## Chapter 2425

The only thing in their eyes was the everchanging runes.

Jack, Gilbert, and Andrew saw nothing else and cared for nothing.

Jack let out a small sigh, not looking up to see the reactions of everyone else.

However, Jack did not need to even look. He could easily imagine the shock on everyone's faces as he showcased his talent.

Thinking about that, Jack could not help but mumble in his heart, 'I wonder if this is considered slow...

To keep a lower profile, Jack deliberately slowed down the speed at which he was forming the pills. If he had kept his regular pace, he would already have formed 800 runes.

However, he knew very well that it would only invite greater suspicions from the vice-treasurer if he did that.

He might even be kept behind as a lab rat to be experimented on.

He was not willing to remain in Heavenly Pills.

He only had one goal, which was to enter the Middle Province Alchemist Alliance and climb the ranks there.

With the status of an alchemist, he would be able to get more spirit crystals to buy the ninth- grade spirit crystals.

After a moment, Jack finally put his hands

down.

300 runes that glowed in a faint gold color floated before Jack.

There was no need for anyone else's as everyone took the scene in.

Jack had succeeded in an incredibly clean and beautiful manner.

At that moment, Jack looked up at everyone in front of him thoughtfully.

After a short moment of silence, they no longer looked at Jack with the same shocked look as before.

However, some of them still looked at Jack as if he was a monster.

The vice-treasurer did not say anything.

If it were not for his slowly widening eyes, Jack would have thought the vice-treasurer was able to keep his composure, that the vice-treasurer was able to calm himself despite the excellence Jack had shown.

"Vice-treasurer, what do you think about this result? Do I have the right to become a student of the Middle Province Alchemist Alliance? Jack said calmly.

His question was a pointless one.

If Jack did not have the right to be a student of the Middle Province Alchemist alliance after that showing, then no one did.

Looking at Jack's abnormally calm expression from the start, the vice-treasurer narrowed his eyes slightly.

He said in a slightly hoarse voice, "You've

learned the Way of the Pill before?"

It was a question that did not need answering.

If Jack had not learned the Way of the pill before, he would never have been able to form those pill runes.

Jack nodded slightly as an answer.

Seeing the nod, the vice-treasurer immediately asked, "What Way of the Pill did you learn? Since you've learned the Way of the Pill, why did you enter Heavenly Pills?

"Don't tell me you came in because you love and admire this place. That's a very foolish reason, I won't believe it.."

The vice-treasurer stared right at Jack as he spoke.

It looked like he wanted to seee into Jack's inner thoughts through Jack's face.

Jack raised an eyebrow.

The moment he decided to show off his skills, Jack already had a plan.

"Heavenly Pils is the largest pill store in Rosefinch City. I came here to start a new life, so it's only natural that I need to pick the best place. My friend happened to know Mr. Simmons, so I managed to become a student here."

Chapter 2426

Jack's explanation, however, did not wholly satisfy the vice-treasurer.

After all, Jack's response had not been what the vice-treasurer wanted to know. The vice- treasurer frowned and opened his mouth, wanting to guestion Jack even further.

Jack gave him no such opportunity and,

instead, answered the most pressing questions.

"I learned the Way of the Pill from my master. Everything I know was passed to me by my master."

As for why I came here despite having a master, well, it's very simple.

My master garnered jealousy wherever he went because he knew the Way of the Pill.

He was killed a few months ago.

I came here to look for the person and seek revenge for my master."

Jack's eyes darkened with pain and hatred as he spoke.

It was as if someone truly had killed his whole family.

Jack had met various kinds of people in recent times.

He was actually incredibly impressed with those who were incredibly good at acting.

Ever since he had been sent to Middle Province, Jack had been working hard on his acting skills.

After all, he felt like he would need it eventually.

After all, there were many hidden talents in Middle Province, and he could not casually reveal his true identity to everyone, either.

Only great acting skills would help him hide his status.

The vice-treasurer did not answer immediately after those words.

Instead, he looked at Jack with a searching look in his eyes.

Jack did not meet the vice-treasurer's gaze and instead lowered his head, simmering in his anger.

The vice-treasurer looked at him like that for a good while before averting his gaze, After that, the vice-treasurer seemed to have made a decision.

He gave a small nod. "You're quite a good sprout. I know you're in a rush to become a sixth-grade alchemist right now.

You're probably looking to climb up step by step until you have enough power to take revenge for your master.

"Middle Province Alchemist Alliance is indeed a good place, but it has a fatal flaw. Good places naturally attract more masters.

"If you go there, your intelligence might not genuinely show through. Why don't you stay at Heavenly Pills instead? I'll let the head treasurer know about you. You 'll be given a lot of resources to cultivate your talents."

The vice-treasurer had been very earnest when he said that, with no inkling of deceit in his words.

Jack, on the other hand, frowned, not saying anything immediately.

Jack had no doubts of the vice-treasurer's intentions.

Jack was a prodigy, definitely far better than the other students there. The vicetreasurer felt like he was worthy of being brought up, so the vice-treasurer would naturally want him to stay.

If he stayed, it would be a tremendous boom for Heavenly Pills.

However, Jack did not want to remain.

The vice-treasurer might be right; Middle Province Alchemist Alliance was definitely somewhere masters gathered.

With so many masters within, any ordinary prodigy would not be in such a great position.

They might not be given too many resources and might have to rely on themselves, yet those were for regular masters. Jack was not one of them.

Jack's biggest advantage was his complete self-awareness.

After absorbing the great warrior's memories, he was no longer the same as he was before.

To Jack, alchemy was far easier than it was even to all the masters present.

He just needed some time.

As long as Jack had enough time, he would be able to shine brightly even in the Middle Province Alchemist Alliance.

Chapter 2427

Fane had the confidence, so it was natural that he did not want to remain with Heavenly Pills. "I know you're sincere in your words, but I've already set a goal for myself long ago. I won't sway in my vision so easily.

"I have to go to the Middle Province Alchemist Alliance. There might be a lot of geniuses that'll try to suppress me, but I believe that the added pressure will only give me more motivation and spur me forward"

Fane's determined words had taken the vice-treasurer aback, baffling the man. He did not want to see Fane leave. The ability and talent that Fane had shown earlier made it evident to him that Fane was a prodigy that must not be released.

If Fane stayed with Heavenly Pills, Fane would no doubt bring them tremendousbenefits.

Then, his own stock would rise greatly, and he might even become an elder in the clan.

Fane immediately understood after he glanced at the vice-treasurer that the man would not give up easily. After taking a deep breath, Fane continued, "Heavenly Pills has helped me a lot, and I surely won't forget what they've done for me. If I make a name for myself in the Middle Province Alchemist Alliance, I'll definitely come to Heavenly Pills' aid should they encounter any trouble. Please, allow me to fulfill my goal!"

Fane hurriedly bowed at the vice-treasurer before he added, "I'll always remember your recommendation."

When the vice-treasurer heard that, he could not help but frown. He swallowed the words that had already been at the tip of his tongue, It was obvious that Fane was already determined. If he remained obstinate, he might completely screw

things up. If Fane hated him, then it would be a great loss.

The vice-treasurer mulled over it for a long time before he nodded helplessly. All he could do was pray that Fane's words had not been lies.

"Since you're already so determined, I won't stop you. I hope you'll remember your words today."

Fane nodded earnestly, showing that he would not forget his words. Fane did say those words to escape Heavenly Pills, but he was always a man of his word.

If Heavenly Pills truly did encounter any problems in the future, he would help where he could.

The vice-treasurer let out a sigh, his face full of regret.

If Fane had chosen to stay in Heavenly Pills, there were much more benefits to he gained. However, Fane did not think Heavenly Pills was enough. Fane's heart was already set on the Middle Province Alchemist Alliance, so he had no choice.

The surroundings were once again plunged into silence. All the students exchanged looks among themselves. In all their eyes were envy and jealousy. Various emotions mixed together, and they all looked at Fane with complicated expressions.

They were no fools, of course. They could tell that the vice-treasurer had been very

eager to have Fane stay. As long as Fane stayed, it would bring tremendous benefits to Heavenly Pills in the future.

It was frustrating to compare themselves to Fane.

Raphael could not help but clench his fists.

The admiration and jealousy in his face threatened to seep out. He wanted so badly to prove himself to the vice- treasurer, all for the sake of obtaining more resources in the future.

However, the things he would risk his life to achieve were met by Fane's disdain. Fane wanted nothing more than to climb even higher.

Just as everyone wallowed in their bitterness, Gilbert's voice was suddenly heard.

"I've done it! I've succeeded! Look, vicetreasurer! Three hundred pill runes! I've done it!

## Chapter 2428

Gilbert practically shrieked when he proclaimed his success, and it was obvious how excited he was, so much so that he was almost tongue-tied, too.

The vice-treasurer, however, frowned, his expression rather stiff.

Gilbert looked at the vice-treasurer with an uncanny expression, wondering why the vice-treasurer gave him such a peculiar stare. It was as if his results were not even Worth the viceHtreasurer's gaze.

The whole situation weirded Gilbert out.

His performance had been incredibly exceptional, so why was he receiving the strange look? He had just learned the Way of the Pill not too long ago and achieved quite the feat. Someone like him would only appear once every five or six years in Heavenly Pills!

Why, then, was the vice-treasurer not happy at all looking at him? Gilbert's lips twitched as he immediately shot a look at his good friend, Damien.

Gilbert then noticed that Damien was looking at him just as oddly. He could even see a hint of regret and pity in Damien's eyes.

Gilbert's expression abruptly soured. He anxiously looked at everyone around him as his hands shook. "Hey... Why isn't anyone saying anything? I passed the vice-treasurer's benchmark."

After saying that, he suddenly turned around to look at Andrew.

Andrew was still immersed in condensing his runes.

From his pace, Andrew probably did not need that much nore time to complete the vice treasurer's task.

Alas, Andrew could not compare to Gilbert After all, Gilbert was faster to complete the challenge.

The vice-treasurer coughed slightly as he helplessly muttered, "You did complete the task I asked you to, but..."

The vice-treasurer then paused, unsure of how to explain the situation. He glanced at Fane before he noticed that the pill runes Fane had condensed earlier had been dispersed by Fane with a wave of his hand.

The area was empty.

This aggravated the vice-treasurer evenn more. He pursed his lips and suddenly found himself in a difficult spot. Just as the vice-treasurer was mulling over how he would explain it to Gilbert, Andrew finally completed his last stroke.

Andrew let out a long sigh as he looked around excitedly. When he saw Gilbert standing in front of him, Andrew's heart jumped a little

He turned to look at where Gilbert had been before; it was a sea of red in his spot. 300 pill runes were laid out tidily. Looking at the Scene, the look of excitement on Andrew's face vanished instantly.

He lost! He still lost!

Nonetheless...he knew that he merely lost because he was younger than Gilbert. He had not lost to Gilbert in talent. He would be no match for Andrew had Andrew been the same age as himn.

However, the vice-treasurer had stated everything clearly. The prize for the competition had been a nomination, and that had fallen into Gilbert's hands.

Thinking of that, Andrew could not suppress his indignance.

He rushed forward and sneered, "Alright, you won, but knowbthat I'm not happy about this. If we enteredbHeavenly Pills at the same time, you wouldn't beat me at all!"

Gilbert's mind, meanwhile, was racing When he heard those words, he turned around angrily. He clenched his teeth as he looked at Andrew as if he was about to pounce at any moment.

The vice-treasurer immediately interjected when the situation began to worsen as he said, "What are you two even fighting for?! I hereby announce...the nomination belongs to Fane!

No one around them reacted oddly exceptt for Gilbert and Andrew. Everyone looked at the two of them with pitiful expressions.

Gilbert and Andrew were stunned when they heard the vice treasurer's words, wondering if their ears had tricked them.

The nomination was Fane 's Why was it his? Was this not a battle between the two of them? Had Fane not been a complete dolt?

Those questions floated about their heads. The two of them could not voice any questions for a moment as they looked at the vice-treasurer with a stunned expression.

Chapter 2429

The vice-treasurer's lips twitched.

There were things he did not want to bother to say, but he was forced to.

The vice-treasurer pointed at where Fane had been before.

'Fane had already completed the condensing of three hundred pill runes a while ago, and the quality of the runes he condensed was far better than what the two of you formed.

The runes he formed will surely merge with the pill and have a refinement of over fifty percent."

Only after he said that did Gilbert and Andrevw snap out of their stupor. Fane had already completed the task a while ago, and the quality of his pill runes was higher than theirs.

After hearing that explanation, Andrew and Gilbert lost their composure.

"Vice-treasurer, are you taking me for a fool? scoffed Gilbert. "Can this brat really condense pill runes? How long has he been in Heavenly Pills?

"He's never even seen the Vermillion Fire Pill, so how could he have condensed pill runes?! Did he trick you somehow?

The vice-treasurer raised an eyebrow at this and said, "Iknow it's difficult for you both to accept what I said, but the truth is the truth. Everyone here bore witness.

"Fane had indeed condensed three hundred pill runes in a very short time, The two of you have lost. You can't compare to Fane for now,"

Those words were incredibly agitating to hear. Gilbert froze on the spot, his face looking like he had swallowed several flies.

He could not even shut his mouth.

Damien could understand how Gilbert felt, so he consoled Gilbert, "That brat had a good master. He would've never been able to accomplish this had it not been for that master!

'So you're telling me everything the vicetreasurer said was true?!" snapped Gilbert.

Damien's expression changed as he had no idea what to reply with. In the end, Gilbert was still his friend, and if Damien did not tell Gilbert the truth, Gilbert would only make himself look bigger of a fool.

Damien nodded."Don't get angry. This brat isn't anyone ordinary. We just lost to luck"

Damien's words did not seem like they meant much, but on a second thought, there seemed to be a deeper meaning behind it.

Fane became even more curious at thiS What had their secret plan been? Did it involve anything else?

Andrew shook his head with a crazed

expression. "He... He won! Why? Why can he do it but we can't?!"

Andrew became more furious as he thought about it, his sharp gaze focused on Fane. Fane, on the other hand, could not be bothered with what these lunatics would do.

After all, they were no match for Fane, even if they worked together. It did not affect him at all.

'I refuse to believe it! I refuse to believe you can do it. I want to see you do it again!" demanded Gilbert thunderously.

Chapter 2430

Gilbert had already lost his bearings at that point.

Only then did he realize why everyone looked at him so strangely.

The stares he received, and the students' expression, had been of sympathy.

Gilbert had formed 300 pill runes, and obviously so.

He remembered how excited he had been after he completed the vice-treasurer's task.

All that excitement was only met with disappointment like a bucket of cold water thrown over him.

Gilbert trembled slightly. "I refuse to believe it! I didn't even see it! It's all fake-everything is fake! How could Fane formthree hundred pill runes? He's never even looked at the Way of the Pill.

This is all an illusion, and you're all lying to me!" roared Gilbert.

His hands flailed around him as he clawed at his surroundings while he shouted. It was

like he truly believed it was an illusion, and he was trying to struggle out of it.

He refused to believe it was all real nor was he willing to.

He had clearly proven with his skill that he was the one most qualified to be a student at the Middle Province Alchemist Alliance..

Fane stole that from him!

The vice-treasurer frowned. Gilbert's reaction had both been expected and unexpected.

After all, Fane's results had shocked even himself. If he had not witnessed it personally, he would not have believed it either

However, Gilbert's behavior was a little too erratic.

The vice-treasurer tooka deepbreath as he sternly added, "There are things that happen even if you refuse to believe it. There are many talentS in Heavenly Pills. You might have a lot of potential, but you're not the strongest."

Gilbert's face paled as he shook his head with vigor.

"This isn't real! If his results were better than mine, then why don't I see a single rune around?"

The vice-treasurer frowned at this. "Fane formed his three hundred runes much earlier before this, and we've all seen what he did.

Pill runes aren't something that lingers.

"Fane was waiting for you and Andrew, and he's not in the spring solidifying realm yet. There's no way for him to constantly use his true energy, which was why he dispersed it before you even finished."

Gilbert's expression contorted even more at this, his expression becoming deranged.

He turned up to look at Andrew as he shouted even louder, "Do you believe that?! Andrew had an ugly, bitter expression on his face."

Even as Gilbert spiraled into insanity fueled by disbelief, his eyes never left Fane.

He stared at Fane sharply, keenly, as if he could stare right into Fane's soul.

After hearing Gilbert's words, he reacted.

Andrew's lips trembled as he said, "I haven't seen it for myself, so I can't believe it, either. If Fane can form the pill runes in front of us again, we'll accept our defeat willingly."

Andrew was not willing to admit defeat.

He would not be so unwilling if the winner had been Gilbert.

After all, Andrew knew that Gilbert had a leg up as compared to himself.

As expected, Gilbert had managed to Condense the runes even faster than he did, but he never would have expected sudden dark horse to appear in their competition.

Fane had robbed them of the nomination so blatantly.

Further more, the guy seemed better than them both.

According to what the vice-treasurer said, Fane's pill runes were far better than theirs in both speed and quality.