EMPEROR 1951

Chapter 1951 - Yin Fusion

The one who screamed was the Jade Lotus Valley's Valley Master. She instantly wanted to tell Ivy Aries to watch out but couldn't as the spatial formation blocked communication. However, her cry cautioned many people of the Greater Law known as Yin Fusion.

Ice Laws and Yin Laws were both Greater Laws. However, they were both in the lower stratum of Greater Laws. As for Yin Fusion Laws, it was in the higher stratum of Greater Laws. Even Space Laws were said to be in the mid stratum of Greater Laws, so one could see the difficulty of comprehending Yin Fusion with any law, much less Ice Laws.

Sometimes, Yin Fusion Laws were also said to be in the realm of Supreme Laws. After all, Yin Laws could be said to be all-encompassing, intertwining with many seas of laws. As long as one could fuse other laws with Yin Laws, it would allow them to reach greater heights, even more than Yin Fusion with Ice Laws.

The same could be said about Yang Fusion Laws.

However, who in the Fifty-Two Territories were capable of such a feat when they were not even capable of fusing Yin Laws and Ice Laws? Even if they were capable, their Yin Fusion Laws merely ended in their infancy. Was there someone like Natalya who unleashed Yin Fusion Laws in the Peak-Level of Eighth Stage with the prowess of Peak-Level Ninth Stage?

Perhaps, there might be no one who even came close to her in their knowledge. After all, fusion wasn't a simple matter of using two energies together. Anyone could achieve that as long as they had two hands and a skillful energy flow. Fusion meant merging two different energies, making them undergo a qualitative change.

Such intricate changes would either cause the meridians to explode or shatter if one did it wrongly, but for someone as young as Natalya to be capable of something like that, their horizons were flipped as they saw her icy-blue lotus shining with a cerulean light, making its way towards Ivy Aries.

Ivy Aries's scalp turned numb upon witnessing the blooming of that small lotus. However, she was an expert in her own right and had her own prideful confidence. Hearing Natalya's challenge to her prowess of the unique physique, she was provoked and clasped her hands, forming a seal.

"Deep Sea Devouring Lotus~"

It was as though a melodious tone echoed from the deep ocean, causing the towering azure lotus to move forwards. It clashed with the icy blue lotus, but the latter was like a sponge. Instead of shattering or collapsing, it shoved its way in with incomparable yin energy and began turning everything into ice.

The azure water inside the towering azure lotus rapidly revolved as though seeking to devour it, but the yin fusion energy was pervasive and difficult to take control of or even erase.

Ivy Aries's expression changed at this moment.

The azure whirlpool manifestation behind Ivy Aries rumbled with greater intensity, seeking to devour it into its energy. However...

Pui!~

Ivy Aries spat a mouthful of blood. Her expression became pale, and her body shuddered ever so lightly. Her dark green robe and blue hair became covered in frost. It was unknown if she was shivering from the cold or received some injury, but clearly, she was unable to absorb the fusion of Ice Laws and Yin Laws even with her World Devouring Water Physique, receiving a backlash.

Her aura became unstable, and subsequently, the towering azure lotus could no longer contend against the yin fusion lotus, becoming frozen chill.

The next moment, it shattered, causing countless pieces of icy shards to fall.

However, there was still a tiny cerulean lotus left in between them, causing Ivy Aries to tremble.

The yin fusion lotus had survived while her azure lotus had broken. She simultaneously felt the foreboding feeling of grave danger if it were to approach her.

The next moment, she sighed.

"Lady Natalya's talent truly leaves someone like me in the dust. I am unable to win against you, so I admit defeat."

Ivy Aries surrendered as she clasped her hands and bowed in respect, causing countless people's jaws to drop.

Natalya's mouth went agape, wanting to say something. However, she closed her mouth and similarly sighed.

"I would've liked to see more of your Jade Lotus Valley's techniques, but I guess that's not possible anymore. Well met."

She clasped her hands back, partly exasperated and partly helpless.

Perhaps, if she hadn't stubbornly challenged Ivy Aries. she wouldn't have forced herself to absorb her attack. Instead, she could've tried to endure it and continued battling. It wasn't her intent to make Ivy Aries admit defeat so early as she wanted to enjoy the battle with a peak genius.

It was rare to get matched with top experts.

In truth, Ivy Aries had not truly lost. All she had to do was sacrifice her blood essence. But, she was unwilling to use her blood essence to strengthen herself during the devouring. Otherwise, she knew for a fact that she would be able to refine yin fusion energy.

However, her precious blood essence was more difficult to recover considering she possessed the World Devouring Water Body. She didn't want to waste her future for a moment's glory. Moreover, yin fusion energy had invaded her dantian since the World Devouring Water Body was unable to completely refine it. If it weren't for this yin fusion energy wreaking havoc in her dantian, she wouldn't have surrendered so easily, not to mention that she couldn't expose this weakness.

She was slightly injured, but she was confident she could destroy this strand of yin fusion energy within ten seconds if no one disturbed her.

But it wasn't like there were people who could use Yin Fusion Laws or similar laws like Natalya, so she didn't mind about this weakness much as there were only a few monsters like Natalya who could exploit it.

Nonetheless, failing the challenge that Natalya had set up for her, she felt that it was graceful to admit defeat instead of miserably struggling. She understood that she wasn't a match for Natalya at a glance when she witnessed the Yin Fusion Laws, and since her future was brighter than many others, she didn't want to show her trump cards as it pertains to her survival.

Still, she was a bit disappointed.

She was stronger than the Dragon Queens. She was more powerful than the majority of geniuses. She was already as strong as her Valley Master and Ancestors, so the better she concealed herself, the better the chances of her ascending without meeting a tragic fate.

After seeing the Emperor of Death, Natalya, and the dark horse, she doubted her chances of entering into the Top Three but never did she think that she would be so unlucky to meet Natalya at the second round. Although she entered with a burst of confidence, reality still did strike her back and humbled her, but she didn't give up yet.

Ivy Aries's figure appeared outside the spatial formation as she was sent out, her back straight while her gaze was clear. It seemed that she wasn't rattled by this defeat like the other geniuses experienced today.

In the northern hemisphere, the grave looks of the Four Great Righteous Sect Leaders faded, replaced with a kind of complex emotion that one couldn't describe.

Just now, they had sensed that cerulean lotus's prowess had slightly reached their own level. Although it was just a spark, it had still reached their level, practically dumbfounding them. If it had displayed its prowess, perhaps Ivy Aries would be gravely injured, but clearly, Natalya had held back.

They truly didn't know what to think of this woman who hadn't condensed a perfect Immeasurable Sea yet displayed such prowess.

Achieving true perfection in Immeasurable Sea, that is, condensing a hundred and fifty-kilometer sea, would mean that their prowess would reach a level above Peak-Level Law Rune Stage.

That was what Davis accomplished, but many people still thought that he was at the level of Natalya and the other two geniuses.

But at this moment, Natalya may or may not have reached Davis's level at this particular moment upon unleashing the yin fusion technique, her prowess becoming almost equal to Starnova Emperor!

Not only did many of the powerhouses feel like they had eaten shit to see a young genius crossing so many levels that made them feel shame, but the Starnova Emperor's expression was also unsightly. Although this burst of energy from Natalya indicated that it was just for a few moments and he could still destroy it while unleashing a technique, it meant that even someone extra under the Emperor of Death caught up to him while still in the realm of Eighth Stage.

What kind of farfetched notion was this ...?

Earth Dragon Queen Isabella was said to be an immortal inheritor, so it could be said to be inevitable that she could match their prowess while at Low-Level Ninth Stage but who exactly was this woman!? She could almost reach their level when she is still at the Eighth Stage while depending upon her yin fusion technique which made them feel a true chill.

Chapter 1952 - Probing?

Once Ivy Aries left, Natalya turned to look into the distance, a smile appearing on her face as she spotted Threelotus. She headed towards her using her normal speed.

Threelotus didn't hide. She was actually forming a huge Spirit Formation with her hands, drawing many inscriptions that transformed into runes in secret. However, looking at the battle end just like that, she was dumbfounded.

When Natalya's gaze locked onto her, she felt that a predator had locked onto her.

'Not good...!'

Threelotus no longer hid her runes and began to hurriedly draw the runes. Only then people see a plethora of runes flying in the sky while Threelotus's fingers were swaying in the air with concentration. Abruptly, the runes connected and resonated with the heaven and earth energy, transforming into a fierce vertical light that shone with a holy light.

"Spirit Formation: Starlight Destruction Lance!"

Threelotus clenched her fist and grasped the white lance, throwing it towards the incoming Natalya.

"...!"

People looked astonished by this spirit formation.

Unexpectedly, its prowess reached the peak of Mid-Level Emperor Soul Stage! Such a thing couldn't be possible for Threelotus with her current prowess, so they assumed it was the power of the spirit formation.

Nevertheless, to unleash such a spirit formation, they could see that she was skillful and talented.

Bzzz!~

The soul lance traveled with immense speed but upon reaching Natalya, it began to freeze. Its speed considerable slowed and when Natalya was in front of it, she reached out hand and flicked her finger towards the sharp holy spear.

Bang!~

It shattered upon impact.

Natalya's show of force made the people feel crazed. She had just blocked a peak Mid-Level Ninth Stage attack like it was nothing and shattered it with immense ease!

Such power... if they could only have it...

Many eyes burned with greater intensity, especially in the junior generation but from the elder generation, some felt admiration while some hearts died. They could no longer make such improvements to their deeply solidified cultivations.

Threelotus's expression became pale. Just now, she poured forty percent of her soul force in this one move. Those runes took her so much time and energy to create and combine and after she unleashed it, she found that it was a a futile struggle.

Even geniuses with Vast Sea would find this attack unstoppable, even life-threatening but it was laughable in front of Natalya, not even able to make her use a technique to defend against.

'I mean... what did I expect ...?'

Threelotus wryly smiled behind her veil. This attack was meant to be a sneak attack with its powerful yet immense speed but it was unexpected that Ivy Aries would give up early, ruining her plans. However, her expression froze at this moment, looking at Natalya standing in front of her as her aura towered over hers, completely suppressing hers.

Frost was quickly encasing her robe. She was unable to use soul suppression in the slightest as Natalya's soul was deeply guarded. Unable to calm herself, she staggered and fell on her butt mid-air, trembling underneath Natalya's sharp gaze.

"You dare such a powerful spirit formation against me? Do you realize the consequences of your actions?"

Threelotus hurriedly nodded her head as she changed her position and knelt, lowering her head.

She didn't dare give up, afraid that she would be implicated later. No matter what, Natalya was still the Emperor of Death's second wife. There was no escape for her.

However, Threelotus blushed heavily, feeling ashamed. She couldn't believe that she was being bullied by a woman below fifty years old.

She was a Soul King who garnered immense respect and reverence and even fear but in front of this younger genius, she was like a calf. In front of the lioness protected by the lion king, she could only bow her head.

"Don't worry. Your cultivation journey doesn't end here for you to look this defeated. You'll reach greater heights as long as you are loyal to the Palace Master."

Natalya sent a soul transmission as she reached a hand out to Threelotus, causing the latter's to heart to skip a beat. She raised her head while her eyes seemed to brighten up a bit, not expecting Natalya to be kind. After all, what could she expect from a woman who pursued the path of extreme ice.

Nonetheless, she slowly raised her hand with a bit of doubt, afraid that she would be frozen upon contact but that didn't happen.

Clasping Natalya's hand, she stood up.

"Thank you, Second Palace Mistress."

"..."

It was Natalya's turn to blush as she couldn't digest being called like that. Nonetheless, she felt like she needed to play that part since she was Davis's second wife.

"Now admit defeat or I'm going to freeze you to death."

"Ah, yes!~"

Threelotus hurriedly announced her surrender, causing some people to laugh. However, the majority didn't feel that way.

There was some kind of exasperated and helpless emotion in their hearts. It was time for young geniuses to arise, yes. However, for young geniuses to surpass them already, what kind of notion was this?

Many felt stifled enough to die while watching these unknown geniuses rise above them.

Sometimes, geniuses end up hitting a blockade in their cultivation journey and they were all like that in their early years.

When the Starnova Emperor had been in the Law Sea Stage, he had been a genius who created a perfect Vast Sea but when he entered the Law Rune Stage, that genius talent of his that he had been prideful of wasn't able to keep up, nor could he obtain relevant resources, causing him to be unable to create a similar fourth level uniqueness like the Formidable Rune. Instead, he ended up creating a third level Magnificent Rune that raised his prowess ever so slightly after reaching the Law Rune Stage, only a bit better than having a hundred kilometer Vast Sea.

His prowess had increased from High-Level Law Rune Stage to mid High-Level Law Rune Stage.

The only thing that truly increased was his ability to have greater reserves of energy and unleash a powerful rune that would further raise his prowess.

However, once he reached the Peak-Level Law Rune Stage, he was only able to battle a level above because the levels above it were steeper than the four levels of Ninth Stage. Each level after Peak-Level Ninth Stage was a deep gash that people wouldn't be easily able to cross.

The Mandate Emperor and the Vast Sky Emperor were geniuses of their own generations and similarly created Magnificent Runes, but unlike him, their quality of their runes were greater, allowing them to fight half a level above him. With their Legacy Artifacts, they were able to increase their strength to one more level but that was it but he still wasn't capable of reaching their prowess.

Every manifestation, domain, sea and rune had five levels.

If creating a fifth level Imposing Rune's difficulty was said to be hundred percent, then creating an Immeasurable Sea's difficulty would be ten percent. As for creating a Perfect Domain's difficulty, that could be attributed to one percent.

That's why, they didn't expect an era-shaking genius to appear under the Emperor of Death's wings again. When Natalya steps into the Law Rune Stage, it was of little doubt to them that she would at least create a Formidable Rune even if she stopped learning and comprehending laws. If she has the same

determination, then chances are more likely she would create a Imposing Rune, absolutely toppling their imaginations and hearts.

Now they were unable to be like this Natalya whose prowess could possibly exceed them if she breaks through one more time. When she reaches the Peak-Level Law Rune Stage, her prowess will reach three levels above, which was shocking to them!

They couldn't help but inwardly cry that it was truly a new era.

However, what was worse was that such a beautiful and powerful swan was completely in love with the Emperor of Death. Those intensely jealous and envious couldn't help but curse, wondering what's so special about him when he was just powerful while his character was dubious, forgetting the fact that his women were more of less nurtured with his resources.

Threelotus had returned to the Soul Palace's seating area was Natalya was hugging Davis, wanting to be praised by him.

She explained that her yin fusion lotus was her year's work of hard work. After all, it was not easy to fuse two energies together, causing Davis to pat her head till she was satisfied.

However, Natalya also learned that Ivy Aries was Old Man Garvin's descendant, causing her to be shocked.

Learning of the details, she suddenly couldn't help but ask.

"Do you want me to infiltrate the Jade Lotus Valley?"

Davis blinked in shock, "What are you saying?"

"I want to be useful to you." Natalya shook his arm, "It's only a bit of separation and I'm sure everyone will only take this me making an acquaintance with Ivy Aries as I've fought her and I can also use this chance to probe her reaction to our cause."

Davis became flabbergasted. His Natalya actually wanted to leave his side by her own volition? Although he was sad, he was glad that she was finally willing to step out and see the world. If she just remained by his side, waiting for him all the time, he would inevitably feel guilty.

As long as Natalya had others to protect, like her little sister Fiora, he knew that she wouldn't take her life foolishly if anything were to happen to him.

Nonetheless, it would be best if Natalya could make acquaintances with Ivy Aries and successfully win over her to their side. This way, Old Man Garvin's soul would be able to rejoice.

"You can't do this by yourself. Everyone will condemn you and I don't want to see that as it makes me angry. Let me do it." Natalya further tried to convince while having a adorable pout on her face.

"Alright, fine."

Davis nodded, causing her eyes to turn bright and she deeply smiled.

On the other hand, Davis wasn't worried about Natalya's safety. The only ones who could harm her were probably the Four Great Righteous Sect Leaders. As for the Jade Lotus Valley, they could forgot about

harming Natalya. After all, if Natalya wanted to kill, there was no stopping her, especially with her yin fusion energy.

Before, he hadn't thought much of the Forsaken Yin Lotus Manual but after Natalya showcased its prowess, he realized that it was a dreadful manual, almost as if its used for slaughtering. Nonetheless, there was also lesha. Her cultivation had also grown a lot, making her capable of protecting Natalya.

However, Natalya quickly didn't go. She waited for some time to pass so that she doesn't become suspicious while battles took place.

Finally, one of their names popped up again. Instantly, everyone rejoiced and even Natalya felt that she shouldn't go to the Jade Lotus Valley's seating area but watch the battle. However, their expressions froze upon seeing that it was not only a single name.

[Davis Alstreim]

[Itaran Ike]

[Bylai Zlatan]

Davis and Bylai slowly turned to look at each other, their eyes blinking with visible shock.

Chapter 1953 - Staying Back

"..."

There was a moment of silence in the Alstreim Family's seating area as they saw the names of the participants. However, the millions of people seated in the New Era Battle Arena erupted in an uproar.

This was the ultimate drama they were expecting for that they couldn't help but thank the heavens!

The fallen Golden Dragon Queen had expressed her love for the Emperor of Death, and he supposedly had her by her side without declaring anything, but now, they were being made to battle. Would she not participate or choose battle against him?

Just that one decision that Bylai Zlatan would make made them feel excited.

Hearing the countless roars, Bylai Zlatan's expression became meek as she blushed. She looked away as her lips moved.

"I admit defeat..."

The roars of the crowd submerged her voice, so other than the people closest to her, no one could hear her.

Davis stood up, separating from Natalya and leaving Evelynn's hands.

"Don't be like that, Bylai. This is a good chance to showcase your true strength as you don't need to hold back against me."

However, Bylai shook her head, indicating that she wouldn't enter the battle stage.

Davis became speechless. There was no need for her to be this reserved, right? Where did the Golden Dragon Queen's pride go?

But contrary to what Davis thought, this wasn't a matter of pride to Bylai. It was a matter of propriety.

Going against him felt like blasphemy to her, especially after things had just become calm and good for her. She didn't want to jeopardize her future with him for the excitement and fun of a single battle. After all, anything could go wrong during a battle.

Looking at Bylai's hesitance, Davis smiled and appeared in front of her, causing her to stand up.

"Come on, Bylai. It's the perfect situation to punch me as you like and pour out all your grievances. You don't even need an excuse, you know?"

"No... I don't have any grievances against you..."

"Don't make me say that you're a liar, Bylai."

Davis didn't say anymore but merely shot a knowing smile before leaving to the battle stage.

Bylai Zlatan appeared stiff, looking dumbfounded.

Even without using Heart Intent, Davis could tell that she held a tiny bit of grievance against him. It was not about her father as she made her stance clear, and he checked with Heart Intent. It was about the slave mark.

No person could stand the humiliation of being branded a slave, especially for a prideful person such as the Golden Dragon Queen. It wouldn't be a far cry to say that she could be suppressing that little bit of grievance because she prioritized her relationship with him more.

That's why he wanted her to vent using this unlucky yet opportunistic chance, feeling that he shouldn't let this battle go to waste.

The only matter he couldn't tell was Evelynn's guilt that was still remaining. She hid it well. He also didn't use Heart Intent on his women unless he needed to, so he didn't notice and assumed it was resolved. But fortunately, Mo Mingzhi noticed it with a bit of probing. It could be said that she was near to comprehending Heart Intent and actively tried to make herself stand in the shoes of others.

Otherwise, she wouldn't have deigned to save Schleya and wouldn't have noticed Evelynn's abnormality.

Heart Intent was ephemeral. One could only understand it if they were able to sympathize. If they are able to sympathize and able to stand in the shoes of others and treat them accordingly, they would be able to comprehend it.

However, that 'accordingly' part was quite mysterious and vague. It didn't say to do good, nor did it say to do wrong.

For example, Ancestor Tirea Snow's Master also had supposedly comprehended Heart Intent. However, the master caused her disciple to forget about her love and focus on the future of the sect. It was good for the sect but bad for the disciple's future. Could such action be considered good or bad?

It depended on perspective, and since there were many perspectives, there was no truth. But if there was only one truth, then except one perspective, all else were all false. The matters of the heart were deep and profound. Such things couldn't be easily understood, and that's why he still hadn't made progress in his Heart Intent.

At the same time, Davis felt that Heart Intent was different from Primary Laws, Greater Laws, or Supreme Laws, for that matter. He could comprehend Level One when he was a little child with little to no cultivation, but to comprehend Level Two, he felt that it was like Abstruse Intents, only able to be comprehended after one rose to the Eighth Stage.

Ancestor Dian Alstreim had comprehended Level Two Heart Intent, but he had already lived for centuries and examined, contemplated, and sympathized with numerous hearts, not taking part in internal battles. That's why he had been indecisive but also understanding of Davis's actions during dealing with Claire's betrayers.

To reach Level Two Heart Intent, it looks like he had to work on it more. Nowadays, the people he mostly accompanied were his women, so it wasn't improving any faster. Still, he wasn't going to use it on his women as it came off as insensitive and unfair. Unless he felt that his relationship was at stake, he really looked down on using it.

The other times he used Heart Intent was to know his enemy's intentions, but it clearly wasn't enough.

After he reached the battle stage, he closed his eyes and waited for his opponents. Even Itaran Ike seemed to be hesitating in facing him although he was flying towards the battle stage, except slowly.

People couldn't help but scoff or have mocking expressions on their faces. The Young Master of the Wind Dragon Bloodline was actually this slow? Who was he trying to trick?

On the other hand, they saw that Bylai Zlatan hadn't moved to take part, which meant she was forfeiting the battle. They could only sigh and say goodbye to the drama.

Indeed, Bylai Zlatan remained hesitant. That bit of grievance Davis spoke about was there, but how could she show it against the person who gave her a chance? It felt unreasonable and disgraceful. That grievance was directed towards her Zlatan Family Grand Elders, who didn't know how to mediate matters and made things worse for everyone, including her. However, they were all crippled or dead, so where could she go vent?

That's why she had kept it suppressed, believing that it would fade with time, but Davis now told her to vent. She really could not understand what was going on in his mind.

Suddenly, a hand pushed her back.

"Go~"

Bylai Zlatan turned around and saw Evelynn.

"Go beat him to a pulp. When you come back, you will be fully one of us, having laid down any past grievances that we might have against each other."

Bylai shook on hearing Evelynn's words, feeling enlightened. Was this Davis's intent for her?

"Yes!~"

With the words of the first wife, she was more assured. Turning back, she headed towards the battle stage and stopped mid-air, cupping her hands.

"Bylai Zlatan, here to beat some men."

"Pfft!~"

Some who were drinking spat out their drinks in shock.. They were expecting melodramatic drama but not words that were filled with battle intent against the Emperor of Death.

Chapter 1954 - Answer

Itaran Ike had already arrived in the airspace of the battle stage, waiting for that battle to start when Bylai Zlatan suddenly appeared and announced that she was going to beat up some men.

Were Bylai Zlatan's words supposed to include him?

If she had grievances against the Emperor of Death, why show it to him? He couldn't help but inwardly complain.

In truth, he felt dismayed. What did he do to be this unlucky? With his power, he knew that he would've been able to make it to the third round. He even had his chances of winning against Bylai Zlatan. However, fate would have it that he meet the monster in the second round.

Whoever got matched with the Emperor of Death in the second round was extremely unlucky that he felt that the Emperor of Death should be seeded and only made to fight against the winner of the third round.

This way, things would be fair.

His thoughts resonated with all people, but unfortunately, rules couldn't be changed after being established.

Davis simply smiled as he looked at Bylai, cupping her hands towards them, but he did not comment on it.

The scenery changed, and the region became a desert.

It instantly reminded him of the outskirts of the secret entrance to the Forsaken Phoenix Realm, making him chuckle as he turned to look at the distant figure. Fortunately, the mini-star above was scorching, appearing big yet tiny but not enough to blind their sight. There was no sandstorm either, but in this kind of region, the advantage went to Bylai, slightly increasing her prowess.

As for him, he felt part of the earth but didn't receive any kind of boost because his prowess was greater than the formation's boost.

Davis raised his hand, and a spark of black lightning gathered on the tip of his finger.

In the distance, Itaran Ike had just finished surveying his surroundings before his scalp turned numb. The fear of death enveloped him before he instantly side-stepped.

His speed was extremely great, allowing him to dodge a strand of black lightning that rushed past him. However, that strand of lightning abruptly arced and shot towards him again.

The might of the wind dragon emerged as his surroundings became filled with wind blades, hard and sharp as though they were metals yet transparent. They had a dark green edge to them, filled with the overbearing might of a dragon. But despite their strength, they were unable to cut the strand of lightning that arrived in front of him.

Boom!~

It exploded right on his chest, pushing him into a surge of black illumination.

Once that illumination faded, people saw him twitch with black lightning arcs enveloping his body. However, there were green scales on his body while he hadn't seemed to have taken any damage.

"..."

Many people already knew the result but still couldn't help but be dumbfounded. One-hit defeat?

The black lightning arcs disappeared from Itaran Ike's body, but his expression was listless.

'Why did I even come ... ?'

He used his true Body Tempering Cultivation that was at the Martial Overlord Stage to protect himself as he didn't have any confidence in taking it and surviving while suppressed. If he did and survived, his deep injuries might cause him to step down from the Young Master position and lose support.

Nonetheless, he was sent out the next second, becoming disqualified.

Instantly, a green-robed woman came to his side. Her figure and beauty caused countless eyes to widen, but she clearly caught the numb Itaran Ike and helped him up. People finally realized that she was none other than Zura Ike, the Wind Dragon Queen.

"How could he be so overbearing?" Zura Ike bit her lips as she looked at Itaran Ike before turning to look at Davis's figure, "I can't believe Zestria and Bylai acknowledge and love such a man."

"No, he spared me the humiliation of having to admit defeat..." Itaran Ike sighed and shook his head.

It could be said that the Emperor of Death forced him to use his Body Tempering Cultivation, and therefore, he had no need to admit defeat as well. Being helped by a former enemy, he couldn't help but feel complex.

However, he became placated by the worry in Zura Ike's eyes. Although she acted like she didn't care after their marriage, she was still a kind woman who promised to be together with him for life.

Zura Ike nodded as her beautiful arc-shaped brows calmed. She left with him under the gazes of many while many couldn't help but curse why a loser like him would get the beauty. The crowd was mostly filled with jealousy of these powerful geniuses that they had never seen in their entire lives, feeling that they could do better if they had resources and backing.

In the desert region, after unleashing the same technique he unleashed in the first round, Davis defeated Itaran Ike. He then moved towards Bylai's direction and caught sight of her in the distance.

"My Emperor, I won't hold back until I see you beaten black and blue."

Bylai smiled behind her golden veil as the wind blew her golden hair, making them gently sway.

Davis fully digested that grand image before he raised his hand and beckoned with his finger.

"Come, Bylai. I won't use my Essence Gathering Cultivation against you."

Bylai blushed on noticing that naughty finger that subtly moved in a erotic way. However, she didn't feel humiliated, but an indescribable emotion arose in her heart. She felt as though they were becoming closer to be teasing each other.

However, was not using Essence Gathering Cultivation supposed to be a handicap?

Everyone knows that he went toe to toe with her father, the Zlatan Family Patriarch, with his Peak-Level Martial Sage Stage Cultivation, so how could she compare?

Nonetheless...

Whoosh!~

Bylai's golden dragon aura soared. The metal essence energy and the earth martial energy with the properties of gold in the subdivision of metal grew to a surging height. She didn't hold back one bit of her energies and appeared before Davis, sending an overbearing fist against him.

Boom!~

A resounding sound of metal clashing echoed, sending out waves and waves of shockwave amidst their clash.

However, Davis stood his ground and clasped Bylai's fist with his right palm, looking like an unmovable mountain.

Bylai wasn't surprised but realized that she was unable to take back her fist with it being tightly held by Davis's dragon-like claws. Her long legs that had been maneuvering with a movement technique suddenly flailed as her right leg surged with energy, heading towards his abdomen.

However, Davis's wrist blocked her heel, causing her to use that rebound to jump away from him.

Davis let her go, or her hand would've torn apart.

'Slick...'

She probably knew he would let go that Davis couldn't help but inwardly laugh.

But before she even balanced herself, she kicked the empty patch of space in mid-air and shot towards him, his fist shining with a golden light again.

Boom!~

Davis blocked Bylai's fist that came swinging in a straight arc with his other fist. Intense spatial fluctuations amidst the grating sound. A cracking sound echoed, but space did not crack. However, there was a hint of crimson on Davis's wrist.

Bylai retreated two steps and struck with her fists again. She pummeled him, each fist of her blazing with the metallic energy of the Golden Dragon. Metal clashing sounds repeatedly echoed as Davis blocked her while looking absolutely calm. There was no disparity or delay in his movements. Bylai's fist and legs were unable to break his defense.

The people couldn't believe that a soul cultivator was displaying martial prowess and skill. What kind of bullshit was this?

How could he dominate all three cultivation systems? There were none like him, making them feel horrified and helpless.

His martial prowess was powerful, perhaps even greater than what he displayed now, as everyone knew that he somewhat fought against the Zlatan Family's Patriarch.

Each step, each move of his was made with accuracy, blocking Bylai's attacks each time. She didn't use any techniques but covered herself in her metal armor.

But even that failed to harm him.

However, Davis did nothing but defend. It looked like he was getting beaten, but it was Bylai's fists that had gone red from the pain. Her flesh was bruised, and her knuckles might've also cracked in some places. However, that kind of pain was not new to Bylai as she kept punching him. Her face was twisted with happiness, longing, anger, sorrow, and many other emotions.

It could be seen that she was clearly venting but also enjoying the battle.

At first, she maintained her calm, but it was no longer the case as she punched out without even knowing left and right that some fists even ended up clearly missing Davis. At this point, she was flailing around.

In ten minutes, she almost fully expended her essence energy and martial energy. The metal armor had long been dissipated. Her big bosoms were heaving for breath. She looked exhausted but still kept punching Davis until she could no longer move.

Her fist slowly moved and finally landed on Davis's forehead. However, it didn't have an ounce of energy behind it, nor did he defend against it. He let her land one last punch while looking at her exhausted figure that was gasping for breath.

He abruptly grabbed her wrist and kissed her fist that was bruised with blood.

Bylai became shocked, and so did the millions of people. She stiffened as though all the previous exhaustion flew away, causing her to hold her breath. She relaxed a moment later and was just about to say something when suddenly he pulled her wrist and embraced her, causing innumerable jaws to come down crashing.

They were all so wide that even rats could enter.

"There's no need to say anything. I know you're suffered enough between my vengeance and the Zlatan's Family's, so it's fine if you want to lean on me, rely on me, for you're my woman."

Davis slowly rubbed her back, consoling Bylai, causing her to tremble. Instantly, she slammed her head on his chest and wrapped her arms around him tightly, holding him while shivering. Everyone could see that she was silently crying in his embrace.

The Golden Dragon Queen had confessed in front of the entire battle arena, and right now, the Emperor of Death had clearly stated his answer in front of everyone.

The Zlatan Family's current Patriarch and his wife smiled, looking at this scene. They weren't able to come out of their plight, but at least, their Dragon Queen, who was fated for a miserable ending, had unexpectedly found her salvation.

Itaran Ike and Zura Ike also smiled. The reason why Itaran Ike was sent out early without even meeting became clear. This battle stage was theirs, no, Bylai's. She became the main character and was not to be disturbed during this time.

Moreover, she wasn't brainwashed like they thought but was genuinely happy. This battle was all the proof they needed.

The spatial formation disintegrated, letting them out as even the arbitrators understood that Bylai would admit defeat sooner or later, letting Davis pass. Heck, she was fully conquered at this moment, so what was there to admit defeat?

They couldn't help but smile at this scene.

"Damn you! Your pick-up art is off the charts that I, a top disciple of the Dual Lotus Manor admit defeat! You better take care of her, Davis!"

Abruptly, an enraged voice echoed amidst the silence before it turned into one of admiration.

The people were shocked, afraid that this person was going to die.

However, realizing that he was Davis's so-called friend, they didn't say anything but had many other things to say.

"That's right. The Golden Dragon Queen is the true victim."

"Indeed, if it weren't for the Zlatan Family's stupid elders, none of this would've happened."

"The Emperor of Death is the supreme genius of our era, so how could he not protect himself and his wife? Those dragon family people were just courting death. Who asked them to be so overbearing that they forgot that the righteous path should be a peaceful bunch?"

"I'm glad that the Golden Dragon Queen obtained her life's wish. This couldn't get any more dramatic, but this is the best scene that quells one's heart to stop battling like a fool and seek a companion for oneself. This story will be written in the annals of history as this new era's first romance story!"

"Still, isn't the Emperor of Death a bit too womanizing? Since he came here, he conquered three beautiful women, all of whom are either powerful or have a desirable status, in three days. Does that mean that he's going to conquer three more women in the next three days?"

Everyone became silent, looking at that person. Was he courting death to be taking that loud?

Davis, who also heard that felt his face heating up.

Was that three or four as people didn't know he made Tanya his woman? Lea was already his, so he didn't know.

Before anyone could see his embarrassed expression, his figure flashed away as he brought Bylai back to the Alstreim Family's seating area.

The crowd was still in uproar after he left, but one thing for sure was that the infamy he possessed for killing many powerhouses, making people scared, came crashing down like water that burst out of a balloon as they understood that the rumors were only exaggerated and the other evil deeds that were posted on his head was false.

Nonetheless, while everyone was busy discussing this big romance story, Natalya had already sneaked out and entered the Jade Lotus Valley's seating area.

Chapter 1955 - Inviting Out

Bylai was holding Davis's arm as their figures flashed into the Alstreim Family's seating area. However, she still didn't leave by his side, having her head lowered. She could only thank the heavens that there was a golden veil on her face to block the shame.

Bylai felt truly embarrassed. There was not only the matter of Davis hugging her in front of everyone and accepting her confession, but she had actually vented her grievances by throwing attacks at him.

Attacking the man she promised to be with innumerable punches and kicks? How despicable of her.

Venting? That was not the air of an expert, much less the grand Golden Dragon Queen's.

She felt completely ashamed that she wanted to go hide in a hole and never come out. However, unexpectedly, this kind of feeling was extremely refreshing! It was as though all the muddy matters clouding her mind were gone. She could see the world more clearly. Her vision was the same, but it was as though she reached a new high in her mental realm, similar to feeling like having her will tempered.

She didn't think that this kind of battle would clear away the little bit of her resentment and grievances left in her heart, but it happened, making her think this was miraculous.

Davis's embarrassment faded as soon as he returned. His look was indifferent, making him possess a transcendent air. It was not that he was putting on a big image, but Bylai's bouncy peaks were sandwiching his arm that he had no choice but to restrain himself.

"You knew this would happen?" Bylai couldn't help but ask as she raised her head to look at him, her question sounding vague.

However, Davis knew what she meant and shrugged.

"I don't know. The only thing I know is that venting out one's frustration and grievances is as important as restraining oneself."

"As cultivators, we meet with many matters and have many experiences. I've told this before, and I'll tell it again. The time spent on cultivation should no more than be ninety percent. The rest should go to your luxury and leisure. Part of it should be for fun, and the other part of it should be to maintain a firm heart. If you don't even spend a bit of time cultivating your character and values, you'll end up becoming a puppet or a fool."

"The same way, venting is also a part of your leisure. If you have any grievances, spit them out. If you're being wronged, speak up. We can talk things out as a family, but we should never raise our blades against each other. If I did something wrong and If you want to beat me up- ah, well, go easy on me."

Evelynn and the others were in a trance, listening to him express words of wisdom, but then he suddenly became this scoundrel, causing them to glare at him.

But Bylai particularly smiled and blushed, feeling that the heavens blessed her to have such a man. After all, she hadn't held back at all except using battle techniques. She couldn't tolerate the pain on her breaking knuckles and used the metal armor for bearing the brunt, so her fists were fine, but Davis took it all like a man.

Not many prideful men could handle an insult from their women, much less let them beat them. They would be crushed or left alone instead. It was truly the case of a man having complete control over them.

However, to be in this kind of control, she was glad to be in it.

Holding his arm from the side, a glimmer of gratefulness and respect shone in her eyes.

"Bylai, I'm envious!~"

Zestria abruptly appeared in front of Bylai as she clenched her teeth. She tried to pull Bylai away from Davis. However, Bylai tightly held Davis and shouted at her.

"Go away. Didn't you get to enjoy more time with him? Hmph!"

"No, since Davis told us to vent, I'm going to vent. You managed to receive the acknowledgment of the entire New Era Battle Arena. Isn't this marriage already?"

Gasp!~

Bylai's bosoms shook as she went stiff, having suddenly realized something. They were only lacking the marital dress and oaths. Otherwise, this was already a kind of marriage with the grandness of the scale. Thinking like this, her expression couldn't help but turn crimson with happiness.

"Zestria, thanks!~ Here, you can have this place."

Bylai stepped back with an elegant demeanor, letting Zestria grab him. Zestria tightly held Davis's arm between her overflowing bosoms, flicking her tongue at Bylai as though she made her lose.

Davis's brows couldn't help twitch. His other arm was free. Why compete for his right arm? He really couldn't understand their thought process.

However, despite Zestria acting childish, she leaned on his shoulder, feeling at ease. It was as though she had only done this to say that she hadn't lost to Bylai in terms of receiving his love. Her rivalry seemed to be spurred into action, making her do this even though she felt embarrassed.

Compared to Bylai, that little bit of grievance was long dissolved in Zestria's heart when Davis saved her from the Tyrant Hawk Abode's talons when Quara had come wanting to have a taste of her blood. After being betrayed by the Domitian Family, she thought the entire world had turned against her, condemning her, but he hadn't traded her away.

Her hateful heart also cleared after she went to be taken by him of her own volition. However, since she was first his first Dragon Queen, if one removed Isabella, she felt envious that Bylai had received even more love than her. It was unexplainable and instantly made her frustrated, and spurred by Davis's words, she acted on it, which made the others laugh.

And in truth, even Fiora and the other women felt envious of Bylai, pouting a bit. She was the Golden Dragon Queen. They felt like they had to work hard even more and make a name for themselves, receiving a title.

Natalya was already being called the Ice Fairy, but after she showcased her yin fusion, that title became Yin Lotus Fairy.

Although they had displayed their Perfect Domains, it wasn't enough to receive a title.

But the reason they wanted to work hard wasn't that they were worried Davis would leave them but because they wanted their own specialty. They wanted to be unique so that they could say that the love they receive from him is through their own efforts.

Bylai was a good example of moving the hearts of people and then Davis, even if it was through sympathy and conviction. Evelynn, Isabella, Nadia, and Shirley were other greater examples: they obtained vengeance, protected them all, and even saved Davis from the dead. They wanted to do something similar, capable of moving his heart.

After some time, Davis heard a strange rumor spread.

It seemed that people were afraid that he would appear and steal their daughters out of nowhere in the next three days, although some became spurred by that rumor and were ready to send their daughters to him, some even visiting Ancestor Dian Alstreim to form a marriage alliance. Surprisingly, they were at the Ninth Stage and said to be talented, only less than the geniuses appearing in the competition.

The hegemons weren't the only powers in the human race, after all. There were many powers capable of matching the prowess of mid-sized hegemons. It was just their capital wasn't that great to go toe to toe against them, resulting in weaker geniuses.

Nonetheless, Davis's women all looked at him with narrowed eyes, making him almost drenched in a cold sweat. Although he begged innocence to his women that it wasn't his fault, they didn't believe him.

In the end, they took him to one of the resting rooms, forming a gathering while also not letting him leave, and considering that Natalya didn't come back yet, he could only abide by their words. Besides, they had all participated in the second round, so there was no need to remain outside, although he felt a bit bad about not being able to see Ellia's battle. That little girl was probably bored, wanting him to witness her battle. However, it was as the guy who apparently courted death said. His women were really afraid that he would take more women.

'Seems like I had gone over the limit, almost provoking their bottom line...'

Davis could only assume and wait for Natalya to come back. With him going back to rest, the Jade Lotus Valley also wouldn't suspect Natalya to be his messenger. As long as Natalya came back before Ellia's battle, he would be able to see Ellia, so he unworriedly sat and bullied his women in the meantime.

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As soon as the curtains dropped on Davis and Bylai's romance above the battle stage, Natalya appeared in the Jade Lotus Valley's seating area, causing their experts to react in shock.

"Yin Lotus Fairy, we didn't expect for you to come to our humble valley."

A green-robed woman with good proportions and beautiful starry black eyes strode forward with graceful steps welcomed Natalya. It was none other than the Valley Master of the Jade Lotus Valley.

Natalya blushed upon hearing those words. She had heard it from ordinary people, but even the Jade Lotus Valley's Valley Master was calling her that?

She felt embarrassed but also prideful.

"Greetings, Valley Master. I've come to see Ivy Aries, wanting to exchange pointers with her, seeing that we have similar lotus techniques."

Natalya didn't hide her intentions to meet Ivy Aries, except the reason she gave was different.

"Indeed," The Valley Master shook her head, "We old-timers are unqualified. Only geniuses can exchange pointers with each other"

"I didn't mean it like that, Valley Master."

"Hehe~ I'm just joking."

"..."

Natalya thought she made a wrong move and offended her, but she didn't expect the other party to be teasing her.

"What? Did you expect us to be restrained and indifferent?" The Valley Master grinned behind her veil, "We do not practice Ice Laws to be like that. We practice the gentleness of Water Laws, but we also devour the struggles in our path, and although we seclude ourselves and aren't talkative, we are not outcasts. It seems that the world does really see us as quiet and hard to get to know women, not that I'm complaining. It's nice not to be bothered, but if it's Yin Lotus Fairy, you're welcome."

Natalya couldn't help but smile.

"I'm relieved. The Jade Lotus Valley is making its true comeback."

"We have no choice but to..."

As the Valley Master spoke, she pointed at the Calamity Light without turning to look at it, causing Natalya to nod.

"I'm the same. I want to support my husband in whatever way I can, so I've come to learn a thing or two from Ivy Aries."

Hearing Natalya's words, the Valley Master oddly smiled. However, she didn't say anything and turned to look behind and nodded.

Only then did Ivy Aries arrive before Natalya, cupping her hands.

"I didn't think the Yin Lotus Fairy would come all the way here to talk to the defeated me. I'm truly honored."

Natalya instantly saw through the rigorous restrictions posted on these disciples. Although Ivy Aries possessed enough power to rival her Valley Master, it could be seen that she was humble and obedient. Perhaps, it was just respect, and she had misunderstood.

In any case...

"Yes, let's go somewhere alone to exchange pointers." Natalya spoke with an amicable tone, "The battle before was truly a bit disappointing, not because you lost but because you gave up soon. I know you have more techniques to show me. It would be rather disturbing for us to be in this space. We can either go to the resting room to merely discuss or go somewhere outside to practice, treating this as a chance to sightsee. You can pick."

Ivy Aries couldn't help but blink. She turned to look at her Valley Master when a soul transmission fell inside her head.

"What are you looking at me for? You would be the one leading our Jade Lotus Valley after this competition ends, so if you don't make some acquaintance with other powers, you would be losing out and missing experience."

The Valley Master's voice was filled with kindness, causing her to turn to look at Natalya.

"Let's go outside."

Chapter 1956 - Exchanging Pointers

"Perfect!"

Natalya deeply smiled, but it was hidden under her veil.

"You can't."

Abruptly, a voice of disagreement echoed out, causing everyone to turn and look at a middle-aged woman. She also wore dark green robes, but it appeared a bit grander than the Valley Master's robe.

Ivy Aries's brows furrowed.

"Ancestor, If I don't see the world, then how am I supposed to lead the-"

"The world is gathered here. Take some Grand Elders with you if you really want to go out. Valley Master, you should go with her too."

"What?"

Ivy Aries appeared confused. There was no need for her to take Grand Elders, right? They were all weaker than her, so how were they supposed to protect her?

"Oh?" Natalya raised her brows, her tone dropping a bit, "Am I being suspected here?"

"Yin Lotus Fairy had misunderstood." That Ancestor shook her head, "The dangers of the world are unknown, and we merely don't want to lose our hope. We had just come out, wanting to-"

"Let me tell you." Natalya's voice became sharp, impudently cutting her off, "I'm the second wife of the Emperor of Death. If anyone dares to target me or someone with me, they wouldn't have a good ending. Besides, I haven't displayed my true prowess in the battles, so trampling on a mid-sized hegemon is all but possible for me, much less miscreants who want to target me. I'm sure the same can be said about Ivy Aries."

"..."

Everyone became shocked by Natalya's words that were uttered with utter coldness. It seemed as though the previous amicable person had disappeared, replaced with a cold person.

This kind of tone really made them feel that she was attuned to the laws she cultivated.

"Ancestor, you can't talk to young geniuses like that." The Valley Master hurriedly intervened, "With a prowess like that, I would be arrogant and angered to be held back too. We can't limit Little Ivy. Besides, our prowess-"

"Fine, fine. I'm not bothered dealing with you people from the younger generation anymore." The Ancestor no longer spoke and returned to her seat, sitting alongside two more Ancestors. However, they were older than her; one of them even appeared to be an old lady with a wrinkled yet amicable face.

After that confrontation, Natalya and Ivy Aries left the New Era Battle Arena, heading towards the distance. They saw that many people were camping out.

It had turned into a trade outpost, causing them to become shocked as they really weren't aware of what was going on outside. Many treasures were being sold here, even at Emperor Grade. However, only a few were at the Peak-Level Emperor Grade.

Even auctions seemed to be taking place.

They merely glanced at the scenery below before they flew off far into the distance.

They arrived on top of a flat mountain precipice, looking at each other. Without saying anything, lvy Aries threw out a formation disc, which instantly concealed the space or their undulations, to be exact. It didn't hide the sight, allowing a few people who followed them to witness their grandeur.

However, with a single glare from Natalya, they scrammed. They didn't want to offend her or the existence behind her.

Ivy Aries looked really moved, feeling like she had the chance to exchange pointers with a true expert.

Ice energy and water energy began to undulate. Lotuses sprouted into existence as they began to battle. The World Devouring Water Body was truly terrific. It was able to counter Natalya's yin and ice energy. Natalya didn't use yin fusion energy because she already knew that it could cause damage to Ivy Aries, so they just traded blows with their average power.

The thing that shocked Natalya was Ivy Aries was weaker than her, but in a battle of attrition, Natalya felt like she would definitely lose. That was one of the fearsome aspects of the World Devouring Water Body that absorbed the opponent's energy and made it belong to its master. However, Natalya's eyes glowed, becoming more and more excited.

A certain thought crept to her mind, making her feel like a conner. In the end, she suppressed it and continued to battle.

In the distance, a black silhouette popped out from the edge of a mountain. In its hands was a blood-red dagger, its edge gleaming with poison. The figure shook, slowly moving towards that mountain precipice where Natalya and Ivy Aries battled.

But at this moment, a claw struck from nowhere, beheading the black silhouette. However, the body disappeared before the blood could spill, and the fluctuations were suppressed.

The pitch-black energy that appeared beside formed the vague figure of a wolf before it disappeared.

It had silently reaped an assassin's life.

In the end, Davis still couldn't help but feel overprotective and sent Nadia to watch over Natalya's safety. Turns out it was right for him to be overprotective. However, Natalya wouldn't have needed Nadia's help, considering that her senses have grown enough to handle an assassin or two.

Meanwhile, Natalya and Ivy Aries continued to exchange pointers for an hour, looking happy. Their insights gradually grew as they displayed various techniques and exchanged opinions, making it a worthwhile exchange for them.

When their energy reserves dropped below fifty percent, they finally stopped.

"Yin Lotus Fairy, I have greatly profited from this session of exchanging pointers." Ivy Aries smiled with joy, "If I could obtain enough energy, I feel like I can certainly improve my Immeasurable Sea."

"You praise me too much. It was I who benefited the most from this exchange."

Natalya wasn't kidding. She really did think of a few counters already to resist Ivy Aries's devouring energy with her yin energy alone while Ivy Aries went beyond that, improving her devouring prowess against the gentle yin. However, Natalya overcame that again, but it could be said that they both profited as their energies now canceled out each other, with none of them gaining the advantage.

They exchanged a few more pleasantries before they sat on the mountain edge, dangling their legs while looking at the forest below.

"Yin Lotus Fai-"

"Just call me Natalya." Natalya giggled.

Ivy Aries also smiled. Their mood was good, while she felt like she had made a good friend.

"Alright. Natalya, you can also call me Ivy. Having exchanged pointers, I feel like we are close now, but that doesn't let me ask certain things."

She looked hesitant when Natalya raised her brows.

"Do you want to know how I got this stronger?"

Ivy Aries's expression became wry before she nodded.

"I heard that you have ordinary origins, so I'm really curious. Are the rumors true?"

Natalya couldn't help but giggle.

"Indeed, countless people would be bashing their head over my talent. Even I did not know that I would get to this point when I got together with him because all I wanted was to be together with that kind person who saved me."

"So the Emperor of Death is really kind." Ivy Aries nodded as though she gained some understanding, "The rumors about him were as bad as could it get but with all of the powerful yet prideful women falling for him one by one, I find it hard to believe that he could be bad. If the Golden Dragon Queen could be said to be brainwashed and soul-controlled, at least Sect Master Lea Weiss couldn't fall that low as I heard that she had rejected countless proposals, expecting the best of the best that her eyes were in the immortal world. But now, I finally understand. Now all my doubts are all cleared."

"You trust me?"

Natalya raised her brows.

She was Davis's second wife. Even if he was evil, she could make up many good things about him, so her words don't have much weight behind them.

Ivy Aries giggled.

"You haven't given me a reason not to trust you, and the things I saw state otherwise. I would believe my eyes and ears rather than hearsay."

Natalya turned to look into the distance. Now, she couldn't tell if she was hoodwinking the other party or the other party was hoodwinking her. However, she was moved by those words.

"Since you trust me, I'll also lay down another one of my secrets."

"Oh?"

Ivy Aries had just registered what Natalya had uttered before her eyes went wide, and her heart skipped a beat. A foreign undulation abruptly appeared from Natalya before a streak of icy light shot out from Natalya's body, causing her to stiffen. She thought she had almost died, getting assassinated as she was unable to move while feeling a deep pressure, but then she looked at the floating figure in front of her, taking a deep breath before she screamed out in shock.

"An ice spirit!?"

Chapter 1957 - Her Fiance?

Floating in front of Natalya and Ivy Aries was lesha. Her icy-blue skin was shimmering under the sunlight, giving her the look of an angel. Her eyes gently flickered, but it contained an extreme iciness that could freeze someone with just a look.

"Accurately, she's a Frigid World Spirit who controls ice and has the property of yin. Without her, my current accomplishments in cultivation and yin fusion would be very little."

"No- no wonder..."

Ivy Aries looked completely mesmerized before being taken aback by Natalya's explanation. Moreover, she was still shocked by lesha's undulations that were at Peak-Level Ninth Stage.

Ever since Davis returned, he gave lesha the icy spirit cores required for her cultivation. Natalya had also grown stronger, complimenting her cultivation speed through the Prismatic Intramural Soul-Spirit Pact. Therefore, she was quickly able to climb up to Peak-Level Ninth Stage. For spirits, their cultivation speed was that frightening with resources, and that also raised their pride to starry levels, causing them to look down on humans and magical beasts.

Nonetheless, Natalya seemed satisfied with Ivy Aries's reaction.

"You don't seem to have hostility against spirits?"

Ivy Aries calmed and shook her head.

"Our Jade Lotus Valley also has a Towering Ice Spirit, but they could not reach the Ninth Stage. Sometimes, our ice cultivators also use their help. Besides, we don't treat them harshly like others on the continent. After all, our founding ancestors have said that spirits are also living beings who should be treated the same as humans, so we follow those words."

"I see. You're quite understanding." Natalya gladly smiled as she gestured the Frigid World Spirit, "Meet lesha. She is my sister."

"Greetings, I'm lesha."

"Such articulateness and noble bearing..."

Looking at the two crowns on lesha's head and her refined gestures, Ivy Aries couldn't believe her eyes for a moment before she hurriedly stood up and cupped her hands.

"I'm Ivy Aries, a top disciple of the Jade Lotus Valley."

"No need for formalities. Natalya's friend is also my friend. If you need me for anything, you can call me out."

Iesha cupped her fists before returning back to Natalya's body. One could see that she was still shy to outsiders, but Ivy Aries didn't seem to mind and was reveling in this encounter.

Meeting a Peak-Level Ninth Stage Spirit was a miraculous experience for her. She couldn't help but suspect lesha's origins but knew she had already seen and heard much without giving anything that she couldn't help but feel embarrassed about. Instead, she praised Natalya.

"Thank you for letting me know of this secret. However, to have a connection with a spirit is not a simple matter. Iesha didn't seem slave-marked as well, so- oh wait, you just called her sister."

"I did. We are very close~"

Natalya smiled deeply. However, Ivy Aries didn't seem to catch the nuance but smiled.

"It is extremely rare to see such an amicable relationship between a human and a spirit. I wish I could form a contract with a water spirit, but there are none out there to my knowledge, and my World Devouring Water Body repels most Water Essences as it devours their spirituality, so I can only remain alone. Sigh..." Ivy Aries seemed helpless, her beautiful, limpid eyes filled with a kind of yearning.

"Your Jade Lotus Valley has the ability to contract with spirits?" Natalya raised her brows.

"We do," Ivy Aries didn't hide this matter, "But it is specific to spirits and can only be initiated by the spirits themselves. We are helpless to do anything about this matter."

"I see." Natalya nodded, "Iesha may have helped me with my cultivation, but without my husband, we wouldn't have formed a resonance at all."

"Hehe~ Even a spirit fell for his charms? You're kidding me."

Ivy Aries giggled, but Natalya didn't comment on it, only maintaining her smile as she continued.

"Without the resources that my husband provided me for cultivation, I wouldn't have made this far in less than a decade."

Ivy Aries's lips twitched.

Less than a decade?

"Of course, we met more than a decade ago. He was a teenager, but he was powerful, having saved me from a vile plot. It wasn't until we met later that we-"

"What!? A teenager?" Ivy Aries jumped when she just sat back down.

"Did you not know?" Natalya pursed her lips in confusion.

Considering the information that spread about Claire, everyone should more or less know that Davis was less than fifty years old. Did they think that Claire got pregnant when she was a teenager? Heck, she was at the Alstreim Family at that time.

Looking at Natalya's expression, Ivy Aries could only sigh again.

"Sigh, your husband is really a supreme genius that makes our pride and genius talent seem laughable. However, he does a have a bit too many beauties by his side that makes him prone to jealousy from others which makes them ruin his reputation."

Natalya couldn't help but giggle at Ivy Aries's frankness.

"Do you think my husband is fickle-hearted as everyone else thinks?"

"That's not the case." Ivy Aries shook her head, "An outstanding man is craved by almost all women, sometimes looking up to him with the utmost reverence, sometimes unwittingly falling in love. Some of them are fickle, but some genuinely have a big heart. However, there is a despicable bunch in them: powerful men who forcefully obtain women. They're trash, just like women who seduce other men. My fiancee, Rayn Shard, is a good yet despicable example of it. It's unknown how many senior sisters he has taken advantage of, ruining their lives as they committed suicide. My Jade Lotus Valley can't do anything to him because we couldn't obtain evidence. However, since he's the future of the Emperor Sword Sect and I'm the future of the Jade Lotus Valley, our fates are tied together, and I could only try to go against it."

Her tone went from understanding to anger and, finally, helplessness.

Natalya nodded with a solemn expression but couldn't help but inwardly cry.

Was she trash for seducing Davis? However, she wasn't offended as she thought the same back then and even now but was still irritated after hearing from someone else's mouth.

Nonetheless, hearing Ivy Aries's answer made her feel joy. It seems like Ivy Aries and her sect can survive their karmic disaster as she didn't seem to like Rayn Shard.

Still, having her own thoughts about Ivy Aries, Natalya couldn't help but probe.

"So you want a man with no women beside him?"

Ivy Aries couldn't help but lightly giggle.

"As for those powerful men without a single woman by their side, they're not worth mentioning. They prefer to act alone, but the truth is that they couldn't conquer the hearts of women. Even if they could, it's hard to tell if they could still keep them happy. On that note, the Emperor of Death is quite good. Not only has he conquered all your hearts, but he also keeps you all satisfied from what I've seen from my place. That's not something any man could accomplish, and if they couldn't, their women would usually have an affair or two, giving them a huge blow that'll turn them into monsters."

Natalya raised her brows. Was she being duped?

"I thought you didn't know the world."

She said, causing Ivy Aries to shake her head.

"The Jade Lotus Valley may be isolated, but without men, how could we reproduce? How could we have new blood? We do not hate men, but we like to stay away from trouble. A gathering of beauties is nothing but a disaster lying in wait to consume them. That's where the Emperor Sword Sect steps in and rarely, the Pill Refining Sect as well, but it's no longer the case as they declined. However, stepping out of the Jade Lotus Valley for the first time in my life, my horizons have truly broadened. All this time, I thought the way Jade Lotus Valley and the Emperor Sword Sect conducted marriages were normal, but it seems that's not the case."

"What do you mean?"

"The disciples of our two sects could only meet twice a year in our Jade Lotus Valley for exchanging pointers. We are free to pursue whoever we want, but even if we became a couple, we'd be restricted to meeting four times a year. After marriage, we still can't be together all the time as we'd be restricted to meeting twelve times a year. In other words, once a month. I thought such intricacies was normal, but glimpsing at the women here be together with their spouses, happily laughing, or doing something despicable, my horizons have truly widened."

"Nonetheless, if a boy is born, he'll be taken away by the Emperor Sword Sect or the Pill Refining Sect, but if a girl is born, our Jade Lotus Valley acquires her without question."

Natalya seemed a bit angered as her brows scrunched. What kind of rules was this? The respect she built for the Jade Lotus Valley's founding ancestors instantly vanished.

"Do you want to break these rules?" She couldn't help but ask

"I do. Many do, but since we saw that as normal, we never spoke a word but now..."

A strange glimmer shone in Ivy Aries's eyes, but there was also a kind of fear of blaspheming against the teachings of the founding ancestor. Nevertheless, gritting her teeth, she spoke.

"I want to see my senior sisters happy. They crave to meet their husbands, looking listless sometimes... If they could just be together..."

Natalya's heart fell. Did this mean that they still have to kill the Jade Lotus Valley's people and also Ivy Aries? Although she annoyed her just a moment ago, she didn't want her to die just by having this kind of fruitful session with her.

"But those bastards from the Shard Family... They think they're high and above... toying with us as they please...!"

Ivy Aries continued as she trembled, slamming the pillar of rock by her side with her fist.

"Back then, it was said that the Emperor Sword Sect was full of righteous men, but now... those from the Shard Family always try to emasculate their fellow disciples from the Emperor Sword Sect, sometimes even-"

Ivy Aries's expression froze. She suddenly realized that she had talked too much, becoming emotional.

"Excuse me. I was rude. I had a good time learning insights from you, and if fate would have it, we'll meet next time somewhere else. I'll take my leave then."

Standing up, she floated into the skies without looking back, intending to return.

"Wait...!"

However, hearing Natalya's voice, she stopped and turned to look back, wanting to say that their discussion was over and there was nothing else to talk about when her brows narrowed, looking at the object on Natalya's hand.

Chapter 1958 - Not A Woller

Ivy Aries saw that it was a spatial ring on Natalya's hand. Her expression had frozen while her heart skipped a beat.

Could it be ...?

Natalya came forward and presented it to Ivy Aries by holding it with both her hands, looking respectful and secretive.

"Don't show this to anyone. There's a letter inside, so view it in secrecy." Natalya's tone was solemn, "As long as you are of the same mind, my husband promises to-."

"Hehe~ Am I being coveted by the Emperor of Death? I'm quite honored."

Ivy Aries originally thought it had been a gift, but it seemed like it was a marriage proposal sent in the form of a letter. She took it from Natalya's hand as a form of giving face.

On the other hand, Natalya was taken aback, not knowing what to say before her lips moved.

"Well, not exactly, but-"

Ivy Aries instantly shook her head.

"Actually, I envy you for your ability to obtain resources just by uttering a simple request to your man. Which woman wouldn't wish for such a man? However, I have my own conviction. I would not follow anyone for their resources as I can obtain those myself. As for my future companion, when the time comes, my heart will tell. It doesn't matter if he has no women beside him or has many women beside him. As long as I want him, he wouldn't be leaving me alone."

Once Ivy Aries finished, she clasped her hands in respect, turned around, and left.

Natalya became dumbfounded as she saw Ivy Aries's leaving figure.

Ivy Aries said that women who seduce were trash, but now she said that as long as she wanted a man, he wouldn't be able to leave her alone?

How was this any different from seducing?

Wasn't this contradictory?

Natalya shook her head.

As a person who pursued the cultivation path of yin, she understood that yang forces and subdues while yin seduces and placates. That's why she was able to deflect and send almost anything flying back because she managed to placate their energies, making them calm before sending them back. The theory constituted the same reason why Ivy Aries could not absorb her yin fusion energy because her yin sought to placate while her ice sought to destroy. With two energies working together with a deep, intricate connection, Ivy Aries quickly met with backlash. Her devouring water lotus was not able to overpower her yin fusion energy and, therefore, failed to devour it.

'Oh no... she thinks husband wants her. She might not view that letter if that's the case...!'

Natalya realized a few seconds later, wanting to warn Ivy Aries, but then she was far away already as though she didn't want to be burdened anymore. However, the panic quickly disappeared as it came.

'Well, whatever... husband could only care a bit out of the kindness in his heart. There is a limit to how patient and kind one can be. If Ivy Aries takes the cue, she will survive and perhaps save her Jade Lotus Valley. If not, no one can blame my husband for being ruthless.'

Natalya inwardly snorted and left.

She felt that if it weren't for Davis's kindness, the Jade Lotus Valley would undoubtedly die or take a huge loss when he confronts the Emperor Sword Sect's Shard Family. In her eyes, it was his grace that gave them a chance to live. After all, what kind of rising, no, established hegemon would be bothering about the safety of others when their intent was to purely dominate the lands and take vengeance for their past grievances?

Kindness was good, but it wasn't good to come at the cost of one's safety, and that's why she was also agreeable to the saying that a blood debt should be repaid with blood.

She wasn't erudite but at least knew the ways of the cultivation world.

The two of them returned separately, causing the Jade Lotus Valley's higher-ups to feel doubtful.

However, Ivy Aries didn't say anything except that she had gained insights and was going to make certain improvements to her technique, heading towards a resting room.

Once she entered and confirmed that there was no one there, she relaxed and sat down on a chair, her expression blossoming into a wide smile.

Contrary to what Natalya thought, Ivy Aries held the spatial ring with pride visible on her face. Being courted by the youngest and most powerful expert on the continent was also a sign of acknowledgment, making her feel immensely prideful of her beauty and body that possesses a unique physique.

She felt strange she hadn't received any marriage proposals yet, even after revealing her unique physique. But reality proved that she was right. She had always thought which man wouldn't crave her, and it seems that she was only right in thinking so.

Even the Emperor of Death wanted her, so which man wouldn't? It was probably those hateful Emperor Sword Sect miscreants who blocked the way to the Jade Lotus Valley's disciples.

Ivy Aries reveled in this feeling for a while before she looked at the spatial ring, checking if it was tampered with to harm her or something before she confirmed that there wasn't anything to be worried about.

'Well, I can only hope that I don't offend the Emperor of Death with my rejection.'

To tell the truth, she was immensely curious as to what was written inside.

In Ivy Aries's mind, just accepting that spatial ring was already giving Natalya face. As for the contents inside, she didn't know nor did she bother to ask but assumed it was a marriage proposal since Natalya said it was a letter. Only after Ivy Aries giggled about it did Natalya realize that Ivy Aries thought the content could be a marriage proposal, so Natalya wasn't able to inform her.

Having already bound the spatial ring as she thought of the intricacies, she was about to check the contents, but her hand trembled.

'Oh my... I'm nervous... Ivy, your heart can't be shaken like this...'

She once again took a deep breath, calming herself down.

When she sent her soul sense into the spatial ring, her expression froze. There was a letter, but that wasn't what garnered her attention but a pendant that possessed the same shape and aura as hers.

'How can this be...!?'

She shot up in shock before hurriedly taking out the pendant and investigating it. Once she checked that there was no difference, her brain couldn't help but tremble.

Quickly, she took out the letter as well.

She opened it and saw a blank page but then noticed that it was hidden with soul force. She used her own soul force and read it, but her expression changed, and as time went on, it only became more solemn, losing the previous romantic curiosity.

After some time, she touched the pendant that was on her neck with a complex expression on her face as tears emerged on her limpid eyes.

"Ancestor Aries, it seems that your stories were true. The Shard Family really killed your husband as they gained control over more than half the Emperor Sword Sect. It was not those traitorous grand elders of the Emperor Sword Sect who tried to usurp our Jade Lotus Valley, but they were merely the Shard Family's lies."

Ivy Aries's lips quivered as she spoke to herself, her lips quivering. It took her a while to bring back her calm as she stayed like that for half a minute.

"I finally understand what I must do. If I don't obtain vengeance and clean the Jade Lotus Valley of vermin, I, Ivy Aries, am not a Woller!"

Her green eyes shone with determination as they turned azure, the heaven and earth energy around her being crazily devoured as her energy was being replenished at an unprecedented rate, faster than popping an essence energy restorative pill in her mouth.

Her heart gradually calmed as she saw that she could no longer read the letter. The letters etched with soul force had vanished. Undoubtedly, it was the Emperor of Death's soul force. She felt that only he could be so skillful with the soul other than the Soul Palace's Soul Cultivators.

Nonetheless, she felt gratitude towards him. So this letter was sent to see her stance. She guessed that they saw her pendant during her battle with Natalya and made the connection to Garvin Woller, whom her family's ancestor, a deacon at that time but now an Elder of the Jade Lotus Valley, was married to. She really couldn't help but feel that fate was a strange thing.

To think that Garvin Woller's disciple on his deathbed was the Emperor of Death... she couldn't help but feel strange.

Her expression suddenly froze before it started to panic, her expression twitching as her cheeks blushed.

'Did I just brag to Natalya that her husband coveted me...?'

Her trembling increased in intensity, her nerves becoming taut. Only then did she remember Natalya trying to explain, but she cut her off, took the spatial ring, offered some opinion tactfully that bordered on rejection, and left.

She couldn't help but feel her face heating up.

How could she face Natalya in the future?

Thinking about how oblivious she acted, she lowered her head, wanting to go find a hole and bury herself.

Chapter 1959 - Limiting Oneself?

Natalya quickly returned and reported to Davis the results of her 'infiltration' into the Jade Lotus Valley, leaving nothing out as she explained concisely.

Evelynn and the others were also there, listening to her recollection.

"I see." After Natalya finished, Davis nodded, "Well done, Natalya. So you weren't able to know if she's truly Old Man Garvin's descendant or not but still gave her the spatial ring?"

Natalya wryly smiled.

"Yes, did I mess up somehow?"

"Not at all." Davis shrugged, "If she alerts the Emperor Sword Sect or the Jade Lotus Valley, that's good too. I can kill her without showing mercy as there would be no misunderstanding."

"I thought so." Natalya grinned, "You didn't tell me to do anything other than to give her that spatial ring, so I assumed that you wanted to probe her actions after she obtained it. After all, even if she's a descendant of your teacher, she wouldn't necessarily be willing to enact vengeance and could even reveal that information. Besides, you're already strong enough that you don't need hypocritical reasons to kill the Shard Family and its allies with your overwhelming power. You can just state the reason after you kill them, and no one would bat an eye."

Davis became pleasantly surprised.

"As expected of my second wife, you're becoming smarter and smarter."

"Hehe~ It's not smarts. I've been with you for so many years. If I don't understand you this much, then I should just commit sui-"

Natalya hurriedly closed her mouth, looking innocent, while Davis glared at her. Evelynn and the others glared at her as well, as they knew that If this kind of joke came from Natalya, she would be crazy enough to do it.

Nonetheless, Davis decided not to make it a big deal as it was just one of her jokes, so he hurriedly changed the topic to not make it awkward.

"Still, was it necessary for you to leave Ivy Aries with such a misunderstanding?" He asked Natalya.

But once he said it, the glares Natalya received shot towards him, causing him to feel that he buried himself in his own coffin that he hurriedly continued.

"I sent her a marriage proposal? What a farce. Why doesn't she say that she's the number one beauty of the whole world instead?"

Davis couldn't help but scoff. The nerve of that woman to think that she received his favor. Was his love really so cheap now?

'Okay... maybe it has become cheap...'

Davis instantly thought about it, becoming flabbergasted before obediently shutting his mouth.

"I don't know about the others, but I felt that her character is straightforward and cheerful, although she does carry some burden. That Rayn Shard seemed like scum from Ivy Aries's words, so I felt it would be better to save her and also gain the beauty. After all, she has a unique physique. If someone deserves her, it's you."

Natalya pointed at his face with such conviction that Davis felt like crying, now knowing whether to be happy or sad as the intensity of the glares increased.

Nonetheless, he appeared righteous and patted his stomach.

"Natalya, I appreciate your concern, but as you can see, I'm full and can't eat anymore."

"Shameless!"

"And also a liar. His stomach is probably wide enough to fit a whole mansion full of mistresses."

Niera jumped, and Mingzhi commented, the latter having her expression full of disdain.

Davis readied himself for round two of a lecture while the newcomers like Zestria, Dalila, Tanya, and Bylai were silent as they felt that it was their fault. They had no words to offer and felt a bit embarrassed amidst the big sisters when they lectured Davis for being a womanizer.

However, looking at Davis, unable to defend against their united assault, one woman caved as though she melted.

"You... actually, we will not limit you, but you should... take it slow..."

Everyone's expression couldn't help but slightly change as they heard Isabella. Then, their derisive expressions deflated. How could Isabella reveal their collective decision for him like this?

"Isabella, if you keep encouraging him like this, then no one can stop him." Evelynn couldn't help but sigh as she shook her head.

"It's fine. I trust husband to make the right decisions."

Isabella wryly smiled before Shirley suddenly uttered.

"Besides, Zestria, Bylai, Tanya, and Dalila... they were all suggested by us if all you haven't forgotten. Without our consent, he really wouldn't have taken them. Oh, I apologize if I was rude."

Shirley looked towards the newcomers as she apologetically gestured, causing them to shake their heads.

"No! It's only natural..."

Bylai spoke before she smiled, "I'm... I'm really grateful to be accepted as one of you. This kind of conversation with an open heart is new to me, so please forgive me if I make any mistakes. Furthermore, please don't blame him. If anything, you can say that we were too sinful to seduce him."

Zestria, Tanya, and Dalila blushed, but they didn't say anything, agreeing with Bylai. On the other hand, the big sisters all raised their brows, glancing at Davis, looking away and whistling as though this matter didn't concern him, although he felt inwardly moved by Bylai's words.

He really had them dancing between his palms, huh? And then they suddenly thought to themselves and inwardly face-palmed.

Weren't they the same?

For a moment, silence reigned.

Evelynn and the others knew that they had a voice only because he gave them. Otherwise, they wouldn't be able to state their opinion or berate him like this. Still, it was also their duty as his women to keep his ever-growing lust for women in check. They fed him with their own type of delicacies, and it should also be they who put a stop to it if it reaches a certain limit. That's what they discussed when Davis wasn't there.

However, Bylai wasn't aware of this matter, so she spoke up for Davis, making them look like villainesses who suppressed him. However, they didn't blame her.

They could only smile at Bylai, seeing their own image in her, the image of a foolish woman hopelessly in love.

"Mhm. Did I say something wrong...?" Looking at everyone go silent, Bylai couldn't help but ask.

"No, nothing wrong~" Mingzhi couldn't help but giggle as she slapped Davis's arm.

"Count yourself lucky."

She wasn't playing this game anymore if this wasn't worth teasing Davis over. Instead, she went over to Fiora and began teasing her.

"..."

Davis looked at them all leave his side. He instantly became desolate like a withered tree.

Nonetheless, it worked in his favor.

The women began to talk about something else, so having nothing to do, Davis slipped away, intending to see Ellia's battle. Strangely, all of them stayed back, not coming with him as he would've expected at least one of them to tag along.

'Well, my harem council is growing stronger and stronger each day...'

Davis smilingly thought before he shrugged. He trusted that they would allow him to do what he wanted when he really wanted. For example, they didn't say no to Lea even though she was many times older than them. However, they said no to the Poison Mistress because of her mannerisms and the scanty way she dressed, not to mention that they knew that she was a wicked person and also a virgin.

He could tell that they wouldn't accept anyone with no morals, and neither would he, so he wasn't bothered with them berating him for having loose morals because he felt he deserved those insults. Even his mother no longer said anything, probably knowing he wouldn't take no for an answer. Maybe she was disappointed with this aspect of his, but that was just who he was.

After coming this far, he couldn't change it. He could only relish his women and try to limit himself. After all, he really did mean it when he meant that he was full. His appetite was big this time, so he wanted to close his heart as long as he could, except he wasn't sure of himself because that was the price to admiring good-natured, beautiful women.

As for fiends like the Poison Mistress, he wouldn't even want to go near them no matter how beautiful they were. In this, he was sure of himself. After all, he still remembered how he ruthlessly killed Infernal Lightning Emperor's prized daughter with a flick of his finger. Even now, he remembered her beauty that was sexy as the current Evelynn's, totally in his strike zone, but he was able to kill her because he possessed no feelings for her and was fated to be enemies since he was determined to kill her father.

Only with this was he able to determine that he wasn't completely hopeless. Even without their words, he knew to limit himself whenever possible. Otherwise, it wouldn't be just the women he loved and wanted to love.

A man's lust knew no bounds, after all.

Davis shook his head and started thinking about Zestria, Dalila, Tanya, and Bylai. Since they entrusted their lives and hearts to him, he would make sure they soar along with him just like the others.

As he thought about his future with them and their cultivations, he saw Myria's name appear from the ranking projection.

Instantly, his gaze moved and matched with Myria's. She raised her hand and waved towards him before moving towards the battle stage.

"Ellia..."

A moved voice couldn't help but escape his mouth as he saw her gesture, knowing for a fact that it was definitely Ellia.

Chapter 1960 - Myria Descends

Ellia's attractive figure was draped by the icy-blue robe of the Mystic Ice Sect. Her white hair gently swayed as she flew towards the battle stage and arrived along with her two other opponents at their positions.

Davis matched his gaze with Ellia's clear eyes with emotions dwelling in his eyes. The time he spent with her in the past, teasing and laughing, came to his mind, making him understand how he treasured her before he lost her. As he immersed in those sweet reflections of the past through her eyes, he was awoken out of his reverie when he saw her raise her hand towards him again.

However, her hand turned into a fist before she suddenly gestured a thumbs down, indicating that he would be defeated.

Instantly, he knew that it was Myria.

Davis couldn't help but laugh as he saw this scene. That white witch was not even crass enough to show a middle finger that he couldn't help but find her funny instead of offensive. He then saw her put her hand down forcefully before her brows narrowed.

"..."

To Davis, it seemed like Ellia was berating Myria, not that he could assume with confidence. However, with Ellia's soul still safe and sound, appearing to still remember him, he felt complex emotions about Myria as it certainly meant that these two souls had a cooperative relationship at the very least, with Myria having more of a say since Ellia was not able to properly talk with him.

If it was just that, he could consider letting Myria off as she hadn't done much harm to him but even helped Shirley.

However, until he could verify his assumptions with his own eyes and senses upon making contact with their soul sea, he refused to believe Shirley's words. It wasn't that he didn't trust Shirley, but a reincarnator like Myria could easily fool people, not to mention his naive Ellia, even if they are from the same mold.

The matter of Myria being Ellia's previous incarnation was just his and Fallen Heaven's assumption anyway. If he didn't investigate what kind of existence Myria was, he wouldn't know the truth.

Regardless, was he powerful enough to take a soft approach?

Davis's lips curled, wanting to see what kind of power Myria possessed.

Meanwhile, the two opponents were shocked at the Mystic Ice Sect top disciple's display. Not only them but the entire crowd was shocked.

To wave at the Emperor of Death and offend him with a gesture like that, was this top disciple courting death? She had also done a similar thing back then, but now, they practically confirmed that she was against him.

In the northern hemisphere, the Vast Sky Emperor slightly grinned, having a face that looked like he basically confirmed that this woman was antagonistic towards the Emperor of Death, feeling like he could use it to his advantage.

Above the battle stage, Ellia still had her head slightly lowered, her clear black eyes rippling with emotions.

"Myria, you can look down on him based on your seniority and strength, but you can't disrespect him."

"I'm telling you." A melodious voice echoed inside Ellia's soul sea, "That boy overestimates himself and thinks he can beat us in a battle just because he could suppress these four children and strike fear into the hearts of everyone else. Even if he has the power to control death and some special talismans crafted by his master, he shouldn't be having his ego inflated like this, no?"

"Hmph!" Ellia snorted, "We still don't know the true extent of his strength, but at the very least, it's two levels above Peak-Level Emperor Soul Stage since he could kill the wicked path hegemons. Therefore, say that after I defeat him."

"Fine, fine." Myria's voice became mellow, "I can't quibble with you two juniors. However, if he tries to take advantage of you in a battle, then I'll be forcefully interfering no matter what you say."

"Fine."

The both of them came to a compromise before Ellia raised her head and smiled at Davis, wondering if he could differentiate between the two of them. Since Shirley was with him, he should already know a bit about her complex situation, that she was still there, safe and sound.

However, she was worried.

With his character to protect his people, she hoped that he wouldn't do anything to offend Myria that she felt that she had to prove to him that she was still herself and that she could protect herself.

Only then did her gaze fall on her two opponents, noticing that one was from the Pill Refining Sect and the other was from the Glorious Pill Palace. However, he was not a Lanate but someone else. He exuded a faint air of superiority which inherently irked her instincts to put him in his place, but his gaze was not on her but the top disciple from the Pill Refining Sect.

Their fiery undulations were wavering around their bodies, looking like they already had some conflict.

Indeed, the Thousand Pill Palace only looked after the Nine Western Territories and their pill markets. As for the Pill Refining Sect and the Glorious Pill Palace, they clearly had their pill markets in the mid-sized and large-sized Territories, raking in a hefty profit.

If the entire pill markets of the human race were to be considered, then the Thousand Pill Palace merely had a five to ten percent share while the remaining was fought over by the Pill Refining Sect and the Glorious Pill Palace. However, the Glorious Pill Palace had a big appetite and knowledge, so they occupied more than fifty percent of the world's pill market share. Even though they were number one, their greed was big, and they occasionally incited battles with the Pill Refining Sect, so their hatred against each other was plain for everyone to understand as it stemmed from conflicts concerning benefits.

This was true competition, alright.

Ellia pouted. Did they think that she was a pushover for them to ignore her?

But contrary to her assumption, they didn't want to match gazes with her and quickly experience a humiliating defeat. They first had to showcase their prowess, and for that, they could only battle each other.

Quickly, the scenery changed as the Seven Sky Transformation Spatial Formation activated.

The land was filled with ferocious winds, while the sky was filled with fiery flames. It was as though stars were falling from the skies, showering the world with an apocalyptic scenario. However, wind blades below were equally powerful, shredding anything that fell in its range.

The people could instantly tell that it was a dangerous world that could even harm Mid-Level Ninth Stage Powerhouses if they were careless.

Nonetheless, the fiery aura coming from the skies made the two pill cultivators powerful, their prowess showing signs of a greater increase.

Although pill cultivators couldn't compare to cultivators who battle as the former spends all their time refining pills, the power of their flames could not be underestimated as they nurture those flames with numerous Fire Essences. The comprehension over fire couldn't be underestimated either, but it was just that they were lacking battle experience that they were looked down upon by other cultivators when it came to battles.

Even the alchemists admit their own weakness and have bodyguards by their side, so having little battle skills wasn't much of a disadvantage as their explosive power could still be more than a cultivator who only has brains for battles.

In this place, Ellia surveyed her surroundings before a sigh escaped her mouth.

"Seems like our luck is worse to have summoned this kind of terrain randomly..." Her voice resounded in her soul sea when a giggle echoed.

"Our luck has always been worse."

Ellia stepped forward in mid-air and began heading towards them, ignoring the flames that were burning her because, on contact, they just got extinguished.

The people observing were full of praise for her, including the Four Great Righteous Sect Leaders, as they saw that she wasn't using any kind of energy to extinguish those flames. Just her bodily aura seemed to be enough.

They then moved their gazes and looked at the two disciples of the Pill Refining Sect and Glorious Pill Palace met quicker and, without saying anything, struck each other as they threw their flames. Instantly, people saw that the Fire Essences they held were under the top twenty in Emperor Grade Rankings,

blazing and powerful. However, their brows couldn't help but twitch as they watched them acting like children throwing snowballs.

Although they unleashed battle skills, their battle was without skill, making them shake their heads.

Crimson flames erupted on both sides, one turning into a tiger and the other a lion as they clashed. Those images were not even stable, displaying the little skill they possessed, but everyone could feel that they packed quite a punch.

Boom!~

The explosion caused the Pill Refining Sect's disciple to retreat while the Glorious Pill Palace's disciple wasn't pushed back. Instantly, the people saw that the Glorious Pill Palace's disciple was slightly better. Still, they were shocked to see that his prowess almost reached High-Level Law Rune Stage like Faus Lanate.

Even though his prowess couldn't compare to the utterly humiliated Faus Lanate, it seemed that within this fiery world, he could almost match Faus Lanate, except, if Faus Lanate was also present here, he would be more powerful in this world.

However, the Glorious Pill Palace's disciple seemed to be showing promise that the Venerate Twilight Pill Emperor vaguely mentioned that he could be the Palace Master in the future, but with those words, everyone understood that Faus Lanate had been ousted from his Young Palace Master status. They couldn't help pity those fellow's fate.

Who told him to provoke a disaster?

At this moment, an icy-blue-robed figure suddenly appeared amidst the blazing flames of the Pill Refining Sect's disciple. He was covered in flames, his figure looking like a fiery god. However, he didn't even notice the icy-blue-robed woman behind him.

"Watch out!"

The Glorious Pill Palace's top disciple yelled atop of his lungs, causing the Pill Refining Sect's top disciple to shiver as he felt his scalp turn numb. He moved when a backhand to his nape abruptly caused all senses to cease.

He had fainted, collapsing towards the sharp wind blades. However, a hand caught his robe, holding him mid-air.

"..."

Countless people appeared shocked.

Did the Pill Refining Sect's top disciple not notice Myria appear in his range? How could he be so foolish? Were alchemists all that careless in battles?

However, the Four Great Righteous Sect Leader and a few Peak-Level Ninth Stage Powerhouses thought it was not that simple. They felt that it had something to do with her movement technique. Even the Glorious Pill Palace's top disciple only noticed her later. "It's the Mystic Ice Sect's Illusive Mystic Ice Steps. To think that it displayed such intricacies in her hands..." The Mandate Emperor narrowed his eyes before stating a few words from his knowledge.

If they weren't outside and couldn't see the overall projection of the spatial formation, even they might be fooled by her movements.

Nonetheless, since Myria defeated the Pill Refining Sect's top disciple, the spatial undulations appeared and took him away, sending him out.

In the eyes of the crowd, Myria valiantly stood amidst the flickering flames. It seemed that she was smiling while having her eyes narrowed, exuding a confident yet excited demeanor. There were many ripples in her pupils as though she wasn't cold and aloof as she previously had been, making them feel confused.

"Who are you?" The Glorious Pill Palace's top disciple's expression became solemn.

Back then, when Myria had displayed her prowess in the Seventh Stage Segment, everyone had investigated her history and origins. However, they could not pinpoint her origins. She had suddenly appeared in the Mystic Ice Sect, and then their growth followed, not to mention that she seemed to have some kind of hostility towards the Emperor of Death as they seemed to have an unknown history.

His question resonated with the hearts of the people as everyone wanted to know.

Everyone looked at Myria, awaiting her answer, when her lips moved behind her veil.

"It doesn't matter who I am, but I'm still here as a friend. Moreover, I don't need protection, so you can rest assured."

"...?"

Countless confused faces could be seen while the Glorious Pill Palace's top disciple's expression changed.

"What kind of nonsense are you spouting?"

He felt he was the one who needed protecting as he felt mocked yet didn't dare show it.

If he could get into the third round, his position as the Young Palace Master was assured by the two Venerate Pill Emperors, but why was he so unlucky enough to meet this monster? He felt despair.

Where were his bodyguards when he needed them the most?

Until Myria appeared here, he was planning to battle with the Pill Refining Sect's disciple and later team up with him to hold the line against her as long as possible to show that he wasn't incompetent, but it was out of expectations for him to see her suddenly appear behind his opponent and make him faint with a single hit.

It seemed that her bodily might was truly at the peak of High-Level Martial Overlord Stage for her to display this kind of prowess.

Nonetheless, the people still couldn't understand what she meant by those words.

However, while others may not understand Myria's words, Davis understood as a bright smile filled his expression.

The tone indicated that it was Ellia who spoke as it was not cold, causing his heart to warm.

However, he couldn't be too sure as that old ghost could con him, making him continue to watch.