

Refining 331

Chapter 331 – Testing the Pill

On the upper floor of a tall building, the fragrance of tea overflowed.

Yun Yilan revealed a look of praise. “Miss White is truly worthy of being the Great Desolate Lake’s young master. At such a young age she was actually able to refine an upper fifth-grade Sky Soaring Pill. It seems the lineage of the White Clan has a successor.”

The corners of Ming Siyuan’s lips lifted in joy. He never thought that this brat Fengfeng would be able to display such an astonishing performance. If she was able to refine an upper fifth-grade Sky Soaring Pill, it wasn’t a joke to say that she could look down upon all her fellow contemporaries with disdain. He glanced at Yuan Tiangang from the corner of his eyes and said, “Exalted Yun’s praise is misplaced. The young master is only relying on luck to succeed today, and she also borrowed the help of external forces to enhance the rank of the pill. It isn’t her own strength by any means.”

Yuan Tiangang faintly smiled. “Miss White is so young and yet has such a splendid performance. Even I am surprised. Revered Ming must feel very proud.”

“The juniors from Cleansing Temple aren’t too bad either.”

“Haha, there is no need to hide it, but I do have some confidence in Jiutian.” Yuan Tiangang stated with gusto.

Ming Siyuan frowned inwardly. Even after knowing about the rank of the Sky Soaring Pill, Yuan Tiangang was still able to keep his calm. Could it be that Zhao Jiutian had somehow managed to refine an even better pill?

If it were anyone else, Ming Siyuan wouldn’t worry too much. But since it was Cleansing Temple...they had a tense relationship, and he couldn’t help but acknowledge that Cleansing Temple did indeed possess the background and strength to contend with the Great Desolate Lake.

Ming Siyuan didn’t comment further. A trace of caution appeared in his eyes, as well as a bit of disappointment. This was because he knew that the ones participating in the final assessment were only White Fengfeng and Zhao Jiutian’s pills. As for that Ning Qin who might be a powerful existence, he wasn’t anywhere to be seen. He sighed. Perhaps he had guessed mistakenly from the very beginning. This fellow daoist Baoyu might have left at the very start and didn’t even participate in the competition.

Then, as Ming Siyuan thought about the bet between White Fengfeng and Zhao Jiutian, his complexion thoroughly darkened.

Yuan Tiangang had a relaxed expression. A high-grade Child and Mother Yinyang Pill was one of the peak existences within all fifth-grade pills.

So what if it was a Sky Soaring Pill?

This was a bet that the Great Desolate Lake was going to lose without a doubt!

The two Blue Sea realm super powerhouses shined and collided in the void. Although there was no substantive strength within their eyes, the invisible clashing auras almost made the air turn solid.

Yun Yilan smiled, an interested expression on his face, as if he didn't sense the confrontation in their eyes. Whether it was the Great Desolate Lake or Cleansing Temple, they were both colossal powers of the Southshine Nation. When it came to their various conflicts, the officials were willing to turn a blind eye for the most part.

Lord Exalted Yun's eyes fell onto the distant jade peak, locking onto a spot in the corner. This was a common and almost obscure ranking: The Inn, Ning Qin, No. 9537, ranking 376.

To fall below 300, this ranking was actually unexpected. Yun Yilan couldn't figure out why someone with such a mediocre performance was able to obtain that pill furnace's approval.

The Sky Soaring Pill was in the 'explosive strength' category of pill. In a short period of time, it helped a cultivator forcefully obtain the strength to touch upon the power of the rules and erupt with a potent strength.

This was somewhat similar to the Divine Blood Pill that Qin Yu had refined before. It could just barely be considered a simplified, much-weakened version of the Divine Blood Pill.

In order to ensure fairness, the one that would be testing the pill wasn't a cultivator, but a monster beast that had lost all sense of rationality and intelligence after being stimulated by medicine.

Now, on the platform, a pitch black cage appeared. The steel bars were as thick as arms and had numerous array runes cut into them. A 10 foot long wild boar was imprisoned inside. Two tusks jutted out from between its lips and its small crimson eyes surged with violence and cruelty.

Suddenly, the runes on the cage dimmed down and the wild boar obtained freedom. It roared out angrily, its giant body smashing into the sides of the cage.

Bang –

Bang –

With deep rings like strikes of thunder, even the ground shook. Three cultivators stood around the cage, each one holding a silver white metal column in their hands.

As the wild boar thrashed around, the metal columns erupted with light. The light rapidly condensed in the air, forming rows of characters.

3673 horses.

3744 horses.

3651 horses.

3703 horses.

Hum –

The cages runes lit once more and the wild boar was imprisoned. An official walked in front of the cage. He didn't use much strength and easily opened the mouth of the wild boar, tossing the Sky Soaring Pill within.

The imprisoned wild boar's eyes suddenly popped open. Small blood vessels constantly exploded on the surface of its eyes. Then, the runes extinguished themselves once more and that imprisoning strength disappeared. The wild boar seemed to have gone crazy as it mindlessly struck the cage.

In the explosions, the cage that was originally fixed onto the ground began to shake. Countless runes lit up and surged on the steel bars that were as thick as arms. Even so, they weren't able to counterbalance the strength. With light sounds, cracks appeared on the ground like a growing spider web.

Light from the metal columns once more.

12436 horses.

13421 horses.

11987 horses.

12744 horses.

Countless cultivators widened their eyes, shock evident in their gazes. After swallowing the Sky Soaring Pill, this wild boar monster beast's strength had risen by nearly four times over!

On the high platform, the ten alchemy grandmasters all revealed looks of acclaim and praise. They started to speak with each other in hushed whispers. There was almost no disagreement amongst them as they drew their conclusion.

On the jade peak, the originally rainbow-hued 'Wuyuan' name started to dim down. It fell down to second place from the peak of the mountain top.

The one that took his place was the Great Desolate Lake's White Fengfeng, No. 3216.

There was a low cry as countless cultivators looked on with envy. Even so, no one expressed any disbelief towards this. Even that bitter-hearted fellow daoist Wuyuan had no choice but to admit that the grade of this Sky Soaring Pill was indeed above his Fire Path Pill.

The runes on the cage shined once more. However, the thrashing wild boar wasn't willing to be imprisoned again. It wildly struggled in its shackles and the array formation was temporarily unable to suppress it.

The official who fed the Sky Soaring Pill to the monster beast arrived in front of the cage. Then, without any expression, he stuck its head with his palm. That vicious and cruel monster beast wasn't even able to cry out once before it was directly killed, blood spewing out from its head.

This sight caused many cultivators to unconsciously shrink back, awe and dread in their eyes. This common-looking and heartless uncle actually possessed at least a peak Divine Soul realm combat strength. Indeed, the officials belonged to the official sects and families also had the most powerhouses. Any one of them could give someone a fright.

"Next, we will be carrying out the appraisal for Cleansing Temple's Zhao Jiutian. What fellow daoist Zhao refined is an upper fifth-grade Child and Mother Yinyang Pill!" As the official announced this, the entire field of spectators burst into shouts.

The Child and Mother Yinyang Pill. With the Child Pill as the lead and the Mother Pill as the main, in terms of difficulty, this could be called the most difficult of all fifth-grade pills to refine. This was because it was the same as refining two fifth-grade pills.

Moreover, the effects of the Child and Mother Yinyang Pill...countless cultivators widened their eyes, keeping their gazes locked onto the platform.

This time, what was rolled onto the platform were two cages. It was the exact same as before, except what was caged within were two powerfully built apes!

The initial test was the same as with the Sky Soaring Pill. The imprisonments were released first in order to test the combat strength of the two apes.

3703 horses.

3644 horses.

3732 horses.

3687 horses.

It seemed that the officials had carefully chosen these two apes. Their overall combat strength was similar to that of the wild boar monster beast.

Following that was when the truly thrilling and frightening scene occurred.

That heartless official who slapped the wild boar to death strolled back up. He separately fed the Child and Mother Yinyang Pill to the two apes. The moment the imprisonment was undone, everyone in the audience knew that the ape roaring out in pain and agony was the one who swallowed the Child Pill.

A light layer of frost first appeared all over the ape's body. It rapidly thickened, turning into a thick layer of ice that covered the entire ape. Because the ape fiercely struggled, the ice layer constantly broke apart and fell to the ground. But as more and more time passed, more and more ice formed until eventually the ape was entirely frozen within.

The ice layer became increasingly thick, but it was also incomparably clear. One could see the ice-bound ape within. It was unable to move in the slightest and pain shined in its eyes. Yet, it couldn't even emit a single sound. Everyone could see the ape's body withering away at a slow speed, as if an invisible mouth had stabbed a straw into its body and was slowly eating away at it.

Then, its strong figure withered to nothing. In the end, all that was left was a giant skeletal figure. Even then, the ape still wasn't dead. One could see its paper-thin skin and the internal organs slowly wriggling within its desiccated body.

From beginning to end, everything was silent. But, this silence added an incomparably dark and terrifying layer to this scene. Any cultivator that witnessed this felt a cold air rise up from the depths of their heart, as if their heartbeat was going to stop; as if their blood was going to freeze over!

The Child and Mother Yinyang Pill. With the Child Pill as the lead, it seized all the magic power, blood energy, and even the soul force of the being, combining all of that strength from yin and yang and then integrating that strength into the body of the being that swallowed the Mother Pill.

Thus, on the other side, in another cage, blazing flames suddenly ignited, as if a burning hot sun were rising. The temperature in the air rose dramatically. Even so, those terrifying flames didn't harm the ape in the cage at all. Rather, its aura began to rise at an astonishing speed.

Roar –

With a malevolent roar, the imprisoned ape suddenly regained its ability to move. The runes on the cage wildly lit up, shining with a blinding light as their bearing limits were surpassed and they started to disintegrate.

Bang –

The ape smashed into the arm-thick steel bars, causing them to bend. The sharp sound caused one's ears to ache and the ground that had been restored suddenly shattered.

On the metal columns, the erupting light rapidly formed characters.

17329 horses.

18733 horses.

19414 horses.

17532 horses.

18073 horses.

The entire cage was already thoroughly twisted. One could hear the grating sound of bending metal.

Bang –

The metal cage broke apart. The twisted steel bars carried with them a great destructive power as they shot out in all directions. The three cultivators that held onto the metal columns instantly paled. Although they had late Nascent Soul realm cultivations, their bodies were as frail as paper against these twisted shooting metal bars.

“Humph!”

The heartless official appeared as he flash-stepped into sight. He lifted his hand and space twisted, instantly causing everything to fall into a deathly silence. The flame-covered ape that rushed out of the cage, the twisted metal bars that shout out in all directions, the crushed stones that flew up from the ground...everything seemed to come to a standstill.

The heartless official had no expression. He flicked away the random debris that was in his way, and then arrived in front of the ape. Ignoring the dreadful flames, he pointed a finger at its forehead.

Puff –

A strength blew out its brains, causing a mass of red and white to fly out. The crazy ape's blood red eyes finally began to dim as the tide of power faded away.

Shualala –

The crushed stones and twisted steel bars fell down. The great ape bent backwards and slumped to the ground.

Because of this sudden change in events, the entire competition field fell deathly silent.

...

Yun Yilan had a face full of praise. "This Child and Mother Yinyang Pill has reached the peak of high-grade. Only by touching upon the shadow of the top grade is it able to have such shocking medicinal efficacy. Cleansing Temple is truly a place where outstanding talent pours forth."

Yuan Tiangang laughed, "Revered Yuan is too kind. This junior Jiutian still needs to be tempered some more, but when it comes to alchemy, he does have some decent skill. After I return, I will definitely need to propose to the Temple Master to appoint Jiutian as a young temple master of my Cleansing Temple, and even open the Inheritance Stone for him."

Yun Yilan nodded. "With such talent, he does deserve generous rewards. The title of young temple master can be said to be well deserved."

Then, Yuan Tiangang changed the topic. "Revered Yun, before the competition began, Jiutian made a bet with Miss White. While this is a private matter between two juniors, Miss White is still the young master of the Great Desolate Lake and Jiutian will also soon become the young temple master of my Cleansing Temple. If so, then this bet concerns the face of both sides involved. I will have to ask Revered Ming to not be offended." His smile widened, "I guarantee that when Miss White comes to my Cleansing Temple in the future, she will receive the deepest and grandest hospitality possible. She will not feel wronged at all."

Chapter 332 – Reexamination

Ming Siyuan paled, his face turning a tint of blue. He coldly snorted again and again. What sort of status did the young master have? She was related to the legacy of the Great Desolate Lake and it was impossible for her to enter Cleansing Temple. However, the bet had been made in public view of everyone. If they reneged on their promise, he feared this would draw the condemnation of the people.

Moreover, how could Cleansing Temple give up on such a wonderful opportunity?

Just how would he be able to resolve this matter?

Revered Ming felt as if his head would explode. He also couldn't help but complain a bit towards that fellow daoist Baoyu he had yet to see. If it weren't for that person, he would never have allowed this bet between the miss and Zhao Jiutian to proceed. Even if they reneged on their promise back then, at least they could have found a reason to do so. But in this present situation, it was far too embarrassing.

Yun Yilan faintly smiled. "Why is Revered Ming so worried? The Great Desolate Lake and Cleansing Temple are both lofty and pivotal influences within my Southshine Nation. Perhaps Miss White's trip this time can be a turning point for both sides to cooperate. Afterwards, we can all coexist in harmony and both sides can help promote each other's development. Wouldn't that be a wonderful ending?"

Yuan Tiangang spewed out a line of vicious curses in his heart, but his smile only widened. His sincere expression seemed to say, 'Old Cloud, you are so right and I also give you thirty-two praises.'

As for Ming Siyuan, his complexion was even uglier.

These three were all Blue Sea realm super powerhouses. Their eyesight far surpassed that of other cultivators. By the time the ape broke the cage, they already knew what the result would be. On the high platform the ten alchemy grandmasters argued for a moment before making a decision through a vote.

White Fengfeng's name vanished from the jade peak without warning, then appearing on the second row.

What replaced her was Cleansing Temple's Zhao Jiutian, No. 5428!

"Hahaha! Miss White, you might as well follow me back today and be a guest at my Cleansing Temple!" After the dust settled, the still pallid Zhao Jiutian wasn't able to suppress his excitement and he laughed out loud. His eyes swept around, disdain and pride in his gaze.

Looking throughout the entire audience, most of the young elites of the Southshine Nation were gathered here. Now, he had climbed atop them all and looked down at them from above. He naturally had the qualifications to be arrogant.

At this time, he was the center of the world!

Countless cameras swiveled their high resolution lenses towards Zhao Jiutian, capturing his regal bearing and spreading it through the entire Southshine Nation.

Through countless screens, innumerable young female cultivators felt their hearts quicken. They looked at Zhao Jiutian's handsome face and dashing appearance, and their innermost feelings began to stir restlessly.

"Impossible! How could my miss' upper fifth-grade Sky Soaring Pill possibly lose!?"

"There is a behind-the-scenes plot, there has to be!"

"We request another appraisal!"

The cultivators from the Great Desolate Lake all roared out together, shock and rage etched on their faces.

White Fengfeng suddenly shouted out, "Shut up!" Her eyebrows furrowed together and her face was ice cold at this moment. Her dignified appearance was like a great stone, pressing down on their chests and making it hard for them to breathe. "A loss is a loss. My White Family hasn't fallen to the point where we cannot accept defeat. My Great Desolate Lake has no objections to the outcome of the competition."

These words caused the ten gloomy-looking alchemy grandmasters on the high platform to brighten up. Today, almost every broadcasting station and network platform through the entire Southshine nation was live streaming the competition. They absolutely would not allow anyone to slander their professional integrity and skills.

Black Beibei had a dark expression. "Cousin..."

White Fengfeng lightly said, "I know, cousin."

Black Beibei opened his mouth to speak, but in the end he just sighed. He knew that White Fengfeng's current actions were correct. But since she acknowledged defeat, she had to accept the conditions of the bet and enter Cleansing Temple for half a year. This was something the Great Desolate Lake could not accept.

Things had become troublesome now!

Zhao Jiutian laughed, "Miss White is indeed straightforward. I profess my deep admiration."

White Fengfeng's gaze was frosty. "Ten days from now, I will head towards Cleansing Temple. You can wait for me."

Zhao Jiutian cupped his hands together, "If so, then I will respectfully await your arrival."

Shua –

Ming Siyuan appeared, his expression solemn. "Young master, before I leave, the master and madam ordered me to bring you back. They have an important matter to discuss with you." He turned and said, "The bet with Cleansing Temple can be fulfilled after the miss returns."

Zhao Jiutian's complexion changed. He could naturally see that this was a way of delaying for time. But facing Ming Siyuan, no matter how willing he was, he didn't dare to speak too much.

However, Cleansing Temple also had Blue Sea realm masters standing guard.

Yuan Tiangang had a calm expression. "Revered Ming, since this is a bet between two juniors, it's better to let them discuss it amongst themselves. With our statuses, why should we interfere in their business?"

There was a cold intent in his words.

Ming Siyuan's expression didn't change. "The Great Desolate Lake's young master keeps true to her word. She naturally won't go back on a promise. It's just that this will be pushed back a little; there is no need for Revered Yuan to care so much."

Yuan Tiangang's lips curled upwards. "Revered Ming, why do you have to use such words to fool me? You and I have cultivated for so long, what sort of scene have we not seen before? Let me just ask you one question today – do you plan on having Miss White fulfill her end of the bet? If not, then I will immediately bring Zhao Jiutian away and not mention this matter again in the future. How about it?"

Ming Siyuan paled. What a good move of retreating one step before advancing forwards. If he were to continue intervening, then the Great Desolate Lake would be said to be people that didn't keep their word. If it were any other time, he wouldn't mind going back on his word. At worst he'd suffer a hit to his reputation. After all, the Great Desolate Lake had found Cleansing Temple displeasing to their eyes, and this wasn't something that had lasted for a day or two.

But today...

Behind cameras, excited pairs of eyes told Ming Siyuan that if he didn't handle this matter correctly, then tomorrow negative press about the Great Desolate Lake would flood the entire Southshine Nation.

Yuan Tiangang added another strike. "If the one who lost today was Zhao Jiutian, I wouldn't have said a single word and would have allowed Miss White to handle him however she pleased. Unfortunately, people are always different."

White Fengfeng suddenly said, "Uncle Ming, please tell mother and father that I will be heading to Cleansing Temple to cultivate for half a year. If there is anything important, then you can come and see me."

Father, mother, you definitely have to come. If I go to Cleansing Temple it will be the same as meat on the chopping block. If you don't hurry over, your daughter will be miserable.

Big Brother Baoyu, where are you? How come you haven't revealed yourself and helped me? Could it be that you don't like me anymore?

Cough cough...hum, then again when did you start liking me? Even I don't know!

Qin Yu was watching the liveliness. The battle between the Great Desolate Lake and Cleansing Temple drew all attention. Even the newly minted champion Zhao Jiutian was receiving a cool reception. Thus, even though Qin Yu had arrived in front of the platform, there was no one willing to glance his way more than once.

"Fellow daoist, I would like to apply for a reexamination of the pill I refined." With no other option, Qin Yu found a security guard and explained his intention.

That was right. The competition placed fairness above all, thus if a contestant believed that the disparity in their result was too great, they could apply for a reexamination of their pill. However, in all the previous competition years, there was only an extremely small number of cultivators that applied for this. The official judge panel included numerous strong alchemists and in addition to their strict evaluation criteria, it was rare for an accident to occur.

The security guard seemed to not hear clearly. He reluctantly shifted his gaze towards Qin Yu and impatiently asked, "What did you say?"

Qin Yu was helpless. He could only repeat his words.

At this time, the security guard seemed to recognize Qin Yu. His complexion changed and his attitude warmed. He immediately swept his eyes around, and when he didn't see any cameras on him he let out a sigh of relief. Before, there was an official that had treated this boy poorly, and thus had been shouted at and cursed at by countless people. That official's reputation would remain thoroughly destroyed for the rest of his life, and this security guard didn't wish to follow in his footsteps.

"Fellow daoist Ning Qin, you are asking to have your pill reexamined, right?"

Qin Yu didn't care about the change in attitude or how much the security guard was crying inside. He simply nodded.

The security guard said, "Please wait a moment, I will immediately send a message."

Seeing the security guard turn and hurry away, he wanted to ask, 'Can't you just make a call? How come it looks as if you're fleeing into the wilderness!'

He looked at the field and saw the atmosphere worsen between the Great Desolate Lake and Cleansing Temple. Qin Yu wryly smiled. He really didn't want to get involved in their affairs and steal their limelight, but there was nothing else he could do.

The security guard left and didn't return. But, it was clear he had passed on his request. Many eyes atop the platform were already looking towards him.

While the officials gave everyone the right to ask for a reexamination, not every person was approved. After all, if every person were to ask for a reexamination, then everyone would die of exhaustion before the event ended. However, Qin Yu did have these qualifications. Even ignoring all else, just the ruckus he had created on the network was enough to make the officials scared of belittling him.

Drawing back 10,000 steps, even the Exalted Yun Yilan was interested in him. Just this point alone was enough to change their attitude towards him.

"Cough! Revered Ming, Revered Yuan, please wait a moment. We have received a request to reexamine a pill." An official responsible for managing the appraisals politely said. He cursed Qin Yu inwardly. To have him come here and speak out at this moment, this was absolutely looking for trouble.

"Yes!"

"No!"

The first reply was Ming Siyuan and the second was naturally Yuan Tiangang.

It was normal for their reactions to be complete opposites. One wanted to find an excuse to refute this matter, and the other wanted to use this momentum to pursue the matter and force the Great Desolate Lake into a situation where they had no choice but to agree.

The managing official froze in place. A cold sweat dripped down his forehead and he was unsure of what to do.

Ming Siyuan's gaze was icy cold. "Revered Yuan, the matters between you and me are inevitably a private affair between two sides. But right now, this is the Southshine Nation's great competition. Don't you think it's a bit excessive to waste the time of all our fellow daoists?"

At this moment, the audience watching were all screaming out in their hearts. We aren't afraid of wasting time, just continue as you were!

Reexamining a pill or something like that, who the hell wants to watch that!

Yuan Tiangang frowned. Ming Siyuan's words were logical so there was no way to stand against them. But if he missed such a good opportunity, he feared that there would be some additional variable in his efforts to force White Fengfeng to go to Cleansing Temple.

His thoughts raced and a smile lifted his lips. "Revered Ming is indeed correct, but I've always hated waiting. Please wait a moment, everything will be fine soon."

“Who is it that wants to reexamine their pill?”

A low and deep voice, stimulated by a powerful cultivation, instantly spread throughout the entire audience.

Qin Yu’s lips twitched. He braced himself and walked forwards. “Greetings, Revered Yuan. It is this junior.”

In front of a Blue Sea, it was never wrong to be respectful, unless you wished to die.

Yuan Tiangang frowned before immediately composing himself. “Ning Qin, I know who you are, so I will be brief. If you cancel your reexamination request, you can join Cleansing Temple and I will provide you with a good position.” He suddenly switched his tone, his eyes sweeping around. “Of course, if anyone else wishes to apply for a reexamination then don’t blame me for being impolite.”

Ming Siyuan cursed inwardly at such a trick. But before he could say anything, his last path was blocked. Yuan Tiangang said, “Revered Ming, it’s not that I am trying to bully you, but the affairs of people are difficult to transverse and it is always best to be a bit more cautious. Of course, I believe that Revered Ming wouldn’t ask the cultivators of the Great Desolate Lake to apply for a reexamination to deliberately make things hard for me, right?”

Ming Siyuan’s complexion stiffened and darkened. If he did do that after his thoughts were exposed, then it really would be shameless. But that wasn’t the problem...the key was that junior Ning Qin. As long as he insisted on the reexamination, there wasn’t anything that Yuan Tiangang could do. Just as this thought popped up, he pushed it back down. How could a mere Nascent Soul realm junior defy the will of a Blue Sea? Moreover, Yuan Tiangang offered him such great advantages.

Chapter 333 – Angry Grandmasters

Yuan Tiangang had a calm expression. A faint smile lifted his lips. The greatest weakness of Ming Siyuan and those people from the Great Desolate Lake was that they cared too much about face. If Zhao Jiutian was the one who lost today, he absolutely would not have allowed him to go. As for those words he said just now...what an idiot, since he had already won, it wasn’t a loss for him to drop a few condescending words and stimulate his opponent.

Yuan Tiangang folded his arms together, feeling as if everything was within his control. As long as he could grasp White Fengfeng, then he could find a way to breach the impasse between Cleansing Temple and the Great Desolate Lake. Of course, in this breakthrough, Cleansing Temple would have the advantage, and there was even a chance that the Great Desolate Lake would be thrust into a hopeless position!

Right now in Yuan Tiangang’s mind, hundreds of ideas were swimming around about how he could further humiliate the Great Desolate Lake. But before he could think of even better ideas, a voice suddenly resounded in his ears, breaking his train of thought. “I thank Revered Yuan for the high regards, but my strength is average and I fear I will taint Cleansing Temple’s reputation. So, I will have to refuse.”

Ming Siyuan was startled for a moment before he laughed out loud. “Good! I appreciate juniors like you who have such breadth of spirit and such lofty ideals! As cultivators, we should walk down roads we

pave ourselves. Only then can our steps be solid! I believe you will certainly have amazing achievements in the future!”

His face was full of acclaim as if Qin Yu were a peerless proud son of heaven seen only once every century. His eyes were warm with admiration and encouragement.

Young man, you are doing well! It’s like this, keep on insisting and your future will be bright!

Yuan Tiangang’s complexion darkened. This junior Ning Qin actually dared to defy his will? It was simply inconceivable. And there was also that Ming Siyuan who he had just mocked. Cultivators from the Great Desolate Lake cared about honor, so the words he spoke just now were like a slap in his face, making his heart feel even colder. “Ning Qin, do you know what you are doing? What mistake you are making? What you will be missing? What you can obtain?”

Ming Siyuan said, “Revered Yuan, with your cultivation how can you blatantly threaten a junior. It is unbecoming of you.”

Yuan Tiangang had no expression. “If he disobeys my will, that is the same as being disrespectful to me. Even if I punish him, it is natural.”

This was an advantage of not caring about face. He could sound righteous no matter what he said.

Qin Yu bitterly smiled. He knew it was unwise to offend a Blue Sea realm super powerhouse, but he couldn’t allow a threat to make him give up on all his plans. Only a powerhouse could truly control their own destiny. Qin Yu hardened his heart, becoming incomparably steadfast. He took a deep breath and slowly said, “Revered Yuan, this junior has his own reasons, so I ask you to forgive me!”

Yuan Tiangang laughed in anger, “Good! Very good!”

An invisible wave of pressure swept out in all directions.

Yun Yilan’s figure appeared on the field. He was like a great rock, suppressing everything. “Revered Yuan, Ning Qin is a participant in the competition. Since he has doubts about his ranking, he has the right to request a reexamination.”

These words were an expression of his dissatisfaction.

Yuan Tiangang frowned, a little perplexed regarding what Yun Yilan’s thoughts were. If the Great Desolate Lake and Cleansing Temple fought each other, that served the interests of the Southshine Nation the most. Yet he wanted to intervene here? A trace of caution appeared in his heart. Before he could clarify the reason why, he decided to step back. He restrained his aura, “Haha, it was me who handled things rashly. I ask that Revered Yun excuse me if I did anything appropriate. Revered Ming, I hope that you and Miss White don’t plan on fleeing. Let’s wait until this is over before we continue discussing the bet.”

“Humph!” Ming Siyuan coldly snorted and returned to the people from the Great Desolate Lake. White Fengfeng persisted in keeping up her prideful appearance, but a pitiable look flashed in her eyes.

This look caused Ming Siyuan’s anger to simmer. He had a cold expression as he thought furiously about how to break free from their current dilemma without losing face. At this time, the poor Revered Ming

didn't know that all his worries and anxieties would soon be completely resolved without any effort on his own part.

Yun Yilan smiled and cupped his hands together. "I thank Revered Yuan for showing me some face." He turned and instructed, "Men, bring up the pill that Ning Qin refined."

Besides White Fengfeng and Zhao Jiutian, everyone else had their pills completely sealed away for safety purposes and in case further examinations needed to be done. Once the competition ended, they would be disposed of.

Soon, the pill of serial no. 9527 was delivered. The cultivator who was responsible for appraising it also arrived together with the pill. This person was a middle-aged man in blue robes. Although his complexion was a bit pale, he remained calm.

The audiences watching from countless screens were unhappy that the showdown between the Great Desolate Lake and Cleansing Temple had been broken up, but once they learned that this reexamination involved Ning Qin, their interest was soon piqued once more.

They were also curious. For what reason did Ning Qin brave the wrath of a Blue Sea realm super powerhouse to insist that his pill be reexamined? Did he really think there was a chance he could become champion? Besides this, no one else could really think of a reason for him to do all of this.

Yes, they did hear that Ning Qin's pill furnace was extremely sloppy and low quality, but alchemy didn't depend on a pill furnace alone. Before that, they also heard that him entering the finals and successfully refining all the pills was a stroke of unexpected success. And, who didn't know that Ning Qin was refining a weak pill like the Demon Puppet Pill? Not to mention the difficulty of it, even if he barely managed to refine it, how high could its grade be? Reexamination...they really couldn't figure out the meaning behind it!

Yun Yilan said, "You are the one who appraised the pill that Ning Qin refined?"

The blue-clothed man quickly bowed. "Reporting to Exalted Yun, it was indeed this official."

"Explain your reasoning to me."

"Yes." The blue-clothed man stood up straight and coldly glanced at Qin Yu. "Fellow daoist Ning Qin, what you refined was the Demon Puppet Pill, refined by fusing your own blood into an eternal night demon mushroom and then combining three together." He opened the jade box and tipped the pill into his hands. "Everyone, please observe. The pill's shape is only barely round, and it is dim, without any luster at all. The medicinal fragrance is also faint. At most it is an ordinary pill. Of course, to guarantee that the appraisal is fair, we scrape a minute amount of powder from each pill to analyze the inherent energy within. In the end, this Demon Puppet Pill was judged as a low fourth-grade pill. Thus, I arranged it in 376th place. May I ask where fellow daoist Ning Qin has doubts that you request a reexamination?"

On the appraisal platform, an alchemy grandmaster stood up. He nodded and said, "I also examined this Demon Puppet Pill and the results I found were no different. 376th place is an appropriate judgment."

Yun Yilan glanced over at Qin Yu. Seeing his calm expression, his heart stirred. "Then today, I ask fellow grandmasters to make another appraisal."

If it were anyone else speaking, the grandmasters wouldn't have cared at all. Just who were they? Every moment of their time was precious. Ordinarily, just a minute of their time might be worth thousands of spirit stones. In particular, Qin Yu's request for reexamination meant that he questioned the entire panel of judges. It was a very great loss of face.

Now, the grandmasters certainly wouldn't argue back. They picked up the Demon Puppet Pill and pulled themselves together, all of them rising with 120% of their attentiveness. They would appraise this well! Appraise it so well that no one could say anything!

You brat, you dare to question our specialty? Let me tell you something beforehand – you're done for!

Beneath the numerous live streaming cameras, the ten grandmasters performed a grand 'professional' visual feast. The entire appraisal process continued as smoothly as passing clouds and flowing water, but in truth it was a rigorous assessment process. Even laymen who had no experience with alchemy would be convinced after seeing the entire process. This procedure didn't continue for too long, nor was it too short. After the assessment was completed, the grandmasters packed up their tools and volunteered someone to go up and read the results. "Exalted Yun, we have completed the reexamination."

A grandmaster walked forwards, an eye flashing cold beneath a monocle. His voice was calm and steady, "The Demon Puppet Pill has reached ordinary standards for a pill. Its medicinal efficacy is average and it is a lower fourth-grade level. However, after careful examination, we have found that the impurities within this Demon Puppet Pill far exceed the normal allowed figure, which would inevitably result in the strength of the pill being affected. Although it is still considered a lower fourth-grade pill, we feel that the ranking of 376 may be improper, and after discussion, we recommend lowering to rank 408."

After requesting for a pill reexamination, not only did his position not improve but it fell instead. This result was beyond expectations. The competition field fell silent and everyone watching subconsciously dropped their jaws.

Yun Yilan frowned. He had personally issued the order for reexamination, so even if these grandmasters were unhappy about it, they would never dare to tamper with the results. His eyes fell on Qin Yu and he revealed a bit of coldness. Although he was curious why the pill furnace had chosen this fellow, he would never allow a junior to behave recklessly in front of him.

He would need an explanation for this.

Yuan Tiangang faintly said, "I heard that before this, Ning Qin took many opportunities to show off on the network and attract attention to himself. The young these days are truly extraordinary. In order to grab more attention, there is nothing they cannot do." This was clearly to place Qin Yu in a fatal position.

Ming Siyuan also frowned inwardly. But in the end, Qin Yu had helped their Great Desolate Lake temporarily resolve their issue. He opened his mouth and said, "Perhaps that's not what it is."

Yuan Tiangang glanced over. "Revered Ming, are you saying that there is a problem with the appraisal result? Perhaps my vision is faulty, but I really cannot see what is so special about this Demon Puppet Pill. How about making a bet with me? Let's bet on the quality of the Demon Puppet Pill, and you can decide on the terms of the bet, okay?" His lips lifted up in a taunting smile.

Ming Siyuan's complexion sank. "Humph! I have no intent of questioning the result. Revered Yuan is too sensitive to words." He could only pretend as if he didn't hear about making a bet.

Qin Yu suddenly spoke up, and what he said was completely unexpected. He cupped his hands together, "Revered Yuan, this junior would like to gather his courage and make a bet with you. If this Demon Puppet Pill's quality is acceptable, I ask that you forgive me for my previous offense. Otherwise, I am willing to accept any punishment from Revered Yuan."

Yuan Tiangang fell silent for a moment before he chuckled. "How interesting. A mere Nascent Soul junior actually has the guts to make a bet with me. Haha, alright, I agree. If you lose then cut off your hands and don't practice alchemy anymore in the future."

This was an extremely heavy punishment. However, a Nascent Soul junior was as weak as an ant in front of a Blue Sea realm master, and to dare to open their mouth and ask to make a bet was already a great insult. If so, then it was natural for the punishment to be equally great. No one would feel sympathy towards him.

Qin Yu's pupils shrank. He cupped his hands together and bowed, "Thank you, Revered Yuan." He stood up and asked, "Revered Yun, is it possible for this junior to personally prove the effects of this Demon Puppet Pill?"

Yun Yilan's eyes flashed. "Alright."

On the platform, the ten grandmasters all had dark faces dripping with anger. Their hearts were boiling with rage. They glared at Qin Yu, as if they wanted to poke countless holes into his body.

This junior was far too arrogant!

The ten of them had gathered their strength and produced an assessment, yet this fellow still dared to question their judgment. It was no different from slapping them all in the face.

This was unendurable!

"Insolent junior, he has no idea of his own depths."

"Humph, he wants to show off for a moment but in the end he'll regret this for the rest of his life."

"Give it to him, give it to him! I want to see just what proof he can pull out."

"At most he can try the pill and directly summon a puppet. What other games can he play?"

The grandmasters all sneered repeatedly. They decided to sharpen their eyes and watch as this junior finally cut off his own hands!

Chapter 334 – Disgraceful

Qin Yu received the Demon Puppet Pill beneath the icy gaze of the grandmasters. This pill was one he refined himself, so once it entered his hand, he knew there weren't any problems with it. He looked down. Indeed, it was just as the grandmasters said. It seemed ordinary with low medicinal efficacy, but in truth, this seemingly ordinary Demon Puppet Pill wasn't ordinary at all.

Let's rewind time to two days ago.

In the dark of night, Qin Yu took out the little blue lamp and bathed the Demon Puppet Pill in its light to promote it to the next level. The first night, everything proceeded normally. The textures on the surface of the pill that seemed like a summoning array formation became increasingly clear as time passed, and the pill also became soft and luminescent like jade. Its appearance was extraordinary.

But an accident occurred just after midnight. As the Demon Puppet Pill was bathed in the deep blue light, it began to dim down without warning and countless tiny cracks appeared on its surface.

Qin Yu was shocked. He had never encountered such a situation before. In just a short several breaths of time, the originally excellent-quality Demon Puppet Pill had been reduced to such a miserable state. He even suspected that as long as he touched it, it would disintegrate into powder.

Tomorrow was the day when the pill needed to be handed over. Even if he wanted to refine a new one, there wasn't enough time. Without the purification from the little blue lamp, there was no chance a Demon Puppet Pill he refined would be able to win the competition.

As Qin Yu was frowning, Ninth Province sent out the second mental fluctuation since the contract had been signed.

“Demon Puppet Pill...mutating...needs strength...eternal night demon mushroom...”

The message wasn't too difficult to understand, thus Qin Yu immediately began refining a second time. Indeed, after the thing refined by Ninth Province from mixing an eternal night demon mushroom and his blood approached the Demon Puppet Pill, it was directly absorbed and many of the cracks on the surface disappeared.

Then came a second, a third, a fourth.

Qin Yu had exchanged for seven eternal night demon mushrooms. Three had been used to refine the Demon Puppet Mushroom and the other four, after being fused with his blood, had been completely absorbed into the pill. By now, the cracks on the Demon Puppet Pill had all vanished. But the luminescence and the textures on the outside had all disappeared. On a purely superficial level, this Demon Puppet Pill seemed extraordinarily ordinary. Only Qin Yu could feel the incredible strength contained within.

It could be said that the quality of this Demon Puppet Pill surpassed even Qin Yu's own expectations. He was somewhat worried that he could stir up unnecessary troubles when he delivered the pill. After all, with his cultivation it was really difficult to explain how he managed to refine such a super pill.

With doubts in his heart, he handed over the Demon Puppet Pill and left. By then, Qin Yu had already prepared himself to be the center of attention and even thought of all sorts of excuses and explanations to use for the various questions. But, the reality had made a joke of him. As soon as his name appeared on the 376th position in the jade peak, he nearly choked on his own spit. Even if the Land of Divinity and Demons had more geniuses than dogs, it was impossible for his Demon Puppet Pill to be pushed down into such a miserable position.

It was obvious that there was a massive difference in the appraisal result, and thus this current situation occurred.

Qin Yu held the Demon Puppet Pill, feeling the strength surging within. He instinctively felt that this was the reason for the variation, so as the person who had refined the pill, only he was able to sense the great strength within it. In the eyes of others, this was a low level pill that barely qualified as fourth-grade.

He swept his eyes across the platform towards those sneering grandmasters with cold eyes, and he felt pity for them. They had no idea that they were about to be run through with a spear. After today, their reputations as grandmasters would be beaten to a pulp.

He bit his finger and touched the Demon Puppet Pill. Then, with some effort, he threw it into the air. Countless eyes and cameras turned to see the Demon Puppet Pill tumbling in the skies. Then, in midair, a rich black and red mist erupted without warning, completely covering the surrounding 1000 feet of space in an instant.

A rich smell of blood, overwhelming slaughter intent – the roiling black and red mist rapidly condensed, forming a massive array formation in the blink of an eye.

Rumble rumble –

Endless spiritual strength roared between the heavens and earth as it frantically broke into the array formation. There was so much and it was so fast that it appeared like a hundred rivers flowing back to the ocean. The array formation in the air seemed as if it were activated. It slowly lit up, erupting with a terrifying aura that exploded through the void.

Space trembled and tiny cracks appeared. Then, without warning, space shattered from within. What pierced through that broken space was a pitch black fist, one covered with snake-like scales.

The fist opened into a palm. It grabbed hold of the edges of the shattered space and violently ripped outwards. Then, that cracked space completely collapsed. A black form rushed out from the shattered space. The shape of its body was similar to that of a human, but it had no eyes, mouth or nose. Its black scales covered its entire body, making it appear like a shadow.

Between the heavens and earth, the temperature began to drastically fall. Black shards of ice appeared and floated down to the ground. As they touched the earth, they fused together into a giant layer of black ice. In the blink of an eye, everything within sight was frozen over!

A cultivator reached out in a daze, letting a shard of black ice fall onto his hand. In the next moment, an expression of incomparable fear rose on his face. But, it was already too late to regret. The black layer of ice instantly froze over him.

“Ahh!”

“What is this bizarre thing!?”

“Run!”

“Don’t let that ice touch you!”

Panicked screams filled the air and cultivators rapidly drew backwards. Luckily, the ice only covered an area of a thousand feet, otherwise enormous casualties would have occurred.

The unlucky frozen cultivator was rescued by an official who broke the layer of ice covering his body. But, that peak Divine Soul powerhouse revealed a stunned expression. He glanced at Qin Yu, dread in his gaze. With his cultivation, when he broke apart the layer of ice, he actually felt a sense of fear and horror rise from the depths of his soul.

That black form that was summoned fully emerged from the shattered space. Its figure twisted slightly and it immediately appeared before Qin Yu. Then, stepping atop the layer of black ice, it fell to a single knee.

There was not a single word spoken, but everyone could feel its power...and submission.

The entire competition field fell deathly silent. Even the innumerable cultivators watching through the live stream and separated by countless miles were also stunned silent.

This...this was the Demon Puppet Pill...

Qin Yu's heart shook. Even though he knew the mutated Demon Puppet Pill possessed a formidable strength, this actually surpassed his expectations.

What the Demon Puppet Pill summoned should be a puppet condensed from medicinal efficacy and heaven and earth spiritual strength. It would stay in the world for a brief period of time before dissipating.

But now, he could clearly feel the breath of life emanating from this dark shadow before him.

It was alive!

The Demon Puppet Pill had actually summoned a formidable, living life form...just what kind of joke was this!? He sucked in a deep breath and suppressed his quaking mind. He just about maintained his composure and then turned and bowed. "Revered Yun, this is the Demon Puppet Pill that this junior refined."

Inside, he bitterly smiled again and again. Even an idiot would know that his limelight this time was too large...so large that it couldn't be any larger...with things having come to this point, he could only hope that the Demon Puppet Pill wouldn't cause too much trouble for him.

It was clear that this was just a hopeless dream of his. The appearance of the heaven-defying Demon Puppet Pill brought not only trouble but life or death dangers. And, it was within this danger that Qin Yu would obtain an unexpected harvest.

Of course, that was something for later.

At this moment, as long as one wasn't blind, then it was clear that those ten grandmasters had all been ruthlessly beaten up. This wasn't a light beating, but a barrage of strikes that came from left, right, down, up, leaving them swollen black and blue, so much that it was impossible to determine who they were originally.

After a pause, those people that looked towards the grandmasters began to show contempt within their pity. Was this a lower fourth-grade pill? Were there too many impurities? 376th place was inappropriate and it should be 408th place instead?

If there was a hole in the ground, the grandmasters right now really did want to worm their way in and never show their heads again.

It was disgraceful!

Yuan Tiangang paled. This was a result he had never expected to occur. He had been chasing geese all year long, and after letting down his guard, he was finally pecked in the eye by one. Losing his bet with Ning Qin wasn't a problem. At worst, he would just wait for a time when no one was around and finish him off. Right now, what he was thinking about was the bet between Zhao Jiutian and White Fengfeng...it was likely he had picked up a stone and smashed his own foot!

Even with Yuan Tiangang's ability to hide his emotions, he still couldn't help but loudly curse out in his heart.

White Fengfeng's eyes widened and her face flushed red. She couldn't contain the excitement that lit up her face. She muttered to herself, "The hopeless situation was reversed, the hopeless situation was reversed! Zhao Jiutian, you must have never thought that the beautiful me would have such luck! Little brother Ning Qin, you are too wonderful, I just love you to death!"

Black Beibei was overjoyed, but a strange expression soon appeared on his face. He glanced at his cousin. His cousin was normally an intelligent girl, so could she have been scared so much just then that she didn't think of the possibility? His gaze fell on Qin Yu and his dark and ordinary face. As Black Beibei thought of how he had treated him with disdain before, beads of sweat started to form on his forehead.

Senior, if it really is you, I beg you to please be merciful and don't haggle with this ignorant junior!

Ming Siyuan revealed a deep look before he restrained himself. He deliberately laughed out loud with carefree delight. "Good! Good! Little friend Ning Qin is truly a young and handsome elite! When I was young, I was far from being able to compare with you!" He glanced towards Yuan Tiangang. "Revered Yuan, you said we hadn't finished talking about our bet a moment ago, right? Then, I think we should clearly settle things here."

Blood energy surged in Yuan Tiangang's chest and he nearly spat out a mouthful of blood. What a good Ming Siyuan! I always thought you were a modest and mannered gentleman, but who would have thought you would actually know to kick others when they are down! You really are playing things so smoothly too!

However, the words he had spoken before this had really placed him in a dead end. There were no words he could use as an excuse.

Having thick skin and not caring about face at all, there were inevitably differences between the two.

Yun Yilan's heart shook and acclaim filled his eyes. This was truly worthy of being the inherited treasure furnace that came from some unknown land; its potential was extraordinary. The ordinary Demon Puppet Pill could actually be refined to have such incredible effects. As a Blue Sea realm super powerhouse, he could clearly feel the great strength from the summoned black shadow. But, he actually never discovered that this shadow wasn't a simple puppet, but was a mysterious type of living life form!

That's right, Revered Yun had already thought of the most perfect explanation for why Qin Yu was able to refine such an astonishing Demon Puppet Pill. In Yun Yilan's eyes, Qin Yu might be hiding some

amazing ability, but this Demon Puppet Pill that was refined was almost certainly because of the treasure furnace. Of this, he had no doubt.

Since the treasure furnace could display such bewildering strength, then the Qin Yu whom it had approved was worth the Southshine Nation trying to win over no matter the cost.

With his thoughts racing, Yun Yilan smiled. “Ning Qin, it was indeed the competition officials who didn’t fulfill their duties of appraising the pills correctly and wronged you. You can rest assured. Since I am here, I will make sure you receive justice.” He stood up, cold intent in his eyes. “Grandmasters, it’s time to announce the result.”

Chapter 335 – Royal Family Special Envoy

On the appraisal stage, the grandmasters all had defeated looks. Their expressions were absent and their mentalities had come under great attack! So many of them working together actually hadn’t been able to discover how powerful this Demon Puppet Pill was. If it was because they had made a mistake because of their arrogance, then that would have been acceptable. But in truth, they had employed all of their skills for this appraisal. Some grandmasters even started to doubt their own professional abilities.

After Yun Yilan’s voice fell, there was a moment of awkward silence. Then, the grandmaster who spoke before looked up, the eye behind his monocle lax and gloomy. “Reporting to Exalted One, we take back the words we said before. This Demon Puppet Pill is the true first place winner of the competition.” He turned to Qin Yu and bitterly said, “Fellow daoist Ning Qin, it was this old man and the others who had eyes but couldn’t see. If there was any insult, I ask fellow daoist to excuse us.”

The truth trumped all. As the countless cultivators saw the grandmasters lower their arrogant heads, they all exclaimed inwardly. But in this exclaim, there was also a bit of sympathy. Thus, a complex emotion shined in their eyes in the silence.

Qin Yu’s thoughts turned. He cupped his hands together and said, “Grandmaster, there is no need to speak so seriously. I simply knew a special refinement method, and the strength of this Demon Puppet Pill also surpassed my expectations.”

His eyes were sincere, causing the grandmasters to ease up a little. After all, if they really couldn’t appraise something because of some lost refining technique, then that made things forgivable within the current circumstances. But no matter what the truth was, Qin Yu had given them a way out. The grandmasters felt gratitude towards him, but also a bit of awkwardness. Some of them had solemnly vowed to teach Qin Yu just how vast the world was, but who knew that in the next moment they would need Qin Yu to break them free from their predicament.

In the eyes of the grandmasters, it was due to Qin Yu’s magnanimity and mercifulness that he gave them a way out. But in truth, Qin Yu was just taking advantage of this fact to give an explanation for why the Demon Puppet Pill was so strong. As Yun Yilan heard this, he believed more and more that the reason why the Demon Puppet Pill was so strong was the treasure furnace.

Zhao Jiutian’s eyes popped open, unwillingness and disbelief etched clearly on his face. He looked on helplessly as his name was forcefully squeezed down to second place.

At the highest point of the jade peak, new characters began to appear in sparkling rainbow hues: The Inn, Qin Yu, No. 9527, first place!

Refining the Child and Mother Yinyang Pill had already caused heavy injuries to Zhao Jiutian. Now with the sudden fluctuation in his mood, he spat out a mouthful of blood and toppled backwards.

Numerous twists and turns occurred within the Southshine Nation's Youth Alchemy Competition, finally ending in Zhao Jiutian spouting out blood like a beautiful flower. That multicolored name atop the jade peak spread throughout the entire Southshine Nation, sent to every corner through the countless screens watching the live stream.

The name Ning Qin became the hottest topic on the network once more. The main account for his fans began to rise dramatically once more as countless female cultivators shouted out their messages of love and reverence, saying that as long as he wanted, they could consummate their marriage tonight and they would deliver him a child by next year.

"Hahaha! That bastard Zhao Jiutian, he actually spat out blood because of how mad he was! What a narrow-minded idiot! I heard that when anger rushes to your head, you can burst several vessels. Hah, how pitiful." White Fengfeng had both hands on her waist, a happy expression on her face. It was impossible to find any hint of sympathy in her expression.

Black Beibei rolled his eyes. "Cousin, Zhao Jiutian being injured like this is the best excuse for him. Cleansing Temple definitely won't let us take him away."

White Fengfeng paused. "Are you saying that this bastard Zhao Jiutian is putting on an act?"

Black Beibei curled his lips. "That's not necessarily true, but there's a high chance that his injuries are overly exaggerated. By tomorrow morning, he might become bedridden, struggling to survive."

White Fengfeng stomped her feet in anger. Those scum from Cleansing Temple really didn't care about face at all.

Ming Siyuan coughed. "That's enough. You're lucky this time. If it weren't for little friend Ning Qin's sudden appearance, I really have no idea how things would have ended for you."

Black Beibei suppressed a laugh. Revered Ming was prepared to not care about face just now. To speak such words at this moment was quite embarrassing.

"Humph!" Ming Siyuan coughed and Black Beibei quickly lowered his head, as if saying he didn't know anything at all.

White Fengfeng clenched her teeth. "If Cleansing Temple wants to be so shameless, I won't let them get away with this!" They had been forceful and aggressive the entire time, but now that they were knocked onto the ground, they wanted to calmly ignore this matter? Dream on!

Ming Siyuan warned White Fengfeng. Then, he composed himself and hesitated for a moment before asking, "Young master, this little friend Ning Qin, how do you feel about him?"

White Fengfeng was confused. "I feel very thankful towards him. He helped me avoid being humiliated by Cleansing Temple."

Black Beibei nearly stumbled to the ground. Cousin, can your reaction be any slower? Revered Ming wasn't asking about that at all!

Cough cough. Black Beibei asked, "Cousin, don't you think this Mister Ning Qin is very familiar?"

White Fengfeng was stunned. "I don't know him...mm, that's not right. He's tall, well-proportioned, and in good shape." She bashfully smiled.

Black Beibei was left speechless. Everything was normal so why did she devolve into some crazed nymphomaniac in the blink of an eye? "Cousin, do you think that Mister Ning Qin, he might be that Senior Baoyu?"

White Fengfeng coldly sneered. "Are you blind? My Big Brother Baoyu is handsome and elegant, graceful and as free as the wind. He doesn't look like Ning Qin at all; how can they be the same person?"

He almost spat out a mouthful of blood. Cousin, oh cousin, did you not know there was such a thing in this world called face-changing masks? Didn't you know there are cultivation methods in this world that could change your external appearance?

This Senior Baoyu was likely to be the reincarnation of some peerless Calamity Immortal realm powerhouse. For him to use such small tricks was as easy as flipping his hand!

Ming Siyuan's expression was calm, but there was a fair bit more stiffness between his eyes than before. He thought that after he returned to the Great Desolate Lake Headquarters, he needed to remind that husband and wife couple who spoiled their daughter too much that they needed to invest more effort in teaching their child! If White Fengfeng wasn't the Great Desolate Lake's young master, then based on her current performance, she was someone who would appear in a television series for two episodes before dying!

Black Beibei tried his best to explain the situation to her. He even took out a face-changing mask and put on a great performance of changing his own looks. White Fengfeng's eyes suddenly brightened.

"Right, right! I was also curious. If that Ning Qin's face was so ugly, how come he would have such a magnificent body? Now that I think about it, he must be my Big Brother Baoyu! Yes, that's it, he is definitely Big Brother Baoyu, my Big Brother Baoyu!"

White Fengfeng turned and rushed out. Dark lines crept down Ming Siyuan's forehead and he quickly stopped her. "Young master, I told you already that you cannot reveal anything concerning fellow daoist Baoyu. If you go over there without any thought at all, you will likely draw unnecessary trouble."

White Fengfeng curled her lips. "But I was only thinking of him."

"Young master, this is only our guess right now; it's not something that we can verify for the time being. However, since Ning Qin has helped our Great Desolate Lake, we can use that as a reason to express our gratitude to him later. Just wait patiently."

Looking at White Fengfeng nod unwillingly, Ming Siyuan's thoughts turned. Although the young master was immature and she didn't understand the dangers of the world, her current actions meant that she had a favorable impression towards this fellow daoist Baoyu. If she really could touch the heart of fellow

daoist Baoyu and the two of them ended up together, that would be an incredible stroke of good fortune to the Great Desolate Lake.

Of course, this was all based on the premise that his guess was correct and this fellow daoist Baoyu was the reincarnation of a Deva. Otherwise, he would simply express his thanks and there would be no need to mention anything else. As the solemn young master of the Great Desolate Lake, she was someone who would rule over the Great Desolate Lake in the future and become a woman who played a pivotal role in the Southshine Nation. It wasn't just anyone who had the qualifications to approach her.

As Ming Siyuan was deep in thought and White Fengfeng was grumbling to herself, the oblivious Qin Yu was accepting a one-on-one meeting with the Exalted Yun Yilan. As the Exalted of the Southshine Nation, Yun Yilan had a lofty status; even the nation's ruler had to nod to him. He was someone who existed atop the highest clouds. To individually be summoned for this kind of meeting, it naturally attracted countless envious eyes. Everyone knew that this meant Ning Qin had already entered the eyes of Exalted Yun. His future was sure to be dazzling.

"Ning Qin greets Revered Yun!" Qin Yu bowed, his voice respectful.

Yun Yilan smiled and waved his hand. "There is no need to be so courteous. Sit."

Qin Yu expressed his gratitude and took a seat. His waist was stiff and his eyes were kept low. He perfectly displayed the deep awe and reverence that a young cultivator would have at this moment.

This performance completely conformed to his current status. Revered Yun felt as if he had seen through Qin Yu right now and his smile became more gentle. After asking about Qin Yu's teachers and what he had experienced as a youth, they made some more small talk before entering the main topic.

"Ning Qin, you should be aware that since this is a competition held by my Southshine Nation, all pill furnaces are provided by the officials and they need to be returned after the competition ends."

Qin Yu cupped his hands together. "This junior understands." With a flick of his sleeves, the cracked and rusted pill furnace appeared in front of him. "Please accept this pill furnace, Revered Yun."

Yun Yilan's eyes fell on Qin Yu and he didn't detect any reluctant or unwillingness at all. Appreciation lit up his eyes. He lifted a hand to grab the pill furnace. But at this time, the pill furnace erupted with a powerful aura. In the blink of an eye it manifested into a giant wild bull that came crashing down on Yun Yilan.

Frowning, Yun Yilan changed his grasping motion into a slapping motion. The void shook and it seemed as if a pool of water imprisoned the pill furnace. No matter how it struggled, it wasn't able to free itself. Moreover, the room was quiet as all of its erupting strength was completely counterbalanced.

Qin Yu rose up and bowed, "Revered Yun..."

Yun Yilan interrupted him. "I know this has nothing to do with you. It is this pill furnace that doesn't want to leave." His gaze was calm but there was a faint trace of excitement in his heart. He thought for a moment and said, "It's fine. Since this furnace seems to have some fate with you, you can take care of it for the time being."

The imprisoning strength scattered and the shaken pill furnace was sent back to Qin Yu's side. Ninth Province also seemed to understand Yun Yilan's strength, and didn't make another move after indicating its position.

Qin Yu hesitated. "This..."

While he didn't know what sort of treasure Ninth Province was, he knew it was undoubtedly precious and formidable. Even calling it a treasure furnace wouldn't be an exaggeration. To an alchemist, such a treasure was incomparably precious. Qin Yu had thought about taking it for himself, but he also knew that the Southshine Nation officials would never agree to give him Ninth Province. This was why when Yun Yilan spoke up just now, Qin Yu had taken it out without any hesitation.

Yun Yilan shook his hand. "It's fine. I also need you to wait here for several more days." Before Qin Yu could say anything, he explained himself. "During this great competition, countless elites have poured out from the youth. The royal family has sent a special envoy that will arrive soon. At that time, the special envoy will personally present rewards."

For some reason Qin Yu's heart suddenly throbbed. Although this feeling disappeared as soon as it came, he still felt nervous. After some hesitation, he cupped his hands together and said, "Revered Yun, I have an important matter to attend to. Is it possible to leave in advance and have the inn send a cultivator to accept the reward for me?"

Yun Yilan shook his head. "A large portion of the reason this special envoy is coming is to personally see the young elites from the competition. Other minor matters can be put to the side for now. This won't take too long."

Even though his tone was warm and gentle, Qin Yu remained vigilant. As a courtesy, he sat for a moment longer before rising up and bidding his farewells.

Yun Yilan watched Qin Yu leave. His eyes flashed. This junior was very alert, but unfortunately in his current situation, there was no choice for him!

Chapter 336 – Blue Sea's Anger

Qin Yu appeared calm, but once he returned to the new residence that the officials arranged for him, his complexion darkened. As the champion of the competition, the way he was treated was naturally different from before. This building was constructed with a light and bright atmosphere and the decorations were elegant and opulent. But as he stood within, he could only feel a cold chill rise from the depths of his heart.

Yun Yilan had refused to let him leave; this was an extremely unusual matter. The most likely reason was because of that heaven-defying Demon Puppet Pill. As he thought of this, he looked down at the shadow beneath his feet and his eyes shined.

To an outsider, this shadow didn't seem any different, but only Qin Yu knew that the strange life form summoned by that super Demon Puppet Pill now lived in his shadow.

Yesterday, after the results of the competition were announced, Zhao Jiutian had spouted blood and fainted, while Yuan Tiangang stormed away from Ming Siyuan's taunts. With that, the competition came to an end. Not many people cared about the black shadow that followed behind Qin Yu.

After all, no matter how powerful a summoned puppet was, it would naturally dissipate in two hours. As soon as everyone left with only Qin Yu left behind, the dark shadow took a step forwards and directly integrated into the shadow beneath his feet.

Following that, it brought Qin Yu a supernatural art that was similar to instant transmission – Shadow Step. Qin Yu had already experimented with it. As long as he was touching the shadow, he could use Shadow Step and instantly appear in any shadow within 10 miles. Moreover, the most incredible aspect of Shadow Step was that it disregarded all imprisonments. As long as he was touching the shadow he could use it.

While the furthest he could go was only 10 miles, Shadow Step was still an extremely heaven-defying, life-preserving supernatural art. This new skill made Qin Yu feel a bit more at ease.

If he encountered some peril, with the Shadow Step in hand, he might have a chance of escaping. As for leaving now...while Qin Yu hadn't entered the Divine Soul realm yet, his soul force was astonishingly strong. He could faintly feel that after leaving Yun Yilan's residence, there was something wrong in the aura around him. Only when he entered his new dwelling did it disappear. However, there were likely different forms of surveillance placed on him. If he were to use Shadow Step, he feared he would immediately find Yun Yilan teleporting to his new location.

He took a deep breath and suppressed his tumbling thoughts. Qin Yu comforted himself by saying he was just overthinking things. Perhaps the Southshine Nation officials had no ill intent towards him.

Qin Yu took out Ninth Province. After letting it activate its protections, he sat down cross-legged and swallowed some pills.

The next day, someone knocked on his door.

Qin Yu expected that some people would come and visit him after he won the championship, but he never thought that the first people to do so would be Cleansing Temple.

Yuan Tiangang had a bright smile on his face. Qin Yu couldn't help but acknowledge that these Blue Sea realm masters were able to hide their emotions deeply. At the very least, all that Qin Yu felt at this time was a light and comfortable breeze-like atmosphere.

"Ning Qin, it seems that I misunderstood you before. I hope that you don't mind." With Yuan Tiangang's status, saying these words was already a full expression of sincerity.

Qin Yu cupped his hands together and bowed. "Revered Yuan speaks too seriously. This junior doesn't dare."

Yuan Tiangang laughed. "I know that you must have some enmity against me in your heart. This ancient jade is something that I obtained a long time ago; I'll give it to you. Don't refuse me – this ancient jade isn't a precious treasure or anything. Just consider it a congratulatory gift from me for winning the competition and accept it."

Qin Yu admired this move in his heart. No matter how this person's personality or behavior was, it was already commendable that a Blue Sea powerhouse like him could come here without caring for his face. As for this ancient jade, he absolutely could not accept it. To be pessimistic about it, who knew whether this person had done anything to it.

With his Blue Sea realm cultivation, he would have at least 10,000 ways to use this ancient jade and place him in a death trap.

“Revered Yuan, this junior vows that I have absolutely no intent of disrespecting you. Please take this gift back.”

Yuan Tiangang cursed inwardly. This little bastard was actually quite vigilant. If he continued to speak, he would probably grow increasingly wary. He smiled and revealed his goal, “Ning Qin, I have a matter today that I hope you can agree to.”

Seeing Qin Yu on guard, he chose to not circle around the subject and dive straight in instead.

Qin Yu said, “Revered Yuan, please speak.”

Yuan Tiangang said, “I hope that you can sell the treasure furnace’s remnant spirit that you obtain from the competition to Cleansing Temple.” His expression was sincere. “The treasure furnace’s remnant spirit might be precious, but it is difficult to use. Moreover, if there is even the slightest problem, it will cause enormous damage to the pill furnace that absorbs it. You might as well sell it to Cleansing Temple. I promise that I will give you a satisfactory offer.”

As Qin Yu thought, this man had come here for the treasure furnace’s remnant spirit.

The Fleeting Flame Furnace wanted it and Cleansing Temple wanted it; it seemed that this thing wasn’t ordinary at all. However, as he thought about how this situation was created by the treasure furnace’s remnant spirit, he could only bitterly smile. Even now he didn’t know just what it was worth.

Qin Yu was prepared to turn him down, but there was another knock on the door. His heart stirred and he cupped his hands together. “Revered Yuan, please wait a moment.”

He stood up and opened the door. As he thought, it was the people from the Great Desolate Lake that came.

Qin Yu’s thoughts raced and he soon came to a decision. Although this was a little risky, there was a chance that he could break free from this deadlock. No matter how poor the result was, it was better than being manhandled without being able to do anything about it at all!

Ming Siyuan smiled and said, “Little friend Ning Qin, I came here today to express my thanks.”

With a few words he closed the distance, making one inevitably have a favorable impression towards him. Indeed, anyone that could reach the Blue Sea realm wasn’t ordinary at all.

“Junior greets Revered Ming!” Qin Yu smiled. “What a coincidence, Revered Yuan is also here at the moment.”

Ming Siyuan’s eyebrow arched up. A cold intent flashed in his eyes. “Revered Yuan is here, that really is a coincidence!”

Qin Yu moved to the side. Ming Siyuan smiled, nodded, and walked in. Behind him, White Fengfeng stared at Qin Yu, her face blushing red. If it weren’t for Revered Ming warning her beforehand, she would have already shouted out with joy. This was her Big Brother Baoyu, it was definitely her Big Brother Baoyu. There was no way this scent would be wrong!

Looking at the girl's expression, Qin Yu knew she recognized him. Luckily he knew about her keen nose so he wasn't too surprised by this. He simply looked at her, giving her a look that said not to randomly spout out something. White Fengfeng nodded imperceptibly and then walked behind Revered Ming before reaching out to pull his sleeve.

Ming Siyuan maintained his composure, but the smile on his face brightened. "Little friend Ning Qin, it's lucky that you appeared yesterday, otherwise my family's young master would have lost. But what a pity. Although you helped the young master win the bet, there were some people who stubbornly refused to accept their end of the agreement. Even I have nothing I can say about that."

Qin Yu secretly thought that this was a good person. As he was worried about where to find an opening, Ming Siyuan had created one for him. He quickly latched on and asked, "Is it the bet with fellow daoist Zhao Jiutian?"

Ming Siyuan was startled. He never thought that Qin Yu would take up his words. Could it be that this fellow daoist Baoyu was dissatisfied with Cleansing Temple? Well, that was actually perfect for him. "It is exactly that junior! The one involved in the plot to murder the young master. There might have been some misunderstanding there, so I gave Cleansing Temple the chance to investigate on their own. However, this bet occurred in full public view so I never thought that Cleansing Temple would refuse to uphold their end."

Qin Yu nodded earnestly. "If you agree to a bet you must also accept the loss. This is as it should be."

The two people seemed to be singing a duet back and forth as they walked in. No matter how thick Yuan Tiangang's skin was, even his expression darkened. In particular, what irked him the most was that even though Ning Qin knew perfectly well that he could hear, he still dared to echo Ming Siyuan's words. It was like the two of them had some previous agreement between them.

Just as this thought appeared, he could no longer sit still. He ignored Ming Siyuan's mocking eyes and said, "Little friend Ning Qin, I am willing to exchange one part of a Deva Soul. What do you think about that?"

Ming Siyuan's complexion changed and shock filled his face.

Qin Yu had come to a decision earlier, but once he heard these words it was like a tsunami crashed into his heart. He almost subconsciously opened his mouth to agree.

The so-called Deva Soul wasn't some treasure born from the heavens and earth. Rather, when a transcendent Calamity Immortal realm being perished and their soul disintegrated into countless fragments, a Deva Soul might be formed from all sorts of lucky chances and coincidences condensing some soul fragments together.

One couldn't underestimate this just because it was mere soul fragments. As long as any Nascent Soul cultivator obtained a Deva Soul, they could directly break into Divine Soul after refining it.

This thing was incomprehensibly valuable. It wasn't something that could be purchased with spirit stones! The scene fell silent for a moment. Only White Fengfeng looked at Qin Yu, with an expression on her face that seemed to say she didn't know anything.

Ming Siyuan's cold voice broke the silence. "Revered Yuan, Cleansing Temple has a Deva Soul? It's best that you don't joke about something like that."

Yuan Tiangang had no expression. "Revered Ming, since I was willing to say it then it isn't nonsense. Ning Qin, as long as you agree, I will deliver the Deva Soul to you in ten days."

Ming Siyuan's complexion sank. Even a time limit had been given; could it be that Cleansing Temple actually possessed such a precious treasure?

Qin Yu sighed. If Yuan Tiangang could take out the Deva Soul now, then perhaps he might have agreed. After all, to Qin Yu who was in a predicament, exchanging an unknown treasure furnace's remnant soul for something that could increase his cultivation realm was extremely tempting.

But ten days later...

The special envoy from the Southshine Nation's royal family would have already arrived. There wasn't enough time at all.

Though he regretted it, Qin Yu didn't reveal any of his thoughts at all. He lightly said, "The price that Revered Yuan is offering is truly moving. However, this junior simply finds Cleansing Temple too untrustworthy. So, I have no choice but to politely decline your offer."

Then, even White Fengfeng who was staring tightly at Qin Yu was shocked by this.

What the hell was this?

This was a frontal slap in the face!

Moreover, the one he was slapping was Yuan Tiangang. This was the face of a Blue Sea realm super powerhouse loudly being slapped!

White Fengfeng's eyes widened and she gripped her heart as if she couldn't breathe. Big Brother Baoyu, you are too wonderful! You're so majestic! So powerful! So aggressive!

I worship you!

Yuan Tiangang's complexion paled. His eyes were as cold as a bone-cutting wind. "Ning Qin, are you insulting me?"

The anger of a Blue Sea could shock the heavens and earth!

Time seemed as if it would freeze within the room. Every time Qin Yu breathed, it was like countless knives stabbing into his lungs, leaving a burning feeling. However, the more it was like this, the calmer he became. His expression was faint and indifferent as he slowly said, "My mouth seemed to be quicker than my mind. I ask Revered Yuan to forgive me."

Ming Siyuan almost cried out loud. What a swift twisting of the knife! To say that his mouth was quicker than his heart, could there be a stronger blow than that?

Yuan Tiangang sucked in a deep breath, all of his anger and rage restraining itself inside his body. But, his eyes became even colder. "I don't know what sort of promise you've obtained to be so insolent

against me. But, I will soon teach you that beneath the anger of a Blue Sea, everything will be burnt to ashes.”

In front of Qin Yu, Yuan Tiangang’s pupils started to deepen. They were like an endless abyss, capable of dragging out a person’s soul, completely swallowing them into an eternal darkness from which they would never escape.

Ming Siyuan’s complexion changed. Just as he was about to move, he heard a light cough. Qin Yu’s dazed pupils were instantly restored to clarity.

In the next moment, Yuan Tiangang’s body shook and his face paled. Although this pale complexion appeared for only a moment, Ming Siyuan clearly understood what it meant. Yuan Tiangang had been injured. Moreover, this injury had occurred from a backlash, striking back against his soul.

Chapter 337 – Three Way Confrontation

Endless waves were set off in Ming Siyuan’s heart. Although it had only been a guess before, now he didn’t have any suspicions. It had to be known that even he needed to be careful against Yuan Tiangang’s soul murder arts. However, Ning Qin, with his mere Nascent Soul cultivation, was able to break himself free in the blink of an eye and even initiate a backlash...reincarnated Deva, he was absolutely a reincarnated Deva! Otherwise, how could Ning Qin possess such a powerful soul?

At this time, Revered Ming’s heart was blazing. This was the reincarnated body of a Calamity Immortal realm supreme elder. If he could join the Great Desolate Lake, that would be an indescribably lucky chance. In the future, the Southshine Nation and even the broader world beyond that would become their stage.

Ming Siyuan’s eyes fell on White Fengfeng and revealed an expectant look. Young master, you must try harder to grab hold of that fellow daoist Baoyu! The future of our Great Desolate Lake is all depending on you!

As Ming Siyuan’s thoughts were in a chaotic jumble, Qin Yu’s back was drenched in a cold sweat. This was the first time he had felt the terrifying might of a Blue Sea realm master.

He could feel his soul be grabbed by an invisible strength. Without any ability to resist, he could be broken apart and forcefully smashed to pieces.

Luckily, Qin Yu possessed a Partner Soul. In the critical moment it had stopped the attack for a breath of time, delaying until the little blue lamp could respond. Then, within his dantian sea, a bright light lit up. It was like a great star shining in the dark night sky.

That deep blue light seemed to span across the endless river of space and time, shining upon Qin Yu’s soul space. Then, that invisible strength which invaded his soul vanished like snow in the blazing sun.

But in that moment, Qin Yu could feel his field of vision darkening. He was completely isolated from the outside world, as if he had suddenly fallen into the coldest place in the world.

A cold chill completely disregarded his formidable body and cultivation, piercing right through him and reaching his soul...then, it was like it had clearly seen him!

That's right. It was clearly looking at him. This was because Qin Yu could feel an icy cold gaze, and within it, he could sense a completely exposed annihilating intent.

All of this happened suddenly and without warning, and disappeared equally as fast. His surroundings reappeared as if nothing occurred at all. But, Qin Yu knew that it really did happen. And all of this was because the little blue lamp just erupted with light. To instill such a terrifying feeling within him, like an ant facing a Blue Sea without any ability to resist at all, and was also aimed at the little blue lamp, this could only be...the world's will!

Only the world's will could accomplish this. With just a look, it had placed him in a near hopeless position. Qin Yu was still shaking within. He finally understood why the little blue lamp had fallen silent ever since entering the Land of Divinity and Demons. The aura of the world's will was far more powerful than within the land of exiles. It was far, far, far more formidable, so great that there was simply no comparing them.

Finally, the gaze of the world's will had disappeared. But, Qin Yu knew that there was still a blade hanging above his head, ready to cut down before long. And with his current cultivation, there was simply no chance of him surviving!

Because Qin Yu was gazed upon by the world's will, that annihilating aura had left him frozen in place, his face and body completely stiff. As he was standing straight to begin with, no one noticed anything different, and because he was frozen, he didn't have any expression either. When this expression fell into Yuan Tiangang's eyes, it appeared like a ruthless and confident appearance.

Obviously, if he didn't have absolute faith in himself, how could Ning Qin maintain his current condition?

Moreover, what left Yuan Tiangang shaken the most was that just now, he had faintly felt an aura coming from Ning Qin that left him shaking.

That aura seemed as if it were its own heaven and earth...a Blue Sea realm master had incomparably sharp senses and it was because of this that any danger was magnified in their eyes. While Yuan Tiangang's eyes were shaken and revealed a bit of dread, at the same time he couldn't hide the fire growing within them.

The strength that Qin Yu displayed now had aroused his interest. If he could capture Qin Yu and carefully probe the secrets on his body, he might find some unexpected harvests.

As for whether or not he could suppress Qin Yu? Yuan Tiangang had no doubt about this at all. In the end, he was still a Blue Sea realm super powerhouse. Even if Qin Yu was a little by mystical, how could a boy like him contend with his strength?

Brilliance erupted from his eyes. Yuan Tiangang lifted his hand and grasped out. Thunder seemed to echo in the void. Invisible walls seemed to form, locking down every inch of Qin Yu's body.

There was no way to run!

That imprisoning strength reached an incomprehensibly formidable level. Qin Yu didn't have any expression, but his heart was alarmed. If that person didn't make a move, he would really be miserable!

The one he referred to wasn't Ming Siyuan.

With a cold humph, a towering figure appeared. A finger lifted and touched down upon the void. Then, like a mountain crashing into a lake, massive waves were stirred up, smashing that imprisoning strength into pieces.

Qin Yu drew back several steps, his face pale and his eyes gloomy. That finger might have shattered the imprisoning strength around him but it didn't protect him too much. Thus, even if the shockwaves of both sides collided against each other, his blood energy still tumbled in his body, causing him to suffer some injuries.

This was a warning that Yun Yilan sent him for the methods he used. Really, to these old men who had become wise with age, his methods were far too naive; they had instantly seen through him. Qin Yu bitterly smiled within, but he didn't regret his actions at all. He respectfully bowed, "Thank you Revered Yun for saving me!"

Yun Yilan swept his eyes across the room until they landed on Yuan Tiangang. "Revered Yuan, Ning Qin is this champion of this competition. Your actions have been too excessive."

These words were heavy and dire. In particular, if they came from Yun Yilan's mouth, that indicated the displeasure of every official within the Southshine Nation.

In reality, this was indeed the truth.

Yun Yilan had already received a secret letter from the capital saying 'that person' was extremely interested in Ning Qin. Thus, nothing could happen to him. While Yuan Tiangang's actions couldn't be objectively considered too excessive, they had already touched Yun Yilan's nerve. Right now, he could not allow any destabilizing factors in such a critical moment that would affect the following arrangements.

Yuan Tiangang's face darkened. He could feel a threat from these words. From the first time he had met Yun Yilan, this was the first time this had ever appeared. It was clear that the Southshine Nation's Exalted One was truly moved to anger. But it was also because of this that the calculating Yuan Tiangang couldn't help but think of other things.

His first thought was that Yun Yilan had discovered whatever secrets Ning Qin was hiding on his body and was planning to take it for himself. While this might have just been a guess, Yun Yilan's appearance only served to strengthen his original assumption.

He took a deep breath and narrowed his eyes. "Revered Yun, I must admit I am confused by your words. Ning Qin has gravely offended me, and yet I cannot deal with him? Even if he is the champion of the competition, how can that compare to the dignity of a Blue Sea realm master?"

This response was completely unlike Yuan Tiangang's normally smooth and eloquent way of handling affairs. This was no different from coming into direct confrontation with Yun Yilan.

The meaning was simple: although the Southshine is called the Southshine Nation, my Cleansing Temple doesn't necessarily fear you!

A gloomy intent gushed out from Yun Yilan's complexion. He really wasn't thinking too much about things, but Yuan Tiangang's unexpected answer caused him to reconsider the situation.

Could it be that Cleansing Temple was prepared to steal away that pill furnace which even the Southshine Nation had yet to fully understand?

As soon as this thought appeared, Yun Yilan's aura turned dense and cold. Cleansing Temple? What wonderful eyes you have. But, aren't you afraid of breaking your own teeth? The atmosphere began to shiver with a cold wind, but Yun Yilan's complexion remained calm. He slowly said, "And how does Revered Yuan plan on dealing with Ning Qin?"

Yuan Tiangang said, "I will take him away. His life or death is not your problem."

Yun Yilan shook his head. "No."

A single word caused the entire space to fall deathly silent. It seemed as if time was stretched to infinity, every moment incomparably long. Space swayed about and small distortions appeared.

Everything seemed tranquil, but beneath this tranquility was a brewing volcano. Once it erupted, it would destroy everything in the surroundings.

Without thinking, Ming Siyuan grabbed the clueless White Fengfeng and pulled her behind him. He looked at the scene around him and his thoughts raced.

Yuan Tiangang and Yun Yilan were engaged in a face-to-face confrontation with Qin Yu at the center of it. When this scene fell into the eyes of Revered Ming, who assumed he knew everything, it actually held an entirely different meaning: Yuan and Yun, those two people must have realized Qin Yu's secret – that he was a reincarnated Deva!

This was the only possible explanation for why two Blue Sea realm super powerhouses were willing to confront each other without any consideration for face. A Deva's soul...to any Blue Sea, this was a great temptation. Because this contained the chance to break into the Calamity Immortal realm.

If it weren't for certain reasons that the high level cultivators of the Great Desolate Lake knew that the chances of capturing a Deva's soul was incomprehensibly low, then they might have already made their move.

But returning to the main topic.

With this judgment in mind, Ming Siyuan felt that he needed to make a decision. Ning Qin or Baoyu or whatever his name was, it was already without a doubt that he was the reincarnation of a Deva. If he could earn a favor today, then even if the miss didn't end up with him in the end, the Great Desolate Lake could still form a friendship with this transcendent existence that would become a Calamity Immortal in the future.

With these thoughts in heart, he firmed his resolve. He waved his arm with a bit of effort and White Fengfeng was sent flying out without any time to react at all. Then, he stepped forwards like a falling mountain, entering into the invisible confrontation between Yuan Tiangang and Yun Yilan.

The complexions of the two Blue Sea realm super powerhouses immediately changed and they coldly glanced over.

Ming Siyuan lightly said, “My Great Desolate Lake has always firmly divided our grudges and gratitude. Little friend Ning Qin helped my young master and is thus a friend of my Great Desolate Lake. Today, I came here prepared to invite him to the Great Desolate Lake as a guest.”

No matter what his reasoning was, his attitude was made clear to everyone. Thus, Yuan Tiangang’s pupils shrank and Yun Yilan was also left furious. One of them wanted to obtain Qin Yu even more, and the other was most enraged that both Cleansing Temple and the Great Desolate Lake would show such hostility to the Southshine Nation.

Qin Yu originally only hoped to provoke Yuan Tiangang and mess up the situation so he could find an opening somewhere. But with the situation having developed to such a point, as the person who created it, even he hadn’t expected this.

The air seemed to freeze over. There was not a single sound more between the heavens and earth. The auras of the three Blue Sea realm masters were like an invisible hand plunging into the heavens, stirring up winds and clouds.

Thus, thunder roared.

Thus, strong winds whipped up.

The skies turned dark, as if eternal night had arrived.

At this time, countless cultivators looked up with astonishment, endless fear in their eyes.

Chapter 338 – Black Light

A peak Nascent Soul had the strength of a thousand horses. A thousand horses was equal to one flood dragon.

A Divine Soul had at most the strength of a thousand flood dragons. A thousand flood dragons was equal to one genuine dragon.

As for the higher Blue Sea realm, they had at most the strength of a thousand dragons. That was the equivalent of one ancient.

Although Yun Yilan, Ming Siyuan, and Yuan Tiangang were all within one ancient’s worth of strength, even they had differences amongst them.

But as established and renowned Blue Sea realm super powerhouses, the three of them had a combat strength of around 300 dragons.

By using these data points, one could have a straightforward understanding of what the Blue Sea realm was like!

So, even though the three Blue Sea masters of Yun, Yuan, and Ming, had yet to truly fight, just their auras clashing with each other was enough to cause a world phenomenon.

The cultivators that participated in the competition were the younger generation of elites from the Southshine Nation. Most of them were at the Golden Core or Nascent Soul realm. As these auras

shrouded the surrounding area, it made them feel as fragile as ants. To only turn pale and not faint to the floor was already a considerable accomplishment.

As for the small number of Southshine Nation officials, even if some of them were masters with a peak Divine Soul cultivation, they could only tremble in place before the prestige of these Blue Seas, unable to approach at all.

This stretch of wilderness that had been cleared out fell completely silent. Besides the sounds of wind and thunder, there was no other noise. At this time, everyone fell into a deep abyss of fear. They had no idea whether or not their lives would end in the next moment.

At this time, a ray of light appeared. It tore through the eternal night in the heavens, allowing warmth to sprinkle down upon the ground once more. That heavy oppression that left one panting for breath began to rapidly retreat like a falling tide. Countless cultivators felt as if they had been granted a new lease on life.

They gasped for breath in great heaving gulps. Their eyes filled with absolute shock and locked onto the figure that appeared in the skies. Without anyone telling them, they knew that it was this person who had saved them from collapsing past the precipice of death.

Unfortunately, a strength beyond comprehension surged around this figure, causing the space surrounding him to distort and blur, making it so that people couldn't see his appearance.

Qin Yu never realized how joyous it felt to breathe. As he looked at that figure up above, he also had an expression of gratitude.

But in the next moment, that gratitude came to a halt.

Yun Yilan drew back one step and restrained his aura. He bowed, "Greetings, Old Ancestor."

Yun Yilan was the Southshine Nation's Exalted One. How impressive was his status? If there was someone that Yun Yilan would bow to in such a manner, it would only be the most honored and revered person of the entire Southshine Nation.

Old Ancestor...the Southshine Nation's Old Ancestor...

Yun Yilan once mentioned that the royal family's special envoy would be coming, and today the Southshine Nation's Old Ancestor had arrived himself. If someone said that this wasn't related...haha, are you trying to trick a ghost?

Qin Yu discovered that he had underestimated the amount of attention that the Southshine Nation officials were placing on him.

For others, this might be something they could only yearn for in their dreams. But Qin Yu possessed the little blue lamp. Once others discovered it, he would die without a doubt.

At this time, within his mind that he was trying his best to keep calm, he unconsciously thought of some words he had heard from a network television drama before: If time could be repeated...only a bastard would participate in this competition!

The pupils of Ming Siyuan and Yuan Tiangang shrank at the same time. They bowed, "Greetings, Old Ancestor Hulun!"

Within the Southshine Nation, Hulun was the surname of the nation's ruling family. There was nothing wrong with this.

Through the entire competition field, countless cultivators could hear the voices of these three Blue Sea realm super powerhouses. After a short period of silence, waves of voices rang out like a tsunami.

"We greet the Old Ancestor!"

The voices of the people soared to the heavens.

From this point alone, one could witness the unsurpassed status and dignity of the Southshine Nation's Old Ancestor.

Beneath the vault of heaven, that blurry figure spoke up, "Rise."

The voice was warm and gentle like a warm spring, directly flowing into the spirit and causing one to feel even greater awe and reverence.

When everyone looked up again, the figure of the Southshine Nation's Old Ancestor had already vanished from sight.

"The three of you, for better or worse you are Blue Sea cultivators and yet you cannot contain your anger. Aren't you afraid of being laughed at by the juniors?" The Southshine Nation's Old Ancestor smiled, not seeming angered by what had just occurred.

Qin Yu could clearly see that person in the skies take a single step and then appear right in front of him. However, he exuded an extremely natural feeling, as if he should have been standing here all along.

As if sensing Qin Yu's gaze, the Southshine Nation's Old Ancestor looked over.

When Qin Yu met those eyes that seemed to see through everything, his heart shrank and he quickly lowered his head. The Southshine Nation's Old Ancestor revealed a happy expression. He glanced over Qin Yu a few times and looked away; it was clear he was a bit interested in him.

Yun Yilan bowed. "Old Ancestor, it was I who handled matters inappropriately. I ask that Old Ancestor punish me for my mistakes."

Ming Siyuan and Yuan Tiangang each revealed a bit of awkwardness. They quickly apologized.

The Southshine Nation's Old Ancestor laughed and waved his hand. "Although I just arrived, I think I can guess what the reason was. It should be because of this little friend here."

Yun Yilan nodded. "He is Ning Qin."

The Southshine Nation's Old Ancestor smiled. "He is truly a young and handsome talent. Not bad." His eyes turned to Ming Siyuan and Yuan Tiangang. "I believe that this competition played out wonderfully, and many incredible juniors have emerged. If they aren't raised well, it would be too great a pity. So, I informed Exalted Yun to keep several juniors behind until I arrived so that I could take a good look at them before I make my decision."

After a short pause, the Southshine Nation's Old Ancestor smiled and said, "I have decided to restart the refinement of the Revival Good Fortune Pill. I would like to ask Revered Yuan and Revered Ming to pass on the message for me."

Though his tone was polite, this wasn't a discussion but a one-sided declaration. From this, one could see the strength of the Southshine Nation's Old Ancestor!

Ming Siyuan and Yuan Tiangang's complexions changed.

Revival Good Fortune Pill...

This was one of the Southshine Nation's greatest secrets. In over a thousand some years, it had only been opened up a few times, and those cultivators that participated in this event all obtained a monumental stroke of good fortune. Although this Revival Good Fortune Pill was a bit strange, up until now, nothing wrong or improper had ever occurred. As for those cultivators that obtained good fortune, unless they perished somewhere midway, they would all have considerable achievements.

For instance, this Exalted Yun Yilan. 1700 years ago when the Revival Good Fortune Pill refinement had been opened, he had obtained a heaven-defying lucky chance. Because of that, he was able to become the Blue Sea supreme elder he was today.

Ming Siyuan cupped his hands together. "Old Ancestor Hulun, I will return to report to you after I have informed my family's two masters."

Yuan Tiangang nodded. "I also need to ask for guidance from the Temple Master."

Now that Old Ancestor Hulun had appeared, no one mentioned Qin Yu again. Moreover, it looked as though they had underestimated the situation.

The Southshine Nation's Old Ancestor smiled. "It's no problem. I will give you two days to consider it. Three days from now, the top ten participants in the competition will be invited to refine the Revival Good Fortune Pill." He turned, his gaze warm. "Ning Qin, I'm quite optimistic about you. I hope you don't disappoint me."

Qin Yu cupped his hands together. Just as he was about to say something, fear gushed out from his eyes and his breath stopped for a tenth of a moment. He quickly walked to the Old Ancestor's side and bowed deeply, "This junior will do everything in his power to not disappoint the Old Ancestor."

The Southshine Nation's Old Ancestor was startled but immediately smiled. He nodded, thinking that this junior was considerably brave. But no matter what he thought, he would never have imagined that he had been tricked by Qin Yu.

"It's here!"

At this moment, Qin Yu covered his face. All the blood drained from his face and his soul shivered and screamed in fear.

A stretch of darkness appeared in the skies. This darkness wasn't like the world phenomenon that occurred when the three Blue Sea masters confronted each other. Rather, it was like some unknown existence had opened its mouth and lightly took a bite, completely eating away this space and turning it into nothingness.

That's right; it was this empty feeling, a vacuum of nihilism devoid of all matter. Just glancing at it caused a cold chill to shoot out from the depths of one's soul.

The Old Ancestor's complexion changed. He fiercely reared back his head, his eyes locking onto that darkness in the skies. He paled. At this time, no one knew of the rage boiling in the Old Ancestor's heart. He never thought that the annihilating tribulation he sensed on the horizon would arrive so suddenly!

And all of this had occurred without him sensing anything at all. Had the world already resolved itself to erase this old man from existence? The Old Ancestor's eyes gushed with craziness, repudiation, and a deep unwilling anger.

You want to exterminate this old man? It won't be that easy!

Yes, that pitch black darkness that appeared in the skies had been directly assumed by the Old Ancestor to have been caused by himself. This could only be called an incomparably wonderful misunderstanding. No matter how the Old Ancestor thought about it, he would never have imagined that the darkness in the skies had not come for him, but instead the junior who was respectfully bowing in front of him!

Without warning, a black light shot out from that pitch black nothingness. This move seemed to exhaust all the power within that nothingness. Thus, when the black light fell, that darkness in the skies shook and collapsed, rapidly fading from sight.

The Old Ancestor roared out loud. An incomparably terrifying aura burst out from him like 100,000 volcanoes erupting together. It was hard to imagine how such a thin body was able to contain such a mind-boggling strength.

Qin Yu tensed. He felt like a tall building toppling in a storm. Fear clenched his heart like a giant hand. He had no doubts at all that if this aura even brushed against him, he would immediately turn into a slurry of broken bones and shredded meat!

His life and death hung on a single line.

The Southshine Nation's Old Ancestor frowned and his erupting aura separated a little, wrapping Qin Yu within. This junior might be useful...of course, if he couldn't overcome this great disaster today, then this junior would suffer an even more pitiful death.

It was unknown what that black light was, but as it passed through space it didn't leave the slightest mark behind, as if it were nothing but an illusory phantom. However, the Old Ancestor's expression only became more dignified. He could clearly feel the annihilating strength contained within that black light.

"Break!"

With a shout like a thunderclap, the Old Ancestor punched out. There was a rumble between the heavens and earth and a roar resounded. The strength of that fist instantly transformed into a fierce black dragon that mercilessly collided with the black light.

Beneath his voluminous robes, the Old Ancestor's fingers were already twisting together in a law formula. Once the situation devolved, even if his spell was realized he still needed to try and struggle.

But in the next moment, his eyebrows furrowed together. This was because the moment his strength collided with that black light, he could feel its true power...it seemed to be far too weak.

With this thing, it might be able to injure him. But exterminating him was impossible.

Pa –

The black light disintegrated, turning into countless motes of powder. The Old Ancestor's complexion changed because he discovered that this powder didn't disappear at all. Rather, it passed through the power of his fist and continued to rain down on him like a hail of black snow.

As expected, it wasn't as simple as he thought!

The Old Ancestor coldly sneered. He had traveled far and wide in his life and had seen countless schemes and plots, so how could such trivial tricks fool him? However, a trace of surprise appeared on his sneer. This was because he discovered that the black snow's target wasn't him...but Ning Qin!

That's right, it was this panic-stricken junior right in front of him!

Chapter 339 – Sealed Dimension Ring

The Old Ancestor's heart shook. For a moment, he thought of the possibility that he was being used. But as soon as this thought appeared he erased it from his mind. Today's arriving world extermination might be far weaker than he imagined, but it was still more than enough to kill an ordinary Blue Sea realm master.

A mere Nascent Soul realm junior was as weak as an ant; he had no qualifications at all! Why would the world's will's destructive intent be aimed at Qin Yu?

Then it was like a bright light broke apart the fog in his mind. In an instant, the Old Ancestor thought of a possibility. He sucked in a deep breath and his heartbeat quickened. Rage started to burn in his chest!

This world extermination might not be able to deal with him, but it was more than enough to erase his hopes of continuing to survive. If it did that, then it could indirectly achieve its goal. That's right, it had to be because of this. The Old Ancestor already learned about Ning Qin from Yun Yilan. If that mysterious treasure furnace hadn't chosen a master, why would he personally come here? As he thought, this junior Ning Qin was the turning point for breaking free from his shackles. And the world extermination had come here to kill Ning Qin and destroy his hopes!

Despicable! Shameless!

Even the world could be sinister.

But no matter what methods you have, you can aim at this old man! You can forget targeting my turning point!

The Old Ancestor roared in anger. He reached out a hand and struck at the falling black powder. His large sleeves shook about, each shake causing space to disintegrate and countless cracks to form. In his anger, the Old Ancestor was already erupting with the full might of his cultivation. His palm thundered the world, as if a million mountains were collapsing together. And at this time, each mote of powder seemed even heavier than a mountain!

The Old Ancestor stuffily coughed, his face paling a little. This powder was not only incomparably heavy, but it also contained a trace of a tyrannical soul-destroying strength. Even with his cultivation, he was barely able to resist it. Was this worth it to kill a mere Nascent Soul?

It seemed that the world's will had expected he would try to stop it. If he was careless for even a moment and allowed a bit of powder to pass through, Ning Qin would be thoroughly killed. The Old Ancestor deeply rejoiced in his own quick reactions because if he had been even a moment slower, it would have been too late to regret.

Humph! Since the Old Ancestor had already discovered the true goal of the world's will, then no matter how many methods it tried to utilize, it could give up any idea of harming Ning Qin! All of that black powder was forcefully destroyed by the Old Ancestor with pure brute strength, even if he had to withstand a heavy injury because of it.

Cough cough –

With several light coughs, the Old Ancestor looked up towards the sky where the darkness had vanished, and a sneer appeared on his face.

Old thief heaven, if you want to fight with this old man, you are still too lacking!

The Old Ancestor lowered his head, his gaze becoming extremely gentle, as if he were looking at the most precious treasure in the world. “Ning Qin, I will be going first. Three days from now I will wait for you in the capital city.”

He turned, his voice as cold as the deep winter night. “Yun Yilan, I appreciate Ning Qin very much. There cannot be any problems with his safety.” These words were clearly not aimed at Yun Yilan alone.

Then, cracks began to appear in the Old Ancestor's body and he rapidly disintegrated, turning into endless dust that vanished from sight.

Ming Siyuan and Yuan Tiangang's pupils violently shrank.

Yun Yilan bowed, “I bid the Old Ancestor farewell!” After standing up straight, his eyes were solemn, “Revered Ming, Revered Yuan, you have already heard the Old Ancestor's words. Please make preparations as soon as possible.”

Ming Siyuan took a deep breath and slowly said, “I will immediately report back. I should have an answer by tomorrow at the latest.” He glanced at Qin Yu, nodded, and left.

White Fengfeng had a reluctant expression. It was unknown what she was told, but she obediently followed behind.

Yuan Tiangang bid his farewells without expression. The Old Ancestor had obviously warned him just now, so he couldn't do anything to Ning Qin at the moment. Moreover, when the Old Ancestor had revealed his true cultivation, it had left him endlessly shaken. He had to immediately report to Cleansing Temple.

Watching the two people leave, a deep light flashed in Yun Yilan's eyes. The Revival Good Fortune Pill was suspected by all the factions within the Southshine Nation, but no one could ignore the lucky

chance and good fortune it represented. The Great Desolate Lake and Cleansing Temple would certainly agree. Of this, Yun Yilan was confident. But even so, there wasn't the least bit of happiness in his heart.

He already knew about the Old Ancestor's condition. Everything should be in the grasp of their hands and they should have had plenty of time to prepare, so how come the world's killing tribulation had descended today without any warning at all?

Could there be a problem with the Old Ancestor?

Yun Yilan's expression sank. After a long period of time, he took a deep breath and looked towards Qin Yu. "Ning Qin, I know you are feeling nervous and anxious in your heart, but I hope this was the last time that today's events will occur." Qin Yu cupped his hands across his chest and was about to speak, but he was interrupted, "I don't need your promises. I will look only at your actions. I hope you won't disappoint me."

Once the troubled Yun Yilan left, Qin Yu closed the door. Then, all the pores on his body seemed to open at once and a massive amount of sweat dripped out, instantly drenching his robes. His hair stuck to his forehead and he looked incomparably distressed.

His feet wobbled and even the strength to take a single step forward seemed to have vanished. He slowly lowered himself to the ground and let out a long breath of relief. It was only then that a small bitter smile appeared on the corner of his lips.

Just now, he had really made a trip to death's door. If it weren't for the Southshine Nation's Old Ancestor appearing here today, his fate would have been miserable.

Before that mass of darkness within the skies had appeared, Qin Yu had received a warning from the little blue lamp. Before he could even think about it, his instincts forced him to approach the Southshine Nation's Old Ancestor as a way to counter it. This was because the Old Ancestor was the strongest person present, and only he had the ability to resist this world killing tribulation.

Right now he was still alive and the Old Ancestor didn't have any suspicions towards him. Even Qin Yu had no idea what the reasoning was behind that. But, he didn't have the mood or mindset to think about these things. Living was all that mattered.

For a long time, Qin Yu felt his weary body slowly regaining strength. He stretched his legs out into a comfortable position and leaned back against a wall, deep in thought.

The black light that arrived just now might be terrifyingly strong, but through the little blue lamp, Qin Yu could indistinctly feel that wasn't the true killing move, but rather a probing strike from the world's will. Yes, that was right, it was a probing strike. After judging Qin Yu's comprehensive strength, it would then send its true annihilating attack.

Once he realized this, no matter how firm his mentality was, he still couldn't help but bitterly smile and for his complexion to darken. If a probing strike was this terrifying, then once the true destructive attack occurred, all that was left for Qin Yu was death.

It was no wonder that the little blue lamp had remained so quiet ever since it entered the Land of Divinity and Demons. Once it erupted with its true might, the world's will would lock onto it. There was nothing Qin Yu could complain about. If it hadn't been for the little blue lamp helping him, Yuan

Tiangang would have definitely caused him to suffer. And, his current cultivation and even the fact that he was able to come to the Land of Divinity and Demons, was in great part thanks to the little blue lamp.

Now, what he needed to consider was how to survive through that world killing tribulation which would descend in the near future.

Qin Yu's eyes flickered. After a long time, he let out a long breath. At this point in time, this was the only means possible.

The Southshine Nation's Old Ancestor!

Yes, it was this old monster who gave Qin Yu a bad feeling but who had also saved his life. This old freak seemed to have a great deal of interest in him. Although Qin Yu didn't know what this 'interest' was, he didn't need to be a genius to know that it wasn't anything beautiful.

If it were any other time, Qin Yu would certainly think of all sorts of methods to escape and then flee as far away as possible. But now...he decided to reverse his mindset! Instead of running away, he needed to do everything in his power to pull himself closer to the Old Ancestor's side, until the day that he was able to help him overcome that world killing tribulation!

Just yesterday, Qin Yu was wracking his mind on how to escape. But today he was doing everything he could to stay. As people said, it was impossible to predict the twists and turns in life. But in the end, this was all because he was too small and weak. If he had the strength to resist this world killing tribulation then he could naturally take control of his own destiny.

My life is mine, not the heavens'...to accomplish this, it couldn't be described as just 'difficult'.

Qin Yu took a deep breath. At this time, his heart began to beat vigorously within his chest, becoming increasingly strong as he firmed his resolve. His closed eyes opened slightly and shined with brightness. It was like his gaze had been washed with spring water, becoming even purer. After witnessing the power of the Blue Sea realm, after experiencing that world killing tribulation, all these sudden changes had caused his heart to shake and tumble. Unconsciously, Qin Yu's state of mind had unknowingly taken another step forwards.

A moment later he opened his eyes. It was like the difficult position he was currently in was no longer urgent and impossible. Rather, what filled his chest was a faint confidence.

He could definitely overcome this hurdle and walk further, becoming stronger!

Qin Yu stood up and entered the training room. He took out a pill and swallowed it, closed his eyes, and started refining it. Little streams flowing together could become a vast river. Grains of sand could accumulate into a mountain. There were no shortcuts in cultivation. He could only work diligently, and only then would he continue to have greater achievements. Otherwise, no matter how great his desires and aspirations were, everything was just empty talk and momentary illusions.

...

It was unknown how Ming Siyuan and Yuan Tiangang contacted the Great Desolate Lake and Cleansing Temple, but on the next day, both sides indicated that they were willing to allow their juniors to

participate in the refinement of the Revival Good Fortune Pill. But to ensure safety, the two of them would follow Yun Yilan to the capital city.

After Yun Yilan asked for further guidance and received an agreement, the matter was settled. As for the special envoy sent by the royal family, he would arrive by the time the sun fell in the west. The rewards for winning the Youth Alchemy Competition were extremely rich. At the very least, the harvests that the top ten cultivators received could even make a Divine Soul powerhouse go mad with envy.

For instance, all of Qin Yu's attention was focused on the treasure furnace's remnant spirit, but once the royal family special envoy arrived, it was only then he discovered that the rewards were so great that it was actually quite scary. There was no need to mention the treasure furnace's remnant spirit, but besides that there were two other things that could also be considered incomparably precious treasures: a sky origin soul fruit and a sealed dimension ring.

The sky origin soul fruit was the size of a child's fist. It flowered for a thousand years, withered for a thousand years, and bore fruit for another thousand years. Only after hanging for 1300 years afterward and becoming a light golden color could it be considered as having matured.

If a cultivator swallowed this fruit, their soul force would increase by a drastic scale. Even within the Land of Divinity and Demons, this was a treasure that could only be found, not searched for. It was a truly transcendent divine fruit.

As for the sealed dimension ring, this was something refined by cultivators. It was also called a key of space and was an extremely precious treasure.

The Land of Divinity and Demons was a vast and boundless land. Any one of the seven great empires had millions and billions of territories. They could be called an incomparably giant space.

And within this space, all sorts of overlaps existed with small spatial fragments. For instance, in the land of exiles where the Gold Noble Family lived, that was a spatial fragment.

In the rumors, there were Calamity Immortal supreme elders that joined the Great Dao of the heavens and earth and were able to control the hundreds of millions of rules. They could absorb a spatial fragment and seal and refine it into an endless space of nothingness.

What this nothingness was, perhaps even a Calamity Immortal supreme elder might not know. But its most powerful attribute was that it was unknowable.

After this spatial fragment was refined into this nothingness, it became incomparably secure. Its only entrance was the item of communication left behind during the refinement process.

This, was the sealed dimension ring.

Chapter 340 – The Great Sun and Ninth Province

Of course, it was possible to simply think of a sealed dimension ring as an enlarged version of a storage ring. But to use it like this, especially for an alchemist, was an extremely great waste.

After Qin Yu obtained the sealed dimension ring, he directly completed the process of being recognized as its master under countless envious eyes. Once a drop of blood was absorbed by it, he could feel an infinitesimally small point in a nothingness that was endlessly far away.

This was the spatial fragment that the sealed dimension ring communicated with.

Qin Yu sat through the entire award ceremony, not caring about it at all. After the royal family special envoy announced that the refining of the Revival Good Fortune Pill would begin once more, countless people cried out in alarm. In particular, the cultivators around him who also won rewards had incomparably excited looks. Before the royal family special envoy left, he stated that the chosen people would head towards the capital city starting tomorrow morning. After that, Qin Yu left without hesitation. He returned to his dwelling and shut the courtyard doors tightly behind him.

He took out the sealed dimension ring and then, without hesitation, he probed it with his divine sense. There was an echoing hum in his mind and then his thoughts seemed to become a bit numb.

Perhaps using numb to describe this was inappropriate. It was like being wrapped in sheets of invisible strength, making it so that all his senses became blurry and slow.

Luckily, this feeling only continued for an extremely short period of time. Then he discovered that his consciousness had appeared in a dim space.

His 'eyes' swept through his surroundings. What he saw was a very barren and desolate world. The ground was cracked all over with massive fissures snaking through like a horrific spider web. It was like this entire land had suffered some apocalyptic disaster. A distant mountain peak was torn apart and the giant rocks that crashed down had plummeted deep into the dry riverbed below, nearly buried within.

This spatial fragment was larger than he expected. But, it had clearly suffered some sort of destruction that could not be repaired. The heaven and earth spiritual energy was so thin that he could barely feel it.

If it was just this, then such a massive spatial fragment would still possess an incalculable value as just a spatial storage type magic tool. But the reality was that in the far off distance, at the edges of spatial fragment, the sky would often twist and cracks would appear and vanish. This process continued endlessly.

Without a doubt, the space cracks that appeared and vanished meant that the stability of this spatial fragment had been ruined. As time passed, this collapse would grow increasingly stronger until it swept through this entire space, completely destroying it until it vanished into nothingness.

No wonder the Southshine Nation had been so magnanimous in giving this sealed dimension ring to the champion of the competition. A trace of regret and helplessness rose in Qin Yu's heart. Then, at the edge of his 'sight', he saw a dark red bead of blood.

Although he didn't know why the drop of blood he used to become master of the ring appeared here, after seeing it, he understood its true function.

His divine sense fused into the blood. Then, a blood light rapidly expanded, outlining Qin Yu's form.

Pa –

He landed on solid ground. A pale blood red Qin Yu looked down to arms and legs. His awe towards the unsurpassed Calamity Immortal realm existence that refined this sealed dimension ring only increased.

By modifying the rules a drop of blood could form something similar to an avatar, a body outside the body. This method already far surpassed the imagination of common cultivators.

Unfortunately, this spatial fragment would surely be destroyed in three to five years. Otherwise, if he were able to control this vast space, it would be highly beneficial to Qin Yu's cultivation in the future.

Just as this thought arose, shock appeared in the eyes of the body Qin Yu had just condensed.

In the next moment the space in front of him quietly trembled like ripples in water. Then, the thumb-sized lantern slowly and steadily squeezed its way out.

That's right, it was squeezing out, as if it were withstanding some unimaginable imprisonment!

But all of this came to an abrupt end after he fully entered this barren spatial fragment.

It was as if everything was cut off by the nothingness outside. It was thoroughly isolated, no longer able to be sensed.

Qin Yu had seen the little blue lamp countless times, but he had never felt this from it before. If he had to describe it, it would be that the little blue lamp was relaxed. As if some giant mountain that had been crushing it all along no longer suppressed it.

So, in the next moment, the little blue lamp truly released its own strength without any scruples.

Hum –

The dazzling blue light erupted like rivers and seas bursting through a dam. The light was so bright and shining that Qin Yu's eyes were brought to tears.

However, his instincts told him that he shouldn't close his eyes, otherwise he would miss out on something extremely important.

So, even as tears flowed down his cheeks, he kept his eyes wide open and witnessed something that could only be called a miracle.

The little blue lamp that was erupting with endless deep blue light flew into the skies above his head. As the lamp flew higher and higher, the pure blue gradually faded, and the colors of red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet all began to slowly appear. Or, perhaps it was more accurate to say that all these colors joined together to form that deep blue light. It was a sight gorgeous beyond belief and dazzling to the eyes. The little blue lamp flew higher and higher as if it wanted to reach the ends of space. The colors began to fade, turning warm and transparent. Then, the little blue lamp that flew into the skies turned into a massive sun that hovered in the heavens, sprinkling endless light upon the earth below.

Qin Yu was bathed within this warm sunlight. His eyes were wide with shock and awe. He found that he had never truly understood the little blue lamp. It was actually able to produce such an incredible change.

A sun...

Through the connection that Qin Yu had with the little blue lamp, he could see through all of this and find it at the core of the great sun. But the aura it released, the light and the heat, all of it was no different than a true sun.

Suddenly, Qin Yu discovered that he seemed to be fused together with the earth beneath his feet. He closed his eyes and could feel the shattered mountain in the distance. He could sense every crack, and within a deep one he could even feel a patch of worn out, withered grass.

Then, at this moment, Qin Yu could 'see' that grass spring up. Its leaves rose and in a short several breaths of time, it was restored to a rich verdant green, a rich vitality emanating from it.

It was as if with the arrival of the little blue lamp and the rise of the great sun in this world, this earth had been revitalized. Qin Yu could clearly feel the joy and excitement in the air. And more importantly, he felt as if he could control everything within this spatial fragment with just a thought.

He thought for a moment and then opened his eyes. He raised a hand and grasped outwards. Then, space fluctuated and a complete stalk of green grass appeared in front of him. Even the inconceivable network of roots buried beneath the ground had appeared, without the slightest bit of damage to any of it.

This was because when Qin Yu's will spread out, the soil that surrounded the roots was pushed back by an invisible strength, allowing the green grass to obtain freedom.

He could no longer suppress the shock on his face. Qin Yu gently reached out and touched the grass, feeling the rough sense of friction that proved this wasn't an illusion. The green branches and leaves twined around his hands, transmitting its joy and gratitude to him.

After a long silence, Qin Yu loosened his hand. The green grass vanished from sight. It returned to the soil it had been buried in without any difference at all.

And this was just because his will was that the grass returned to how it was before.

Qin Yu had no idea why this unbelievable scene would occur, but he knew this was inevitably linked to the little blue lamp. This was because he could clearly feel that he wasn't the true master of this world. Rather, the little blue lamp had entrusted this to him, allowing him to wield its strength.

This was because the relationship between Qin Yu and the little blue lamp had taken another step forward.

Yes, when the little blue lamp fused into this space, it had entrusted Qin Yu with all the rights and powers. Like this, they had merged into one whole being, no longer able to be separated.

In other words, it was only at this moment that Qin Yu truly gained possession of the little blue lamp!

He looked around at the shattered earth. Although it was still barren and desolate, Qin Yu knew that it was different from before. From the verge of death, it had obtained a new lease on life.

Within his residence, Qin Yu's eyelashes trembled and he slowly opened his eyes. He was still himself and there was no change to his aura. But, there was a deeper profoundness in his eyes...as well as a light invisible dignity. This was because he had become the one who controlled that space and possessed supreme authority over it.

This brought an invisible sense of change to him.

When he joined the Southshine Nation's Youth Alchemy Competition, Qin Yu's initial goal had been the treasure furnace's remnant spirit. But now, it seemed his greatest harvest was this sealed dimension ring.

Qin Yu looked down. The sealed dimension ring hid itself away. It didn't vanish, but had become something that only he could see. This wasn't a function of the sealed dimension ring itself, but was a right Qin Yu naturally obtained after becoming the master of that space.

He took out the Fleeting Flame Furnace and gave it the treasure furnace's remnant spirit. The rusted palm-sized fragment of a furnace suddenly erupted with endless light. Bright markings appeared on it, as if it were burning all over.

Within these flames, all of the dirt and other impurities that gathered on it were burnt to nothing, revealing its true form beneath. It was a dazzling pill furnace fragment. Even if it was only a minor part, one could still feel the formidable power and prestige within.

Whoosh –

The burning pill furnace fragment flew into the Fleeting Flame Furnace. Scorching waves of heat instantly rushed outwards, causing the surface of the Fleeting Flame Furnace to turn crimson.

Qin Yu's eyes flashed. He discovered that he had an inexplicable intuition that the Fleeting Flame Furnace would be able to smoothly absorb the pill furnace fragment. He didn't know why he felt this way, but he fully believed this.

Qin Yu suppressed his thoughts and then turned his head, his eyes falling on Ninth Province. Although it was silent, Qin Yu could unexpectedly feel sadness and sorrow emanating from it.

Oddly, Qin Yu seemed to be infected by it. His mind darkened and in the next moment, he seemed to see the form of another pill furnace behind Ninth Province.

This was a large, large, very large pill furnace. It was larger than the mountains and rivers, so large that even the endless ocean seemed small in comparison. It stood within an ocean of stars, as if it was an indispensable part of it. However, upon this inconceivably massive pill furnace were countless cracks. It seemed to have endured a strength it could not withstand, and was broken into countless pieces with a deathly aura lingering in the air...

This pill furnace was already dead!

As soon as this thought appeared in Qin Yu's mind, the image in front of him trembled and then vanished.

Ninth Province was still there, but the sadness it emanated had already been restrained.