhen turned around. “Mister, please wait a moment.”

He brought up a spirit shell and made a call.

Soon, a connection was made. After a few calm words were exchanged, he hung up and said, "The Lord Priest has said that everything shall be decided by Priest Qin Yu. Moon Praying Shrine will not interfere."

Turtle Origin revealed a surprised look. He never thought that Qin Yu would have such high authority within Moon Praying Shrine. He thought for a moment and said, "Then I'll have to ask Commander Xue to make a call for me."

"Alright."

Xue Zhen took out another spirit shell.

Besides specially refined spirit shells that were used solely for long-distance communications, most spirit shells had an extremely limited geographical range. Moon Praying Shrine and the capital city had a tense relationship, so of course there was no special line opened up between the two. Also, because of these restrictions, the spirit shells brought over from the capital city were useless here.

"Priest Qin Yu has agreed. We will head over now and arrive soon." Xue Zhen changed direction.

After a moment, Turtle Origin stepped down from the carriage. He gazed all around him at the Sea God Palace that emitted an overwhelming atmosphere, and his eyes revealed a complex look. He immediately composed himself. Then, he walked inside and arrived at a side hall where he sat across from Qin Yu.

"Senior Turtle, I haven't seen you for several years but you remain as dashing as you were before." Qin Yu smiled and cupped his hands together.

Turtle Origin narrowed his eyes. "Qin Yu, you really are exceptional. In just a short four years, your cultivation has actually risen to such a situation. I fear even I won't be able to do anything to you in another few years."

Qin Yu said, "I thank Senior Turtle for the praise."

"Have you been in Moon Praying Shrine for these last four years?"

"No, I just returned two months ago." Qin Yu thought for a moment. "In the past, I gained many benefits from the sea region. Now, if possible, I hope to repay the sea races a little."

Turtle Origin curled his lips; if he believed this then he would be a fool. "Let's get down to business. His Majesty bid me to ask you a question. It was said that you can help others reach Nascent Soul; is that true or false?"

Qin Yu smiled. "With the spies that the capital city has laid down, haven't you confirmed it yet?"

Turtle Origin said in a low voice, "I want to hear it from you personally."

Qin Yu nodded. "It's true."

Turtle Origin immediately had a strange look in his eyes. He continued looking at Qin Yu as if he wanted to say something, but then immediately swallowed it back down. "Alright, then state your conditions."

Qin Yu continued to smile. "There is no need to be in such a hurry, Senior Turtle. I have already entrusted Moon Praying Shrine to make the preparations. The information will soon be announced publicly and you will know then."

Mister Turtle frowned, a foreboding premonition rising in his heart. And sure enough, this premonition was confirmed not too long after.

Moon Praying Shrine announced they would be exclusively selling jade slips that contained information about the price needed to achieve Nascent Soul. There was a limited quantity of 100 and each one was selling for 10,000 spirit stones.

What? You thought it was too expensive? Then do as you like. When our Moon Praying Shrine does business, we are always fair and just. We will never force anyone to buy or sell anything.

But if you don't want to buy a jade slip and instead listen to random rumors, then if anything is incorrect, our Moon Praying Shrine will not be held responsible.

As soon as the jade slips were announced, they immediately caused innumerable complaints.

But, the real situation was that people were cursing even as they desperately struggled to buy one. The 100 jade slips were soon sold out, for a tidy profit of one million spirit stones. In the words of the Lord Priest, although a million spirit stones wasn't much, mosquito meat was still meat. Moon Praying Shrine had many businesses, so being able to supplement their income a bit more was always a good thing.

With 100 jade slips going to all sorts of people, it was inevitable that the information would be leaked out sooner or later. Not much later, the majority of the seafolk learned the conditions recorded within.

For the first 50 Nascent Soul spots.

From the Netherworld Sea Region's Netherworld Realm, the soul beads produced there would be used as payment currency. Three soul beads would be exchanged for a single Nascent Soul spot. Of course, this was all on the premise that the cultivator making the exchange agreed to all the arrangements of Moon Praying Shrine and also had the strength to summon heavenly tribulation.

For the last 50 Nascent Soul spots.

It would be decided in an auction format. Soul beads would still be used as the preferred currency, but other treasures could also be offered. The conversion ratio was that one soul bead was equal to 40 million spirit stones. Beyond that, treasures which strengthened the soul and body could also be evaluated and subbed in depending on their degree of preciousness.

Countless cultivators who didn't purchase a jade slip initially hurried up to investigate. To their shock, they discovered that the price of a soul bead had risen by several times what it was in the past. Moreover, within the current market, the available soul beads circulating around had almost vanished altogether. It was like someone had learned of this beforehand and started purchasing them ahead of time.

Soon, Moon Praying Shrine announced that they would be publicly selling a small number of soul beads they kept in stock.

Of course, they weren't sold for a clear price but were auctioned to the highest bidder instead.

This caused countless people to gnash their teeth. Even an idiot knew that the reason for soul beads disappearing from the market was likely related to Moon Praying Shrine.

It could even be said that this so-called Sea Spirit Caretaker was collaborating with Moon Praying Shrine to rake in wealth using nefarious means.

And the reality was that they weren't wrong.

But even knowing this, they could only grit their teeth and bear it.

Many people hesitated. The price of soul beads was so high that it scared off countless people. They worried that this might be a trick of Moon Praying Shrine. If they purchased them but still couldn't break into Nascent Soul, then they wouldn't have any place to cry even if they wanted to!

But at this moment, a lucky seafolk cultivator appeared at Moon Praying Shrine with three soul beads in hand.

Instantly, he became the focus of attention for countless cultivators.

Before, Moon Praying Shrine's 10 continuous Nascent Soul breakthrough has already been an incredibly shocking event. But in the end they were nothing but rumors; no one had seen it with their own eyes. Now, everyone would see for themselves what the effects were!

The result was that a day later, the people paying attention to this were shocked by news of what happened. Black clouds appeared from nothingness, turning into a massive screen that covered up the skies above Moon Praying Shrine. A horrifying aura came sprinkling down.

"Nascent Soul heavenly tribulation!"

"Heavens, he is really crossing tribulation!"

"I saw that person yesterday. His cultivation wasn't as good as mine and he was a rogue cultivator with no foundation at all. How could he possibly cross tribulation successfully!"

"We'll know the result soon enough!"

Bang –

The first bolt of heavenly tribulation.

The terrifying thunder roared down, vanishing deep into the depths of Sea God Palace.

With almost no pause, there was another loud bang as a second bolt of thunder plunged down.

Then a third!

When the tribulation cloud above their heads started to fade away, many seafolk were still left in a dazed stupor.

This...this...

How could it be so quick?

Moreover, where had the strength of the three heavenly tribulations gone? After entering Sea Spirit Palace, it seemed to have vanished without a trace.

And most importantly, heavenly tribulation had fallen three times. Could it be...shit, did he succeed!?

Many people stared with wide eyes. Their faces seemed to hide thousands of cats, each one screeching and thirsting. Luckily, they didn't have to wait too long. Being the first lucky customer, the rogue cultivator was personally escorted out of Sea God Palace by the Lord Priest. This person was smiling from ear to ear, and what was most terrifying was that all around his body was a light aura of pressure.

This was due to one's realm having increased. Their strength would be unrestrained and thus it would naturally emit.

This was Nascent Soul! This really was Nascent Soul!

The crowds outside of Sea God Palace suddenly fell deathly silent.

The Lord Priest swept his eyes across, secretly scolding them for being blind beetles. But, he didn't remember that at the start, his reaction wasn't much better than these people's. He coughed and said, "Everyone, since my Moon Praying Shrine is willing to make a pledge, then we naturally have an absolute assurance in our skills. This fellow daoist Fire Rain has already reached Nascent Soul. Just yesterday he was at Golden Core perfection. I believe that a good number of you saw fellow daoist Fire Rain yesterday. Now, the truth is already laid bare before you, so is there any need to continue waiting?"

"Shit! It's real!"

"That's right, I saw him enter Sea God Palace with my own eyes yesterday! He managed to reach Nascent Soul in just one day!"

"Impossible, this is impossible!"

Amongst the noise and confusion, that fellow daoist Fire Rain walked forwards and took out his soul brand mark. After verifying his status, the situation quickly spiraled out of control.

"Hurry and look for soul beads!"

"Holy shit! The price has risen again! It has risen again! I can't afford it at all!"

"If you can't buy them then steal them! If you can't steal them then go look for them!"

"That's right, soul beads can be found in the Netherworld Sea Region. I'm going right now!"

Everyone started to go insane.

In just one day, the first 50 spots of Nascent Souls were all taken up.

Although soul beads were rare and precious, when it came to true top influences, if they wanted to spend the effort to find them then they would be able to.

The only question was how much they were willing to pay.

Moon Praying Shrine raked in more than enough income. Even the wealthy high level figures of Moon Praying Shrine all licked their tongues and smiled with joy.

This business was what they wanted!

But thinking about it, they had to give a good portion of their profits to Qin Yu, and the Lord Priest's lips twitched at the prospect. However, standing in that side hall, when Qin Yu accepted the spirit stones, he casually tossed back a storage shell. The Lord Priest accepted it with a puzzled expression, but when he probed it with his divine sense, he almost cursed out in shock.

But it was a shock he liked!

Inside the storage shell was 100 soul beads!

Qin Yu smirked. "Can I trouble Lord Priest to help me sell these? Please take 20% of the profit as repayment for Lord Priest's help."

The Lord Priest's smile was blinding. "Priest Qin Yu is too polite. I can assure you that I will sell them for as high a price as possible!"

Watching him leave, Qin Yu smiled. Because of his appearance, the value of soul beads had risen far too much.

To resell them now was the best time to make the maximum amount of profit. Moreover, even if he sold them, they would eventually return to his hand. After all, those that were willing to pay a sky high price to purchase soul beads did so because they wanted to break into Nascent Soul, and if they wanted to break into Nascent Soul they would need to look for the Undying Cockroach Qin.

Bah! It was Qin Yu! That damned Old Wang!

In Immortal Eclipse Valley, the mysterious Miss Spirit had said that the Soul Mushroom would need a massive amount of spiritual strength when it made a breakthrough. Since she knew about the condition of the Soul Mushroom, and with the guess he had made about her, then he needed to pay attention to her words. He didn't know how much spiritual strength was needed, but he had a vivid memory of when he had achieved his Five Element Golden Cores. In his opinion, he could never go wrong making extra preparations.