

Chapter 2651

At that point, even Mr. Zayne was furious. When the results are out and if they lost, they would have to pay a large price. At the same time, they would completely lose their dignity as well. Sky Peak Pavilion would definitely announce this news everywhere.

When the time comes, Phoenix Valley would both lose material and its dignity. This matter would definitely cause large waves within Phoenix Valley. Since he was a part of it, he would definitely not be able to shed any responsibility and get punished for it.

He might not even be able to keep his current position. Just thinking about that gave Mr. Zayne a headache. He started to hate Elder Rick as well.

"Before, he never did anything clean either. If we want to deal with him, we'll have to dig everything up.

"No one ever did anything about it before because he never caused anything particularly bad even by using official matters to settle his personal grudges. It's different this time. If we lose, we'll all be affected, and he won't get off easily!"

Elder Maurice nodded at that, already planning out how he would deal with Elder Rick when he got back to Phoenix Valley. At that moment, Elder Maurice and Mr. Zayne were already resentful of Elder Rick.

If Elder Rick did not recommend Fane, they might still have had the chance to turn things around. However, at that point, it would already be a miracle if Fane did not drag them down, let alone turn the tables.

Fane was already incredibly far away from the center at that point. None of them knew how many pill runes Fane had already completed, but none of them wanted to know either.

Even if they did not bother looking, they could guess that Fane was probably not even at a hundred pill runes. Based on his earlier speed, it would already be impressive if Fane managed to complete three hundred pill runes in six hours.

Fane would definitely drag everyone down with his results, and cause them to lose the tournament. The two of them had increasingly sour looks on their faces, while Master Forrest had a devilish smile.

At that moment, Master Forrest was already thinking about how he would use this win to climb to greater heights. Then, he would definitely have all those people who had targeted him or looked down on him before, look at him with looks of admiration and jealousy.

Master Forrest got more and more excited as he thought about it. He could not stop himself from smiling. Elder Maurice saw the huge smile on Master Forrest's face, and his heart exploded in anger again.

There was nothing else to say at that moment. At the most, he would only end up being a joke to others. He tried his best to compose himself. When the fifth hour started, there were some of them who were already on the brink of collapsing mentally.

Among them, the one who was the least stable mentally was Benedict. His face constantly paled as he clenched his teeth and battled the condensing card in his hand.

It was not far away from the end of the time limit. Everyone was trying their best to get through the last stretch. At that moment, Benedict had already completed six hundred pill runes, but that was already his limit.

There was not one rune from the remaining thousand and four hundred that he could complete. Each time he tried to complete a new one, it would not achieve high refinement, or would collapse due to him drawing the rune wrongly.

Completing six hundred pill runes was not a good result for Benedict. He did not pay any attention to the three from the Sky Peak Pavilion, but he could see how Claude was doing.

Claude had already completed six hundred and forty pill runes and was still continuing, but Benedict was already at his limit. Even though the two of them had been good friends for many years, Benedict had never thought that Claude would do better than him.

Chapter 2652

Witnessing Claude achieving better results heavily affected Benedict's mental state. His forehead was full of sweat as his hands constantly moved, a faint red glow danced between his fingers.

Each time he was about to complete a rune, he would fail because for some reason or another. Even if he managed to complete a rune, it would be destroyed by the condensing card due to the lack of refinement.

The more it happened, the more frustrated Benedict became. His unstable mental state caused his progress to come to a sudden halt. Seeing Benedict in such a horrible state made Elder Maurice and Mr. Zayne even more nervous.

Even though they were already sure that they would lose the contest, if their results were bad, their punishment would be even

more severe. If that happened, it would be much harder for them to shed any responsibility.

Elder Maurice took a deep breath as he frowned. He tried his best to maintain a gentle tone, "Benedict, keep your composure. Don't let your anxiety get to you. You know that being anxious won't help you, and will only worsen your condition. Once you get back to Phoenix Valley, you will be punished even more for it!"

Those words caused a jolt in Benedict's heart, but they also helped motivate him. He bit his lip as he used the pain to sober himself up, tightening his mental state.

Master Forrest furrowed his eyebrows slightly as he grunted, "You're already at eight hundred and eighty. With a bit more work, you'll be at nine hundred."

Master Forrest's words were clearly to disrupt the other contestants. Just as he wanted, those words managed to trigger the four participants that were at the center. They all widened their eyes as they looked at Bradley in disbelief.

The longer the tournament got, the harder it was. Completing each run just got harder and harder.

Naturally, they knew that Bradley would have been better than everyone present, but they never expected that Bradley would already be more than two hundred runes away from any of them.

If he worked a bit harder, it was even possible for him to pull ahead by three hundred runes.

That distance had dealt a heavy blow to the contestants who had initially been very confident in themselves. All of their faces turned red, and even their breathing got erratic.

Elder Maurice was so furious that he clenched his right hand and turned to look at Master Forrest. Elder Maurice did not want to say anything to Master Forrest since he felt like Phoenix Valley was going to lose.

However, Elder Maurice could not stand Master Forrest constantly trying to disrupt the mental state of the other contestants. After all, he did not want his own alchemists to end up with bad results because of their mental state.

Elder Maurice frowned and said, "Master Forrest, you should really watch your words. If you want to praise your own alchemists, you can do that after the results are out. Why do you keep trying to affect everyone's mental states?"

Master Forrest raised an eyebrow before he said in a nonchalant manner, "Didn't we already agree that we would also be testing everyone's ability to keep calm? There's nothing wrong with what I said. Who's to blame if they allow themselves to be distracted?"

Elder Maurice's face darkened and he said angrily, "You..."

Right after he said that he was stopped by Mr. Zayne who was standing next to him. Mr. Zayne grabbed Elder Maurice's arm and whispered, "Elder, don't get too angry. Forrest is an old fox. If you keep trying to go against him, you'll just make yourself angrier. The results are already clear, so we should focus on the future."

Chapter 2653

After saying that, Mr. Zayne had a helpless and bitter expression on his face. Elder Maurice let out a long sigh. Mr. Zayne was right, there was no reason to fight at that moment.

Time was still ticking away. Not long after that, Master Maurice's loud voice was heard, "Time's up! Everyone can stop now."

Everyone, including Fane who was further away, stopped. Fane's lips twitched helplessly as he looked up, worriedly. He looked toward everyone in front of him.

He suddenly regretted insisting on wasting his time on the more complicated runes. He had calmed himself down and started to complete the runes while ignoring

everything else in the world. Even though he trained by himself, he was far from the center and did not know how everyone else did.

He was suddenly worried that his results would end up dragging everyone else down. If it ended up being like that, then he would really be humiliated.

At that moment, Master Forrest waved at him with a smile. Fane nodded and returned to his original spot with his card in hand.

At that moment, Fane placed his card close to his chest, not letting anyone else see his results. He looked at everyone else's condensing card with an inquisitive gaze.

What made Fane curious was the fact that everyone else did the same thing, hiding their cards to their chest, not showing their results to anyone. That deepened Fane's worry.

However, his worries only lasted for a moment. He clearly remembered Elder Maurice telling them that the tournament was in three parts, and they were just on the first segment.

Even if he did badly in the first segment, he would not be dragging the team down if he made up for it in the latter two parts.

Elder Maurice emotionlessly stood in front. When he saw Fane's calm demeanor, his rage soared. At that moment, he really wanted to ask Fane where Fane got all his confidence.

Even when the results were about to be announced, he still managed to look so carefree!

Fane felt like Master Forrest was looking at him with an incredibly warm gaze as if he was an alchemist from the Sky Peak Pavilion. Master Forrest let out a slight cough after looking at Fane before shifting his gaze to Jameson.

"We'll start from you. Show us your results. Let me repeat it again. The results this time will be based on your totals."

Jameson's eyes shifted worriedly. He was not very confident in himself, but since Master Forrest had chosen him to be first, he did not delay things at all.

After taking a deep breath, he handed over the condensing card in his hand. He showed his results to everyone present, and Master Forrest did not seem surprised at his result at all.

After all, Master Forrest had been in front of the five participants and had easily been able to see their results.

Master Forrest said, "Five hundred and fifty runes. This result isn't bad, but it's not good either. Continue working hard. Next!"

After he said that, he shifted his gaze to Benedict. Benedict's expression stiffened as he gulped, shooting a glance at Elder Maurice.

Chapter 2654

The result could no longer be changed at that moment. No matter what his results were, it was already fixed. If he hesitated or tried to make excuses, he would be looked down on. So, he took out his condensing card and showed everyone.

Master Forrest said emotionlessly, "Six hundred pill runes. Phoenix Valley is currently ahead, next!"

Next was Conrad from Sky Peak Pavilion. His face stiffened as he reluctantly showed his results to everyone. Master Forrest coldly announced, "Six hundred pill runes, also an average result. Now Sky Peak Pavilion has one thousand one hundred and fifty pill runes."

After that, Claude revealed his own results in a resigned manner. When Master Forrest saw Claude's results, his lips curled up into a smirk.

"Not bad, you completed six hundred and fifty pill runes. It's the highest so far. In total, Phoenix Valley has one thousand, two hundred and fifty pill runes. You have a hundred more than Sky Peak Pavilion, it's quite a good result!"

As he said that, Master Forrest's smile threatened to split open his face.

His meaningful smile was far too obvious. When everyone from Phoenix Valley saw that, they were infuriated. Master Forrest was starting to cross the line. He sounded like he was praising Phoenix Valley, but it was all just mockery.

Everyone knew that Bradley's results were the best among everyone there. He had yet to announce Bradley's results. What were a hundred pill runes?

Fane was the only one left from Phoenix Valley who had not shown his results. Everyone other than Fane knew that Fane's results did not need to be announced at all.

Fane was going to drag them down in the end.

It would be a miracle if he was even able to complete four hundred pill runes. After all the results were totaled, Phoenix Valley would definitely lose. Elder Maurice's lips twitched as the flames of anger in his heart raged again.

Mr. Zayne sighed as he wiped his face with his hand. Everyone had a sense of inevitable defeat around them. Phoenix Valley's atmosphere was already at its lower point.

Other than Fane, everyone was wondering what kind of punishments they would face when they got back to Phoenix Valley. Even though Fane was the main culprit for dragging them down, all of them still carried some of the responsibility.

Elder Maurice was worried that he would not even be able to keep his position as an elder. After all, if they lose this tournament, Phoenix Valley would end up suffering in many ways.

The fact that something like that happened in such a crucial moment would definitely infuriate the higher-ups. The more depressed Phoenix Valley's end felt, the happier Sky Peak Pavilion's side got. Master Forrest could not even hide his smile anymore.

He turned to look at Bradley and said, "It's about time you show us your results."

As that was said, the calmness he had when he read everyone else's results had vanished. Master Forrest was looking at Bradley with a look that was close to worship, but Bradley was definitely worth getting that look.

After all, his results were definitely something to be proud of. Furthermore, Bradley was incredibly calm. Even though he knew that his results were better than everyone else present, he did not show too much emotion on his face at all.

Chapter 2655

Master Forrest allowed him to flip over the condensing card in his hand. With a flick of his right hand, he immediately showed his results to everyone there.

Master Forrest's face lit up with a smile before he announced, "He completed nine hundred and fifty pill runes! What an excellent result. Adding it to the prior results, we have a total of two thousand and one hundred pill runes. If Phoenix Valley wants to beat this result, Fane must complete at least eight hundred and fifty pill runes."

Those words were practically a death sentence to everyone from Phoenix Valley. Fane needed eight hundred and fifty pill runes to even force a tie with Sky Peak Pavilion. Before all this, Phoenix Valley had come with the confidence to win.

After all, Sky Peak Pavilion was not that specialized in cultivating alchemists, nor did Elder Maurice believe that any talented alchemists would be at Sky Peak Pavilion. After all, for so many years, Middle Province Alchemist Alliance was where genius alchemists gathered.

Everything that had happened that day had given him a vicious slap on the face. Phoenix Valley was no match for Sky Peak Pavilion, and they lost in a devastating manner at that. He would definitely be heavily berated by the higher-ups when he reported that result and his position as an elder might even be at risk.

The more Elder Maurice thought about it, the more despondent he got. He even expected his life to end up miserable in the future as he got more and more depressed. After Master Forrest announced Bradley's results, he could no longer hold back the joy in his heart.

He was practically wagging his tail at that point. He said with a smile on his face, "The results aren't fully read out yet, you don't have to be so sad. Don't you still have Fane?"

"Just look at Fane right now, he's not worried at all. If he had such an expression on his face, he must be incredibly confident in his abilities!"

Master Forrest was doing his best to praise Fane at that moment, but his praise was practically just throwing insults at Phoenix Valley. Elder Maurice shook in anger when he heard that.

He immediately turned to look at Fane. Just like Master Forrest said, Fane looked incredibly calm at that moment. It was just the same as Bradley's expression. Fane had clearly seen how amazing the results of everyone else were, but he did not seem to care at all.

Elder Maurice had concluded that Fane must be crazy. At least, Fane did not seem to think the same as anyone else. Fane's result was clearly going to drag everyone down, and he would definitely end up being punished, but he did not seem to know any of that.

Fane suddenly let out a slight smile and replied when he heard Master Forrest's words, "Master Forrest, you're right. I am very confident in my results."

Fane stunned Master Forrest at that moment. He had wanted to praise Fane a bit more to deal a bigger mental blow to Phoenix Valley.

After all, it was just the start of the tournament. There were still two more tests waiting for them. The more unpleasant the condition Phoenix Valley was in, the more it would affect the final results, and the more likely Sky Peak Pavilion would win.

However, he never expected that Fane would suddenly say something like that. It was no longer a matter of self-confidence, but something was definitely wrong with his head.

Master Forrest was speechless for a moment before he said, "Did you hear what I said earlier? If Phoenix Valley wants to beat Sky Peak Pavilion, you need at least eight hundred and fifty pill runes! Without that amount, Phoenix Valley can't win!"

Fane nodded slightly, but still maintained his nonchalant expression. Claude and Benedict, who were in a stupor and silent before, could no longer remain calm when they saw how Fane was acting.

Claude shouted out, "Fane! Is there really something wrong with your head? Did you really complete eight hundred and fifty pill runes? Even if you want to brag, you should do it in the right place."

Chapter 2656

"Your results are about to be announced, but you still insist on trying to brag. Do you assume we'll think you're amazing if you do that? Or maybe you think it will change your results?"

Fane narrowed his eyes. Claude really was noisy. He really did not want to concern himself with those people and turned his condensing card around with his right hand before pointing at the number on the card.

"One thousand and two hundred pill runes. On top of their earlier results, Phoenix Valley's total should be at two thousand four hundred and fifty pill runes, a total of three hundred and fifty pill runes higher than yours! So...we've won the first round!"

Fane's words were clearly heard by everyone. The noisy hall suddenly turned silent. There were even those who had forgotten to even breathe.

Everyone gaped slightly as they looked at Fane's card with disbelief. After a long while, Master Forrest was heard again, "Impossible! Did you complete one thousand and two hundred pill runes? How did you do it? How could you have done it?! You must have cheated! You absolutely cheated!"

Fane lightly grunted unsurprisingly at how Master Forrest reacted. Anyone could guess that Master Forrest would say all of that after seeing his results.

Fane rubbed his chin, saying righteously, "Master Forrest, you need to take responsibility for what you say!"

"You claim I'm cheating? Then tell me how I cheated. Are you saying I didn't complete the pill runes or that there's something wrong with the condensing cards?"

Those words successfully shut Master Forrest up. His lips stiffened as he walked forward, wanting to shout out something, but he was not able to find anything to say.

That was because he could not think of any way to rebuke Fane. The condensing cards had been personally made by Master Forrest and Elder Maurice. In order to prevent any cheating, they had chosen the runes on the spot.

There was no way to cheat in this test at all. Since Fane completed those pill runes, it meant that he had the ability to.

Furthermore, even though Fane had been competing in a corner earlier, he had been observed the entire time.

If he had done anything suspicious, he would have been noticed immediately. Even if Fane did anything suspicious, Master Forrest could not figure out any way that Fane could cheat.

Master Forrest gulped as he shuddered.

Elder Maurice's eyebrows threatened to pop out of their sockets. His beating got erratic as he broke out in cold sweat.

He was dumbfounded at Fane's results and even suspected that he was hallucinating. He was worried that he was dreaming because it was far too absurd.

A sixth-grade alchemist, one who had just shown so many mistakes, had been able to complete a thousand and two hundred pill runes in a short six hours.

He had a total of two hundred and fifty pill runes higher than Bradley, who everyone had had their eyes on. Mr. Zayne grabbed Elder Maurice's arm so tightly that it caused Elder Maurice to frown.

However, Mr. Zayne was far too emotional to notice that. He took a deep breath as he said emotionally, "We won! We really won!"

He was far too excited. Their earlier despondent mood suddenly lifted up. He almost lost control of himself. At Mr. Zayne's words, Elder Maurice snapped out of his thoughts.

Chapter 2657

He nodded and replied excitedly, "Yes! We won! We have completely won! We got three hundred and fifty points more than they did!"

They had thought that defeat was certain, but managed to gain a surprise victory. Even though it was only the first part of the competition, Fane's results proved that they would definitely win if he continued!

With that in mind, Elder Maurice looked up at Master Forrest. The moment he thought of how often Master Forrest had mocked him, he felt his anger soaring. Now that he had the chance, he would not let it go.

"Master Forrest, your eyes really are sharp. I wasn't like you and could not tell how special Fane was at a glance. He was able to beat you so decisively. Even though Bradley performed quite well, he's still a distance away from Fane!"

"It's all thanks to you for saying all of those words to console us. It led me to believe that Fane was someone extraordinary!"

After Elder Maurice said that, Master Forrest almost spat out a mouthful of blood. He had thought that Sky Peak Pavilion would definitely win this time. Not only would they be able to gain a lot of resources, but they would also be able to bolster their reputation.

The moment the tournament was over, he would spread the results far and wide. The fact that Sky Peak Pavilion stood on top of Phoenix Valley would definitely cause them to be regarded much higher by everyone else in the future.

After all, Phoenix Valley was at the core of the Middle Province Alchemist Alliance. It was a place dedicated to cultivating alchemists. However, the best-laid plans of mice and men often go awry, so Fane had not been crazy after all.

Fane had been so calm and had said so many strange things completely because he had been confident in his own talent and ability.

Fane let out a smile as he looked at Master Forrest, "Thank you so much for the earlier praises. I have absolute confidence in myself as well. The Sky Peak Pavilion has talented alchemists, but they aren't really much to me."

Fane was no idiot. Of course, he knew that Master Forrest's earlier words had all been to humiliate him, so he had the perfect chance to fight back.

Master Forrest was so angry that his whole body shook. He almost collapsed on the floor at that moment, but thankfully Bradley was right next to him and reached up to help the swaying man.

At that moment, Bradley's expression finally changed a little. From the moment Fane announced his results, Bradley suddenly had a sharp expression on his face as he stared right at Fane's condensing card.

After Master Forrest steadied himself, Bradley finally said, "You completed a lot of very hard pill runes. You really are quite skilled."

"Why do you still have a sixth-grade alchemist badge? You should already have been a seventh-grade alchemist with your capabilities a long time ago. Why do you need to do that..."

Bradley frowned as he said all of that. He felt like Fane was someone who enjoyed fooling others. Fane clearly had skills that far exceeded a regular seventh-grade alchemist, so why did he still have a sixth grade alchemist badge on?

Bradley refused to believe it was not intentional. Fane frowned as he replied to Bradley's questioning look, "I've never taken part in the seventh-grade alchemist test, so I naturally won't have the badge. What does the badge on my chest have anything to do with anyone else?"

"I haven't been in Phoenix Valley for that long. Even those from Phoenix Valley don't really know me, so stop looking at me with that accusing look. If you have lost, then you have lost! Are you refusing to admit defeat?"

Chapter 2658

Those words successfully caused Bradley's expression to change drastically, particularly the last sentence. It caused Bradley's breathing to accelerate. Even though he was not someone who was very emotional, he had constantly been put on a pedestal by others for many years.

His talents surpassed so many alchemists that he never believed he would lose to anyone. Hence, when he was mocked by Fane like that after he lost to Fane, he

suddenly lost his composure.

Bradley's mouth stiffened, "It's still only at the first stage of the tournament. There are still two more stages. Don't think you can beat me later just because you've beaten me now."

Fane raised an eyebrow as he said casually, "Then let's wait and see, I don't really think you're that good anyway..."

Fane was intentionally provoking Bradley. After all, he had been angered so much earlier, so it was only fair that he got to vent his frustrations a little. Bradley's words earlier had basically offered himself to Fane on a silver platter.

He had already been angry, and Bradley looked and talked to him in such an accusing way. Elder Maurice had already forgotten how angered he had been earlier. He walked right over to Fane.

He reached out and took Fane's condensing card and looked it over before he said in surprise, "You completed half of the easier ones and half of the harder ones. Even the best of seventh-grade alchemists would not be able to do what you did!"

After saying that, Elder Maurice patted Fane on the shoulder emotionally.

Due to the limits of age, they were all still not at the level of being at the peak of seventh-grade alchemists. After all, standing at that peak meant that they were just a hair's breadth away from becoming an eighth-grade alchemist.

An eighth-grade alchemist represented an alchemist that was already on the path to becoming a master. An eighth-grade alchemist would be incredibly respected even in the inner region of Middle Province.

Eighth-grade pills could even be auctioned off for good prices. The path that Fane had set for himself initially was to become an eighth-grade alchemist before constantly refining pills to be auctioned off.

He would take any amount of spirit crystals he could get. After all, Fane needed far too many of them. In Fane's eyes, being an eighth-grade alchemist was just a starting point.

After all, he had absorbed the memories of that ancient warrior. Even ninth-grade alchemists were nothing to him. Fane's words thoroughly angered Bradley.

Bradley's personality should have been an incredibly calm one. However, even if he had been insulted before, it had never been as disdainful as how Fane was looking at him.

Furthermore, he had never felt that sort of feeling constantly boiling in his heart like Fane had numerous times before. It caused Bradley to suffer so much that his breathing was erratic.

Master Maurice frowned, "It's alright, this is just the first stage of the tournament. There are still two stages left.

"Even though you won the first stage, it doesn't mean that you'll win the other two stages.

"Our alchemists are only slightly below yours. If you give them some time, they'll absolutely surpass you!"

Chapter 2659

Master Forrest could not bear to just look on as Bradley was constantly getting angered by Fane. After all, they still needed Bradley to help pull them back in the remainder of the tournament. However, looking at what happened earlier, the other two events did not look too good for them.

Yet, he could not just give up all hope. Before organizing the tournament, Master Forrest had promised the other elders that Sky Peak Pavilion would definitely win.

After all, they had Bradley as their assassin, and Master Maurice had looked into what was happening within Phoenix Valley. He had already guessed that it was very unlikely that the alchemists from the inner valley would appear.

It would definitely be alchemists from the outer valley. The difference in talent between the two valleys was night and day, they were not comparable at all. As long as the alchemists that came were from the outer valley, he would not need to worry about anything.

Things happened just like he expected. A total of three came, but none of them seemed particularly strong. It went just as planned, but he never expected that his trump card would have been trumped by theirs.

Fane was an incredibly dark horse that caught everyone off guard. At that moment, Master Forrest had already thoroughly hated Fane. If Fane was not there, he would absolutely not lose this tournament.

All of his beautiful dreams from earlier had been shattered the moment Fane announced his own result. Fane let out a cold laugh, finding it funny how Master Forrest was trying to protect his golden goose.

Thinking about Master Forrest's mocking words from earlier, Fane decided he could not just let them go and refuted, "I don't know if I would ever agree with that. He's obviously going to improve if you give him time, but are you saying I'll just never improve?"

"No matter how much he improves, I'm just going to stay the same? Don't you think that's hilarious?"

Master Forrest's face darkened as he clenched his fists together.

Elder Maurice was incredibly amused by that. All the anger he had accumulated earlier disappeared in an instant, and his mood completely recovered.

However, Master Forrest was not someone who only knew how to throw his temper around. He clearly knew that there was no reason to continue fighting with Fane, just like how he had forced Elder Maurice into a corner earlier...

He had been in a position of absolute advantage, even if Elder Maurice talked his tongue off, he would only be laughed at. Yet, the situation had changed, and he was now the person who was being humiliated.

Master Forrest took a deep breath, "In preparation for the second test, we'll give you an hour of rest. In an hour, the second portion will continue. I'll announce the rules then!"

After that, Master Forrest coldly sat back down. Fane raised an eyebrow, he would definitely be seen as too stubborn if he insisted on continuing to mock Master Forrest.

Elder Maurice would definitely stop him as well. After all, they were not enemies. Fane's lips twitched as he stopped reluctantly.

Since they had an hour to rest, he would naturally not waste his time on those from Sky Peak Pavilion. He turned around and walked toward a corner in the hall.

He wanted to find a place to rest for a moment. At that moment, Fane was in the center of the five of them. No matter where he went, Elder Maurice and the others followed. The five of them found a quiet spot away far away from the center.

Elder Maurice had a very happy expression on his face. It was as if he had found light in the darkness. Mr. Zayne was not much different and felt like Fane was his lucky star.

Chapter 2660

Compared to the excitement from those two, Claude and Benedict were keeping a much lower profile. The two of them hang their heads low at that moment, not daring to say anything.

After all, they had insulted Fane before, and the words they said had been incredibly harsh.

"What happened? Why wasn't I humiliated?" Fane suddenly said to Claude, causing Claude to stiffen. He had thought that Fane would let him off if he did not say anything, so he was caught off guard by Fane's sudden question.

If it had been in the past, Fane would not have bothered to waste his time on them. However, as time passed, he slowly started to develop a belief.

The more chances he gave others, the more they would try to cross the line. In his mind,

Claude's disdainful attitude constantly appeared.

Claude kept on acting as if he had the moral high ground and kept on trying to fault Fane for every little thing which greatly annoyed Fane.

Claude let out a slight cough, "You were definitely not humiliated. We never expected you to be so talented. Even Bradley wasn't a match for you."

Fane let out a cold smile as he started to raise his voice, "Don't always try to judge others by your own standards. I kept on repeating that before, but you kept on ignoring it. You weren't judging me for Phoenix Valley's sake, but for your own personal satisfaction. Someone like you isn't worthy of remaining in Phoenix Valley."

Fane had really gone overboard with his words. Claude suddenly looked up at Fane with wide eyes. Fane merely looked back with a cold smile. Claude had planned on merely quietly accepting everything since Fane was definitely extraordinary.

With Fane's results, he would definitely be heavily rewarded when he got back to Phoenix Valley. Then, Fane would rise through the ranks. Being accepted into the inner valley was an eventuality.

Claude did not know what kind of special rights the inner valley had, but anyone would tell you that the inner valley was the core of Phoenix Valley. As long as Fane entered the inner valley, Fane would be able to deal with Claude very easily the moment Fane amassed enough power.

That was why Claude had not planned on continuing to fight Fane. Even if he had to be insulted by Fane, he had planned on acting like nothing happened, acting like he was deaf.

However, Fane's words were clearly a threat to Claude. Fane said that he was not worthy of continuing to stay in Phoenix Valley, so was Fane planning on getting him kicked out? Looking at Fane's unwavering gaze, Claude felt like it was even more of a possibility.

He started to breathe faster, "What do you mean I'm not worthy of staying in Phoenix Valley? You're not the one who makes that decision. You're threatening me right now!"

Fane scoffed as he said in a low voice, "I'm not planning on threatening you at all, because you're not worth me doing that. I don't know if you're deaf, but didn't I already tell you why you're not worthy of staying in Phoenix Valley?"

"Someone selfish like you probably doesn't even care about the valley's reputation. You teamed up with outsiders to insult me! You're not worthy of staying in Phoenix Valley at all!"

Claude was scared stiff at that. Fane did not seem to be joking at all. The moment Fane got back and told everyone what had happened, Claude would not be able to get away scot-free.