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As he said that, Jack's tone was incredibly calm. It was as if he was talking about something completely unimportant. Even though Ethan did not reveal everything, Jack already managed to figure out the deeper meaning behind his words.

Naturally, they were not allowed to fight at that moment. Furthermore, if the alchemists really started fighting, the results were not completely certain.

So he wanted to say that, he might not be able to do anything to Jack here, but he would not let Jack off easily after Jack returned to Hestia Continent. He would do everything he could to kill Jack.

After what happened in Hestia Continent thirty thousand years ago, Hestia Continent had been isolated from everything else. No one could go into other worlds through that barrier. If he wanted to kill Jack, he would have to use Hestia Continent's warriors.

That was where the problem came from. Ethan was an alchemist from White Marsh Continent. Normally, he should not have anything to do with Hestia Continent, so why would anyone be helping him?

That involved a lot more things, but anyone with a brain could be able to understand many things from their conversation.

Ethan froze, not expecting Jack to grasp things so quickly. Jack had actually figured things out before he could say anything.

His lips stiffened as his eyes darted around. He suddenly regretted what he said. After all, some things should not have been revealed to the public. However, there was no way he could take back his words. Ethan did not try to explain anything, but the venom and hatred in his eyes deepened. He looked at Jack as if Jack was his mortal enemy.

Jack snorted, looking away and saying plainly, "There's no reason to continue fighting like this. My skills, and whether I'll drag Hestia Continent down will be seen when the results are out. Since I'm here taking part, I'm naturally confident enough to get a good placement."

Ethan's eyes lit up when he heard that. He suddenly raised his voice as he said, "It looks like you really don't know your place. Does a sixth-grade alchemist like you really think you'll amount to anything?!"

Jack's words had given Ethan a chance to fight back. He let out a cold smile as he continued, "There really are all sorts of people in the world. Do you think you can just brag however you want to? Look in a mirror before you speak. You're a sixth-grade alchemist, do you really think you can get any good placements? You're going to refine sixth-grade pills?"

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After that, the alchemists from White Marsh Continent started to fight back. A sharp-mouthed alchemist immediately said loudly, "The alchemists from Hestia Continent don't have any skills, but they're definitely good at bragging. Don't think that we're idiots that will believe you! "

"That's right! Don't you think that what you said is just hilarious? You actually told us to wait for the results to judge you. Who do you think you are? There's no need to wait for any results!"

"If you were a seventh- grade alchemist, we might have had to think about it and see if really have the skills. Where does a sixth- grade alchemist like you get all your courage? Are sixth-grade alchemists actually that impressive in Hestia Continent?"

Those harsh words kept on being spoken. The alchemists of White Marsh Continent refused to let Jack off easily. They did everything they could to criticize Jack!

Not only did they criticize Jack, but they also insulted all the alchemists from Hestia Continent as well. They did not bother holding back on their words at all.

The alchemists from Hestia Continent were incredibly furious listening to those words. All of them were incredibly indignant, and wanted to retort. However, they could not figure out what to say. After all, they were right.

Jack definitely was a sixth-grade alchemist. As long as he had the badge of a sixth-grade alchemist on his chest, there was nothing they could say that would be more convincing. So, they really had nothing to say bag.

They were forced to keep their looks of indignance on their faces, unable to say anything. Since there was nothing they could say, they threw their hatred onto Jack instead.

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Some of the alchemists from Hestia Continent started to turn and look at Jack, "Can you just stop talking so much? If you really have the skills, we won't stop you from saying anything."

"Can you just look at the badge on your chest before you speak? You're not even a seventh-grade alchemist, so why are you saying all of that? You're just embarrassing the whole Hestia Continent with you!"

"That's right! It's one thing to show off when you're in the inner city, but you're still so arrogant here. If you had a reason to be like this, we wouldn't stop you. Yet, you have no right to be, so you're just going to be mocked by others!"

Jack sighed helplessly. Looking at those people, he had to admit that they had a point. After all, they did not know about him.

Jack let out a laugh as he suddenly felt like he could not just get angered without being compensated. He looked at Ethan who was speaking the loudest. He said in his usual tone, "So you don't think I can get a treasure, right?"

The moment he said that, Ethan laughed out loud again. Ethan's stomach was starting to hurt from laughing so much as he pointed at Jack, "Why are you so funny? Do you really think you can get a treasure?"

Jack nodded calmly, "I think I can!"

The moment he said that everyone was stunned. They started to look at Jack like they were looking at an idiot.

Did he know what he was saying? Did he know how hilarious what he said was?

Someone with a sixth-grade alchemist badge on his chest was actually saying that he would place in the top three in this round. Even black treasures were not something just anyone could get.

Among so many alchemists that Hestia Continent had sent, only one of them had gotten a black treasure!

Nash could no longer hold back as he frowned at Jack, "Do you know what you're saying? Can you just shut up and stop embarrassing us? Don't you know they're laughing at you?!"

Jack nodded. He was no idiot. He could naturally tell that they were doing everything they could to mock him, but he was already immune to all of that. They could say whatever they wanted to, it was not like he had never heard anything like that before.

When Nash saw that Jack nodded calmly, he was stunned before he said in exasperation, "You really are something else!"

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Nash was being completely serious as he said that. He really did think that Jack was a complete weirdo. Otherwise, he would not be acting so brainless.

He felt like Jack was crazy, but he did not want one crazy guy to tarnish the reputation of the whole of Hestia Continent. He took a deep breath as he said seriously, "You'd better shut up right now. If you continue speaking, I won't let you off!"

Jack raised an eyebrow, not caring as he said, "What can you do to me? Are you planning on attacking me now? I have my own plans for saying this, it has nothing to do with you..."

After that, he looked at Ethan again. At that moment, Ethan was laughing vigorously.

Jack's lips twitched as he sighed. However, he composed himself after thinking about his earlier plan. He looked up at Ethan and said seriously, "Why don't we make a bet then? If I get a treasure, no matter what kind, then I win. Otherwise, I'll lose. Let's bet a million spirit crystals!"

The moment he said that everyone went quiet. All of them widened their eyes as they looked at Jack, stunned.

Not far away from Jack, a handsome alchemist from Hestia Continent could not help but say, "You never cease to amaze me. Do you actually want to bet against them? Don't forget that bets go both ways. You'll have to give them a million spirit crystals if you lose!"

Jack nodded, pursing his lips as he said in exasperation, "I'm not a three year old kid. Of course, I know that bets go both ways. Didn't I already say that I lose if I don't get a treasure? If I lose, I'll give him a million spirit crystals. If I win, he'll give me a million spirit crystals. It's just that simple. There's no need to explain..."

As Jack said, the surroundings got even quieter. It was so quiet that one could literally hear a pin drop. Jack's actions completely confused them.

Could Jack really be so confident, or did he have other plans?

Even Ethan did not know what to say. He frowned in silence for a long time before he said, "Are you crazy? Do you even know what you're doing? A million spirit crystals? Do you think that's a small number? Can you even afford a million spirit crystals?"

Jack nodded earnestly as he said in an incredibly calm tone, "Of course, I can. If you don't believe me, we can sign a contract. No one can go against the bet as long as we sign it. If I lose, I have to give you a million spirit crystals!"

At that moment, everyone finally realized that Jack was not joking. He was being serious. He actually did think that he could get a treasure.

Someone started to whisper, "Could this guy have been playing a fool all the while? Can he really get a treasure?"

"Impossible! If he really did have the skills, his fellow alchemists from Hestia Continent would definitely know even if we didn't. It's obvious from their faces that they don't think this guy can do it!"

After that person said that, everyone nodded, feeling like that was an accurate read on the situation. It was the first time they met Jack, but Jack was from the Hestia Continent. The other alchemists there must definitely know who Jack is.

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Yet, the way they treated Jack made it obvious that Jack was no one extraordinary. It was instead that alchemists called Nash who was the leader of those alchemists.

Since that was the case, how was Jack so bold?

The discussions around them intensified. In the end, Jack's attitude really confused them, since Jack had spoken with such confidence.

He might have really been that confident the whole time as if he was really that skilled. After all, there was no way to take back the bet after it was signed, they would have to take out a million spirit crystals if they lost.

A million spirit crystals were no small number. Even a chosen disciple from a ninth-grade clan would have to think about it. They were all still young and had not gathered as much wealth as the older alchemists. At that moment, they were starting to get confused. Even Nash did not know what to do.

He felt like Jack was completely insane, or Jack would not have done something so crazy.

Could Jack really just have too much money, or did Jack have other goals in mind?

After thinking about it over and over, he still could not understand what Jack was aiming for. There was no way Jack could get a good result. Instead, Jack was about to offer up a million spirit crystals for free.

Nash took a deep breath before he whispered to Jack, "Are you actually crazy? Do you really just have nowhere to spend a million spirit crystals? If you don't, you can just give them to me!"

Jack raised an eyebrow as he glanced at Nash, not answering Nash. He had planned on raising the bet to two million spirit crystals but felt like it might cause trouble if he did so.

They would wonder if he could really take out two million spirit crystals and push the matter, insisting that he showed them. He could actually not do that. Even though Jack had accumulated quite a lot of wealth, it was still not at two million spirit crystals.

After thinking about it, he pushed it down to a million. Jack was speechless at the discussions around him. He could not be bothered talking to all of them and did not even have any intentions to argue.

He looked at Ethan and said firmly, "Stop wasting time, just tell me if you'll take up the bet or not. If you do, let's hurry up and sign the contract. If you don't want to, then hurry up and say no."

Ethan looked at Jack with a completely different expression after that, 'Is this kid being serious? Is something wrong with his head?'

Thinking about it, he could not help but be sure of one thing. There was definitely something wrong with Jack's head, or Jack would not have done that.

He sighed, since Jack was willing to give him so many spirit crystals, it would be wrong of him to say no. Ethan nodded, "Since you want to give me spirit crystals, there's no reason for me to reject it."

After saying that, he pulled out a contract from his storage space. Both of them wrote down the bet on the paper clearly. After making sure that nothing was wrong, they dropped their blood on the contract. When their blood fused with the contract, it resonated with heaven and earth, putting it into effect.

After doing that, Jack returned to his original spot, not wasting any time. At that moment, everyone was thoroughly confused at Jack's actions.

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However, since Jack had signed a contract, they could not say what they wanted to. They even started to anticipate the results of the round, wanting to see if Jack could get a treasure.

Two hours were almost up. That wizened old voice was heard once again, and only then did they realize that two hours passed so quickly.

"Two hours is over, the competition will begin immediately! This time, the competition is very simple. Each of you will have to refine a Purple Sun Pill. It's an ancient pill that is in the middle-seventh grade. The recipe for this pill doesn't exist in third-grade worlds. You have five days to refine it. After five days, we will check your results!"

Everyone was stunned after the old voice said that. Every round was different, and they had been wondering what this round would be like.

After the announcement, all of them were alert. Most of them had only heard about the Purple Sun Pill for the first time, regardless of what the effect was, its grade stunned them. It was actually just a middle seventh-grade pill. Even though they heard that it was an ancient pill, they cared less about that fact and more about the grade.

Most of them should be able to perfectly refine the Purple Sun Pill. They would be competing on the refinement rate of the pill runes and the pill itself. After all, the better the refinement rate, the better the effect would be.

They could not help but start to whisper amongst themselves.

Jack could not hear what the alchemists from the other two worlds were saying, but he could hear what the people around him were talking about. Hestia Continent's side was noticeably a little excited, someone even said, "I asked my fellow student before I came. He told me that they had to refine an upper seventh-grade pill during their round. Upper seventh-grade pills are not too different from eighth-grade pills. I was actually quite worried. If I had to refine an eighth-grade pill, I probably wouldn't be able to..."

"I can't believe we're so lucky. It's actually a middle seventh-grade pill. I'm quite confident in pills at that level. We even get five whole days!"

Everyone relaxed when they heard that they would get five days, some of them even started to smile.

"I thought that it would be very hard, but I can't believe we're lucky enough to get such an easy test."

"If they ask us about it after we leave, we can at least say that we managed to refine the pill... It would be like the rest, not even being able to reach fifty percent refinement after trying so hard!"

"I'm a bit curious. Why is this test so relaxed? They gave us five whole days!"

"Who knows? Maybe the Purple Sun Pill is something very complicated that needs a long time to refine..."

No matter what they were discussing, most of them were in a good mood. Even if they had not seen the recipe, they were still given a lot of time. The level of the pill was not that high either.

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On the side of Hestia, Noah was the only one visibly disconcerted. There was a frown on his face as he seemed to be deep in thought.

At that moment, a green light shone in the air as small jade tubes descended from the light, falling into the hands of all the alchemists present.

Jack reached out and grabbed one. His divine senses entered the tube, and he quickly read the contents of it. The tube was, in fact, the recipe for the Purple Sun Pill. The contents were

incredibly detailed and even specified certain important parts that needed to be focused on. Furthermore, the tube had various rules that were specific to this round.

All the materials had been prepared and were placed under the furnaces. Everyone had only two chances, so there were three sets of materials prepared. Failing the third time would mean instant elimination, and despite how well they performed, there would be no consideration given.

There was even a small paragraph written down. On it was the fact that the Purple Sun Pill needed a total of 5600 pill runes, out of which 983 of them were ancient pill runes.

The moment they saw that paragraph, everyone was flabbergasted. The relaxed atmosphere from earlier disappeared as everyone visibly frowned.

5600 pill runes were not much when it came to seventh-grade pills, but out of that number, 983 of them were ancient pill runes, which made things completely different. It did not raise the difficulty by just a level but several times over instead!

The jade tube illustrated all of the pill runes clearly. In particular, it paid special attention to the ancient pill runes.

They used their divine senses to look through all of the pill runes, but they regretfully realized that they did not know a single one of them. They had not even seen them before. That meant that they would need to learn all of the ancient pill runes from scratch. They only had a short five days to memorize and successfully condense those pill runes. They would also need to make sure they were at least 50 percent refined.

All this amounted to the spike of level difficulty that they could not accept. It was incredibly hard for alchemists to rank up. The difference between the two grades of alchemists was incredibly wide, and the key lay in pill runes.

After all, higher-level pills needed more pill runes to be etched into them. Even if they were not ancient pill runes, remembering and condensing 983 new runes was not something that simple.

Knowing all this, many of the alchemists present began fearing they would fail this stage entirely.

Jack sighed as he pursed his lips helplessly. This explained why they were given five days for this round. With the difficulty of the test, five days was barely something to utilize, what with needing to memorize 983 new ancient pill runes in just five days. After that, they needed to condense those runes to a 50-percent refinement rate.

This was not easy at all!



The alchemists from the Chaos Continent could not keep their composure. Even though there was a difference in the skills of alchemists between the worlds, none of them thought that this round was an easy one.

Ethan and Emilio's faces sank.

Meanwhile, a few alchemists muttered among themselves, "I thought that we'd be getting a break by now, yet this is what happens!"

"Isn't this too hard? I feel like most of us here won't even be able to refine a Purple Sun Pill, let alone one at fifty percent refinement. Anyone who manages to get forty percent is impressive enough!"

"It seems like we're very unlucky. It's not like we don't know what the earlier rounds had to go through. Compared to the earlier six groups, this group is noticeably several times harder!"

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"They're going to ask us about the pills we refined and if we succeeded once we go back. They'd laugh at us if we answer honestly!"

"That's right! It's obvious that this round is set to make things difficult for us! I regret joining the seventh group now. If I knew it'd get this difficult, I wouldn't have joined. I should've just joined earlier or later!"

Complaints began to pop as they bemoaned their fate. Before this, they were convinced that they had gotten lucky. After all, they were given a lot of time, and the Purple Sun Pill's grade had been so low. When they knew that the Purple Sun Pill actually needed 983 ancient pill runes, none of them believed they were that lucky anymore. Instead, they felt like 'difficult' was a poor description of their predicament. They felt like they were being attacked by the difficulty instead.

Of everyone present, Jack was the only one who showed not much of a reaction while everyone else was, interesting enough, panicked.

Ethan sighed as he looked at Emilio meaningfully.

When he saw that even Emilio looked like he was not relaxed, Ethan felt bitter. No matter what kind of bet he had made against Jack before, his main competitor had been Emilio the whole time, and he did not want to lose to him whatsoever.

The golden treasure was his.

He wanted to earn glory for White Marsh Continent and be a hero for his continent. He would not allow Emilio to exceed him!

Emilio pursed his lips helplessly. He might not covet the golden treasure as much as Ethan did, but he still wanted to get first place. After all, not only would he be able to greatly benefit Chaos Continent if he did so, but the other alchemists would respect him as well as earning rewards for himself. As the one who won the golden treasure, he would be able to pick out the most valuable item from it.

Nonetheless, this task was proven to be immensely difficult, and he was not even sure if he would be able to succeed in the end. The more thought of it made his lips twitch as he silently motivated himself.

At that moment, Ethan coldly smiled and said to him rather proudly, "You don't look like you're that confident. With your standards, even refining a Purple Sun Pill at fifty percent refinement is a problem.

"Do remember that as long as the pill doesn't reach fifty percent refinement, the pill will be discarded. The Purple Sun Pill will only be successfully refined if every pill is at fifty percent refinement!"

Emilio frowned as he turned to look at Ethan spitefully.

"You don't have to tell me that. Isn't this common knowledge? Stop trying to pick a fight!"

Ethan, however, did not reach aggressively and merely smiled as he sneered, "You're just trying to hide your embarrassment with anger. Whatever, just don't look like a fool afterward. If you fail to refine it, no one will have any results. I'd be the only one in the top three!"

With that, Ethan chuckled. He was very confident in himself, and even though the round was incredibly difficult, he had a feeling that he would be able to win flawlessly.

Emilio furrowed his eyebrows, hating Ethan even more at that point. He gritted his teeth and hissed, "Can you just shut up? Stop gloating before the results are even out. If you're the one failing in the end, that'd be even more embarrassing!"

Both Ethan and Emilio hated each other, even at sight, and verbally attacked one another.

Jack, however, was not interested in such arguments. Instead, he was trying to calculate how long it would take him to successfully refine the pill.

At that moment, he happened to see Nash looking over, his eyes inquisitive and hesitant. It was hard to tell what Nash was thinking. Jack frowned, not asking anything.

After a good while, Nash asked, "You still look so confident, even at this point?"

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Nash's eyes widened as he questioned Jack.

For a moment, Jack did not know what to say. He assumed that no one would bother talking to him, seeing as he was the only odd one out with his odd behavior, yet Nash actually approached him first and asked him a question.

Jack frowned. He did not want to have anything to do with Nash, but alas, Nash's question attracted quite a few gazes. Practically all of the alchemists from Hestia next to Jack turned to look at him curiously. Some of them began to approach him with questions, too.

"That's true. Are you not scared? You're just a sixth-grade alchemist. just five thousand pill runes should be difficult enough for you, let alone with nine hundred and eighty-three pill runes within. Are you not worried at all? Do you think you'll be able to condense those ancient pill runes?"

"Surely you don't think five days is a lot of time? Do you think that you'll be able to condense nine hundred and eighty-three ancient pill runes in five days, and reach fifty percent refinement?"

"To be honest with you, I don't know what's going on in that head of yours. Even us seventh-grade alchemists feel like this round is much harder. We don't even know if we'll be able to refine the Purple Sun Pill in the end."

"You don't seem like you care at all. You don't seem worried about the bet you made earlier. Is one million spirit crystals not important to you at all?"

"He's probably in his ignorant little world. Anyone who knows a thing or two won't be so confused!"

Nash looked at Jack with a serious expression, trying to see something from Jack's expression. After all, Jack had heard everything, and Nash wanted to see past his expressions.

Would Jack still be as composed after he had heard the truth?

After observing him for a while, Nash noticed with some shock that Jack's expression did not change at all. It seemed like Jack really did not care, and really was incredibly confident in himself.

Nash frowned. Minutes later, he chuckled and said, "I think I overestimated you. I thought that you had some other reason for doing anything, but this whole time, you've been acting like an idiot. You might not actually have any other reasons. You're just so confident in yourself thanks to your ignorance! You just don't know how things are."

Nash then turned, no longer bothering with Jack. The other alchemists, too, looked away as they agreed with Nash's words.

Everyone believed that Jack was just ill in the head and did not know common sense. Only people like that would be able to act nonchalant in the face of such a difficult challenge. Even they did not know if they would be able to successfully refine the Purple Sun Pill!

He was just a sixth-grade alchemist, yet he was barely perturbed that it seemed like he was an incredible talent. After going through vigorous discussions, the crowd slowly quieted down. After all, no matter what they said, they could never change the contents of the task.

Some of the alchemists had already accepted their fate as they paced around in concern. They noticed that all of the furnaces were exactly the same, both from the looks and the age. They casually picked out a furnace and decided against wasting any more time.

One individual planned on refining the Purple Sun Pill right away. He had just walked close to a furnace when the surrounding three feet around him were suddenly covered by a barrier, covering him in a flash.

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The barrier of mist seemed ethereal as it blocked everyone's line of sight, leaving everyone stunned at the sudden change.

The familiar wizened voice was heard again. "After choosing a furnace, a barrier will be placed around you, cutting off all contact with the outside world. When you've refined a pill or decided to give up, you can get rid of the barrier."

Jack raised an eyebrow at this and could not help but feel impressed by the competition's organizer. Everything had been properly arranged. With the barrier, he would be spared a lot of trouble.

He did not have to worry about anyone interrupting him. After all, he would be separated from the outside the moment the barrier was up. The person inside would not know how others were progressing and thus would not feel pressured. They would be able to get past five days peacefully.

Jack let out a sigh as he frowned and looked at the furnaces. He could not control what everyone else was doing, but his only thought was just to quickly finish the round.

Jack might have the memories from the past and be confident with those ancient pill runes, but he refused to kick things back and take a breather until the results were out.

He wanted to give himself enough time.

The furnaces were split into six rows of five. After thinking about it, he walked to the last one in the sixth row. He was already used to looking for corners. In the end, all the furnaces were exactly the same, so there was no difference no matter which one he picked. When he stepped within the 90-centimeter range from it, a bundle of mist rose around him, turning into a barrier that cut him off from the outside world.

At that moment, Jack felt more relaxed than he ever had, despite the fact that he was already calm during this time. Unless anyone crossed the line with their words or directly affected Jack's benefits, he would not bother with them, treating their words as nonsense. However, everyone was still too noisy, much to his chagrin. The barrier separated him completely from the outside world, which made Jack quite happy.

Finally, he did not need to listen to their nonsense anymore.

The last furnace on the sixth row was incredibly close to where Jack had been. After he walked over, the people around him had not even had the time to react before the barrier separated Jack from everyone else. He was the second person to enter a barrier. When everyone else reacted, they felt their lips twitching.

Exasperated, Ethan snorted. "I guarantee that something is wrong with this kid's head. He seems more enthusiastic than anyone, jumping into the challenge after someone else started. I wonder if he's that confident or if he's just ignorant."

The alchemists from White Marsh Continent behind Ethan all discussed among themselves as well.

"Who knows what goes on in his head? It looks like he doesn't know what nine hundred eighty-three ancient pill runes actually represent. Otherwise, how could he be so confident? Even I'm not confident that I'll be able to perfectly condense nine hundred eighty-three pill ancient pill runes in five days. We even need to guarantee that they'll have a fifty percent refinement rate!"

After saying that, he sighed. It felt as though he was shouldering two large rocks on his shoulders, causing him to not be able to even stand up straight. He could not handle the difficulty.

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If he truly failed to refine a Purple Sun Pill, he would be laughed at after he got back to White Marsh Continent. Even if he said that it was much harder this time, no one would care. After all, the Purple Sun Pill was a middle seventh- grade pill. To them, it was not hard at all!

Thinking about that, he sighed as he looked up and said to Ethan, "Ethan, do you think that they'll still laugh at me if I fail to complete the Purple Sun Pill if I tell them that it has nine hundred eighty- three ancient pill runes?"

That person truly cared about his dignity. He was worried that he would be laughed at.

Ethan snorted, not even bothering to look back as he replied, "You've forgotten how they are. Do you think they'll care about your excuses? Failure is failure. No matter how reasonable your excuses are, they'll still ignore them. You'd better make sure you can refine a Purple Sun Pill. Otherwise, you'll be laughing stock when you get back."

Ethan did not exaggerate anything nor did he have any intentions of poking fun at that guy.

When the alchemists from White Marsh Continent behind him heard that, they felt uncomfortable as though they had been splashed by a bucket of cold water.

He sighed and grumbled for a long time before they started choosing their furnaces. Time had already started to tick away, and they were already cursing that there was not enough time. If they delayed any more, it would affect their results. Moments later, everyone had chosen a furnace for themselves and entered the barriers, temporarily cutting off contact from the outside world.

Meanwhile, three sets of materials for Purple Sun pills had been taken out by Jack in one go and placed on the table. The Purple Sun Pill was not a very high- grade pill, but it was still in the middle of the seventh grade. The materials needed were not cheap, either.

The first step of the refinement process was to turn all the materials into liquid.

Jack picked up a purple maple stone and placed it in his palm. He looked at the other materials. Refining a Purple Sun Pill needed three purple maple stones, one red sun herb, two phoenix grasses, and three white spirit flowers.

The price of those materials was at least a few thousand spirit crystals altogether. After the Purple Sun Pill was refined, the price would increase by two or three times. He wondered if he would be able to bring the pill with him after he was done. If he could, he might be able to sell it for a good price.

Jack looked at money like he looked at his life at that point. After all, the ninth- grade crystals needed far too many spirit crystals to buy. Jack would never give up on any chance to earn more spirit crystals.

After looking at the materials, Jack was in no hurry to start refining. Instead, he took out the jade tube and looked over at all the pill runes needed for the Purple Sun Pill, especially the ancient pill runes. Not only did Jack know those pill runes, but he even remembered them as well. The

only problem was that he had never refined them before, and his memories had not synchronized with his body. Because of that, Jack was not sure how much time he would need to condense all those pill runes.

Jack shut his eyes for a moment before taking several deep breaths and getting rid of all other thoughts from his mind. Afterward, he started to condense the pill runes.

His hands constantly moved as a faint golden glow could be seen on his fingertips. Drawing pill runes did not just need true energy; willpower was needed as well.

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After two hours, 50 ancient pill runes had been perfectly condensed, with only two not condensed at fifty percent.

When he condensed the 57th pill rune, he made a mistake, causing all of the pill runes from before to collapse with an audible blast. Jack frowned as he watched the pill runes regress into mere pill aura and sighed regretfully. The ancient pill runes were more difficult than regular pill runes, he would admit.

It seemed like he would need to spend a lot of time synchronizing his body and mind. Even though his pace could not be considered that quick, it was far better than everyone else's. Other than Jack, the one most confident in his abilities among the twenty-nine other alchemists was Ethan from White Marsh Continent.

At that moment, Ethan sat cross-legged. He was not as lucky as Jack to have the memories of an ancient hero. He needed to memorize all of the ancient pill runes before he attempted condensing them.

Time started to tick away. After a whole day, Ethan opened his eyes. He sighed as his hand constantly moved, trying to condense the pill runes. Try as he did, however, he could not catch up to Jack's progress. After all, all he needed to train his body, while this was his first time trying.

After 15 minutes, Ethan finally managed to condense the first pill rune, but it was only refined at 30 percent. Nonetheless, he was satisfied, seeing as it was only his first try, and it was a very good sign of things to come. When he started drawing the second pill rune, he made a mistake and did not control the density of the pill aura properly, causing the pill rune to collapse.

Looking at the pill runes turned into pill aura, Ethan was not discouraged at all. He still had time and chances for blunders.

As they threw themselves into the task, three days went by in a flash. At noon on the third day, the barrier on the fifth furnace on the sixth row dispersed.

Jack's figure appeared in the barrier. What was different from before was the fact that he held a purple-colored pill in his hand that emitted a dense fragrance.

Jack frowned and turned around, looking at his surroundings and not knowing what to do next. After all, someone needed to appraise the pill after the pill was refined.

Just as Jack was wondering where he needed to put the pill, the jade tube in Jack's hand suddenly let out a purple glow. Before Jack could react, it sucked the Purple Sun Pill in Jack's hand inside. After the tube sucked the Purple Sun Pill in, it shook vigorously.

Jack frowned in bewilderment.

Right after that, the jade tube shot out as if it had been summoned. On the roof, another green glow appeared as it absorbed the tube that was flying over. Everything had happened in a flash, and Jack widened his mouth slightly in shock.

He suddenly wondered if there was someone hiding behind that green light. After all, assessing pills was not something laws or arrays could do. It needed to be looked at in detail by an alchemist to determine if it was good or bad.

- Chapter 2982 -

Not long after, the green glow disappeared after it had absorbed the jade tube as if it had never appeared before. Jack raised an eyebrow, no longer dwelling on the question.

He left the furnace and headed to where alchemists of Hestia had gathered earlier. He turned to look at the barriers around the other furnaces. He was the only one whose barrier had dissipated.

It meant that he was the first one to finish refining the pill and leave the barrier. He made a mental calculation and realized that it was already noon on the third day. He felt like most alchemists would not give up that easily, so there should only be people coming out on the fourth day onward. Thinking of this, he took out a mat from Mustard Seed and placed it on the floor before he shut his eyes to rest.

Sure enough, Jack's prediction came true. Even if they might not garner fruitful results, everyone did the best they could. They would not come out of the barrier unless they were forced to.

A whole day had passed before another alchemist's barrier was lifted. This alchemist walked out of the barrier with a dark look on his face. When one came, others followed.

Slowly, five alchemists were forced to walk away after expending all their materials.



Of those five alchemists, three were from Hestia, one was from the White Marsh Continent, and the last was from the Chaos Continent. As they stepped out, none of them looked the slightest bit joyful. They were not even in any mood to mock the others as they walked back to their original positions. The three from Hestia arrived in front of Jack. After they measured Jack for a moment, the three of them exchanged looks of curiosity.

The three of them did not say anything at the start. All of them retrieved mats from their storage spaces and sat down just like Jack did. Only after that did they start complaining.

An alchemist in gray robes frowned and said, "It's just like I thought, I couldn't even condense a hundred ancient pill runes, let alone nine hundred and eighty three. I decided to just give it a shot in the end and ruined the three sets of materials. There was no point staying inside, so I came out."

"Same here, more or less, just slightly better I suppose. I ended up successfully condensing two hundred pill runes, but a lot of them weren't at fifty percent refinement."

"I didn't ruin those materials. There's just half a day left after all. There was no point in staying inside, so I came out," said a white-robed man next to the gray-robed man.

After the white-robed man sighed, he shook his head and lamented, "All I'm getting after participating in this competition is feeling like trash more and more. Even though I knew someone would be better than me, I didn't think I'd be this bad!"

"We thought we were lucky when we heard that we had five days... Now, it's obvious that we're cursed. It's not like we don't know how the other rounds went. Compared to them, this round is noticeably harder. We're just so unlucky..." The man spoke dejectedly as though he was useless, lamenting that his luck was horrible to encounter such a hard round.

The last alchemist, who was a man with a mustache, frowned. "None of our results are good, but it doesn't mean that everyone here is trash."

- Chapter 2983 -

"The others might still be in their barriers, but it doesn't mean they're better than us just because they haven't stepped out. They're probably so stubborn and want to keep trying until timeout."

The gray-robed man nodded after hearing that. He patted the white-robed man on the shoulder and said, "There's no need to be sad. There's nothing to be that sad about. It's clear how difficult this task is. I refuse to believe that their results will be much better than ours. We stood no chance to get a prize, anyway..."

The white-robed man nodded, saying helplessly, "I just feel like I'm both unlucky and useless. This competition showed me how lacking I am. I'm going to work harder when I go back!"

The other two nodded, clearly feeling like they were lacking, especially when compared to the other two worlds. They would no doubt remember the humiliation their whole lives and use that as motivation to work hard.

Jack merely raised an eyebrow as he quietly sat by the side silently.

The three of them had talked for quite a while before the white-robed man suddenly turned to look at Jack.

Jack frowned, helplessly looking behind him and considering leaving the place.

Just looking at the man, it was obvious that the man wanted to talk to him. However, Jack could not be bothered to talk to those people.

Before Jack could stand up, however, the man said, "Why are you still acting like this? I don't understand how you can be this pompous. You'll lose this time, and you'll have to pay a million spirit crystals. Do you really think a million spirit crystals is no thing? Are you trying to lose so you can give Ethan those spirit crystals?"

The moment he finished, the gray-robed man turned around as well, chiming in as he scoffed. "I truly don't know what goes through your mind. I know most of the alchemists from large clans, but I've never seen you before. You're probably not from a large clan, right? Since your background isn't something worth noting, where did you get so many spirit crystals? Why are you trying to give them away?"

The three of them looked at Jack with confused expressions. Their words were, in truth, not that ill-intentioned, they were truly just wondering what Jack was thinking.

Jack pursed his lips helplessly. He had not planned on bothering them and leaving. However, Rudy's words surfaced in Jack's mind. He could not afford to just offend everyone.

Thus, Jack took a deep breath and replied patiently, "How do you know that I'll lose?"

This remark stunned the three men, their eyes widening as they could not muster a response.

Jack actually felt like he would not lose! He actually thought he would win, and that Ethan would give him a million spirit crystals.

It was crazy and stupid! How could he say all of that so confidently?

The white-robed man helplessly turned around as he said, "Are you insane or something, Jack? Why do you still think you can win? If you can win, why are you here?"

- Chapter 2984 -

Jack pursed his lips, answering calmly, "Of course I think I can win. Just because I'm here doesn't mean I'll lose."

This response silenced all three men instantly. They looked at Jack speechlessly, feeling like they were talking to a wall.

All they were speaking were reasons and facts, yet Jack refused to listen. The three of them sighed helplessly as they decisively gave up on talking to Jack about this. They felt like Jack would probably never listen to them.

There was only half a day left in the end. The competition was about to end, and Jack would clearly see that he was useless without them needing to explain anything.

The three of them shook their heads silently as they turned and started to talk about other things.

As time passed, more people started to come out of the barriers, with most of them visibly despondent. Only some looked happy as if they were confident in their results.

The time finally came for the last two hours.

At that moment, out of the 30 barriers around the furnaces, 27 had already dispersed. Only three alchemists remained inside, still persevering.

The three of them were the three leaders of the competition, Emilio from Chaos Continent, Ethan from White Marsh Continent, and Nash from Hestia Continent. The three of them seemed to be intent on fighting to the last moment, not willing to admit defeat.

Another half an hour passed, and Nash's barrier finally dispersed, his figure revealed to the other participants. His expression, however, was worth noting. His face was slightly pale. With a sigh, the Purple Sun Pill in his hand was swallowed.

Just like the others, after the Purple Sun Pill was swallowed by the jade tube, it was absorbed into the green glow in the air. He started at the ceiling for a very long time, no one knew what he thought. After a while, he turned and walked toward where Hestia's alchemists had gathered. At that moment, everyone had taken out their mats and sat on the floor.

Compared to the inner city, everyone was more packed. There was not much space around them, and Nash had been the latest to arrive. He placed his mat on the front. His expression, though seemingly troubled, was not at all dark. In fact, it was like he was rather confident with himself, though he was not full of himself.

Another alchemist from Scarlet Pavilion started to chat to Nash in a lowered voice. The two of them mumbled to each other for a long time before they stopped.

Jack merely sat at the back of the group quietly the whole time. He could not be bothered to talk to the rest of them and merely closed his eyes and rested until Nash walked out of the barrier.

When he saw Nash's expression, Jack knew that Nash was not that satisfied with himself. His expression would be far different if he was.

Just as Jack wondered if Nash managed to achieve his refinement goal, Nash turned to look at Jack. Their gazes met, and neither one turned back.

Jack could clearly feel how sharp Nash's gaze was, but he merely raised an eyebrow and said nothing.

Nash snorted lightly, saying, "Sure enough, you didn't disappoint me. You're still the same. How long can you keep acting nonchalant?"

Jack's lips twitched, unable to stop himself from rolling his eyes.

Nash was like an annoying fly that he could not chase away, that at any given time, he would spout nonsense whenever he could.

- Chapter 2985 -

Jack lightly snorted. "How long I can keep it up has nothing to do with you. You should focus on yourself. Are you confident that you can get the grand treasure?"

Jack had not wanted to ask that last part, but he did not want to dwell on the problem with Nash, so he changed the topic. In truth, he was curious as to how confident Nash was.

Nash frowned as his expression stiffened. After a while, he confidently boasted, "I'm fifty percent confident!"

Everyone immediately got excited at that. Nash was not someone who liked to brag. Since Nash said he had a 50 percent chance, then he meant it. In truth, for the alchemists of Hestia, splitting a black treasure might make them happy, but it was still not enough to excite them.

The reason they got excited was that getting a black treasure would let them gloat a little and vent a quarter of their frustration, at least. After all, Ethan had insulted them so much earlier, even telling them to not participate in the later rounds.

He had spoken as if they were completely below notice. Even though they had not fought back at the time, everyone was still angered by it. They were, of course, excited at the fact that they might regain some of their dignity.

Some of them even started to congratulate Nash excitedly, "Since Nash says that there's a fifty percent chance, it has to be true! Even though Nash is weaker than Rudeus, it's not like they're that far different. Since Rudeus managed to get a bronze treasure, it wouldn't be surprising for you to get a black treasure!"

"That's right! Even though the leaders of the two continents seem stronger, the others aren't that special. If the two of them are fighting for the bronze and golden treasures, then the black treasure would be in our hands!"

Nash did not bother listening to those congratulatory words at all. He might have said the truth that he was 50 percent confident, but he was not someone who would just accept compliments like that without being 100 percent confident or before the results were out. His gaze was still fixed on Jack.

Despite what Nash had said, Jack did nothing but raise an eyebrow, which irked him.

What did he mean by his behavior? Did Jack not agree with him?

Nash said in a low voice, "You think I don't have a fifty percent chance to get a black treasure?"

Jack thought about it and nodded calmly. "I feel like you do have no chance of getting a black treasure."

As he said that, it was like he had thrown a bomb into the crowd, and they erupted into chaos, insulting Jack.

"Can you use your head a little, you brat? Nash's alchemy is at the top of Scarlet Pavilion. If he can't get a black treasure, no one else will apart from those two!"

"That's right! Jack, you're crossing the line here. You're practically siding with the enemy at this point!"

Jack barely reacted to these noises. After all, he had long anticipated their reactions. He looked around and said calmly, "I said what I have said, and it's up to you if you want to listen. Let's just all wait for the results, shall we?"

- Chapter 2986 -

Right after Jack said that, the arguments immediately got louder, "You're just not willing to accept it! Are you looking down on Nash?! What is the meaning of this?!"

“Whatever, let’s not bother with him anymore. This guy keeps on doing strange things. It doesn’t matter what he’s thinking, as long as we think that Nash has a good chance of getting a black treasure!”

Just as the arguments were escalating, the final two barriers finally dispersed. Ethan and Emilio appeared in front of everyone. The alchemists from White Marsh Continent and Chaos Continent immediately stood up and welcomed them.

Ethan and Emilio both had similar calm expressions. The two of them exchanged a look, and both of them could see the anger in their eyes. Ethan snorted as he held his head up high while he walked toward where White Marsh Continent was. Emilio frowned, not saying anything as he returned to Chaos Continent’s position.

Ethan was the first to speak, “Don’t worry. The golden treasure from this round will definitely belong to us!”

The alchemists from White Marsh Continent started to cheer after he said that. All of them were incredibly excited as if they had gotten the golden treasure!

That was when Emilio’s expression darkened. Ethan did not think much about Emilio at all. Otherwise, he would not have immediately said that after the round ended.

Emilio still represented Chaos Continent in the end. If he shut his mouth and ignored Ethan, he would end up being slandered and mocked for being too scared. He would end up embarrassing Chaos Continent.

He coldly snorted, “The results are still not out yet, and you’re already acting so pleased with yourselves. Even though I’m also very confident, I’m still trying to be humble before the results are out. After all, it’s very easy for people to bite back when you say things like that!”

Emilio chose his words carefully, leaving himself a route for retreat. If he acted like Ethan and said that the golden treasure was already his, he would be incredibly humiliated if he ended up with just a bronze treasure. However, he did not want Ethan to be too pleased with himself.

After Ethan heard that, he turned to look at Emilio. He was not as humble as Emilio and was incredibly confident in himself. He guffawed after hearing that.

He narrowed his eyes as he measured Emilio up and down, mocking, “You’re just not confident in yourself. Does that mean others aren’t allowed to be as well? You know what your results are. You must already know that you won’t be able to get the golden treasure, but you don’t want me to get the golden treasure either. That’s why you’re saying all this. Just take my advice and eat your words. I can guarantee you right now that you won’t get the golden treasure.”

“Even if we’ve never formally competed in any official capacity before, and the two of us have never truly been able to see who is stronger, the results are still obvious. You’re no match for me. I’ll trample all over you and get the golden treasure!”

As he said that, Ethan acted like a victorious general. He talked to Emilio in an incredibly cocky manner, causing Emilio to be shocked at how overly confident Ethan was.

- Chapter 2987 -

Emilio was so angry that he started to pant. He looked at Ethan even more angrily.

Emilio had never hated Ethan so much before. Even if the two of them had never gotten along, it was just a competitive relationship. He had never hated Ethan as he did at that moment.

If he had the chance, Emilio would definitely make Ethan suffer and have him wishing he was dead. Ethan’s words had been too appalling, completely looking down on Emilio. It caused even the other alchemists from Chaos Continent to feel incredibly uncomfortable.

The Chaos Continent was the strongest out of all three worlds in the end, so they naturally had their own pride. After hearing those words, they could not stand it.

An alchemist behind Emilio immediately shouted, “Emilio just doesn’t want to have a petty argument with you, so he minded his words. I can’t believe you got so conceited. Before the results are even out, you’re already so arrogant! The barrier obscured everything, so you didn’t know how the others did at all. How are you so sure that you’re in the first place?!”

Ethan raised an eyebrow, not even bothering to spare the others a glance. He said coldly, “I don’t need to look at the results of everyone else at all. All I care about is my own results. My results alone are enough to completely beat all of you. Why would I need to look at anyone else?”

After saying that, Ethan laughed maniacally. The alchemists from White Marsh Pavilion behind him all went in time with him.

“Ethan’s right! There’s no need to look at the other results at all!”

“Ethan is just that strong! All of you are just envious, but you’re acting so indignantly. It’s not that he’s acting arrogantly, you’re just not confident enough yourself!”

When Ethan heard that, his smile deepened. Those words were precisely what he wanted to hear. He never felt like he was arrogant. He just felt like they were guilty. They knew what would happen if the results were not good, that was why they did not like how he was acting!

“In just a moment, news of me getting the golden treasure will be spread out. Before we head back, the alchemists on our side have already prepared to welcome us. This will be the third golden treasure for White Marsh Continent. No matter how strong Chaos Continent is, you’ll only have one more than us!”

When Ethan said that, he was acting incredibly proud. He felt like he was making a great contribution to White Marsh Continent. He was even beginning to think about how his fellow students would celebrate him when he got back. He thought about how enviously the other alchemists would look at him. He had already earned himself some glory before this, but it was not much compared to this one. When the time comes, he would be able to get amazing resources thanks to the golden treasure he got. It would improve his skills and status even more.

Just thinking about the future, Ethan could not stop himself from smiling.

All these pieces of trash did not understand him at all. The moment he said what he did, the alchemists from the other two continents could not help but frown, feeling like Ethan was too confident. After all, Emilio was still fighting against him. He did not know Emilio’s results but was acting happily as if he had already gotten the golden treasure.

- Chapter 2988 -

Jack did not react to Ethan’s arrogance at all. In his mind, Ethan acting so arrogantly was a normal response. His temperament was exactly like that. It would be strange if he did not act like that. Even though Jack did not react to Ethan’s arrogance, he was still stunned by Ethan’s words.

According to what Ethan said, the news of the result would be spread before they even return. That meant that their results would be sent over through the Heaven Array to the inner city.

Looking at their expressions, the other alchemists definitely knew that as well. After all, six groups had already been through the competition. However, Jack was caught off guard, since he had just entered the inner city not long ago. He was not aware that results would be sent back directly after the competition.

After thinking about it, he reached out and tapped his hand on the person in front of him. The one in front of him had talked to him before. It was the gray-robed man who had asked him where he got his courage from before this.

The moment the gray-robed man saw that Jack was pulling at his sleeve, he immediately turned around with widened eyes. He looked at Jack curiously. In the man’s eyes, Jack was an idiot who only did things by himself.



Jack tugging his sleeve was nothing extraordinary. If it had been a stranger, the man would probably have ignored the person. However, since it was Jack, he immediately asked excitedly, "Do you need something? Have you finally thought things through?"

Jack's lips twitched in exasperation. Even though the gray-robed man did not say anything further, Jack obviously understood what he meant by that. However, Jack did not want to care about that at the moment.

He let out a cough as he said seriously, "After the results are announced, will the results be sent back by the Heaven Array before we go back? Will all the alchemists in the inner city see it?"

The gray-robed man never expected that Jack would ask him that. However, the gray-robed man was quite a simple man, and he was naturally curious as to why Jack asked.

He honestly answered, "The details won't appear on the Heaven Array. The only thing that it will say is if you get a treasure. If we're lucky enough to get a black treasure, the word black treasure will appear on the Heaven Array back at the inner city."

Jack was taken aback after hearing that. It was different from what he had thought. He had thought that after the results were announced, the details would be shown in front of all the alchemists. However, it just showed what treasure had been earned. Everything would still be exposed in the end anyway.

After thinking about that, Jack looked up.

Why were they not announcing the results?

Ethan and Emilio had already been quarreling for a long time. They felt like their ears were about to fall off, but they still did not announce the results.

Jack absolutely hated listening to others argue, and he hated hearing nonsense about him as well. He just wanted to know if he managed to get a treasure, and what kind. He did not have Ethan's confidence. After all, he did not know how skilled everyone else was. Even though he was already out on the third day, that had been after he did everything he could.

"You're still acting like this!" Just as Jack was thinking about things, he suddenly heard Ethan's sharp voice.

Jack frowned as he lowered his head helplessly. He saw that Ethan was staring at him with a mocking and curious gaze.

Jack sighed helplessly as he muttered in his heart, 'Why are the results not announced yet? Ethan would definitely not stop talking if they did not announce it soon!'

Jack could not be bothered to listen, but it was not like Ethan would stop talking if Jack ignored him. Instead, he would just be laughed at even more. To avoid all that trouble, Jack turned to look at Ethan.

"How should I be acting? Are the results even out yet? Why are you trying to cause a scene like this..."

Ethan's face twitched in surprise as he looked at Jack and replied, "Do you really think that you won't lose? Do you still think you can win and get a treasure?"

The exasperation in Ethan's voice was incredibly evident. He really wanted to know where Jack got his courage from. Even now, Jack was still talking back to Ethan with such indignance. He seemed even more confident than Emilio, but no one knew where that confidence came from.

Ethan laughed in frustration as he looked at Jack with a frown.

He thought for a long time before he said, "You really do surprise me. I've met some stubborn people, but no one nearly as stubborn as you before. Can you tell me where you got your confidence from?"

Ethan was being honest with his words. He really did not know how Jack was so confident.

Could it be just purely blind confidence? Did Jack think he was the best in the world?

It was the first time he had met someone like Jack. Unless Jack was just a complete madman and spoke without any reasoning, he definitely must have a source of confidence. Yet, Ethan could not understand how that could be the case for a mere sixth-grade alchemist.

Jack lightly snorted, turning away. When it came to a question like that, the other party would not believe him no matter what he said.

He merely said coldly, "No matter how much you want to say, wait till the results are out to say them. Before the results are announced, I don't want to waste any more time on you."

Those words completely stunned everyone there, including Emilio.

Emilio blinked as he looked at Jack speechlessly. At that moment, he was just as curious as Ethan. He wanted to know why Jack was so confident in himself. Ethan's lips twitched as he started to be filled with exasperation. Jack was way too unique. There was no way to deal with Jack normally.

A sixth-grade alchemist like Jack wanted to talk about things only after the results are out?

Even their leader, Nash, only had a less than fifty percent chance of getting a black treasure, let alone someone like Jack. Yet, he seemed to be telling everyone that he had already secured the treasure.

Ethan let out a laugh, "Have you forgotten about our bet? You have to get a treasure for you to win, which means you have to place in the top three. You think you can beat the other alchemists here and place among the top three?"

Jack took a deep breath, trying to make sure his tone was calm, "If I felt like my skills were not good enough, then I wouldn't have placed that bet against you. Since I've already placed the bet and signed a contract, I won't go back on it. Of course, I remember the bet. Now, can you shut up and just quietly wait for the results..."

- Chapter 2990 -

Ethan's lips twitched as his expression darkened. He had been shot at by Jack again. Every time, Jack would ask him to shut up and stop wasting time. In truth, Ethan did not want to waste time on Jack either. The main reason was that Jack's actions had caused him to not be able to hold back. Furthermore, he really wanted to figure out what went on in Jack's mind.

Nash frowned as his gaze constantly shifted between Ethan and Jack.

He would look at Jack for a moment before looking at Ethan. At that moment, his mood was complicated and exasperated. He felt like there was something definitely wrong with Jack's head, and felt like he was definitely no match for Ethan.

It was a conservative estimate when he said he had a fifty percent chance to get a black treasure. In truth, in his own mind, he should have about sixty or seventy percent chance. After all, he came from Scarlet Pavilion and was only a hair away from Rudeus in terms of skill. He was incredibly confident in his alchemic abilities. He was not a braggart like Ethan, nor was he as strange as Jack.

Looking at Jack who was acting like he would definitely get a treasure, Nash suddenly wanted to shout at him. After all, in Nash's mind, the black treasure was his, it had nothing to do with Jack.

Just as Nash was wondering if he should say something, the wizened and cold voice was heard again.

"The results will be announced right now. For various reasons, I'll only announce the top three results that will win the treasures. In third place, the black treasure goes to Emilio from the Chaos Continent!"

There was a small pause after the voice said that, seemingly to give the crowd some time to react. The alchemists really did react, and it was a huge one as well. Emilio actually got third place?!

That was quite a lot different from what they had expected. Even though Emilio had gotten a treasure, everyone had thought that he would at least get a bronze treasure! Yet, the results were different from expected. He only got a black treasure and ended up in third place for the seventh group.

When Emilio got the result, he completely froze up. His eyes widened slightly as he was filled with disbelief. He could not imagine that he was actually that bad. He had actually gotten third place in this round!

He could already imagine how he would be mocked when he went back to Chaos Continent. After all, he was the leader of the alchemists from Chaos Continent this time. He could not accept the result at all.

His mouth trembled slightly, "How... How is this possible!?"

He was already a bit frantic. At that moment, someone started to laugh. Ethan, who was laughing and clenching his stomach, looked over at Emilio.

"I have to admit, what you said earlier was right. It's better to not brag too much, or you'll end up embarrassing yourself. Haven't you completely embarrassed yourself this time? You even said you wanted to fight me for first place, but you actually got a black treasure! You're only worth competing with those alchemists from Hestia Continent..." Saying that, Ethan's smile widened even more.

Emilio was so furious that his whole body was trembling, but there was nothing he could say. The results were already out, and the truth was on full display. Even if he tried to defend himself, it would just be seen as forcing things. He would just end up being laughed at, so he shut his mouth and took it.

The alchemists from Chaos Continent behind him did not look too happy. After all, Emilio was their leader. Even their leader's results were so bad that there was nothing they could say.

At that moment, the alchemists from White Marsh Continent were all incredibly ecstatic. All of them started to praise themselves and threw insults to the other side. Only then could they win back the dignity they had lost to Chaos Continent before this.

All this while, White Marsh Continent had lost to Chaos Continent in all facets. Now, they finally had the chance to win back some dignity. Even if their total golden treasures were not as much as Chaos Continent's, the difference was not that great.

- Chapter 2991 -

After this round, they would have gotten three golden treasures in total, while Chaos Continent would only have four. The difference would just be one. As long as their alchemists worked a bit harder, they might even end up getting the golden treasure from the eighth group. Then they would be on equal footing with Chaos Continent. It would mean that their alchemists were no weaker than Chaos Continent's.

"This really vents out my frustrations! The alchemists from Chaos Continent always act so arrogantly toward us. They always feel like they're the best. Now it looks like they're nothing special. We just lost out to them because of some luck and time. In the rounds after this, we'll definitely win back all of our honor!"

"That's right! I've already said before this that we'll definitely win back everything we've lost! The Chaos Continent has already exhausted all of its talents, while we still have a lot of our top talents!"

The White Marsh Continent seemed to be celebrating as if it was a festival. The alchemists from the other two continents were much quieter. The quietest of them all was the Hestia Continent's side.

Nash had a hopeless look on his face. He had thought that he would be able to get third place, but that was actually the end result. Even though Nash was confident in himself, he was not confident to the point of arrogance. Even Emilio was only able to get third place, which meant that he was definitely out of the running. He wondered who the second and first place would be.

Hestia Continent's alchemists started to console Nash, "Nash, you don't have to be too sad. It looks like there's something off about this. Even Emilio was only able to get third place. There must be someone else who's amazingly skilled. It's all just luck!"

"That's right, it's just the seventh group. There's still more after this. We'll definitely still be able to get a treasure!"

Nash sighed deeply. The words of consolation did not get through to him at all. He merely felt helpless in his heart. After all, he had been sixty to seventy percent confident, only to end up having all his hopes extinguished. He felt incredibly bad, but there was nothing he could do about it.

Jack frowned as he looked into the air.

After the wizened voice announced the results, it went silent.

Jack only had one thought in mind at the moment, which was for all the results to be read out. Maybe sensing Jack's hopes, the old voice could be heard again.

"The third place, Emilio's results are so. The Purple Sun Pill was barely successful. Of them, three thousand eight hundred and twenty pill runes are at sixty percent refinement. One thousand seven hundred and eighty pill runes are at fifty percent refinement."

The results were already so detailed, leaving Emilio no room to say anything. Hearing the results, Emilio sighed deeply.

After the old voice announced that, it did not stop like before. Instead, it continued to speak, "Second place, the winner of the bronze treasure is Ethan. Ethan's results are as follows. Purple Sun Pill was barely successful. Four thousand one hundred and twenty pill runes are at sixty percent refinement. One thousand four hundred and eighty pill runes are at fifty percent!"

The moment the voice announced that everyone's eyes widened as they wondered if they were mistaken. They wondered if the organizer had counted it wrongly.

Ethan was only in second place. That result was too absurd.

If Ethan was in second place, then who was first? Who had the right to be in the first place?

Ethan's body stiffened as he shouted out, "I'm second place? How is it that I am in second place?! My results are in the first place. You must have calculated it wrongly. Who could get first place other than me?!"

- Chapter 2992 -

When he heard that he was in second place and only got a bronze treasure, Ethan went crazy. He could not accept that result, nor could he accept that he was not the best alchemist out of everyone there.

Apart from him, who else could get first place and win the golden treasure?

It was absurd! It was so absurd that all of the alchemists present could not accept or believe it.

Ethan continued to shout, "There must be an error! Other than myself, no one can win the golden treasure. Who could potentially be stronger than me?!"

There was only one thought in Ethan's mind at that moment. He did not want to think about anything else, or any other scenario. Ethan was someone incredibly obstinate. At that moment, he was sure that they had calculated the results wrongly. He was certain that he had actually won first place!

Everyone's breaths stopped. They might not be as emotional as Ethan, but they were still filled with curiosity and disbelief.

That voice did not care about Ethan's reactions at all. It said with its usual calm tone, "The winner of the seventh group is Jack White! Five thousand four hundred and thirty pill runes were at sixty percent refinement, and only a hundred and seventy pill runes were at fifty percent. His results are the best, and is undoubtedly in first place!"

All of the alchemists there were completely stunned. Almost everyone had their mouths opened in disbelief, wondering if they had misheard.

Jack was in first place?

His results were so amazing as well. There were 5600 pill runes, and he had successfully refined 5430 to a sixty percent refinement rate. Only 170 of them were at fifty percent refinement.

Those results definitely put him in the first place. That old voice had clearly announced the results of the top three places. It sounded believable, but they could not accept that Jack was in first place. They started to wonder if they were hallucinating and if everything was an illusion.

Ethan widened his eyes, even forgetting to breathe.

His mouth trembled as he said, "What did you say? Jack is in the first place? The golden treasure is Jack?! What kind of joke is this? How could he be in first place, have you not seen his badge?! He's a sixth-grade alchemist. How can a sixth-grade alchemist get the golden treasure?!"

At that moment, Ethan's mind was in disarray, wondering if he had misheard, or if he was having a nightmare. His questions were not answered. It was as if the voice refused to acknowledge him. Ethan went even crazier at the lack of a response. He turned around violently and faced Jack, pointing at Jack's chest.

"Just look! Look at what badge is on his chest! Even the other alchemists from the same world look down on him. He's just a crazy guy who only knows how to brag. He's just someone who acts strange. How can he get the golden treasure? Tell me how?!"

Ethan's breathing got erratic as he shouted all of that. His entire body was trembling.

Normally, there would be a lot of discussions after the first three places were announced, but it was incredibly quiet comparatively. Only breathing could be heard as everyone fell silent, not knowing what to say because everything seemed too crazy.

Of the thirty alchemists present, only Ethan was still shouting. Even if he started to lose his voice, he still got no response. He was merely left with reluctance and even more questions in his mind. The lack of response got him even more anxious.

- Chapter 2993 -

He walked over to where the alchemists from Hestia Continent gathered. He had a crazed expression on his face as he pushed past the alchemists in front of him until he arrived in front of Jack.

The alchemists that were pushed away thought Ethan was acting rudely, but no one dared to say anything. Everyone knew that Ethan had completely exploded at that moment, and could even kill someone.

Ethan's eyes were completely bloodshot. Even the muscles on his face were trembling as he looked at Jack with hatred as if Jack was his mortal enemy.

He pointed right at Jack's chest, "You're just a sixth-grade alchemist, how did you get the golden treasure ahead of me? It's not fair, there must be an error!"

Jack frowned as he was filled with exasperation. He never expected Ethan to be so crazy. Ethan's expression was very strange like he was losing control of himself.

Jack sighed helplessly as he said in a relaxed tone, "I might have a sixth-grade alchemist badge, but it doesn't mean my skills are that of a sixth-grade alchemist. I've been at the level of a seventh-grade alchemist for a long time, it's just that I never got to take the test after being delayed by some matters. That's why I still have a sixth-grade alchemist badge!"

Jack explained things very clearly. When everyone heard that, they started to accept the truth. Only Ethan remained crazed.

He said loudly, "I don't believe it! I refuse to believe it. You're just a liar. A complete scammer. There's no way you got the golden treasure. Even if what you say is true, so what? You come from Hestia Continent. You have no right to get the golden treasure at all. There's no way an alchemist from Hestia Continent would beat me for first place. It's impossible!"

Jack frowned, really wanting to slap Ethan awake at that moment. When the others heard what Ethan said, they all looked over. Even though Ethan's words had deeply insulted Hestia Continent, there was still some logic in it. Hestia Continent had never won a single first place in the last six groups.

They had only gotten second-place and third-place once respectively. That was why everyone looked down on Hestia Continent, feeling like they had long fallen behind.



Alchemists from Hestia Continent were only able to get black treasures at most. When the alchemists from Hestia Continent heard that, they started to lose their calm. Even if they had their doubts as well, it did not mean they would just let someone else mock them.

The gray-robed man who had talked to Jack before could not stop himself from saying, "What do you mean by that? Can Hestia Continent never get first place? The first place can only belong to you guys? That's absurd! Jack's the strongest from Hestia Continent. He never participated in the earlier groups, so we never got first place before. Now that he's here, the first place is his!"

- Chapter 2994 -

"The voice earlier has announced all your results. It's not like you didn't hear it. The results are right in front of all of us, so what are you even questioning? If you lost, then you lost!"

After the gray-robed man said that, the other alchemists from the Hestia Continent immediately joined in, "That's right! If you have lost, then you lost. Are you a sore loser? The results are clear for everyone to see. You're just not willing to believe it."

"It's not like your results are that bad. You managed to get four thousand one hundred and twenty pill runes to sixty percent refinement! It's just that Jack's stronger than you."

"Of the five thousand and six hundred pill runes, five thousand four hundred and thirty of them were at sixty percent refinement. As long as he had enough time, he would probably have been able to get all of them to sixty percent refinement!"

"He came out on the third day. You only came out of the barrier at the very last moment! That's the gulf between you two. Jack just has a strange temperament. If he stayed till the last moment, he might actually have refined all of them to sixty percent!"

Ethan's whole body trembled in anger after he heard that. Before, Ethan would always have something to say whenever anyone questioned him, but this time he did not know what to say.

They were right. The results were clear for everyone to see. There was a gulf between his skills and Jack's. There was no way he could change that. However, he refused to believe that those results were what Jack had. After all, Jack had left a deep impression on him. He would not easily believe that that was the truth.

Ethan started to pant roughly like an angered lion. After a moment, his tone calmed down a little, "You must have cheated, or you would never have gotten this result! You absolutely cheated. There's no way you're that strong! How did you get five thousand four hundred and thirty pill runes to sixty percent? That's impossible. There's no way you're better than me!"

Those words were not convincing in the slightest. He was being a complete sore loser and was trying to force things his way after.

Jack's lips twitched helplessly as he sighed at Ethan's stubbornness. He said, "Can you please be more realistic?! You claim that I cheated, then tell me how did I cheat? Did I already make the Purple Sun Pill beforehand? Or was it something else?"

There was no way to cheat at all unless Jack had refined this pill before. Yet, to prevent that from happening, the voice had already said that the Purple Sun Pill did not exist in third-grade worlds. The Purple Sun Pill's recipe was a secret. It was the first time all of them refined it.

Ethan's words were stopped again.

Jack snorted before continuing, "Didn't you say I cheated? Then tell everyone, how did I cheat? Maybe you could tell everyone how it would be possible to cheat? Aren't you just being a sore loser at this point? The results are already out, so what are you trying to argue for? Just compose yourself. I was already being nice by letting you do as you want before this. If you continue on, I won't be so kind anymore."

Jack could not be bothered with Ethan's rambling anymore. If that guy really continued, Jack had a lot to refute him.

Ethan's whole body was trembling as his mental state was on the verge of collapsing.