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“The highest amount they can deal with has also been set at a hundred thousand spirit crystals. The middle-tier stalls are about ten square feet, and the limit of any transactions is set at two hundred thousand spirit crystals. The highest level stalls are those pavilions with their own tables and chairs towards the top. Anyone able to open up a stall there are definitely people with incredible backgrounds. There’s also a limit to the deals that can be done in the high-tier stalls, but it’s not an upper limit. Instead, there’s a lower limit. Any transactions done there can’t be lower than four hundred thousand spirit crystals.”

Rudy’s mouth was wide open after hearing the explanations.

The rules were not too complicated, and anyone with half a brain could understand it. However, the meaning behind all that was different.

Rudy took a deep breath as his mouth twitched slightly, “The high-tier stalls are all at least four hundred thousand spirit crystals! Isn’t this sum just far too big? Maybe it’s nothing much to high-grade alchemists, but it’s definitely not the case for people like us.

Any warriors or alchemists who can enter the Whirling World are all younger than sixty. With that conditions, there can’t be any alchemists who are particularly amazing! Since they won’t be that high grade, the deals practically will never reach that number. We’re talking about four hundred thousand spirit crystals!”

As he said that, Rudy excitedly raised four fingers with his hands, waving it in front of Jack, “Four hundred thousand spirit crystals. I’d have to save up so long for that! If I manage to get that amount in ten years, it would already be an amazing achievement!”

The more Rudy thought about it, the more horrified he was.

Every transaction that was done in the high-tier stalls were all done in amounts that he would not be able to get even after ten years of saving up.

The moment he thought about that number, he felt like there was a huge gulf between him and those people.

Jack looked up at the pavilion that stood at the highest point by itself. Most of the pavilions were empty, but some of them had been taken up as well. Those people all wore incredibly expensive clothes and sat idly on the stone benches.

Compared to the low and middle tier stalls, there were at least less than half the number of people browsing the high-tier stalls. After all, there was a lower limit to the spending there. However, those people were in no hurry at all. After all, as long as they managed to seal just one deal, they would be able to get at least four hundred thousand spirit crystals.

Just one deal would have them set for years.

Rudy frowned, "Why don't we set up a stall..."

As he was saying that, he suddenly felt like he was being an idiot again. Jack and himself did not have anything amazing to sell. There was nothing they could do even if they got a high-tier stall.

Jack immediately knew what Rudy was thinking when he saw Rudy's expression.

Jack let out a laugh and said, "We might not have much use for any stalls, but we can help people get stalls and ask for a fee..."

When Jack said that, Rudy started to get a little confused. He frowned as he looked at Jack with wide and curious eyes.

Jack did not bother stalling and continued, "Do you think that everyone with a stall is an alchemist? Look closely at what they're wearing. Most of them are warriors who're here to make money or warriors from larger clans who're here to buy pills. There are very little stalls that are actually manned by alchemists."

Jack's words caused Rudy to have a moment of realization.

He suddenly looked around. The stalls were all very neatly arranged, and there was a stone road in the middle for customers to walk through.

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The outermost section consisted of low-tier stalls.

The middle section consisted of middle-tier stalls. There were nine levels among the middle-tier stalls, and after those nine levels were the higher-tier stalls. All the pavilions were built at the highest points.

It was a deliberate way to show off how special the high-tier stalls were. Those who had stalls up there were mostly not alchemists, just like Jack had said. Instead, most of the people shopping around there were alchemists.

The ones sitting down on the high-tier stalls were not alchemists, which confused Rudy even more.

Jack raised an eyebrow as he decided to explain it to Rudy, "Everyone who enters the outer city will have an outer city entry token in their hands. With that entry token, we can head to the testing area to officially take part in the tests. Only by passing the test can one use their results to

get a stall. There is not rule against taking the test for someone else this time, so many warriors used this method to get high-grade alchemists to help them get stalls. That way, the warriors got the stalls, and the alchemists got some spending money.”

Rudy suddenly understood everything after that explanation. He could not help but say excitedly, “If that’s the case, won’t we be able to get a sum of money? The stalls of different levels definitely need different amounts of money. How many spirit crystals would we be able to get from low-tier stalls?”

Jack shook his head, “That, I do not know. I just happened to see that most of the people manning the stalls were warriors. Then I thought about the rules of the outer city and guessed that they must have gotten those stalls using that method. We’ll need to go looking around to be sure.”

The testing area of the outer city was right at the center of the outer city. The test over there was in the same style as the entrance test. There were also a row of condensing plates there. The condensing plates would give different problems for the test participants to solve.

The outer city’s condensing plates did not just have the participants fill up runes, but also ask the participants to condense pill runes needed for pills of certain levels. It was much harder than the entrance test. A lot of alchemists faltered here, not even managing to get a low-tier stall.

When he heard about rules of the outer city, Rudy was quite excited. He had already given up on himself at that point, feeling like there was nothing he could do with his meager abilities. However, he was following Jack.

Someone as talented as Jack would definitely be able to make some waves in the outer city. He could stay by Jack’s side, gaining some experience as well as riding on Jack’s coattails.

He looked up at Jack and said, “What do we do next?”

Jack took a deep breath. He had wanted to go to the outer city’s testing area to check out the prices of stalls. However, he shook his head after thinking about it. The testing area might already have been taken over by those annoying flies.

They would be noticed immediately if they went. Even though there were some things that he had to do, Jack just felt incredibly annoyed when he thought of those people. Those people would find them eventually.

After thinking about it, Jack said, “Let’s go walk around first. Let’s see if there’s anything we need around those stalls.”

Rudy hurriedly nodded his head. The outer city was just like a massive gathering place. There would naturally be tests to face, but he would be able to see a lot of things.

Jack led the way as Rudy followed. The two of them looked around the low-tier and middle-tier stalls. There really were many things around that Rudy had never seen before, and they managed to see what most of the owners were selling.

In truth, most of the goods for sale were still focused on pills. Many stall owners had the pills they needed written clearly there. Those owners would provide the materials, needing alchemists to help them refine the pills. Some of the stall owners had found rare materials in the Whirling World. They wanted to obtain pills from alchemists by bartering.

After looking around, Rudy hurriedly followed Jack and whispered, "The prices here are not just two times higher than in the outside world. Look at those spirit gathering pills. In the outside world, one pill should just be about three thousand spirit crystals, but they're going for six thousand and five hundred here! The prices are so different..."

Jack nodded, "Things are more expensive when they're rare. Pills are consumables, and alchemists are rare in the Whirling World. Of course, I mean high-grade alchemists."

Saying that, Jack paused as he thought about his next words before saying, "Did you notice that there are also some pills that are worth the same as the outside world?"

Rudy nodded. He had observed everything in great detail and noticed that lower quality pills were almost the same price as in the outside world.

Jack continued, "Lower and middle-tier sixth-grade pills are not too useful in the Whirling World, so the prices are similar to the outside world. That's because no one is lacking pills of that grade. The higher the grade of the pill is, the more drastic the increase in price."

The two of them walked around the stalls as they chatted, not really finding anything they were interested in after a long time. Rudy had been quite interested, wanting Jack to accept a few assignments to refine pills, but Jack had shook his head and refused all of them.

Refining pills took a while. Even though Jack had planned on dedicating some time to refining pills for money before they entered the city in exchange for spirit crystals, Jack decided against that idea after knowing about Prosper City's rules. There were even faster ways to make large amounts of spirit crystals, so why would he waste time on refining pills?

There were probably some alchemists who would take refining pills as a way to train themselves, but it was not that important to Jack. After absorbing the memories of that ancient hero, he did not need to refine great amounts of pills to train himself.

After walking for a long time, Jack did not see anything that he was interested in. Even though there were a lot of high grade combat manuals, those were not that valuable to Jack. After all, there were a lot of techniques and skills in his mind, uncountable amounts of high-grade techniques. He would naturally not need to choose random techniques that were sold here.

After walking around, Jack sighed, feeling like his standards were too high. Otherwise, he would not have been unable to find anything he was interested in at all.

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Rudy frowned as he followed behind Jack. He could still understand why Jack refused refining pills at the start. Jack had probably felt that the rewards for refining pills were not enough. However, after walking around and seeing all the prices on display, Jack did not seem interested in anything.

Rudy felt a little helpless at that. He frowned as he walked in front of Jack and whispered, "There are quite a few good deals here, why didn't you accept the jobs? With your skills, you should be able to refine seventh-grade pills without any problems. They will provide you with the materials as well. You just need to spend some time refining it, so why don't you accept it?"

Jack turned to look at Rudy as he said plainly, "It's too much of a waste of time. I don't want to waste time on the outer city. The test in the inner city is what's important. Only by passing the tests in the inner city will I be able to get Prosper City's rewards."

Compared to those spirit crystals, the rewards of Prosper City were much more interesting to Jack. He had constantly been keeping the time in mind as well. After all, they were only able to stay in the Whirling World for two years. He would have to leave after that.

If he spent too much time on seventh-level cities, he would have too little time after that. He might end up losing out on good things because he did not have enough time, which he definitely did not want to happen.

That was why Jack decided against wasting time on refining pills after thinking about that. After all, refining pills was not the only way to obtain spirit crystals in the outer city.

After Rudy heard that, he was suddenly a little speechless. He found that he was understanding Jack less and less.

Rudy was just about to retort when he saw Jack's eyes light up, seemingly seeing something interesting. Jack quickly rushed towards the easternmost stall. The stall was a middle-tier one, and was ten squared feet in size, but there was not much displayed there.

There were a few stone pieces around, and a request for pills. Jack looked at the owner of the stall. The person had white robes on, and looked very handsome. However, he looked a bit

unfriendly. This person clearly felt that someone was approaching, but he did not even bother looking up as the person closed his eyes and rested.

Jack did not mind the person's attitude as he looked at the goods on display. Jack did not look at the request for pills at all, and immediately looked at the few rock fragments.

Rudy saw that Jack's eyes were on the few stone fragments that glowing with a faint red glow. He was incredibly curious about those stones, wondering if they were anything amazing. He had never seen them before, and the fact that the stall owner placed them on the floor meant that he did not know what the value of those shattered stones were. They did not know, but Jack knew the stones very well.

The fragment was something incredibly useful to Jack on the road to getting stronger. Those fragment would be rare even in first-grade worlds. Jack took a deep breath as he called out the words Shattered Soul Crystals in his mind. Those fragments were treasures to soul-attribute warriors. The fragments contained pure soul energy.

After absorbing the stones, not only would it help a soul-attribute warriors understanding and use of soul-attribute techniques, it would also improve the strength of a warrior's soul.

In West Cercie state, Jack had gotten two shattered Soul Crystals. If not for the two crystals, Jack would not have managed to avoid the difficult situation back then, and would not have gotten to Middle Province.

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That white-robed man casually put those incredibly valuable Shattered Soul Crystals on the floor. It was obvious that they did not know the value of the Shattered Soul Crystals at all. Even so, he could still feel the energy flowing within. He knew that they were valuable, which is why he had them on display.

Jack raised an eyebrow as he suppressed the excitement in his heart. No matter what, he had to get those Shattered Soul Crystals. But, he could not be reckless, because that would cause the white-robed man to realize how much Jack wanted those crystals. Then he would increase the price, which Jack would have to suffer in silence.

Thinking about it, Jack picked up the pill request by the side. Almost every stall owner would have the pills he wanted written down on the stall. After that, they would specify the rewards. If the alchemists feel like the rewards were enough, they would take up the business.

The white-robed man opened his eyes, measuring Jack. His gaze stopped at the sixth-rank alchemist badge on Jack's chest. The badge was too eye catching.

When the white-robed man saw it, there was a glint of disappointment in his eyes, suddenly losing all interest.

The white-robed man frowned, saying in a cold tone, "If you can't do it, just put it down. I don't need any sixth-grade pills."

Jack raised an eyebrow before sighing. He had not really cared about the badge on his chest initially. After all, he had actual skill. He knew better about his own skill than anyone else, but after arriving at the Whirling World, Jack started to regret not getting the seventh-grade alchemist badge back then. He would not have needed to waste so much time in the Whirling World otherwise.

If not for the Shattered Soul Crystal, he might not have bothered explaining. However, he was forced to calm himself for the crystals. He smiled and said, "I can refine the Soul Nurturing Pills!"

Each stall owner would write down all the pills they needed on pieces of paper. Jack was holding the request for Soul Nurturing Pills.

The white-robed man needed ten Soul Nurturing Pills. He would provide the materials as well as a reward of five thousand spirit crystals per pill. The price was not that high, but not low either. The ten pills would get Jack fifty thousand spirit crystals.

The white-robed man looked at the sixth-grade alchemist badge on Jack's chest in disdain at those words.

"I hate wasting time on others. You should look at the badge on your chest before you say anything. The Soul Nurturing Pill is a middle-tier seventh-grade pill. I need to provide the alchemist with seventh-grade snake grass, pink grass, phoenix claw herbs and seventh-grade follower, the silver silk flower. Just those materials alone are worth a lot. Do you think I'll take the risk and offer this business to a sixth-grade alchemist?"

Jack's lips twitched helplessly. At that moment, he wanted to rip the badge on his chest off. That badge constantly caused him problems. Ever since he had the badge, he was constantly looked down on. The badge was not indicative of his actual skill, so how could Jack be happy with getting looked down on like that?

However, he could not just leave at that moment. After all, the Shattered Soul Crystals were there, and he had to have them.

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Jack had already mastered Destroying the Void. He had not planned on raising his skills yet, and had planned on focusing on obtaining valuable things. However, his experience in the Seven Leaves Tower had told Jack that it was a bad idea.

Destroying the Void was an upper ultimate god rank technique. At Jack's age, being able to use such a technique and even perfecting it already put him far above anyone else. In his eyes, he was practically unbeatable in the whirling World. Yet, after he got the key from the Thousand Leaves Tower, the old man told Jack that Jack's skills were not able to pass the test of the sixth-floor at all.

Jack could not obtain the real treasure. It caused Jack to be doubtful and filled with introspection at the same time. He could not stop improving himself, so Jack had already been determined to never stop moving forward while he was on the way to Prosper City.

He needed to choose a new technique to master. This time, he definitely had to choose a technique that was better than an upper ultimate god rank technique, which left storm god rank techniques. Furthermore, Jack planned on choosing a soul-attribute storm god rank technique. After all, mastering Destroying the Void had helped Jack have an even deeper mastery and familiarity with the soul attribute. It was greatly beneficial to Jack to choose another soul attribute technique. No matter how he looked at it, he could not let the Shattered Soul Crystals slip away.

The thought played in Jack's minds a few times before he completely composed himself. Even if he could not really stand the sight of that white-robed man, he was forced to patiently and warmly say, "Even though I have the badge of a sixth-grade alchemist, just think about it. If a sixth-grade alchemist doesn't have some skill, how could I have passed the entry test? I even passed with a perfect score. Seventh-grade pills are nothing for me."

After saying that, Jack looked at the Shattered Soul Crystal, acting like he did not care, "Do you know what these stones are? They look quite nice and shiny."

After saying that, Jack took up a crystal and looked at it under the sun. In truth, Jack did not even need to look at it in detail to know that those spirit crystals were quite pure. However, he still had to put on a show. He could not let the white-robed man realize that anything was off. The moment the white-robed man had any doubt, it was possible that he would not be able to get the Shattered Soul Crystals. Jack pretended to be interested.

"How about this? I'll only take forty thousand spirit crystals from you for ten Soul Nurturing Pills, and you give me these pretty crystals too?"

After saying that, he looked up and waved at Rudy, "Don't you think these crystals look good? Didn't my wife say that she wanted some pretty stones as decorations? I think this would be good."

Rudy immediately caught on. He did not know who Jack's wife was, but he immediately answered, "I think they're not bad. She'll definitely be very happy with those crystals."



The two of them talked, and the main topic was still the crystals. The white-robed man frowned. Since he had dared to display those crystals, it meant that he had constantly tried to appraise them before.

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The conclusion was that he did not know what they were at all but could still feel that a lot of energy was flowing within those stones. However, he had studied a few times yet failed to discover what kind of warrior could absorb those stones. He could not determine the price nor did he know if he would ever be able to sell it, which was why he placed it on the stall. He never expected that it would attract the attention of the two guys in front of him.

Jack turned and looked at the white-robed man again. "Is it a deal?"

The white-robed man raised an eyebrow, acting like he did not care as he picked up a Shattered Soul Crystal and looked at it closely. Even after seconds had passed, he failed to see anything.

He took a deep breath and nodded after thinking about it. In truth, he never thought that he would be able to sell those stones. After all, he was not dealing with idiots. At the same time, he never thought someone would be interested in them the first day he set up his stall.

He feared that he would lose the deal or that he would be making a huge mistake, but he did not hesitate too much. He was still too afraid that Jack would end up losing interest in the end, which would end up costing him 10000 spirit crystals.

To the white-robed man, it was a good deal.

He sighed and said, "You said that you can refine middle seventh-grade pills, but I honestly can't believe that. After all, you have a sixth-grade alchemist badge. Can you tell me why you still have a sixth-grade alchemist badge, even though you have the skills of a seventh-grade alchemist? Normally, any alchemist with some skill will hurry and take the test the moment they're good enough. Why didn't you do that?"

Jack looked up and said earnestly, "I just didn't have the time to. I had a lot going on recently, and I went to an incredibly important place for a competition. I wasted a lot of time, which ended up in me not having the time to be tested. However, I've successfully refined a seventh-grade pill during the competition."

The white-robed man frowned, still not believing him.

"You can say anything you want to, but I'm not so easy to fool. If you have the skills of a seventh-grade alchemist, how can you prove it? I won't believe it if you're just relying on your words."

Rudy's face soured at the white-robed man's harsh words. He felt like the man was just looking for trouble, but he no longer acted on impulse after Jack's repeated lessons, so he forced himself to reel himself in.

Jack raised an eyebrow, not feeling like those words were too excessive. "We can sign a contract," he calmly offered.

"Even if we don't sign a contract, Prosper City itself has its laws. If I don't complete our deal in the amount of time necessary, we'll be judged by the laws and be struck by lightning."

The white-robed man frowned, not able to answer the question at that moment. After a while, the white-robed man finally made his decision. "You're right. You'll be turned to ash if you fail the deal, anyway. No one would be able to save you."

Jack sighed in relief upon noticing that the white-robed man was finally convinced. This man had been more stubborn and interrogative than he had expected. He had not seen anything of value after looking at them so many times, but the white-robed man immediately felt like something was wrong the moment he saw that Jack wanted them. Try as he might, the man just could not figure out why.

Jack nodded and kept the request for the pills in Mustard Seed. The white-robed man did not continue talking as he retrieved 15 boxes from his storage ring. Each box emitted a faint cold aura.

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The white-robed man pointed at the boxes and said, "There are fifteen portions. Make sure to use them wisely, and remember that you can only make five mistakes. If you make any, I won't provide more. You should just buy them yourself."

Jack nodded, 15 sets of materials already proved that the white-robed man was rather generous. A few shrewd merchants would only provide three extra sets, which meant that only three mistakes were allowed. Already figuring out how much time he would take to refine those Soul Nourishing Pills.

Just as he put the boxes into Mustard Seed, he suddenly heard an unfriendly voice, "Hold it! I'll be taking up this deal. Put down the boxes in your hands! I'll refine the Soul Nourishing Pills!"

Jack could tell who it was without even turning around.

Mark was sweating bullets, followed by a group of alchemists from the Unbreaking Pavilion. All of them looked at Jack like they were looking at prey.

Mark let out a laugh as a look of disdain flashed in his eyes. He walked forward and said to Jack, "Did you think that you managed to escape? I can assure you that it's not possible. You can't do it! Even if you run to the ends of the world, you can't run from us!"

Jack frowned, not bothering to respond as he put the 15 boxes into Mustard Seed.

Last time, he had been a step late in signing the contract and had his deal ruined. This time, he would not allow something like that to happen.

Mark noticed how Jack blatantly ignored him and put the boxes right into Mustard Seed, much to his chagrin. He turned to look at the white-robed man. "What are you doing? Didn't I tell you to hold them? Why didn't you stop him? Don't you see that he has a sixth-grade alchemist badge? Let me tell you, this brat is a scammer! He plans on leaving Prosper City right after he gets your materials, and the laws won't be able to do anything to him by then!"

The white-robed man started to panic after hearing that. If what Mark said was true, he would suffer a huge loss!

The white-robed man immediately looked at Jack and demanded, "Is that true, you brat? Are you planning on running off with my materials?!"

Jack looked at Mark speechlessly, not understanding how that man's brain managed to fabricate such a lie so quickly. It definitely made Jack look at Mark differently.

He laughed as he looked at Mark coldly. "I really have to reevaluate you. Your talent at lying is amazing! Do you think the laws are so trivial? Do you really think I can run just because I want to? I never planned on running in the first place. I wanted to find a peaceful place to refine the pills, but if you're pestering me so badly, I can just do it here!"

Jack had done nothing wrong, so he was not afraid of being questioned at all.

Did they not say he would run away with the materials?

He would complete everything right here, then. There was no way he could run with so many people looking at him!

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Hearing Jack's words, the white-robed man slowly started to relax. If Jack wanted to refine pills in front of him, he could keep an eye out for any irregularities.

Mark narrowed his eyes and snorted, "Earlier, the stall owner had been resting and didn't see your initial expression. My fellow student did. He was observing you for a moment after he found

you before he turned to let me know. Before the stall owner opened his eyes, you had zeroed in on the stones!”

Mark immediately knelt and put the stones in his palm, looking at them closely. At the same time, he looked up at Jack in a challenging manner.

Jack’s lips twitched as he cursed himself for being too careless. The stall owner had been napping and ignoring everything else that was happening, so Jack had not bothered to hide his thoughts.

He had been fully focused on the Shattered Soul Stones, but he never thought that someone had been observing him even though the stall owner had not seen him.

Rudy cursed internally. Mark had ordered people to keep a close eye on Jack.

The secondary orders had been to constantly cause Jack trouble and not let him have a moment of peace. As long as Jack suffered, a portion of his task was done. With those orders, he had to disrupt everything Jack wanted to do.

Jack took a deep breath as he felt his anger slowly spilling over at that moment. He could not control his anger from surging to his head. He was already tempted to rip Mark apart.

For the sake of the Shattered Soul Crystals, however, he swallowed his anger. Negotiating with the white-robed man had gotten him to lower his guard. He never expected that everything would be ruined by a few words from Mark.

Mark placed the Shattered Soul Stone in his hand onto the white-robed man’s palm.

”You better take a good look at it It’s something amazing. Otherwise, this guy wouldn’t have been staring at them the whole time. The deal with the Soul Nourishing Pills was done to trick you.”

Mark’s words were all true, but Jack could not admit it at that moment. If he did, he would not be able to get the Shattered Soul Stones. Everything he had done before would be ruined.

At that moment, Jack was already looking at Mark in a completely different way. He had never been like that. He had gotten the urge to kill someone plenty of times before, but Jack had never taken it too seriously.

This time, he was already dead-set on killing Mark.

It was not exclusive to only Mark but to all the alchemists around him as well, including Grayson. He did not care what reason Grayson had, but the moment Grayson got this group to cause trouble, Grayson was immediately on Jack’s hit list.

Rudy's face reddened as he tried his best to soothe the anger in his heart

Jack forced out a laugh. "I know I've had some past conflicts with you, but you can't just do this to me just because of that. You said that I was staring at those stones. In that case, can you tell me what they are? What's so special about them?"

Mark snorted as he took out his trump card. "Since it's nothing special to you, why don't I buy it with twenty thousand spirit crystals? The deal you made with this brat earlier was to accept forty thousand spirit crystals instead of fifty. The other ten thousand is the price of those stones. I'm offering twice the price for them!"

Saying that, Mark stared at Jack and smiled pleasantly.

Jack had humiliated him at the plaza before, but.

At this moment, he finally got his revenge.

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Jack took a deep breath as his hands started to tremble. He knew that talking no longer counted in this matter.

Rudy could finally not hold back anymore. He looked at the white-robed man. "You've already agreed to the deal, and you can't go back on your promise. If you do, you'll be punished by the laws of Prosper City! Lightning will strike you!"

The white-robed man frowned, but Mark interrupted it with a laugh. "The laws of Prosper City are very clear. The laws go in line with the requests on the pill request. Things that aren't on it don't count. Earlier, you just had a verbal agreement. The pill request slip never stated that you'd exchange ten thousand spirit crystals for those stones. Since that's the case, you wouldn't be going against the rules, and you won't be struck by lightning!"

As he said that, Mark had a pleased smile on his face.

Gritting his teeth, Rudy wanted nothing more than to punch that pleased smile out of Mark's face and beat him up. He had controlled his temper the best he could.

Suddenly, Jack took a deep breath and understood something. He turned to look at the white-robed man earnestly. "You've already agreed to this. Even though you didn't write it in the request slip, a promise is still a promise. If you go back on your word, you'll be offending me!"

The white-robed man raised an eyebrow, not caring about Jack's threat. He laughed and said, "You might have a bit of a background, but since I have a stall here, it means that I have mine, too. Don't think that you can threaten me with just a few words. I might have agreed earlier, but

it's not like I can agree to a higher price. It's like what this man said earlier; we just had a verbal agreement. It wasn't on the request, so it won't be against the rules."

The white-robed man had wanted to even get rid of the whole agreement. In the end, Jack had already put the pill request into Mustard Seed.

If Jack did not refine the Soul Nourishing Pills, he would be judged for violating the contract by Prosper City and Jack would be punished.

At that moment, Jack could not let things progress as they were. His earlier experiences were still in his mind. At that moment, he was determined not to let the same thing happen. However, he never expected it would be so quick.

Jack thus smirked, not willing to take a step back.

"Listen here. If you offend me, you're offending a future ninth-grade alchemist. If you don't believe me, you can follow me somewhere. Once you see it, you'll believe everything I've said!"

Everyone was stunned when he said that.

What was Jack saying? Jack was marketing himself as a future ninth-grade alchemist!

Was he insane?

Did he not know what it meant in the Hestia Continent?

The number of ninth-grade alchemists in the continent could be counted with just one hand. Out of millions of alchemists, it was already impressive for them to even produce five ninth-grade alchemists.

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Jack actually claimed that he would become a ninth-grade alchemist in the future. He had lost his mind!

The white-robed man did not even bother to hide his laughter when he heard Jack's bold proclamation. "You should at least think about your words before you try to brag, you brat. A ninth-grade alchemist isn't something you can become just because you said so!"

Jack let out a cold laugh, having foreseen this happening. Their cackles did not affect Fame at all as he pointed at the center of the outer city.

"If you don't believe me, just follow me there. If you have the finances, you can make another deal with me!"

Jack's words confused some of them. Even Mark raised an eyebrow as he looked at Jack warily.

Jack took a deep breath and said, his tone as cold as ice, "I'm giving you one last chance. If you take it back, I won't let you back out without suffering the consequences. No matter what kind of background you have, there'll only be one ending!"

The white-robed man frowned as he sneered, "I'm not one you can scare so easily. I won't just believe anything you said!"

However, there was a trace of guilt in the white-robed man's eyes as he said that. After all, Jack had been eerily calm the whole time. On top of that, he was not sure where Jack was from. If Jack was from somewhere impressive that he could not afford to offend, he would be done for!

With that thought in mind, he raised his voice and said, "Since you want me to see your skills so much and prove yourself, I'll go with you. I want to see what you can do."

Jack suddenly relaxed at those words. He turned to look at Mark, who was frowning as he stared at Jack. He opened his mouth, wanting to say something, but he visibly decided against it. He wanted to see what Jack would do as well.

Jack snorted as he walked to the center of the outer city, and the alchemists from the Unbreaking Pavilion and the white-robed man followed him. No one said anything as they internally began thinking of what Jack would do.

When Jack brought them in front of the condensing plate, everyone was stunned.

The white-robed man frowned and said, "You want to take the outer city test and get a stall?"

Jack nodded. There was a stone plate next to the condensing plate. The stone plate had a lot of words on them.

Jack frowned and walked over, seeing what he wanted to see. It was just like Jack had thought. Since there were some holes in the rules, many alchemists would help warriors get stalls. They had even specially set up prices. All the prices were on the condensing plate. That meant that no one could just set the prices as they pleased.

A lower-tier stall was worth 100000 spirit crystals, while a middle-tier stall was worth 150000 spirit crystals. Meanwhile, a high-tier stall was 500000 spirit crystals!

Seeing the drastic difference in price, Rudy whispered, "A middle-tier stall is just a hundred and fifty thousand spirit crystals. A high-tier stall surges all the way to five hundred thousand! Isn't

this difference a little too big? It's several times more! These prices are a little absurd, if you ask me!"

- Chapter 2931 -

Jack raised an eyebrow as he turned to look at Rudy, whispering, "You might think it's absurd, but it's completely reasonable since the rules have been written here. They have to be there for a reason, so you don't have to question them."

Rudy clamped his mouth shut. Even though he was displeased about it, he had nothing else to say.

When Jack saw that high-tier stalls were worth 500000 spirit crystals, Jack suddenly felt more spirited.

"What are you trying to do?" Mark frowned when Jack ignored his question.

Instead, Jack turned to the white-robed man, pointed at the stone plate, and said, "If I get you a high-tier stall, can you give me five hundred thousand spirit crystals?"

The moment he said that, the white-robed man's lips twitched, feeling like Jack was messed up in the head. Jack had just said that he would become a ninth-grade alchemist, and at this very second, Jack said that he would get a high-tier stall.

Did he think that anyone could get a high-tier stall? That was putting things too simply!

The white-robed man took a deep breath, stopping himself from cursing as he said, "Do you really think you can get a high-tier stall?"

Jack nodded earnestly.

The white-robed man raised an eyebrow, stopping his inner thoughts. "Just look at those high-tier stalls, only four people have them at the moment. Do you know what that means?"

Jack raised an eyebrow and merely replied, "It means that people have gotten the high-tier stalls before."

He knew that the white-robed man would say what he did not. The white-robed man felt quite speechless at Jack's words, feeling like Jack was a complete clown that did not know what he was saying.

The white-robed man did not want to waste any more time on Jack since he wanted to continue manning his stall, but he felt like Jack was too much of a joke. If he did not explain things to Jack properly, Jack might refuse to give up.



They could not fight here and could only use their mouths. To save himself the trouble, the white-robed man was forced to quell his anger and continued to explain, "Listen here. Ever since Prosper City was opened, only two people have gotten high-tier stalls before. Each high-tier stall is worth five hundred thousand spirit crystals, and it's in high demand.

"The two that managed to get the high-tier stalls were all incredibly talented alchemists, and five hundred spirit crystals is no small sum for any alchemist. If the difficulty didn't change, the two alchemists would no doubt stay here and earn money by getting high-tier stalls for warriors."

At that moment, the white-robed man deliberately paused for a moment, seemingly wanting Jack to understand what he had just said. However, Jack's expression seemed to be completely still as no strong reaction escaped him.

This exasperated the man as he said, "Don't you think it's strange? It's something so easily done, so why don't they stay here and continue earning spirit crystals? Why did they choose to continue to the inner city?"

Jack's lips twitched helplessly. He hated being led on like that.

"Oh, I'm very curious," he replied. "Why don't you just tell me?"

The more Jack was like that, the more exasperated the white-robed man felt. However, he did not want to continue arguing with Jack and thus continued on.

- Chapter 2932 -

"That's because as long as you help someone cheat the system once, the condensing plate will remember it. When you try it again, the condensing plate's question will become more difficult. So, the two of them only managed to get two high-tier stalls each. After that, they couldn't continue because it became too hard. In the end, they only managed to earn a million each."

After that was said, Jack frowned as various thoughts surfaced in his mind.

He was impressed by Prosper City's various rules. It ensured that warriors could set up stalls and tested the alchemists as well. It even restricted alchemists from doing so and not stopping.

It was different from what he had thought earlier. Jack had thought that being able to cheat the system like that was a huge flaw in Prosper City's design. At this moment, it seemed like he was the flawed one. He was the one who failed to see that it was not a flaw but a design choice instead.

After thinking about it, he looked up at the blue sky. The people of Whirling World were indeed impressive.

Just as he was thinking about it, the white-robed man said impatiently, "Do you understand what I mean now?"

Jack nodded. He understood that the white-robed man meant well in telling him this, not to brag.

Jack did not intend to go back on his word, however. He took a deep breath and queued up at the condensing plate nearest to him.

When everyone saw the sight, they gaped, not knowing what to say.

As he watched Jack lining up nonchalantly, Gent furrowed his eyebrows and said in exasperation, "Did he even hear what everyone has said?"

After saying that, the alchemist behind him spat, "That guy has said everything to him so clearly. In so long, only two people managed to get high-tier stalls. This brat is actually going to participate in the outer city test so confidently. Does he really think he can be the third alchemist in Prosper City to get a high-tier stall? How could he even think of attempting?"

It was the same sort of discussion.

Rudy was already frustrated at this point, listening to them.

Jack had already used his skills to shock so many people before, but they seemed to have forgotten that as they ran their mouths at Jack.

Jack had already warned Rudy against quarreling without purpose, but Rudy could not hold himself back after hearing these insults.

He chuckled sardonically as he turned to look at the alchemists. "Are you people struggling with memory loss? You've said all of that before, but when you saw Jack's results, why did you stop? Didn't you laugh at Jack for not knowing his place before, and that he won't be able to get a perfect score on his entry test? You even evaluated yourselves so highly, saying that half of your twenty will be able to pass perfectly. All that, and Jack was right in the end, and only two of you managed that!"

Rudy was not lying at all, and the alchemists knew this, reddening at his words.

They shut their mouths immediately, unable to say anything about that.

Everything had happened exactly as Rudy had said. They had cackled at Jack and were more than certain that he would not pass the test perfectly, yet Jack demonstrated his skills so flawlessly that they felt like they had been smacked!

- Chapter 2933 -

Right after these alchemists bragged about themselves, Jack's prowess humiliated them entirely.

Even worse was that Jack had been right. Out of 20 among them who took the test, only two passed. The others might have been just a little bit off or a lot, but not one of them had a perfect score.

Mark's prideful expression was wiped away in an instant.

Rudy's words blatantly put them in an awkward spot, just as he planned on harassing Jack with his fellow disciples to expose Jack to the white-robed man.

Not wanting Rudy to be satisfied with himself, Samuel snorted as he raised his voice, saying, "Jack merely made a blind guess, that is all. The others don't know, but you do. The twenty alchemists who took part in the test were all stellar alchemists from the Unbreaking Pavilion, and they wouldn't lose to anyone. I saw that a few of them were just a sliver away from passing the test perfectly. Heh! Jack was just lucky to be right."

Samuel raised his chin, sounding sure of himself when he spoke. Initially, the white-robed man felt rather wary after hearing what Rudy said and started to doubt the alchemists from the Unbreaking Pavilion. However, his suspicions were cast aside after hearing what Samuel said.

Alchemists that were raised by the Unbreaking Pavilion could not be underestimated, that was for certain. Even if Jack had been right, he probably got lucky at the time.

Samuel had seen that quite a few of the Unbreaking Pavilion's disciples were short by one or two pill tunes to perfectly pass the test.

Mark turned to look at Samuel with a look of gratitude. The two of them seemed to share a laugh at that moment. He never expected that Samuel would step up and speak on their behalf. Samuel took the words right out of his mouth!

Of course, Samuel jumped into the verbal exchange for the sake of humiliating Jack, but since he, in a way, did him a favor, he acted as though he intended to side with Mark as though he was generous. When he saw Mark's thankful look, Samuel nodded benevolently.

Anyone who did not understand the relationship between the Compass Pavilion and the Unbreaking Pavilion would have thought that the two of them were sworn brothers.

Looking at their faces, Rudy's cold smile deepened. He snorted as he said, "It's just as I thought. The two of you just have one thought in mind at the moment. You think that the enemy

of your enemy is your friend, but you both are just animals to me-two dogs that can only bite people.”

Those words were incredibly harsh. Gent immediately rushed forward furiously, but the student behind him pulled him back, stopping him from starting a fight. If he was the one who started the fight, he would be punished by Prosper City’s laws, and by then, they could only watch as lightning struck him, leaving nothing but ashes behind!

- Chapter 2934 -

Gent felt like he was losing himself due to the anger raging within him.

That jerk, Rudy called them dogs! No one could bear an insult like that.

Mark and Samuel both stepped forward at that moment, but as compared to Gent, the two of them seemed much calmer.

Mark said coldly, “Do you know what you’re doing? You’re declaring war against the Unbreaking Pavilion and the Compass Pavilion. Who do you think you are? Do you think that the combined might of two eighth-grade clans won’t be able to do anything to you?!”

The white-robed man was completely stunned as his eyes widened. The man speechlessly looked at Rudy, lamenting that he must have been insane. Otherwise, Rudy would not have dared to say something so disrespectful.

It was already at the point where things could never be mended.

Did Rudy plan on declaring war on two eighth-grade clans? Was he from such an incredible background that he did not care about two eighth-grade clans?

Unless Rudy was from a ninth-grade clan, even gods would not be able to save him!

Rudy merely maintained a calm face in front of their emotions. He let out a laugh as he said nonchalantly, “We’re already enemies anyway. Both of you have been working together to cause us trouble. Would you even back away and let us breathe? Since you’ll be constantly causing us trouble, why wouldn’t I dare? Your two clans are like headless flies, constantly flying around and buzzing at our ears at this point. It’s so disgusting and annoying! If you really have the skills, defeat Jack. Samuel, everything you said earlier was just utter crap!”

After saying that, Rudy deliberately paused for a moment before he said seriously, “Since you passed the test perfectly, you should know why the disciples behind you didn’t pass like you did. Forget about anything else, the Condensing Plate at the entry test will materialize one or two ancient pill runes. Those pill runes are what eliminated most of them! That was how Jack determined that only two of you would be able to pass.”

Samuel's expression darkened. Of course he knew about the ancient pill runes. After the test, he had even had a hushed discussion with Mark about it. Even though they did not know why ancient pill runes would appear in a mere entry test, it did not stop them from knowing that it was why Jack made that judgment.

What he said earlier had just been to break Jack's momentum, yet Rudy had seen through it immediately. The two of them never expected that Jack would tell Rudy all of that.

In truth, Jack did not willingly divulge that information. Instead, Rudy persisted in wanting to know everything after they entered the outer city. After all, he had been too curious, so he explained everything.

Samuel felt even more embarrassed at that point. After all, he was the one who said everything so confidently at that moment. It was then did it reach Jack's turn for the test. The first person had gotten a gray token, and the second one had as well. When the two of them saw the token in their hands, they looked visibly depressed as they walked away dejectedly.

After understanding the rules of the outer city, Jack knew why they looked like that.

There were three prizes if an individual got good results in the outer city test. The rewards were stalls of various sizes.

- Chapter 2935 -

The worst alchemists would be awarded a gray token meant for low-tier stalls. Even though low-tier stalls were still worth a sum of money, they were not worth as much as higher-tier ones. Those who did slightly better would be able to get bronze tokens meant for middle-tier stalls. Even higher up were golden tokens for high-tier stalls.

From the start, only two people had gotten golden tokens.

When Jack stepped into the test area, the same thing from the entry test happened. A barrier separated him from the outside world, and no one could interfere or affect him at all.

Jack looked up at the glowing condensing plate in front of him. All of the pill runes that were either complete or incomplete from before disappeared as new questions appeared.

All of the pill runes totaled up to 90, the same amount during the entry test. Jack took a deep breath, earnestly looking at the pill runes he needed to complete.

What shocked Jack was the fact that those pill runes had not just been seen by him before, but even left a deep impression in his mind. Of course, those impressions were not his, but the memories he inherited. It was because he knew everything that he was so surprised. That was

because the pills runes were incredibly difficult. Even an eighth-grade alchemist might not be able to complete all of them.

With that in mind, Jack took a deep breath, already committed at that moment. 500000 spirit crystals were at stake. If he could not even get that, it would be much harder for him in the future. He was facing the challenge with all his might inside. Outside the barrier, things were much calmer.

Rudy raised his eyebrows as he distanced himself from the crowd. He did not want to bother wasting his time on them.

It was just like what Jack had told him, wasting his time on people like Mark and his 'companions' were pointless. They would not listen to the truth and would insist on following their feelings. Still, Rudy could not stomach how pleased they were with themselves.

So many things had happened that wore out Rudy's patience. Even if he knew that there might be a major plot behind everything, he did not want to see people like these men so haughty.

Gent took a deep breath. Rudy's words had, admittedly, aggravated him. Even though he knew that whatever he said would not stand up to Jack actually convincing everyone with his results, he did not want to see Rudy happy, even if for a moment.

He snorted and said, "I'll admit that Jack might be a little skilled. He might even have the skills of a seventh-grade alchemist, but so what? There are many seventh-grade alchemists in Prosper City. Even if it was me, I wouldn't be able to get a golden token and get a high-tier stall. Only alchemists from the inner valley of Phoenix Valley or alchemists with extraordinary talents could do that!"

- Chapter 2936 -

"Even if he's a little talented, there's no way he can get a golden token. You're only so confident because you don't know what a golden token actually represents!"

He said those words in an incredibly firm and convincing manner. Even the white-robed man who had been silent the whole time nodded along. After being in the outer city for some amount of time, he knew very well what a golden token represented.

Only those whose talents and skills stood at the peak could get a golden token. He had seen countless alchemists take the outer city test. All of them had been incredibly confident as they took the test. Most of them had only obtained gray or bronze tokens.

There had only been two people who ever managed to get the golden tokens. The white-robed man had heard about the two of them. It was just like Gent had said, they were no ordinary

people. One of them came from Phoenix Valley's inner valley, while the other came from a ninth-grade clan. Those were incredibly talented people.

Who did Jack think he was?

Pondering about that, the white-robed man shook his head, feeling like Rudy was being overconfident.

Samuel snorted as he shrugged and said to Gent, "There's no point saying all of that, this guy won't listen to a single thing. He has complete blind faith in Jack. He feels that Jack would definitely be able to get a golden token, becoming only the third person to do so."

After saying that, Samuel let out a mocking laugh. The alchemists from the Compass Pavilion behind him all let out similar laughs as well.

They were all mocking Rudy for his ignorance. After they started laughing, the alchemists of the Unbreaking Pavilion started to laugh as well. Some of them did so in incredibly exaggerated manners.

Mark raised his eyebrows and did not hold back as he guffawed right at Rudy.

Rudy merely frowned, not really affected by their laughter. At that moment, he was incredibly calm. It was as if nothing around him could affect him at all. He suddenly understood why Jack always had a cold look on.

No matter what happened outside, Jack would not let it affect him. It was not that Jack was cold, but because he was determined and had enough confidence. No matter how much others laughed at him, he still kept calm.

Suddenly, some rustlings could be heard from afar.

Everyone was familiar with the sound of those mechanisms. It was a sign that the barrier was giving out. Everyone turned to look, and Jack's figure appeared in front of the alchemists again. At that moment, his back was incredibly straight, as if it was not that hard at all.

Rudy took a deep breath as he walked toward Jack. A light slowly formed from the condensing plate. Everyone looked on as a golden token shot out of the condensing plate, landing in Jack's palm.

Jack raised an eyebrow as he opened his hand to look at the token. The golden token had the words 'high-tier stall' written on it. It was actually incredibly simple, but there was a sense of majesty toward it that was hard to beat.

The test earlier had been nothing to Jack. As long as he had skills that were above a seventh-grade alchemist, he would have been able to finish the test perfectly.

Jack let out a sigh of relief, having been affected by Gent's earlier words.

- Chapter 2937 -

However, Jack had once again shown Rudy that all those worries were pointless with the skills he possessed. He smiled as he grabbed the golden token in Jack's hand, turned around, and displayed it in front of everyone, "What do you think?! Do you have anything else to say now?!"

As he said that, he walked toward Gent who had been the one with the most to say earlier. He placed the golden token in his palm, looked right at Gent and said, "Didn't you say that Jack could never manage to get a golden token? Then what's this in my hand? Is everyone hallucinating?"

Gent was about to spit out blood at those words. It had completely ripped apart his earlier arrogance. He had thought that, even if Jack was talented, Jack would only be around his level. Yet, he realized that he was greatly mistaken.

No wonder Jack had always looked at them with that attitude previously. Jack had never regarded them seriously.

Gent's lips twitched, not saying anything. In truth, compared to the others, Gent was already in quite a good state. Mark's eyes were so wide that they threatened to pop out of their sockets. His eyeballs were full of veins. He had a look of disbelief on his face as he stared at the golden token in Rudy's hand. He refused to believe that it was real.

How was Jack so strong in both combat and alchemy? It was a tough pill to swallow.

Mark realized miserably that he had been completely trampled over by Jack. He was not a match for Jack as well. He reached out and tried to snatch that golden token away from Rudy, but Rudy frowned and took a step back.

Rudy raised his voice and said, "You're planning on breaking the rules? Mark, think it through. You know the consequences of breaking the rules!"

Mark only reacted after he was shouted at, realizing what he had done. After that, he pushed himself back with some fear. At that moment, he was about to go crazy as his breathing got erratic, "Are you an eighth-grade alchemist?"

After a moment, Samuel said, "Who are you? I refuse to believe you have no background. I refuse to believe that you got to where you are by yourself. I'm starting to suspect that you're not even from Hestia Continent!"



Those words sounded incredibly sure.

Jack raised an eyebrow, not saying anything. At that moment, all of the alchemists there were going a little crazy. What had happened had exceeded anything they could have imagined.

How did Jack reach that point? It was far too unbelievable.

If they had not witnessed it for themselves, they would definitely have thought that Samuel was exaggerating. Yet, after witnessing everything for themselves, they had to agree with what Samuel said.

Jack was far too strong, so strong that they did not know what to say.

- Chapter 2938 -

Looking at everyone's crazed expressions, Jack knew that it would be taken as a silent acknowledgment if he remained silent. He did not think much about it, it was up to them what they wanted to think. However, he felt that he would end up becoming a lab rat to major forces if he remained quiet. If they wanted to dig out his secrets and did something to him, then it would be disastrous.

Jack took a deep breath and looked at everyone there, "Please stop those idiotic thoughts in your heads. Don't just place random judgments on anyone you want. Don't use your limited brains to judge the whole Hestia Continent. There are many like me in Hestia Continent, you just haven't met them before!"

Samuel frowned, pausing for a moment before shaking his head vigorously, "There's no way! There's no way someone like you can appear in Hestia Continent, who's so extraordinarily strong in both alchemy and combat. You're not like someone from Hestia Continent at all!"

Jack frowned, suddenly feeling like he would not be able to talk his way out of it. He furrowed his eyebrows as many thoughts flashed in his head. He could not let them continue on that train of thought. If he allowed it to continue, it would cause a lot of unnecessary problems.

This time, Rudy was even quicker than Jack. He felt if Samuel continued speaking like that, the larger forces might all end up going against Jack. He took a deep breath and raised his voice, "You're just saying all that to save your dignity!"

Samuel frowned as he tried to explain, but was stopped by Rudy, "Stop with your stupid thoughts. Don't you think what you're trying to say is hilarious? All of you were laughing so much earlier, saying that Jack could not have done it at all. I just mocked you a little, and you immediately tried to find some incredible excuse to gain back your dignity."

After saying all of that, Rudy glared at Samuel as he pulled Jack's arm, "We should stop wasting time on them."

Jack nodded in agreement. He turned to look at the white-robed man.

At that moment, the white-robed man was completely different. He was already looking at Jack with a look of complete respect. Ever since Prosper City was opened only three people had gotten a golden token. The outer city test was a test of skill and talent. The fact that Jack managed this meant that his talents and skills were absolutely at a heroic level.

The white-robed man no longer bothered with those alchemists around him. His only thought in mind was to curry favor with Jack.

He walked up to Jack and said, "I'll buy the golden token from you for six hundred thousand spirit crystals. Even though the regulated price is five hundred thousand, I can pay six hundred thousand. As for those stones, I don't need your money. I'll just give it to you. We'll perform our business as usual. I've said some harsh words earlier, I hope you can forgive me..."

At that moment, the white-robed man completely threw his dignity aside. His only thought was to get closer to Jack. The white-robed man had quite a lot of spirit crystals since he came here for business thanks to his clan. He was not that skilled himself, so all he could do was seize opportunities as they came.

- Chapter 2939 -

Otherwise, he would not have abandoned the other seventh-level cities to come here. Faced with an alchemist who would definitely achieve a lot in the future, he would naturally try his best to curry some favor. After all, those alchemists would definitely be of great help in the future.

Jack raised an eyebrow. Since that person was so understanding, it saved him a lot of time. He could not be bothered to dwell on what happened before. He nodded at the white-robed man and handed the golden token in his hand.

Everything after that went smoothly. Those alchemists that were trying to cause trouble earlier had all completely shrank back. They no longer dared to do anything to Jack. However, Jack knew that it was just a temporary silence. After all, their grudges were still there.

The inner city's entrance was at the most internal spot of the outer city. At noon on the sixth day, Jack brought Rudy to the inner city's entrance. It was a massive circular passage.

The passage was obscured by a very colorful barrier. There were a lot of serious-looking alchemists standing outside of the passage. Most of them were frowning as if they had encountered an incredibly difficult problem.

Those people gathered around the entrance of the passage, seemingly talking about something.

When Jack saw the scene, he could not help but frown as well.

Rudy whispered, "Could something be going on in the inner city? Why do they look so put off?"

Jack sighed, not denying it. The two of them slowed down as they slowly walked toward the group. When they were closer, they could hear the conversations that were going on.

A black-robed alchemist frowned as he talked to a handsome man in front of him, "I think you shouldn't be too rash. This situation is quite special. I can't believe other continents are involved. You know as well that Hestia Continent was separated from the other continents after the major incident thirty thousand years ago. We've been sealed off all the while, but the other continents are different..."

Before he could finish, the man interrupted him, "Do you think I don't know what you've said?! We still need to take part in the end. If there's no one from Hestia Continent at all, we'd become a laughing stock!"

The black-robed man shook his head helplessly, saying sadly, "In the end, Hestia Continent still loses to them..."

The handsome man was incredibly unhappy, and it was clearly written on his face. He said vehemently, "I don't think we lost at all! It's just that Phoenix Valley and the Unbreaking Pavilion are just completely shameless and despicable. They actually hid something so important from us. Otherwise, we wouldn't be caught off guard. There are still a lot of excellent alchemists who are not at Prosper City!"

The black-robed man did not agree with what the handsome guy said. He took a deep breath and said, "I know you don't want to lose to anyone, but there are some things that we can't do by ourselves. The news has already spread, and all the alchemists that can get here are already here. Anyone who has the slightest bit of skill has all come over for more potential rewards. There should be some who are still not here, but it's just a small portion."

- Chapter 2940 -

The handsome man wanted to say something in response, but could not find anything to say after a long time.

The news really had been broadcasted a while ago. All the alchemists that came from major clans had all already rushed over. Anyone who could help had already done the best they could. After all, it was an incredibly important event. Those who were in the top three would get incredible amounts of resources.

The black-robed man frowned as he patted the handsome guy on the arm somewhat dejectedly, "I know it's hard, and I know you don't want to just let it go, but you might end up becoming a joke if you make a mess of things. I'm not trying to insult you. There are so many people and so many excellent alchemists. Your skills are only average among them. What can you do even if you take part? You'd just be making up the numbers..."

"If any accidents happen, you might very well end up being targeted. Just look at how everyone is acting inside..."

The handsome guy said resolutely, "I, Aaron Fox, have never retreated ever since I started alchemy. This time would be no different!"

It turned out that person was called Aaron.

After hearing the two of them talk, Jack could somewhat grasp their personalities. Aaron seemed like a person of upstanding character who holds to his values. He seemed to be very righteous. It seemed to be worth getting to know him.

Jack planned on entering the inner city but did not know the situation at all. Everything would be much easier if he had someone to guide him. He thought about it for a moment before bringing Rudy over.

Jack saluted Aaron before saluting the black-robed man next to him. After giving a brief introduction, he spoke, "I just arrived at Prosper City. I want to take the test for the inner city, but it seems like the situation in the inner city is incredibly different from what I expected after hearing your conversation. It might even involve other continents..."

It was the first time Jack had ever heard about other continents while he was in Hestia Continent. Before that, Jack had never heard of other worlds being mentioned. Hestia Continent was considered the lower end of middle-tier worlds and was a third-grade world. Above were second-grade worlds and first-grade worlds.

Jack never expected that the inner city would be related to other worlds. After being in Hestia Continent for so long, Jack already planned on taking a look at other worlds if he had a chance.

Limiting himself to one place could very well limit his development. Jack was still considered quite weak. Furthermore, he was only staying at Hestia Continent because he wanted to enter Wild Gorge Pass.

Aaron was an easygoing person and knew that Jack was one too from the conversation. Jack did not seem like someone petty at all, and would probably not stab any friends in the back.

Aaron smiled and said, "Did you come to Prosper City yourself?"

Jack raised an eyebrow, not expecting that to be Aaron's question. He patted Rudy on the shoulder, "I came with my fellow student."

Aaron looked at Rudy and saw the sixth-grade alchemist badge on their chests. He had a curious look on his face, but the black-robed man was not as nice as Aaron.

The moment Jack walked over to chat, the black-robed man was already looking at them with alert. After hearing what Jack said, coupled with Jack's expression, the black-robed man's alert was coupled with suspicion.

- Chapter 2941 -

The black-robed man asked, "The two of you arrived at Prosper City by yourselves?"

Jack immediately understood what the black-robed man was thinking. After all, they would have had to pass the test of an eighth-level city to arrive at Prosper City. Before that, they would have to get past a ninth-level city. It was impossible for alchemists to reach this place alone.

They had to have strong warriors protecting them. The two of them had also only reached this place thanks to the protection of others.

Jack coughed before finding a reason, "We separated from the others after coming out of the eighth level city..."

The black-robed man frowned, "So that's what happened. No wonder you don't know anything. The news is already out. As long as you're not a wandering warrior, you should have already received the news."

After saying that, the black-robed man measured them with even more suspicion.

Jack was starting to get a bit confused at that point since Aaron was nowhere near as suspicious as the black-robed man.

He felt like the black-robed man was just talking a lot, but failed to get to the actual point. Aaron decided to just clear Jack's questions, "Every clan's warriors or alchemists would have gotten a sound transfer array notification from their fellow disciples, asking all the alchemists to head to Prosper City!"

Jack frowned, feeling a little exasperated.

As an alchemist from Phoenix Valley, all of them had an identification token with them. Not only could that token keep track of merit points, but it could also even be used to transfer information at important moments. Yet, that token had lost its effect since they entered the Whirling World. There was no information sent over at all.

After hearing that, a thought flashed in Jack's mind. It looked like Phoenix Valley had already given up on Jack. Regardless of what the reason was, they did not regard Jack as a part of them.

With that in mind, Jack felt a chill in his heart. Even though he had not planned on staying in Phoenix Valley for that long, he had not expected that Phoenix Valley would betray him either. He had even been a great help to Phoenix Valley, but Phoenix Valley had never spent anything on nurturing Jack. The spirit crystals Jack had gotten in Phoenix Valley had all been earned by Jack himself.

After entering the whirling World, Jack found out about a lot of secrets. Most of those secrets involved Phoenix Valley. Even though Jack was disappointed that Phoenix Valley had hidden so much for him, he would have still helped them if they were in trouble.

Jack completely discarded the thought at that point, he would sever all ties with Phoenix Valley!

Rudy had clearly seen the dark look on Jack's face and was trying to guess what he was thinking. After all, Rudy's identity token had not worked at all as well.

Aaron was quite carefree and did not notice Jack's mood at all as he continued, "It's been five to six days. All the alchemists that should be here have already arrived. After all, this event concerns the distribution of resources. Everyone did their best, but the results were not amazing. They only got one bronze treasure and black treasure."

- Chapter 2942 -

"Compared to the two other worlds, Hestia Continent is way too bad! It's the seventh group today. If you want to take part, there are only five spots left! The mood is not the greatest at the moment. The six earlier groups had performed poorly. Not only did they lose badly, but they were also mocked terribly by the alchemists from the other worlds as well. The alchemists on our side aren't really treating the contestants that well either. Everyone feels like they're not good enough, and won't get good results if they join, so all of them became cowards. No one is willing to participate..."

Jack was confused as he listened on. He asked doubtfully, "Which continents are we competing against? What are bronze and black treasures?"

Aaron slapped his forehead, "I forgot that you just got here and don't know anything. Whatever, you should be planning on entering as well, right? If that's the case, let's talk as we walk."

After that, Aaron motioned to the black-robed man saying that he would definitely participate. The black-robed man was a bit panicked but understood that he had already said everything he could. Aaron was someone who would not go back on his decisions. Unless he did not want to

participate himself, nothing could stop him from joining. He sighed helplessly, nodding and not saying anything.

Aaron walked in front while Jack and Rudy followed him. They talked as they walked, and Jack was also paying attention to the other alchemists around the passage.

Some of those alchemists came from the inner city, while some of them had just arrived. None of them look like they were in a good mood, and all of them were talking to each other. Those discussions fell into Jack's ears.

"Rudeus Grint's horse face looks at other alchemists like he's looking at crap. I refuse to go in and suffer. With my meager skills, I only barely managed to pass the entry test anyway. I only managed to complete thirty-one pill runes."

"I don't want to go either. The atmosphere inside is too heavy. The alchemists from White Marsh Continent are all so crazy. They're a lot weaker than the alchemists from the Chaos Continent, but they act so pleasantly with themselves just because they're better than us. They keep causing us trouble!"

"We can't touch that Heaven Array, and can only see the images that they're deliberately sending over. We can't even mock them back and have to suffer from it."

"Which of those at the center aren't the top from their respective forces? They're all incredible geniuses, but their faces are already pale with anger thanks to being mocked by the White Marsh Continent's alchemists. They're about to erupt at any moment."

"The only way for them to vent is on us insignificant characters. We wouldn't dare to fight them head-on either, and we're forced to just lower our heads and accept it! I don't want to get shouted at for no reason, so I'm forced to hide here..."

Jack had heard of the name Rudeus before because he was far too famous. Jack's name was probably about to be spread around as well since only three people have gotten the golden tokens before. One of them had been Rudeus from the Scarlet Pavilion. The Scarlet Pavilion was the only ninth-grade clan in Middle Province. It was the strongest clan in all of Middle Province and even Hestia Continent. It was an immovable existence.

It was no surprise that he managed to get the golden token. After all, he was an alchemist from a ninth-grade clan. If he was not good, then other alchemists would all be trash.

The circular passage was very long.

Aaron never stopped talking. It was not just about the rules, he talked about a lot more as well. Rudy hit it off quite well with Aaron, and the two of them chatted as they walked.

- Chapter 2943 -

Jack had been far too quiet, but Aaron did not seem to mind. Just by listening to their conversations, Jack slowly understood. The various rules after entering the inner city were making the Whirling World more and more interesting.

The inner city was actually an immense palace. There were already over ten thousand alchemists gathered there. The center of the inner city had a massive array that was about a hundred feet in length. The array was called the Heaven Array. It was an ancient array that had already been lost to the Hestia Continent. The alchemists gathered in the inner city all sat around the array.

Aaron raised an eyebrow and said, "The ones who are sitting in the innermost circle are the alchemists with incredible backgrounds and amazing skills. The one at the center is Rudeus from the Scarlet Pavilion. The one right in front of him is Mitchell Turner from Phoenix Valley. The two are said to possess the same level of skills. Before entering this tournament, their names have always appeared next to each other. They're the model examples for all young alchemists..."

"Even the alchemists that were a generation older treat them with respect as well. However, after this tournament, Rudeus' name is going to be listed behind Mitchell's."

Jack nodded before asking, "Did Rudeus get a bronze treasure while Mitchell got a black treasure?"

Aaron's eyes lit up as he nodded vigorously, "You're so smart."

Jack sighed helplessly, feeling a lot better about Aaron.

Mainly, Aaron seemed to be a little dumb when it came to talking and doing things in general. Even if interacting with someone like him would take a bit more effort, he would still not need to be worried about being betrayed.

It let Jack relax quite a bit. The three of them talked as they walked forward. In fifteen minutes, they finally entered the inner city. It was just like Aaron had said, the whole inner city was basically a massive palace.

Jack looked up and saw that the ceiling had been carved with various beasts. There were uncountable pillars in the inner palace. Looking inside, a large group of alchemists was gathered in front. There were at least ten thousand of them.

Jack frowned. He did not like going to crowded places at all. Every time he did, he did not feel like himself. However, he had to go in even if he did not like it. There was at least ten thousand people inside.



After he entered, it realized it was not that crowded at all. Everyone took out mats from their storage spaces and placed them on the floor, sitting down. Those who were friendlier with each other would sit closer, while those who were not that friendly would sit further apart.

Jack looked at everyone, and noticed that all their expressions were all incredibly serious. He looked up at the centermost position.

After Aaron's introductions, Jack saw the leaders, which were Rudeus from the Scarlet Pavilion and Mitchell from Phoenix Valley. The two of them sat facing each other in the middle of the array. They had incredibly dark looks on their faces, it was as if their fathers had just died.

As usual, Jack did not want any unnecessary clamor, and sat down at a corner.

Aaron had been planning on sitting further inside, but Jack didn't want to. Aaron did not know anyone else, so he sat at a secluded spot with Jack. Even though everyone there was not that strong, it was still possible to hear what was spoken from afar if one did not deliberately lower their voice.

- Chapter 2944 -

Rudy whispered into Jack's ears, "Why does this place feel like a funeral?"

Jack could not stop himself from letting out a laugh. He looked up at everyone, and it really did feel like it was a funeral.

Everyone was incredibly sullen and miserable. They were in incredible pain.

Aaron smiled as he whispered, "I don't think that this is a funeral at all."

Rudy raised an eyebrow and said, "Then what is it?"

Aaron coughed and said seriously, "It's like all of them ate a bucket of crap."

The three of them let out slight laughs. After a moment, Aaron continued, "I think that the reason they're suffering so much isn't that the other worlds are too strong or that they are too weak, and that they dragged Hestia Continent down. It's just because all of them have been shouted at by Rudeus."

Jack raised an eyebrow, "They were shouted at by Rudeus? Is he allowed to do that? Even with his status, surely the alchemists here are all no regular alchemists? Middle Province isn't owned by Scarlet Pavilion!"

Jack's face was puzzled. Ever since he came to Middle Province, he had started to learn about the various forces. Even though Scarlet Pavilion was the strongest in Middle Province, the other

clans would not just take it lying down either. Lately, the Unbreaking Pavilion had been trying to become the second ninth-grade clan, splitting up the resources of Middle Province.

The Unbreaking Pavilion was very strong. Normally, they only treated Scarlet Pavilion with surface level respect. If Scarlet Pavilion really crossed the line, they would not just take it lying down. They would even fight back.

The other eighth-grade clans might not be as good as the Unbreaking Pavilion, but they would still not just take things lying down. Dignity was incredibly important to those of them from high-grade clans. Some of them saw it as more important than their own lives.

Because he understood that, Jack was curious.

When he saw how serious everyone was, how could they have just taken being scolded like that lightly?

Aaron could tell what Jack was puzzled about, and explained to Jack, "I said this earlier on, but this happened slowly. Initially, Rudeus would not have shouted no matter how angry he was, but with the continuous losses, our results were so bad that White Marsh Continent's alchemists kept on mocking them. That was why Rudeus erupted."

Jack still felt like it was quite unbelievable. After all, he had seen how much they valued their dignity, especially those who were more skilled. They had all already gotten used to being praised. As long as they got rejected or things happened in ways they did not want, they would immediately explode. They would feel like they suffered the greatest humiliation.

Rudy thought about it and said, "I feel like he'd probably just said a word or two and vented his frustrations. Surely it's not that bad..."

The moment he said that Rudeus started to speak. His voice was very somber. Rather, his whole person was in an incredibly heavy mood. He suppressed his anger, but his arms were still shaking.

"The seventh group! There are still two hours left. Only five people have taken the challenge tokens right now. Is there anyone else?"

No one answered.

The alchemists that were sitting in front started to retreat with guilty looks on their faces.

After a moment of silence, Rudeus could not hold back anymore and shouted, "Are all of you just trash? If you just wait around, you won't be able to get anything anyway!"

The moment he said that the silence broke. After all, this involved their personal benefits. The alchemists toward the back started to mutter amongst one another.

- Chapter 2945 -

"But the rules are very clear. You'll get your pick of the treasures first, but you only get to pick one. We get to pick from the rest. The rules can't be ignored. We want to help, but our skills are limited..."

"That's right. If we were good enough, we'd naturally be willing to go, but we really can't do it. Didn't us weaker alchemists join the six groups earlier as well? Our results were too bad, and we were even mocked by those people and completely humiliated Hestia Continent."

"Yeah, right. We're just worried about the humiliation. If not for that, any of us would be willing to contribute."

Rudeus merely laughed coldly at those words. He looked at those people who only knew how to take the resources. When they were asked to help, they would come up with various excuses. Rudeus felt his rage boiling.

He stood right up, and his sharp eyes stared at everyone as he shouted, "You're all just rash. All you want is a part of the resources, but you're not willing to do anything for it at all! You're just shameless! Absolutely disgusting! I feel disgusted that I'm from the same continent as all of you!"

Those words were incredibly harsh, but even so, no one shouted back at him. They just muttered in silence.

Rudy was dumbfounded at the sight. He never expected that Rudeus' words would be so harsh. He had even called the other alchemists trash that contributed nothing, calling them disgusting.

Rudy said as he licked his lips, "God... I'm still too inexperienced. I can't believe Rudeus actually said all of that. I couldn't even bear to listen."

Aaron was very calm. After all, he had already heard all of that before. He had gone over to talk to his fellow students, and Aaron slowly understood what was in Rudeus' mind. Aaron explained, "The others don't fight back... Because it's all the truth. Didn't I tell you the rules of the competition before?"

Jack and Rudy nodded at the same time, thinking about the rules that they had already been told. They immediately understood why Rudeus was like that.

The competition was actually very simple. Eleven groups had the chance to take part. Each group would consist of ten alchemists. It meant that each round would have thirty participants.

The thirty alchemists would all be tested at the same time, and they would be given placements. In the first place, one would get a golden treasure, which had the best resources. The second place would get a bronze treasure, which was one level lower than the golden one. The third place would get black treasures.

When Jack entered, six groups had already taken part. The Chaos Continent was the strongest and had obtained four gold, four bronze, and four black treasures.

It was no wonder that White Marsh Continent regarded Hestia Continent as worthless. That was because White Marsh Continent was a third-grade world just like Hestia Continent, but the results between the two continents were drastically different. Hestia Continent had not even obtained a single golden treasure.

Rudeus shouted at everyone so viciously because he had gotten a bronze treasure after seizing second place in the second group. Meanwhile, Phoenix Valley's Mitchell had gotten third place in the third group. After that, they had gotten nothing.

The two treasures had been obtained by Rudeus and Mitchell, but the rules were in place. Even though they had gotten the treasures through their own hard work, they still had to share them with everyone.

- Chapter 2946 -

No one responded to Rudeus's raging, probably because no one dared to. After all, with the situation as it was, no one had any right to talk back to Rudeus if they wanted resources. After all, the biggest amount of reward had been earned by Rudeus.

Anyone who wanted to retaliate refrained in the end. They were not willing to offend Rudeus, and did not know what to say anyway.

Rudeus had an incredibly dark look on his face as he shot his sharp gaze across everyone there, "The seventh group is about to start. If no one participates, we would only be sending in five out of the possible ten. Wouldn't we become a joke?! White Marsh Continent already regards us as a joke, and insults us without holding back. If we can't even get the proper number of people, how would they look at us?!"

After Rudeus shouted at all of them, the response was still merely silence. At that moment, no one dared to step up.

Jack could not blame Rudeus for getting so furious.

Rudeus did not want to be looked down on. If there were not even enough people to participate, it would be far too humiliating. Rudeus had been insulted by White Marsh Continent's

alchemists quite a bit. This time, they had even more reason to mock the alchemists of Hestia Continent.

Rudeus was about to collapse from anger. His hands trembled and fire could be seen in his eyes.

Jack frowned, feeling like all the alchemists there were crossing the line. It was like Rudeus had said. Everyone was fighting for their own benefits, but when it was time for them to actually do something, no one actually dared to step up.

Rudy frowned as he said in exasperation, "This group really is something else. Are they really that afraid? Isn't it just a tournament? There are so many alchemists here, why did they all refuse? They would rather be berated by Rudeus than step up and participate?"

Aaron sighed at that. He was planning on stepping up. He had been planning on participating. He did not know what the results would be, but at the very least, he dared to step up. Even if he would be humiliated by White Marsh Continent, it was still better than not doing anything at all.

After Rudy voiced the question, Jack merely frowned and did not reply.

Rudy saw that Jack was not answering, so Rudy turned to look at Aaron. The moment he looked over, he saw Aaron suddenly stand up.

Aaron let out a slight cough as he tidied himself up, walking right toward the center. The inner city was large enough that they did not need to squeeze. There was a lot of space to move around.

Aaron took big strides all the way toward the front of the Heaven Array. At that moment, there were five miniature arrays on the Heaven array. Anyone who wanted to participate merely needed to pick one up, and it would be counted as a registration to compete. He calmly picked one up in front of all those alchemists. The small array was green in color and had a green glow to it. It looked like an ancient green gem and had several runes on it. It looked very nice.

Aaron grabbed the array and faced the angry Rudeus, saying, "I'll take part!"

Jack had thought that Rudeus would have a much better expression since Aaron had stepped up and volunteered by himself, but he never expected that Rudeus' face would still be furrowed up tightly. He looked at Aaron with no trace of warmth. It was like he was looking at trash.

- Chapter 2947 -

That disdainful gaze was obvious to Jack even despite the distance. Logically speaking, Rudeus should have been happy that someone wanted to participate. After all, he had been shouting at everyone for so long, but no one had been willing to volunteer. Aaron's actions could be counted

as breaking through the silence. At the very least, they would not be laughed at by White Marsh Continent's alchemists for not having enough people.

Aaron had clearly felt Rudeus' disgust and mockery as well. It caused Aaron to feel both frustrated and confused. It was as if he had been wrong to do what he did.

Rudeus snorted, "With someone like you?"

Those words definitely stunned Aaron. What did Rudeus mean by that?

At that moment, the alchemists all looked at Aaron as well. They had looks of mockery on their faces as well.

Aaron's lips twitched as he said, "Didn't you say that everyone could take part? Since no one's taking part, can't I?"

Jack felt like Aaron was being very reasonable. Both Jack and Aaron knew that Aaron did not have the skill to get a treasure. He could not even get a black treasure.

He merely did this so the alchemists of Hestia Continent would not be completely humiliated. Yet, Rudeus still had the same attitude, and everyone else looked at Aaron with deep mockery.

Rudeus coldly snorted as his sharp eyes measured Aaron, "Even if you're just making up the numbers, you should at least have the skill to do so. Trash like you will just drag Hestia Continent down. It's better if you don't even go. Put down the array in your hand, you have no right to participate!"

Those words completely stunned Aaron. He was very straightforward, and he usually never let a word or two of mockery get to him. However, Aaron really was starting to panic at that point. He paled, feeling like he was being made out to be a clown.

He started to get laughed at, "Who does this guy think he is? Does he really think he's qualified to make up the numbers? Does he think that he'll look very nice if he stepped up at that moment?"

"Why doesn't he look at himself in the mirror first? Even if we did not have enough people to participate, it's still better than throwing actual trash in!"

"He's probably feeling very pleased with himself right now. He probably thinks that he's helping Rudeus at the moment and that he might become a part of us. Why doesn't he just think for a moment? If trash like him dare to step up, why aren't we participating?"

"That person clearly doesn't know his place. Something must be wrong with him. He's not even a seventh-grade alchemist, but he wants to take part. He's just going to embarrass us all..."

Aaron's lips started to turn purple as he felt a chill in his heart. It was as if he had been thrown into ice water. He sniffed, feeling like he was being an absolute joke.

As he was being stunned, Rudeus immediately shouted, "Why haven't you put it down?! Get lost!"

Aaron shuddered as he immediately placed the array down. He then turned and ran back with his tail between his legs.