

## Chapter 59- Auction

Next morning.

Li Yuan sat on his favourite ledge his eyes closed as the sun rose in the distance, bathing the world in its golden light. But instead of enjoying the beautiful view, he instead had his eyes closed shut. Fine beads of sweat slid down his brows, soaking his robes. His teeth were gritted, his fists clenched tightly till they bled, and his entire body was trembling as if placed under great burden.

Finally, his eyes flew open and he let out a gasp before taking deep gulps breaths, almost hyperventilating before finally finally fell over to the side, completely exhausted.

His bloodshot eyes looked to the side where an incense stick was burning. One whose smoke helped with concentration, as well as dulled the pain. A widely used item within the Body Peak.

It was also a third of the way burned. Meaning that he likely cultivated for ten minutes or longer. A distinct improvement from a month ago when he was only able to body cultivate for five minutes max.

Finally, he dragged his body over to a flying sword and controlled it to take him home.

As soon as he reached home, he found that the sun suddenly vanished, and the sky went dark again, burning with the light of a million stars instead.

The formation placed around his house, the one he'd created for Zi Mo was working at max capacity, gathering star light from miles around their house and feeding it to Zi Mo, helping improve her rate of cultivation.

Feeling slightly better now, he placed the Flying sword to the side and stumbled back to their bedroom where Zi Mo was sitting crosslegged, still naked from their last night's love making.

He climbed up on the bed and slid over beside her, carefully placing a hand on her leg in order to feel her presence. It helped ground him after feeling the excruciating pain from the body cultivation.

To his dismay, Zi Mo opened her eyes and gazed down at him, her lips curling down at finding him like this. And the night around them immediately vanished, replaced by the light of dawn instead.

“You don't need to stop cultivating on my behalf.” He told her. “I'm fine.”

She sighed and laid down beside him before pulling him to herself until his head rested in between her massive breasts. “No you’re not.” She chastised and he sighed in relief as he buried his face even deeper into her bosom.

“No, I’m not.” He muttered.

Zi Mo gently traced her fingers through his hair and started a hum a lullaby, one that put him to sleep in no time.

By the time he woke up, he saw that the sun had now risen above the horizon, and Zi Mo still holding onto him, gazing down at him with those beautiful eyes of hers.

He might not have loved her when they first had sex, or when they first announced their marriage. But the longer he stayed with her, the deeper and deeper he was falling for her each day. And he found that he did not mind that in the least.

“You lasted for over ten minutes today once again. Not bad.” Zi Mo said, then let out a soft moan as he leaned down and took one of her nipples in his mouth.

His other hand went behind her and cupped her ass, playing and kneading her ass cheek until he finally let go of her nipple in order to look up at her once again. “The measuring device?”

Zi Mo nodded and picked up an artefact from a side table before handing it to him. The artefact was in the shape of a thick stick, with faint grooves upon its surface for a better grip.

The first time Zi Mo had gifted it to him, he’d jokingly asked if it was a dildo. The joke had, of course, gone right over Zi Mo’s head as she had no idea what a dildo was.

But no, the artefact was not a dildo. Not even close, as shown when he gripped it tightly and continued to pour all his strength into the grip. Slowly, lines of lights started to appear upon the artefact’s surface. One, two, three, four... and so on until the number finally reached ten.

Zi Mo let out a sound of surprise and then a huge smile formed on her face. “10th Stage of Foundation Establishment!” She exclaimed before shaking her head in disbelief. “How a 1st Tier Body Cultivation Technique helps you reach such strength is something I’ll never understand.”

“Part of it is thanks to the partial Bloodline I got from you.” He pointed out. “But yes. I don’t think this technique is anywhere close to done just yet.”

“What a frightening prospect. Maybe you’ll have the physique of a Golden Core cultivator even before you reach Foundation Establishment.” Zi Mo joked but he didn’t laugh. Because something told him that such a thing was very likely possible and that his Body Cultivation technique was far from done with him.

He then wrapped his arm around Zi Mo and rolled them over until he was on top of her. He gazed into Zi Mo’s beautiful eyes for a moment before he leaned down and pressed his lips against hers.

His dick throbbed within the confines of his robes, hardening as it pressed against her naked vagina. He gyrated it against her, and she sucked in a sharp breath.

“We still need to prepare to go to the auction today.” Zi Mo told him even as she started to help him remove his robes.

“The auction can wait for a while.” He replied as he finally got rid of the last of his robes before lining himself against her warm and waiting pussy. But just before he could slam home, Zi Mo suddenly spoke up.

“Ning Renxue made the request to me again yesterday.”

He paused and gaze up at her. “Really, now?”

Zi Mo shrugged. “Just in case I forget to tell you later.”

“My answer is the same. I’m not sure I’ll be able to replicate the Physique Resonance Phenomena. And I don’t want to take her special physique by mistake.”

“She looks up to you.” Zi Mo pointed out. “I doubt she would blame you even if you fail.”

“If she looks up to me, then that’s all the more reason not to disappoint her.” He replied. Besides, he wasn’t sure if his current level of Fortune was enough for the physique Resonance. Might as well wait until his halo is brighter.

Zi Mo hummed in agreement and decided to drop the topic. “We need to leave in an hour if we want to attend the Auction on time.” She reminded him.

“Mmm...” He nodded and the finally buried his dick inside her.

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An hour later, he and Zi Mo emerged from the house, coming face to face with Rou Lin, Ning Renxue and Yang Xiaoling.

Senior Xiaoling was rolling around in the snow, laughing her ass off while Rou Lin's face looked as red as a tomato. Only Renxue met them gazes with a gentle smile as she bowed and wished them a good morning, but even her cheeks were tinged a bit red.

Yeah... he and Zi Mo had still been going at when the three of them had arrived, with Zi Mo's moans and the sound of her cheeks being clapped by him echoing through the courtyard.

He had no defence, and could only say that, if given the chance, he would do it all over again. Though maybe he would remember to activate the privacy formation beforehand.

“Are you going to climb aboard or not?” One of the senior sisters standing atop the Flying ship asked impatiently.

This flying ship was much larger than the one Zi Mo had brought with her when they flew to his clan. But still nowhere near as large as the Flying Ship that had belonged to the Sword Peak.

At most, this ship could house a little more than a hundred cultivators. Which happened to be roughly the population of the Snow Peak, so there was really no need for a larger ship.

He rolled his eyes and hoisted Senior Yang Xiaoling up before pushing her toward the ship.

By the time they climbed over, he saw that the Ship was half filled with disciples and elders of the Snow Peak. Many of whom were ones he was seeing for the first time. The women were also looking at him curiously. Some giving him appraising looks while others gossiped, their cheeks tinged red.

They likely heard him and Zi Mo as well. And once again, he felt completely unrepentant.

Senior Xue Shiyu stood at the helm of the ship, surrounded by her four companion beasts. As soon as they had all climbed aboard, she channeled her power into the ship, activating its formation and taking it to the sky where it immediately started flying toward the Nine Peak city.

Despite their clear interest in him, most of the women in the ship maintained their distance from him. As if curious and wary of him at the same time.

Only Senior Xiaoling didn't seem to have any sense of decorum or shame as she leaned over Zi Mo and asked. "So... how as it?"

"How about you find out for yourself, Senior Sister." Zi Mo asked calmly.

“Oh? You think your boytoy could handle me?” Xiaoling asked, waggling her eyebrows at him while he did his best to ignore her antics. Having recognised her as someone who teased but never really put out. Nor was he really interested in casual sex. Especially if that casual sex could end in his partner losing their special physique.

Xiaoling continued to grill Zi Mo along the way, only quieting slightly when they passed over the Beast Peak... which was now half frozen in ice.

No doubt the Peak Mistress' work when she came for the Beast Peak elder who had owned those Ice Wyrms.

The fact that the Peak Mistress cared enough to take revenge for him really touched him. Though he had no idea why she did not help in the first place. Maybe she had her eyes on them the entire time, and was ready to take action should they really need it.

With the speed they had gained by now, they quickly passed over the Beast Peak, and reached the Nine Peak city in no time.

He was surprised to see well over a dozen other ships flying over the Nine Peak City. All of them landing one by one in a giant courtyard prepared specifically in advance for ship landing.

Their ship landed on one of the smaller docks, and as they started to climb down one by one... he paused mid-step as he sensed a hostile gaze looking at him.

He turned and saw a large group of cultivators glaring at their group. They wore the same robes of Inner Sect Disciples as Nine Peak Sect. And even if the Insignia on their robes didn't give away their identity, the various spirit beasts each one of them was carrying or being carried by did so.



“Beast Peak disciples.” Rou Lin murmured with a grimace.

“Oi. The fuck are you chucklefucks glaring at!” Senior Xiaoling shouted, and the spirit beasts bonded to that group of disciples suddenly went mad in terror. Some of them escaping the grip of their owners and flying off while others bucked off their owners and ran off into the distance.

He raised an eyebrow and gazed at Yang Xiaoling whose eyes had once again turned Golden in colour, her facial features having taken a predatory edge that hadn't been present there before.

By this point, he was pretty sure that she had also bonded with a Spirit Beast in the same manner as the Beast Tribesmen. Maybe it was possible that she used to be one of them. Or more likely, was the daughter of one of them. That would explain so many things about her. Especially her attire.

A loud roar suddenly echoed through the entire place, and the escaping spirit beasts suddenly calmed down, as if regaining their senses and swiftly returned back to their owners.

Then, a golden core elder of the Beast Peak descended from the sky, riding a... was that a fucking Qilin?

He tried to sense the Qilin's power, and was surprised to find that despite being only a Peak-2nd Grade beast, it radiated an aura that was powerful enough to match the Mid-Stage Ice Wurm he'd faced in that cavern.

'Is this the power of bloodline?' He wondered. Because if that was the case, then all his preparations still weren't anywhere near close to enough in order to assimilate the core of the Abyssal Star Devouring Dragon.

"Senior, aren't you being too to rude, frightening or junior disciples like this?" The senior standing upon the Qilin asked.

“Maybe you should teach your own disciples some manner before barking in front of us.” The Murder fox replied and then elder of Beast Peak suddenly stilled as he gazed at Xue Shiyu. Something akin to fear passed through his gaze as he looked at the woman. And then he nodded and bowed.

“Then, I’ll be sure to disciple my peak’s disciples once we return back to the sect.” The elder said. “For now, let’s go on our way.”

He blinked in surprise as the elders of the Beast Peak quietly took their disciples and left. And he was so sure that this argument would lead to... more. Maybe a bit of beating and face slapping. Isn’t that how a confrontation usually ends in the Xianxia world.

“What was that about?” He asked Zi Mo once the Beast Peak members had all left.

“Senior Xue Shiyu has a... reputation.” Zi Mo said. And when he looked at her for further explanation, she simply shook her head. Oh well, he supposed he could ask her later when they were back home.

After the confrontation that ended far too quickly, they were shuffled off to a giant building that seemed more like a stadium than an actual auction house.

He could see thousands of other cultivators waiting in line outside, trickling in one by one at a glacial pace. Most of them stood in small

groups and wore the insignia of minor sects as well as 8th or 9th grade families.

The Snow Peak members were taken to a rather luxurious pavilion especially reserved for them. From here, he could see the entire stadium. And within its centre was a stage where group of cultivators were hurriedly working setting up formations and what not.

“It’ll still be a while before the auction starts. If any one of you esteemed cultivator have anything you wish to sell within the auction, then please follow me.” The attendant spoke up with a respectful bow.

He gave a nod to Zi Mo and the two of them got up, walking over a smaller room nearby where they brought out the various items they’d prepared in advance.

The female attendant’s eyes went wide upon seeing the large piles of Spirit Herbs and Gu worms, and she gave them an apologetic look. “This is far above my pay grade, seniors. Please wait a moment and I’ll send one of the managers.”

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“And the next item is...” The auctioneer shouted and his attendants removed the curtain from atop the item to show a... colourful egg. “The egg of a 3rd Grade Stormcall Roc. If hatched,

raised and fed properly, then within a hundred years, any family that buys this egg would have a 3rd Grade Guardian beast of their own. Bidding starts at 100,000 low-grade spirit stones.”

“So cheap?” He asked.

Zi Mo nodded. “Indeed. It is not a 3rd grade beast after all. Just an egg. Feeding it enough meat to raise it to the level of a 3rd Grade Spirit Beast would take an enormous amount of wealth. Not to mention, until it reaches 3rd Grade, it is still rather easy to kill.”

He hummed in understanding. Despite what Zi Mo just said, many 8th grade families and minor sects jumped up to buy the Egg, and the price soon rose up and up and up until it reached 278,000 spirit stones, and sold to a Minor Sect that he didn’t even know the name of.

“Mountain Sword Sect.” Zi Mo told him. “It was opened by one of the Core Sect disciples of the Sword Peak that was expelled for some reason in the past. To this day, the Sect sends their geniuses to the Sword Peak every year to become their Inner Sect members.”

“I see.” He nodded and watched as another item was brought upon the stage. This one was also hidden behind a curtain... until the curtain was suddenly brought down.

He raised an eyebrow in surprise, but that was one of the items he'd brought over to be sold to the auction.

“A batch of 138 Gravechill Gu. Courtesy of the Snow Peak. Their corpse can be used to refine Hibernation Pouch and similar artefacts and pills.” The Auctioneer explained. “Price starts at 138,000 Spirit Stones.”

And so, the bidding started. To his mild disappointment, not many people showed interest in this item aside from the Formation and Alchemy Peak. With the Alchemy Peak finally buying the item for 180,000 Spirit Stones.

“Next up.” The Auctioneer shouted as another item was brought forth. This one much larger than any others before till the curtain was brought down, revealing a... “A Bronze-Class Flying ship. Built by the Formation Peak Inner Disciples.”

He had no idea what a Bronze-class ship was. Nor the various other descriptions the Auctioneer gave to the ship. But the audience clearly did. Because when the bidding begin, the price quickly rose from its original 150,000. Reaching well over 400,000. Until... a 7th Grade family member stood up, and placed a bid of 500,000 spirit stones.

Either no one wanted to pay that much for the ship, or no one wanted to offend a 7th Grade family because the ship was sold soon after that.

“Next up...” The auctioneer shouted, and his face turned dark in anger as the curtain was lowered to reveal... a woman. It was not the first time this auction sold a slave, but it angered him each time it did that.

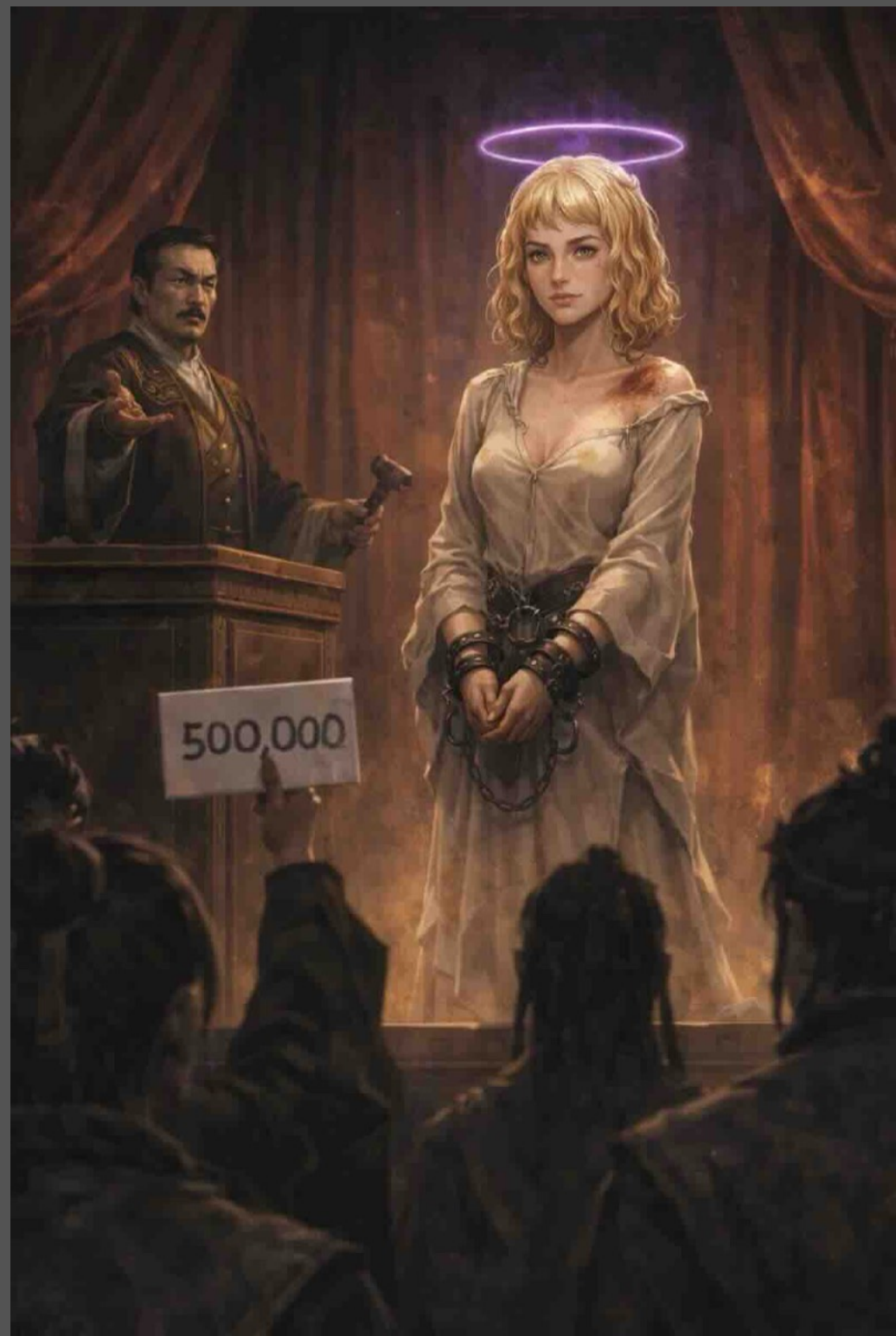
Except, this time... along with anger came surprise. Because there was a purple halo about the woman’s head.

“A early stage Golden Core cultivator!” The auctioneer shouted. “Although her cultivation has now been crippled by her enemies, the fact that she managed to reach such a level of cultivation at the mere age of 70 shows her immense talent. Any child born to her will likely inherit that same talent. Price starts at 250,000 spirit stones.”

Li Yuan gazed at Purple Halo and a vision unfolded in front of him.

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In the vision, it was shown that the woman was not really



crippled but had instead consumed a pill that hid her true cultivation and gave off an illusion that her body has been crippled. All in order to fly under the radar of the enemies who destroyed her family.

In truth, when the woman broke through to the Golden Core, she awakened a Special Physique called Eternal Pill Genesis Body. And the effects of this special physique were beyond amazing.

What the Special Physique did, was that as long as the physique owner consumed a pill, the physique would catalog it. And afterward, as long as the physique owner consumed the raw ingredients required to make that pill, the body is able to use those raw ingredients to make the pill within the dantian. And the pill produced would be of the same quality as the one she had consumed.

A few days after being sold, the woman would escape her new owners, and then make use of her physique to rapidly improve her strength until finally taking revenge on her enemies.

In due time, she would go on to become a Nascent Soul cultivator and start a sect of her own.

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The vision came to an end and Li Yuan's eyes widened. *Holy shit. To think the gentle and helpless looking woman on the stage would be hiding so deeply.*

Not to mention that physique... with Li Yuan's 2nd tier Complete Perfection in Alchemy, he could create and 1st and 2nd top-grade pills as long as he knew its recipe. And the library he'd gained from the Fallen Prince's Inheritance had lots and lots of recipe.

The only problem was that he was often busy with other stuff and didn't have the time to invest in making pills. Otherwise, many of the herbs sold into this auction could've been sold for far more as pills.

This woman... she could change that. Instead of selling spirit herbs directly, he could simply give her those herbs instead, and she'd convert them all into top tier pills, increasing their value several fold. And then, they could evenly split the earnings from that.

Not to mention she'd eventually become a Nascent Soul Cultivator. Which... seeing as how the entire Snow Peak has only one cultivator at that realm, goes to show just how rare that cultivation realm is in this region.

So, he immediately spoke up. "300,000 spirit stones."

All the eyes within the pavilion turned to him in an instant. Some looking shocked while others looked disgusted. And he immediately realised his mistake.

He was sitting in a room filled with women, and was now going to buy a female slave. Obviously they'd misunderstand.

He turned to Zi Mo and noticed her looking confused at his decision and quietly mouthed. 'Nascent Soul,' while gesturing in the direction of the woman being sold on the stage.

Zi Mo's eyes widened and she nodded, placing a hand on top of his to show her support.

"400,000 spirit stones." Came the counter and his eyes narrowed as he noticed that it came from the pavilion that sat the Beast Peak members.

He couldn't remember them placing a bid on the woman within the vision. So, he could only assume that they were doing this in response to the Snow Peak's bid. Likely a petty ploy to raise the price and hurt their Snow Peak.

"500,000." He said.

"600,000." They countered, and so, the price started to rise, until it went past 1 million spirit stones.

He grimaced at that, as the woman had sold for 850,000 spirit stones in the vision. These bastards were really going out of their way to cause trouble for him.

Worse, they didn't stop there. And only once the price reached 1.5 million spirit stones, did they finally stop.

“Anyone else?” The auctioneer asked when the Beast Peak stopped raising the bid. “Very well. Going once. Going twice—”

“2 million spirit stones!” Someone spoke up, and he looked over to see that the voice had come from the pavilion reserved for the Main Peak members.

“These bastards. Why are they joining the bid now?” He cursed within his breath before shouting. “2.5 million spirit stones.”

“Likely they realised that the girl must have a special physique or something. Otherwise, why else would the Snow Peak bid so heavily.” Zi Mo pointed out. And he was suddenly reminded of Ning Renxue who was bought by a member of the Snow Peak in a similar manner.

He sighed and turned to Zi Mo. “How much money have you brought with you?”

“4 million.” Zi Mo replied. “How much do you have?”

“About 2.5 million. Though the items sold in the auction will increase that by 2 million more.” He said. “Do you think it’ll be enough?”

“4 million.” The main peak raised the bid and Zi Mo grimaced. “We’ll have to see.”

Eventually, the bid continued to rise, and the women sitting beside him had their eyes widened in shock as the bid reached 8.5 million. As they finally realised that he was making the bid not because he wanted to fuck that girl and pop out some kids, but because she has a powerful special physique.

“10 million.” The Main peak replied and Zi Mo stood up, surprising him. Then, she hurriedly walked over to Senior Xue Shiyu, whispering furiously in her ears.

The two of them then talked with their Qi for a few moments before Senior Xue Shiyu’s murder fox finally spoke up.

“20 million.”

The Main Peak was silent for a long while until they spoke up.

“21 million.”

Xue Shiyu was silent for a while after that. And then, just as the woman was about to sell for 21 million, she spoke up again. “22 million.”

The price then continued to rise this way, until finally, at 28 million spirit stones, the wielder of Eternal Pill Genesis Body became theirs.

Then, just as he was sighing in relief, the murder fox walked over to him, and glared down at him. “The girl better be worth it. Because that was almost all of Xue Shiyu’s personal wealth.”

“She would be.” He said with confidence and the murder fox scrutinised him for a moment before it huffed out a cold breath on his face and then walked away.

“Now... onto the next time...”

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“Finally, we come to the main item!” The auctioneer spoke up, and then waited a few seconds for everyone to quiet down before he spoke up. “The inheritance map of a small world that opened up near the forbidden forest some 800 miles North-West of here. Only three map fragments have been found so far. Each showing an important

place within that small world. The maps will each be sold separately. The first map's bidding will start at 3 million spirit stones. Within a minimum increment of 100,000 spirit stones."

"3 million." The Alchemy Peak spoke up.

"3.1 million." Formation Peak replied.

"3.2 million." Beast Peak.

"3.3 million." Yang Xiaoling spoke up, much to his surprise.

"Oi what's with that look?" She asked upon noticing his surprised expression.

"With the way you drink, I didn't think you'd have any money." He replied with a smirk, and her eyes twitched even as her cheeks went red.

"You really must want a beating, isn't that right?" She asked, cracking her fists.

"Is he not speaking the truth though?" The murder fox suddenly spoke up, its predatory eyes filled with mirth. "Or was that money not given to you by the Peak Mistress for the sake of buying those map fragments?"

“Oi Shiyu. Shut your mutt up. Or do you wanna have a go with me right here and now?” Xiaoling asked and Xue Shiyu turned to glance at her for a moment before she went back to ignoring her, much to the Xiaoling’s increasing ire before she looked back toward the auction stage and spoke up “4.3 million spirit stones.”

“Why does the Peak Mistress want the Map fragment?” He asked.

“Because she intends to send the Peak disciples there once the small world opens. Why else?” Xiaoling asked, looking at him like he was an idiot.

“I see.” He said, and then glanced down at the stage once again. He’d been studying the formation surrounding it for a while now, and by now, he was able to notice a few things.

So, he focused on the Auctioneer, let loose his killing intent, and a moment later, a vision unfolded.

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He used Veil of Borrowed Heaven and snuck out of the Pavillion. Now that his physique had reached the Peak of Foundation Establishment, his control over Qi had become more refined, and even Peak Golden Core cultivators won’t notice him until and unless they were actually paying attention.

He used this to his advantage to reach close to the Stage, before he took out three talismans before exploding them at each weakness within the Formation.

The formation went down, if only for an instant before it went back up. But that brief instant was enough for him to enter within the formation. Then, he killed the horrified auctioneer before reaching for the map fragment that was placed within a protective case.

A few powerful Sword Intent attacks destroyed the protective case, and he quickly took out the folded Map Fragment even as a dozen powerful auras descended upon him.

He ignored them all and quickly unfurled the map. Right at that moment, the Formation activated and locked all his movements. But that was enough as he could still move his eyes and did so quickly to remember everything within the map fragment.

And then, a dozen attacks fell upon him, and he heard Zi Mo's horrified cry from the distance before he died.

He immediately took out a brush and a parchment and started drawing everything he remembered from within the Map fragment.

It was not a perfect 1 to 1 replication and he was sure he got a few lines wrong here and there. But for the most part, it was a decent copy.

“What are you doing?” Zi Mo asked, glancing over at the map he drew with narrowed eyes.

“You probably already guessed it.” He said, folding the parchment and placing it within his spatial ring. “Tell Senior Xiaoling to stop bidding. And to not bid on either of the other map fragments either.”

Zi Mo searched his eyes and asked. “Are you sure?”

He nodded.

In the end, the three map fragments sold for 8.3 million, 11.6 million and 17 million respectively, so the slight bit of fortune he lost in creating the five simulations it took him to perfectly copy those map were definitely worth it.

Except, in the aftermath, instead of his halo decreasing in brightness, it suddenly increased threefold, shining like a beacon. Because right at that moment, the side door to the pavilion opened, and within walked a manager, followed by two attendants, with a slave walking in between them.

It was the same woman they had bought not long ago.

“Elder Xue Shiyu. Here’s your purchase is here.” The manager said and Senior Shiyu glanced at the woman for a moment, her eyes narrowing in confusion before she looked away.

“The payment.” She said, tossing a spatial ring to the manager before she looked away. “Hand her over to Zi Mo and Li Yuan.”

## Chapter 60- Chu Yue

They emerged from the auction house with a pep in their steps. Li Yuan had successfully managed to bid for a few rare spirit herbs during the auction. Not because he had any truly need of them but because he wanted to add them to his collection.

He felt that he might be starting to develop a bad habit, hoarding so many herbs like this. But he couldn't bring himself to chastise himself for it.

After all, all those rare herbs put together had only cost him a few hundred thousand spirit stones. A paltry sum compared to the wealth he now possessed.

The thought made him snort a little. There was a time when the entire Li family struggled to gather even a tenth of the wealth that he now casually spent for the sake of his 'collection'.

Then, he finally turned to look at the 'slave' he'd just bought from the auction. The blond woman walked beside him, her head lowered as she put on a meek facade even as her eyes occasionally darted around, studying the combatants within the group as well as looking for ways to escape.

She was a rather beautiful woman, with sharp features, and a shapely figure.

“Your name is?” He asked.

The woman didn’t reply for a moment and kept walking with her head lowered. When he considered asking again, she finally spoke up meekly. “Dai Ran.”

From what he’d seen of her in the vision, the meekness was a mere pretence.

“I know that you’re not crippled, Dai Ran.” He said, sending his voice to her via a thread of Qi.

The woman stumbled mid-step before she continued walking as if she’d heard nothing. Then, she side gazed at him, and he could see her biting her cheeks before she spoke up in a similar manner. “What do you want?”

“I know about your Special



Physique as well.” He said and this time, her eyes widened and he could see all colour drain from her face.

“I don’t know what you’re talking about.”

“Eternal Pill Genesis body.” He said, and panic finally entered her eyes as she hurriedly looked around, noticing all the Golden Cultivators within their group. Her head lowered, and he could see the fight leaving her body as her shoulder’s slumped.

“I assume you intend to lock me up in a prison and have me churn out pills for you?” She asked bitterly even as her eyes narrowed with calculations. She walked a bit closer to her until her breasts were pressing against his arm. “You don’t need to do this. Please. I could make this worth your while.”

Li Yuan and backed off from the woman. “First. I have a fiancée. Second, I have no interest in you...” he paused “well, I suppose I am but I’m not going to touch you like that. Third. I have no interest in locking you up in a prison cell either for forcing you to churn out pills for me.”

Dai Ran’s eyes narrowed sharply. “What do you mean?”

“If you want, you’re free to go,” he said but his words didn’t seem to have the intended affect because the woman’s eyes narrowed even further.

“You expect me to believe that? That you would just let me go after buying me for 28 million spirit stones?” She let out a scoff. “Please, I was not born yesterday. If you want to fool me then you’ll have to do better.”

“I’m not trying to fool you. I’m not interested in enslaving anyone. If you want to leave, then you may. I give you my word that no one here will stop you. As for the money, I’ll eventually pay it back to Senior Xue Shiyu.”

The woman simply gave him a flat stare before her lips turned into a silent ‘O’. “I see. I understand your game now. You’re trying to seduce me. Pulling me in with your honeyed words. Clever. For a moment, I almost took you for one of those men that I’ve heard so often about but never really met.”

“Those men?”

“Fools.” She replied with a deadpan, her lips curling up in disdain. “Because only a fool would ever let go of a woman like me,” she said, lifting her chin proudly. “Let alone after they learn of my cultivation and physique.”

“That’s...” he sighed, and then chuckled. What a strange woman. “Fine. If you’re not willing to believe men, then you can just try to run. You’re still a Golden Core cultivator, so I doubt many within the sect will be able to catch you.”

“As if you won’t have these women guarding me day and night from beyond my perception.” She said, the corner of her lip curled toward her nose, as if she’d caught the scent of something rotting. “I, Dai Ran, am many things. Beautiful, charming, powerful, wise, intelligent... the list is endless. But what I’m not and never have been, is a fool. No sect would ever spend 28 million spirit stones on a woman and then just let her leave.” She then and looked him up and down in disdain. “And if you’re trying to seduce me, then you’ll have to do better. Much better. In fact, can I have someone else? I prefer my men more... bulky.”

He simply stared at the woman for a moment and then pinched the bridge of his nose. “Very well,” he said finally. “If you’re unwilling to leave, then we can set up a deal. We’ll provide you with ingredients as well as pills to catalog. And you can make those pills for us. And once sold, we can divide the profits 50:50.”

“60:40.” The woman retorted instantly.

“Very well.” He shrugged, not really caring for the wealth. In fact, even if she had asked for more, he would’ve given it to her.

The woman paused at how easily he gave in. “No. What I meant was 75:25,” she hurriedly said.

“No changing the deal after we’ve agreed on it.” He told her, taking some joy in the way her fists clenched in frustration. Then, her eyes brightened and she sauntered over him once again, giving him a seductive look as she swayed her hips and brought her breasts forward.

“Are you sure I cannot get to change your mind?” She asked in a husky voice.

He chopped her in the head. “No.”

Dai Ran’s eyes narrowed and she scoffed. She hump’ed and then walked forward to blend in with the rest of the women in the snow peak, completely ignoring him even as her hips swayed tantalising from side to side.

“She’s... something.” Zi Mo as she joined him, having eavesdropped on the entire conversation.

“That she is,” he said. “But as long as she doesn’t backstabs us, I don’t really care.”

Zi Mo fell silent after that and when he turned to look at her, he noticed her giving him a scrutinising glance. “What?” he asked.

“You were serious about letting her go, weren’t you?”

“Of course.”

“Senior Xue would’ve killed you if you did that.” Zi Mo said flatly.

“I doubt it. Despite her serious looks, I think she might be more empathetic than she shows us,” he said.

Zi Mo raised an eyebrow. “And what gave you that impression?”

“Intuition,”

“Intuition?”

“Yes.”

Zi Mo looked like she was about to say something else when a voice reached over the crowd. “Li Yuan. Is there a Li Yuan here?”

The crowd parted to show a woman wearing the elder robes of the Main Peak holding a letter. Her gaze fell on him immediately. “Are you Li Yuan?” she asked.

“Yes.” He replied, a bit confused as he’d never met this woman before in his life.

“I have a letter for you from my young mistress.” She said and then she handed a letter to him.

Zi Mo caught the letter before it could reach him, and scrutinised it with her Qi before finally handing it over to him, her gaze going back to look at the Main Peak elder with narrowed eyes.

Li Yuan opened the letter and went through its contents. After reading it, he read it again and then put it down, a complex expression appearing on his face.

“Who is it from?” Zi Mo asked.

“My fiancée. Chu Yue,” he said. “She wants to meet me in a nearby hotel.”

“Oh. And you plan to go there?”

“Should I? I mean, it’s not like I intend to marry her. Our betrothal is really a thing of convenience to keep the peace between Snow and Main Peak,” he said. “What do you think I should do?”

“If half the things I’ve heard about her are true, then it’s better not to meet her.” Zi Mo said, her eyes going dark.

He cocked his head to the side, unsure what she meant by that. So far, he knew absolutely nothing about Chu Yue, except that she’d broken her betrothal with Xu Chen when it became inconvenient. Just what kind of woman was she to elicit such a response from Zi Mo.

“If I may, Li Yuan.” The Main Peak elder suddenly spoke up.

He turned to her and nodded. “Go on.”

“My young mistress ordered me to hand you this letter if you decide to refuse her invitation.” The woman said and then threw him another letter. Just like the one before, Zi Mo caught this one as well and scrutinised it intently before handing it over to her.

Li Yuan opened the letter and went through it. His eyes widened and then narrowed sharply, the page crumpling in his grip. “That bitch!”

“What’s the letter about?” Zi Mo asked.

“She threatened to send me the head of all the orphans within the orphanage I’ve been frequenting if I refused the meeting,” he replied,

suddenly having a better idea of just what kind of woman he'd saddled himself with.

He was going to have a good talk with the Peak Mistress about this once he returns to the Snow Peak.

“So... you're going then?”

“Not like I have a choice,” he replied.

“Do you want me to come with you?” she asked.

He gazed up at his halo that was still burning bright and shook his head. “No need. I can handle this on my own.”

Zi Mo gazed at him for a moment and then nodded. “Very well. I'll wait for you at the ship. But if you don't come back within an hour, then I'll come searching for you myself.”

He nodded and pulled her into a kiss before he turned and looked at the Main Peak Elder. “Lead the way.”

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The hotel the old woman escorted him to was the most opulent and luxurious hotel he'd ever seen. The hotel consisted of several tiered pagodas that seemed to defy every law of gravity, each connected with one another by a bridge made out of pure jade. The walls were also carved out of thousand year jade, which glowed with soft rhythmic pulse, as if a living creature.

Even the two guards standing at the gate were at Peak Foundation Establishment realm, and they bowed deeply to the elder leader him as they went in.

Within, it felt like he'd entered an entirely different world as he suddenly found himself transported into a beautiful Sakura forest, with the faint smell of cherry blossoms, and the chirping of birds from a faraway distance.

'Illusioary array.' He thought as he continued to follow the woman until they reached the end of the corridor where a man was standing beside a... floating boat.



‘An elevator.’ He realised as they climbed aboard and were immediately taken high up into the building. And as they passed by each floor, he got a brief glimpse of all the illusory arrays within. One showed a vast grassland, another showed a beautiful garden, and so on. Each one different from the other. One of them even showed the scene of a large bath, with a dense crowd of men and women in the midst of an orgy.

They didn’t stop until they arrived at the top of the Hotel before the climbed out and the old woman once again begin to lead him.

Unlike the other floors, this floor had no illusory array, but the walls had many moving paintings that showed scenes of various battles. Cultivators fighting against spirit beasts, or demonic cultivators. One even showed an entire army of cultivators battling another army of cultivators high up in the sky. It was... a rather impressive display.

Finally, they reached a door at the end of the corridor. “The young mistress is waiting for you inside.” The woman simply said and stood by, completely ignoring his presence after her task was done.

He stared at her for a moment and then nodded. He knocked on the door, and when no response came, he knocked again.

“The door is open. Just go in.” The old woman said and he nodded, pushing the door open... and paused, his face going dark, and his fists clenching tightly as he heard the sound of loud moans and flesh slapping against flesh coming from within.

He turned to the old woman once again, his lips pressed into a thin line but the woman was now staring straight ahead, ignoring him completely.

He gritted his teeth and prepared himself for the worst as he went in. Within were a suite of rooms, each more luxurious than the last, and each clearly made for the express purpose of having sex if the various toys, oils and ropes, and other... tools placed upon nearby tables and shelves were anything to go by.

He even passed by what seemed like torture chamber but at a closer look, was a BDSM chamber as he shook his head and continued walk. The sound and smell of sex getting louder and louder until he reached the end...

And found a black haired buxom woman with fair skin bouncing up and down in the lap of a heavily scarred but rather muscular man, her eyes closed with pleasure, her lips parted as she gasped and moaned.

‘What was this?’ He wondered, his fists clenched in anger hard enough that they bled. ‘Have I been brought here to be insulted and ridiculed?’

Strangely enough, that thought had the complete opposite effect and served to calm him down instead. He tore his gaze away from the

spectacle and turned to study the rest of the room, pausing as he caught the faint scent of blood barely hidden underneath the heavy scent of sex and perfume.

Then, his attention was brought back to the couple as the admittedly beautiful woman let out a loud moan, throwing her head back as she slammed loudly on the man's lap. The man also let out a grunt, hips twitching as he came within her as well.

The anger returned once again but unlike before, this was a calm and shimmering anger that still let him think and analyse the situation. And upon taking a closer look, he realised that the man was one of the slaves that had been sold within the auction. A peak Foundation Establishment cultivator from the Southern Barbarian tribes that had been captured previously and sold as a slave. Bought by the Main Peak.

Then, he blinked, wondering if his eyes were playing tricks of him. But as he took a closer look, he realised that they weren't. And the man's muscle mass was indeed shrinking.

A moment later, the man let out a scream unlike any he'd ever heard before in his life. The man immediately started to thrash and punch the woman he'd just been fucking, trying his best to get away from her, his screams rising in pitch with each passing second.

The woman who had been in the throes of pleasure just until a moment earlier brought her head back, her wild, maniac eyes meeting

Li Yuan's own for a moment, until she bit down... and tore a large chunk of meat from the decaying man's shoulder, a spray of blood erupted from his shoulder before it suddenly petered away as the man became thinner and thinner and visible begun to age until finally... what remained of the man collapsed backward off the bed and into the marble floor.

The woman, presumably his fiancée, finally got up from the man's hips, showing herself in her completely naked form. He might've noticed her nakedness, were he not busy staring in horror at the place where the dead man's privates were now completely missing.

His fiancée chewed loudly on the meat she'd torn off from the man's shoulder and then gulped, letting out a relaxed sigh that brought his attention back to her. He watched as she licked her lips, as if she'd just had a tasty meal.

"These barbarians always have a... chewy, tangy taste." She said finally as she climbed down from the bed and walked over, still completely naked, until she arrived beside the fallen man, who, to his great horror, was still alive despite being little more than bone and flesh.

Then, Chu Yue brought her foot down and crushed the man's skull, spattering his blood and brain matter all over the floor and finally putting him out of his misery. She then tilted her head and looked at him curiously. "Have you ever tried?"

“Can’t say I have.” He replied, completely unsure how to even react to... all this. A good thing perhaps as it helped him maintain his calm facade.

His cannibalistic and promiscuous fiancée clapped her hands and he heard the sound of door opening before a young servant suddenly walked in, head lowered as he immediately begin to clean the floor. Judging by his expert handling, it seemed to him that the man had great experience in cleaning the dead remains from these floors.

The source of the scent of blood he’d caught suddenly became all too clear to him.

“You’re boring.” His fiancée suddenly spoke up as she went and sat back down on the bed, her legs spread wide upon to reveal her pink vagina to him. She sighed and looked to the side, a sly smile forming on her face. “Xu Chen had such an interesting reaction when he saw me like this. Oh, the threats...” She laughed in amusement until she suddenly paused and looked at him again, “You probably don’t even know who Xu Chen is, do you?”

“I do,” he said, watching as the servant, having already cleaned everything, finally sprayed some perfume on the floor before he hurriedly left, his head still lowered as he glanced at neither of them this entire time. What a professional.

“Oh... I suppose it doesn’t really matter.” The woman said as she got up and sauntered over to him until she was standing right in front

of him. She gazed at him up and down, a wide smile on her face. “You... are young. Though not as young as Xu Chen when I was betrothed to him. Nor as strong either. Only Peak of Qi Condensation. Tell me, why did Snow Peak take you in?”

“Maybe they liked my personality.” He replied, on lieu of a better answer.

Chu Yue tilted her head and simply looked at him for a moment before she let out a rather girlish giggle that seemed completely out of place in a woman that just ate and devoured a man alive. “Personality he says. Maybe you’re right though. Not everyone can face me and not quiver in fear. Even my own half-brothers are terrified of me. Though... maybe that’s because of how many of them I’ve eaten.”

He wasn’t sure if that word was a euphemism for sex, or if she’d actually eaten her half brothers alive. Possibly both, judging by what he’d seen so far.

He raised an eyebrow. “Why did you ask for me? Do you want something from me?”

Chu Yue spread her arms, as if to show the wealth and luxury she was living in. “Do I look I like want anything from anyone?”

“Yes.” He replied. “Some clothes would be good for a start.”

Chu Yue blinked and then giggled again. “I’ve changed my mind. Maybe you’re interesting after all. But...” she turned around and bent down over the bed, sticking out her ass in his direction before she spread her legs, exposing her thick pussy lips and her tiny, puckered asshole. “Are you sure you would rather have me in clothes than see me naked like this?”

“Clothes.” He said with a nod.

Chu Yue pouted, actually pouted and then scoffed, sitting on the bed once again. “You’re terrible. What kind of man says that to a lady?”

“You’re no lady.”

Chu Yue paused and her gaze snapped at him, the room suddenly filling up with the pressure of a golden core cultivator and a terrifying killing intent that even Chu Tianming hadn’t possessed. “What did you just say?” She asked as she got up and walked over to him until she stood right in front of him. “Say that again?” She asked in a soft whisper.

“You’re no lady.” He replied just as calmly, wondering if he would have to fight his way out of this hotel.

Chu Yue continued to glare at him for a long moment before she finally chuckled and patted him on the shoulders. “You’re right. I’m not lady. Though no one has ever said that to my face before. This is such a unique experience.” She hummed and turned around, walking over to a mirror where she picked up a robe and wrapped it around her frame. “I can see why the Snow Peak took you in now,” she said as she tied her sash before she finally turned around to look at him. “There, better now?” She asked as she showed herself off.

The robe was so badly tied that it barely hid anything. The slit between her legs was still visible to him, as were half her areolae. In fact, if anything, the half-tied robe made her look even more erotic. But after having seen what he just did, he doubted he’d ever feel any attraction toward her.

“Why did you call me here, Chu Yue?” He asked again.

Chu Yue pouted again. “Can’t I be interested in my young little fiancée. The only man within the Snow Peak.” She paused at that and tilted her head. “The only true man, I suppose.”

“Well, you’ve met me now.”



“That I have.” She said as she sauntered over to him, placing a finger on his shoulder as she circled him, her gaze all but drinking in his form. “And I have to say, I’m rather impressed. Though you’re lacking in power, your character is something to behold.”

He remained silent, watching the woman with no expression.

“Why are you not saying anything. Say something. Aren’t fiancées supposed to chat each other. To get closer before their marriage.”

“I will never marry you.” He said with the same conviction with which he would say that sun rises from the east and sets in the west.

“Aww... now you’re just breaking my poor heart.” Chu Yue said and fake sniffed. “Why? Am I not desirable?”

“No,” he said, his gaze meeting hers. “You’re not.”

Chu Yue’s eyes sharpened, her fists clenching and he knew that for once that his remark actually hurt her before she hid it behind a scoff. “You’re lucky I like you. Men of such daring are so rare. If I eat you now, it would be... such a waste. I would rather savour you first.” She then trailed a finger through his chest and brought it down until it came to rest upon his flaccid cock. “Wanna fuck?” She asked out of nowhere.

“No.”

“Thought you’d say that. Boring, boring. Your name is Boring Li Yuan from now on.” She muttered, her lower lips jutting out in a pout as she pretended and failed to look like an innocent child. Especially not with her right foot still covered in the blood and brains of the man she’d just killed.

“If you have nothing else to say, I’ll be leaving.” He said and turned to walk until Chu Yue suddenly appeared beside him, bouncing on her feet as she maintained her pace with him.

“Are you sure you don’t wanna fuck?” She asked. “I could turn around and you could pretend I’m that girl of yours... where’s her name again. Zho Mo or something.”

“Zi Mo. And no, still not interested.” He replied as he kept walking until the woman suddenly pushed him against the wall.

“Are you sure?” She asked, her smile taking a dangerous edge. “What if I threatened to kill those little orphans of yours. Maybe I’ll eat their bodies and send you their heads. Kids do taste so much better than adults. Even mortals. So tender and succulent.”

“Threaten me again, and I’ll kill you here and now.” He replied, meeting Chu Yue’s gaze evenly.

Chu Yue's eyes flew wide open in surprise. Then, she threw her head back and laughed. "Oh oh... you're funny as well." She said, struggling to catch her breath. "So funny." She leaned against his shoulder and continued laugh. "Kill me, a Qi Condensation Realm killing a Golden Core. Hahaha. That must've been the funniest joke I've ever heard um—"

Chu Yue's laughter ceased abruptly and she tilted her head in confusion. She slowly lifted her hand to see that its thumb was missing, having been cut cleanly along the edges. She looked down and found her thumb resting onto the ground, and then back up at him again.

She opened her mouth as if to say something, but her disbelief was such that no words escaped her lips.

"Do not threaten them ever again. Or I *will* kill you." He promised before he turned and walked away, flinching slightly as the woman started cackling with an even greater fervour, the sound echoing through the entire chamber.

'What a crazy woman.' He thought as he opened the door and walked out, only pausing at the last moment and gaze up at the pitch black halo that floated above Chu Yue's head ever since he'd first seen her.

He focused on it and the vision unfolded.

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Chu Yue was within a round chamber, pressed tightly against what seemed like thousands of other men, women and children. Their cultivation ranging from Peak of Golden Core to mere mortals.

Then, the room suddenly started shaking and heating, and everyone around her started to cry and beg their father or grandfather to stop.

“Oh chill out, will you. This’ll be over in an instant.” Chu Yue said, looking rather bored and apathetic in comparison to everyone around her who was panicking.

“Chu Yue. How could you remain so calm? Don’t you understand what’s happening?” The man pressed against her asked.

Chu Yue gave a bored look to the man pressed tightly against her. “I understand well enough. I’ve just have a lot of time to come to terms with it.”

The man’s eyes opened wide in horror. “You... you knew this would happen. How?”

“Yup. I did. Saw the pill recipe in my father’s solar while playing around as a child.”

“Why did you never tell anyone... why didn’t you ever tell me?”

“What would you have done?” Chu Yue asked, showing only apathy as the shaking increased in intensity along with the heat.

“We could’ve run away, you dumb bitch!”

“Watch your words, dear brother. Or do you want to go the same way as our eldest brother?” She asked, smirking as the man pressed against her paled. “As for why I didn’t escape. Do you really think I never tried?”

The man paused to think and then frowned. “...father caught you, didn’t he?”

Chu Yue smirked, but her eyes were dead this time. “He did. Cooked our mother alive in front of me, making me watch the entire time until she stopped screaming. And when she was done, he forced me to eat her as lesson for why I should never try to go against him.”

Her brother looked horrified at her words. “But... you... mom... she died of Qi Deviation.”

“Nope. I ate her as well. My first meal.” Chu Yue chuckled sadly before she shook her head. “Don’t think too much about it. It’s too late now. Besides, not like you could do anything to me, you weakling.”

Her brother could only stare at her in stunned silence until... a giant spatula descended within the room. And as Li Yuan looked up in the vision, he suddenly came to the realisation that all these people weren’t within round chamber, but inside a giant cauldron.

A giant spatula started to move, and whomever it touched turned into a mist of blood and flesh.

Chu Yue’s brother tore his gaze away from the spatula and turned to glance at his sister. “I hope you rot in hell, you bitch.”

Chu Yue only smirked in response until the spatula reached her, and she too, turned into blood mist.

But... instead of dying, Chu Yue’s soul instead survived as a soul, struggling to swim through the blood red mist that soon started to come together and condensed into a pill. A pill made from the bloods, bones, flesh, organs and soul of her and her family members.

Chu Yue then watched from within as the pill became more and more condensed until it finally flew out of the giant cauldron and into the palm of a man who seemed to be blind, with his eyes having been slashed off with a sword.

Despite his blindness, the man caught the pill with ease and studied it for a moment before a sinister smile appeared on his face. “My unworthy children, my useless descendants. Rejoice. For your life will finally have meaning. You’ll help me gain strength so that I may get the love of my life. Wu Yuechan. Chan’er, wait a little more for your husband. We’ll soon be happy together. Forever!”

With that, the man swallowed the pill, where it immediately began to dissolve. Chu Yue, now finally free of the pill, tried to escape but found herself confined within her father’s body.

After that, she could only watch as her father’s power started to skyrocket. Going from 7th to 8th stage of Nascent Soul. From 8th to 9th. And 9th to 10th until finally... he started to ascend.

Hours passed, and Li Yuan watched as the Sect Master continued to fail his Inner Tribulation. But each time he failed, he would burn the soul of one of his children, and push through.

After hours, he finally succeeded the Inner Tribulation, and thus started the Heavenly Tribulation. The Sect Master was able to defend against the first few lightning Tribulations on his own. But as the number and danger increased and he started gaining injuries, he

finally started using the stronger souls among his children to shield himself against the lightning attack.

Finally, with most of his children's souls being used up and one lightning tribulation still to go, the sect leader used up Chu Yue and her remaining siblings as shield.

Chu Yue saw the lightning tribulation descended upon her... and then everything went dark.

The vision ended.

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Li Yuan returned to himself and watched Chu Yue cackle within he room, horrified by what he'd just witnessed.

He noticed the old woman from before looking at him with a blank gaze. He quickly closed the door behind him and strode off. Wanting to reach back within the safety of the Snow Peak so that he may relay this information to the Peak Mistress.