

## **Mechanic 1421**

### **Chapter 1421 Suspicion**

Since he was suspicious, he had to take action. This had always been Han Xiao's style. He told Phillip to monitor the intelligence of the galactic society and report any abnormal movements immediately. However, after being cautious for a few months, he did not discover anything. The situation was still changing. Because of the Pivotal Snake, the World Tree Civilization could not wait to attack the border defense circle again and again. The other troops entered the battlefield like there was no end to them and did not care about the damage. However, the Galactic Alliance Army was not to be trifled with. How could their defense line be broken so easily?

Even in the secondary dimension battlefield, the World Tree Blessed Races did not believe it and invaded many times. However, with Han Xiao in the shallow layer dimension, it was like an immovable guardian deity. The Blessed Races invaded again and again, but they lost every time. They abandoned countless fleets and escaped many times, allowing Han Xiao to gain a lot of wealth.

The worst part was in the individual strength level. The World Tree realized that they were being completely crushed. The Flickering World had Aurora, the healer, as well as EsGod and Herberlon, who were top-tier combatants; the World Tree experts were exchanging their injuries for nothing. The secondary dimension protector was Han Xiao, who was at the Transcendent Grade. Even the Tree Kings did not dare show their faces, so the others were useless.

All of a sudden, the Holy Tree Emissaries, Ancestral Spirits, and Army Commanders realized that there was no use for them in both battlefronts.

If they had already invaded the territory, they would have been able to move around in the universe nimbly with their individual strength, just like special forces. This would have affected the energy of the enemy civilizations and caused all kinds of damage. However, in the current situation, they could only wait for orders.

After a few months of war, the tens of millions of players had once again integrated into the atmosphere of it. They could choose both fronts, and the missions were much richer. Their wallets also became thicker. Unfortunately, Version 5.5 had unlocked a new level cap, and the players' main goal was to level up. They did not have much money to spend.

As more and more players stepped into the Calamity Grade, the qualitative change also appeared. The players became more prominent on the battlefield, and the three Universal Civilizations paid more attention to them.

From the perspective of the upper echelons, the explored universe was rich in resources. They were able to fight the battle of attrition with the World Tree Civilization for a long period of time because of their strong productivity. However, there was always an end to this path, and the World Tree Civilization was superior in this regard. As time passed, the three Universal Civilizations felt that they would start to weaken sooner or later, and the various hidden dangers of wartime policies would gradually appear.

Of course, this kind of situation would not happen anytime soon, and they were not the ones who were troubled. The three Universal Civilizations were currently sitting on the high platform, and they wished to fight a war of attrition more than the World Tree in exchange for time for the Pivotal Snake to grow.

Therefore, the players who had the Calamity Grade potential and could not be killed were important strategic weapons in the eyes of the three Universal Civilizations, and they were not afraid of exhaustion.

The situation had been good for the past few months, and the galactic society was filled with confidence.

Although the players did not know about the Pivotal Snake, after analyzing the situation on the surface, they felt that the three Universal Civilizations were definitely going to win. After learning Black Star's operation, the matter would be settled with F2A[1]. With such an overwhelming advantage, how could they lose?

At this point, Han Xiao noticed something.

"All the members of the Super Star Cluster Alliance have set up secret stargates in their territory and gathered a large number of civilians, resources, and long-distance battleships. They are suspected to be preparing an escape?" Han Xiao flipped through the information, his expression changing as he pondered.

Facing the invasion of the enemy, these advanced civilizations left themselves a way out. It was normal for them to make backup preparations. Even though the entire population was optimistic about the war and their confidence was boosted, the advanced civilizations still planned for the worst, which was understandable. Han Xiao had noticed the Super Star Cluster's actions before, but he had not taken it seriously.

However, because of the suspicion of the 'War of All Realms', as well as the fact that everything had been peaceful for the past few months, Han Xiao's skepticism had become more and more serious. Right now, he was a little suspicious about everyone. Even though the Super Star Cluster Alliance's plan was reasonable, it was still a little glaring in his eyes.

Han Xiao recalled the performance of the Super Star Cluster Civilization's troops on the battlefield. Although they had completed their mission, he felt like they had not used their full strength.

In the past, he had thought that the Super Star Cluster was afraid of being used as cannon fodder by the three Universal Civilizations, so they were being cautious. However, when added to his skepticism now, he felt that something else was going on. After all, the conflict between the Super Star Cluster Alliance and the three Universal Civilizations was deeply rooted. It would not be their style if the Super Star Cluster Alliance did not seize the opportunity to do something in this kind of power reshuffling invasion.

"I feel like they're not just making a Plan B, they have other plans as well..."

Han Xiao stroked his chin and made up his mind to gather the secrets of the Super Star Cluster Alliance.

Anyway, regardless of whether there was a problem or not, it was not a bad thing to investigate. It would be best if he could find some evidence.

After sending a message to Phillip, telling him to pay attention to intelligence about them, Han Xiao exited the quantum network and walked out of the room. A huge cloud appeared in his eyes. Pivotal Snake was hiding inside, and beside it was the stockman Realmless King, as well as a group of mechanical soldiers acting as bodyguards.

Everyone was currently in a secondary dimension, allowing the Pivotal Snake to devour as much as it wanted. Han Xiao had been using the portable fortress to stay close to it, and while protecting it, he was also thinking about how to speed up the Pivotal Snake's growth.

Because of this, he had no choice but to do a full-body check of the Pivotal Snake. Of course, the Pivotal Snake was unwilling, but under his forceful control, it could only stare at Han Xiao with its cold and unwilling eyes, allowing Han Xiao to move its body back and forth.

After checking its body, Han Xiao realized that there was no gender difference in the Pivotal Snake, it could be said to be a hermaphrodite.

After a more detailed examination, Han Xiao also figured out how the Pivotal Snake reproduced, which made him feel a little complicated.

The reproduction of the Pivotal Snake needed to be done in a mating-like manner through the secondary dimension that had given birth to a consciousness, absorbing the secondary dimension in another way and turning it into an embryo. This kind of behavior could be called self-reproducing, or it could be said to be hybrid breeding. It just did not need the 'help' of its own kind.

However, thinking about it, it was likely that the Pivotal Snake would not be able to meet another of its kind in its lifetime. Furthermore, it was being hunted by the World Tree. If it could not reproduce alone, it would probably have gone extinct long ago.

The problem was that the Pivotal Snake usually ate secondary dimensions... In other words, this snake would reproduce with its food...

Furthermore, after sleeping with him, you still want to eat him up as nutrition... Are you a female praying mantis?

All kinds of thoughts flashed through Han Xiao's mind. He looked at the Pivotal Snake who did not even bother to look at him, and had some ideas.

"No matter how much the Pivotal Snake eats, it will at most gain weight and will not enter the mature stage quickly. The growth of a creature has to follow the rules... But if I change the foundation of its existence, I don't know if it will be effective."

Han Xiao had a bold idea. If the Pivotal Snake was allowed to develop properly, who knew how long it would take for it to reach adulthood. However, if he used (Life Transformation-Virtual] to turn it into an artificial intelligence life form, the difference in life forms would be like the difference between heaven and earth. Would he be able to instill a large amount of data into it to speed up its maturity? The only problem was that he did not know if the Pivotal Snake could still keep its perception of the World Tree after its existence transformation.

Logically speaking, if the perception came from the Information Form level, it should not have any effect no matter what life form the Pivotal Snake had changed into.

However, Han Xiao did not dare take the risk. There was only one Pivotal Snake, and he could not reverse its transformation.

"If only I could get one more, I could experiment..."

Han Xiao narrowed his eyes and looked at the Pivotal Snake.

Why not... let this snake give birth now?

Speaking of which, it's still a cub, can it stick it up?...

Han Xiao fell into deep thought.

While Han Xiao was studying about breeding, the World Tree Civilization made some discoveries.

In the Tree King's palace, the Ancestral Tree King listened to the report from the frontline with a subtle expression.

"Is it confirmed? The particles you intercepted contained a lot of information about the enemy civilization?"

"That's right. These particles used microscopic recording technology that involves the transformation of dimensions. We're still trying to decode them and restore the specific content, but we can't be wrong. There are many spatial coordinates and star maps of the enemy's territory."

"There's such a thing?"

The Ancestral Tree King's eyes flickered.

The two armies were at a stalemate at the border, and the World Tree had also built a base and placed it at the entrance of the three Universal Civilizations. Not long ago, an urgent report came from the frontline. The radar of the frontline station had discovered that there were abnormal spatial reactions and weak signs of energy explosions somewhere a certain distance away. Thus, they sent out an exploration team to check, afraid that the three Universal Civilizations were not satisfied with defending and were creating problems.

However, after some testing, they discovered that it was a temporary wormhole that had disappeared by the time the exploration team had arrived. To be cautious, the exploration team searched along the traces of the energy explosion, and the microscopic vision scanner quickly discovered that some special particles were floating in the area that seemed to have been scattered in all directions by the explosion. Therefore, the exploration team collected a portion of them, but they unexpectedly discovered a large amount of information related to the three Universal Civilizations.

When he first found out about this, the Ancestral Tree King's first reaction was that it was a misleading tactic. He thought that it was fake intelligence from the three Universal Civilizations who wanted to trick them with false information.

The second reaction was that there was a traitor within the three Universal Civilizations. For some reason, they wanted to collude with the enemy... This was not the first time the World Tree had encountered such a thing. In their journey to conquer the universe, as long as the enemy was a composite civilization alliance, the internal structure would not be as solid as iron.

His third thought was that there was a third party, hoping to add fuel to the fire and fish in troubled waters... The World Tree was equally experienced in this.

"The variable actually appeared here..."

These thoughts flashed through the Ancestral Tree King's mind, and a strange expression appeared on his face. He seemed to heave a sigh of relief, but there was also a sneer on his face.

He had been at his wits' end for the past few months, and he had been worrying about the war with the three Universal Civilizations. He did not expect someone to send him a pillow[2] just as he was about to doze off. The most important thing now was to confirm if the intelligence was real. As long as it was not fake intelligence that the three Universal Civilizations deliberately released, there would be a favorable turn in the battle.

"Decipher all the contents as soon as possible and sort them out. At the same time, try to deduce the origin of this wormhole."

The Ancestral Tree King did not hesitate and told the research department to quickly produce results.

Whether it was a traitor or a third party, no matter what their motive was, no matter if they wanted to make use of the World Tree... it did not matter to him. What was important was to eliminate the three Universal Civilizations and remove the biggest threat to the mother tree!

As for the other problems, once the threat was eliminated, the World Tree would once again be invincible. There would be plenty of time to slowly resolve them. The Ancestral Tree King had always been able to focus on the main conflict.

On the other side, Flickering World, Siebert Fortress, strategic command room.

"Reporting, there is an abnormal spatial reaction outside the border. It is suspected to be the formation of a wormhole." The military radar sent out a notification.

The military officers present moved closer and looked at the source. They realized that the abnormal signal was outside the border defense circle, not too far from the World Tree camp.

"Can we investigate and see what's going on over there?" a staff sergeant asked.

"Insufficient information. Recommended field inspection," the military artificial intelligence replied.

Hearing this, everyone looked at each other and muttered softly.

The border defense army was stationed at various posts in the defense circle. If they left this place, it would be difficult for them to deal with the World Tree fleet without the endless supply of defense mechanisms and fast support channels. Therefore, the border defense army had always focused on defense and would not take the initiative to attack.

The source of the anomaly was outside the defense circle. If they wanted to field investigate, they would have to move the fleet. Not only did they keep an eye on the World Tree, but the World Tree also kept an eye on the defense circle. Once the border defense army sent out a fleet, the World Tree would definitely send troops over to fight in the field and eat the fleet they sent out. Furthermore, from the distance, the World Tree was closer to the abnormal reaction source. Even if they sent troops over, they would most likely not gain anything

Generally speaking, border troops rarely sent people to carry out such risky missions of unknown value. However... the players were perfect for this job.

## Chapter 1422 Conspiracy

“Our mission this time is to investigate the abnormal signal area outside the border defense circle. There’s a high chance that we will encounter a battle with the World Tree fleet. Everyone needs to be prepared to sacrifice themselves.”

In the cabin, the light blue projection of the commander floated on the tactical command platform, explaining the details of the mission to the players in the room. If it was a normal person, he would not mention ‘sacrifice’, but it did not matter to the Immortals. All the people participating in this mission were players.

Most of the time, this kind of scouting mission was a mistake and would not yield any results. If there was no players’ suicide squad, the command center might not even send people to investigate. Most of the people were listening attentively, but Black Tea was distracted. He stayed behind the crowd and opened the forum to flirt with the female players. As an old player who had been scammed in Version 1.0, Black Tea had seen everything and was now more interested in female players. These combat missions were more or less the same-charge, die, pay, and complete.

Anyway, no matter what the commander said, when the actual mission was carried out, they still had to adapt to the situation. Black Tea was already familiar with the process and had his own way of doing things. In his opinion, there was no need to listen to the details at all. It was better to spend this time flirting with a few girls.

Not long after, the hyperdrive lights covering the ships dissipated, and the reconnaissance team had already arrived at their destination. In the universe outside the window, there was a World Tree team that seemed to be searching for something in the area. The number of battleships was less than half of the reconnaissance team, and as soon as they saw the three Universal Civilizations’ reconnaissance team, they immediately turned around, as if they were trying to escape together.

“World Tree fleet detected, attack!”

The commander did not hesitate and immediately gave the order. This reconnaissance team fired at the World Tree exploration team without hesitation. The intercepting ship accelerated and chased after them with a group of players. Very soon, they caught a few World Tree exploration ships that could not escape in time.

Bang! Bang! Bang! The intercepting ships shot out charge cabins one after another, biting the bodies of the enemy ships, penetrating the exterior armor, and embedding themselves in. The players inside boarded the ships noisily, planning to control the spaceships.

High-temperature flames spewed out, and lasers shot out in all directions. The group of players immediately started a massacre in the exploration ships, fighting with the members of the World Tree. It could be said that they were unstoppable. The World Tree warriors were either burnt to ashes, beaten into meat pies, or shot into sieves. The ground was filled with tattered corpses.

Black Tea tilted his body slightly and avoided a laser beam. He pointed his sword with a backhand stance, and a stream of white Pugilist energy shot out. It was sharp and cold, like a qi sword, and penetrated the chests of three World Tree warriors, instantly killing them.

“How is it, pretty cool huh?” “Brother, you’re so strong. Can you bring me to dungeons in the future?” The female player in the video acted cutely.

“It depends on your performance.”

Black Tea had a smug smile on his face as he spoke in the private chat. Even on the battlefield, he was flirting with girls. He turned on the video call to let the girl see his heroic side.

In the past few months, he had already completed the level 180 Promotion Mission, successfully advanced, and entered the Calamity Grade. He was undoubtedly the leader among the current players. This kind of boarding battle was not a problem for him at all, and he could easily pick up girls while fighting

He chose the Pugilist class naturally because it was the most flashy of the five classes. Whether he was strong or not was a matter of one version, but whether he looked cool or not was a matter of life. While Black Tea was chatting, his teammates were already ploughing through the World Tree soldiers and getting further away.

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After watching the group of people leave happily, Black Tea did not follow them. He smiled and shook his head, showing the demeanor of a gentleman. He said, “You can’t get too excited when you’re doing missions. Look at these people. They’re classic negative examples. They’ve finally gotten the chance to be unparalleled, and they’re already so reckless. You have to use your brain when doing missions. Learn a little.”

After putting on a show, Black Tea did not follow the rest of the team. Instead, he turned around and walked into the corridor alone. He casually broke the walls and floors of the cabin and went straight into the belly of the ship.

Very soon, he arrived at a gate without any obstructions. On the gate were the words ‘Analysis Room’ and ‘Research Area’ written in the language of the World Tree Civilization. Due to the invasion of the spaceship, all the guards had gone to protect the energy core, engine, control center, bridge, and other key areas. There was no one there, only some simple defense facilities that were dismantled by Black Tea.

“Brother, what are you doing here alone?” The female player blinked and asked in confusion.

“Hehe, I told you to use your brain. Think about it. Our mission is to investigate the abnormal situation in this area, and the World Tree fleet is one step ahead of us, but they’re still here, seemingly looking for something. This proves that they’ve already discovered something. The World Tree exploration ship has a simple analysis lab, so there might be clues here. This is the main goal of our mission. If we can snatch the World Tree’s exploration results, we won’t have to risk staying here to investigate. We might even be able to complete this without dying.”

After taking care of all the defense facilities, Black Tea walked into the room and spoke. “Wow, you’re so experienced!” The female player was full of admiration.

“It’s alright, mainly because I’ve seen too much.”

Black Tea was secretly overjoyed.

Although he was indeed experienced, his words were just to show off. He wanted to show off his wisdom and that he was different from those pigs. As for whether he would gain anything here, it did not matter.

However, at this moment, Black Tea suddenly stopped in his tracks and looked up at one of the transparent experiment chambers. There was a ball of light floating inside. When he looked over, the interface suddenly jumped, and a notification popped up. You have triggered the hidden mission (Source of Change). Mission Introduction: You have discovered an important clue that can change the war. It has an immeasurable value. If you bring it back, it will greatly affect the direction of the war.

Mission Requirements: Use a container to store this clue and bring it back to the three Universal Civilizations to report.

Reward: Depends on the rating.

Black Tea was stunned.

No way, I was just bragging. It was really true

“See, I told you, there must be some clues here!”

Black Tea immediately became excited and shared the mission interface with the girl. Then, he immediately went to the experiment chamber, searched for a while, found the storage button, and pressed it.

Tiny electric arcs flashed in the experiment chamber, guiding the light into a palm-sized tube container. The two ends of the container automatically turned and closed, and intricate mechanical parts with strong magnetic force joined tightly. Then, this tube slid along the transparent pipe, and half of it popped out from one of the holes in the operating table, meaning that it could be taken away.

With a click, Black Tea opened the chest area of his mechanical suit and stuffed this round tube container into a storage groove. Then, he closed the armor and protected it. Without another word, he went back the way he came and reported the situation.

This battle did not last long. The reconnaissance team had defeated the World Tree exploration team, and the other party could only escape with their remaining troops. As this place was closer to the World Tree camp, the reconnaissance team did not want to chase after them.

Originally, they did not care about sacrificing themselves and planned to stay here for a while to investigate the abnormal situation. However, after obtaining the intelligence from Black Tea, the team changed their plan and directly retreated to avoid being chased by the World Tree's follow-up troops.

As soon as the reconnaissance team left, the reinforcements from the World Tree arrived. They gave chase symbolically and gave up when they approached the border defense circle. They watched as the reconnaissance team-that had obtained the encrypted particles-returned to the three Universal Civilizations.

Not long after, at the research center of the frontline base, the container brought back by Black Tea was transported. Under the research of a group of scientists, it gradually revealed its true appearance.



“This... this is...”

The research team leader looked at the deciphered content and widened his eyes in shock. He took a few steps back in disbelief.

“Team leader, what did you find?” The officer who was waiting for the results felt his heart skip a beat and hurried forward. The research team leader came back to his senses and pounced in front of him. He grabbed the officer’s shoulder and said anxiously,

“Bad news! Quickly inform the three leaders and His Excellency Black Star! Our territorial star maps have been leaked!”

As soon as he said that, the expressions of all the officers and researchers changed.

On the other side, in the Tree King’s palace.

“Your Excellency Tree King, according to your orders, we have already handed a portion of the encrypted particles to the enemy. They will firmly believe that this information was intercepted by them.”

“Well done.”

The Ancestral Tree King narrowed his eyes and nodded.

At such a close distance, the frontline troops had long discovered the uniqueness of the encrypted particles, so how could such negligence appear? All of this was naturally intentional. It was only when the three Universal Civilizations’ reconnaissance troops repelled the World Tree exploration team that their reinforcements arrived and acted as though they could not catch up, but it was all fake.

Their true goal was to allow the three Universal Civilizations to obtain a set of encrypted particles in a less suspicious way.

“This is not a bad move. When they see the leaked information, they will most likely suspect that there is a spy. Things will become chaotic.” Fortitude Tree King nodded.

“A powerful fortress can be broken through from the inside. Suspicion is the best weapon,” the Ancestral Tree King said calmly.

No matter who leaked this information to him, in his opinion, it was most likely that they did not want to be discovered by the three Universal Civilizations.

The Ancestral Tree King did not mind being used, but he would not make the manipulator too happy. Since they wanted to use him, they had to bear the corresponding risk.

On the other hand, even if the manipulator did not care, the Ancestral Tree King wanted to use this method to make the three Universal Civilizations suspicious and even split up.

“That’s right. After all, not all civilizations can be as united as us. Everyone is connected to the mental network, and the mother tree will be in charge. There are no secrets,” the Fortitude Tree King agreed with a smile.

The Ancestral Tree King narrowed his eyes and glanced at him. He did not know if this was sincere or if there was a deeper meaning behind his words.

In the head office of the three Universal Civilizations, Marbruce, Louis, and the Pope received an urgent report on the coding particle at the frontline and immediately held a meeting.

Looking at the countless pieces of intel that had been deciphered, the three of them were furious.

“How bold, someone actually colluded with the enemy!”

The Pope slammed the table angrily.

“No matter who it is, we have to find them!”

Anger burned in Marbruce’s eyes.

Originally, the situation was very good. Relying on the border defense circle and Han Xiao, it was enough to resist the World Tree for many years. However, not long after they had gained the advantage, a traitor appeared in their family and leaked countless intelligence!

With these coordinates, the World Tree would be able to jump through space, avoid the border defense circle, and directly invade. Countless battlefronts would be opened, and the stalemate would be broken.

They had worked hard for so many years just to ensure that their territory would not be violated. Now, all their hard work had been wasted. The three of them were already beyond furious. They wanted nothing more than to tear the traitor to pieces!

At this time, Han Xiao received the invitation and appeared in the room. He frowned and went straight to the point.

“You said that the intelligence of the galactic society was leaked? What’s the exact situation?”

“See for yourself.”

Marbruce separated a section of the virtual screen and sent it to Han Xiao.

Han Xiao quickly understood the situation.

His first reaction was that the World Tree was trying to sow discord, using some kind of method to obtain information and then arousing suspicion within them... However, this information was so detailed that it was impossible to gather unless one had been in the explored universe for a long time. Therefore, it was more believable that someone leaked the information.

“It’s either a traitor colluding with the enemy or a third party taking advantage of the situation,” Han Xiao said.

“We think so too,” Marbruce said grimly. “But in comparison, the possibility of a traitor is higher!”

Han Xiao stroked his chin and said, “If it’s a traitor, their goal definitely isn’t survival. Based on the current situation, the entire galactic society believes that we can resist the World Tree, so the traitor has other goals, such as taking revenge on you or taking advantage of the situation...”

“We know that.”

Louis' eyes flickered with a cold light. Before this, they had already discussed the suspects. Among them, the most suspicious ones were the Super Star Cluster Alliance and the lower level Star Cluster Civilizations. Even the Beyond Grade A Association was somewhat suspicious, so the three of them were wary of Han Xiao.

Although the current favorable situation was the work of Black Star, the position that the three of them were in made them suspect Han Xiao. Even though Black Star had made so many contributions, there was still a motive...

This time, Han Xiao's eyes suddenly flashed.

"The World Tree might have leaked this information on purpose to cause internal strife..."

However, halfway through, Han Xiao stopped and shook his head helplessly. Even if the World Tree did it on purpose, the information leak was real. Even if they guessed that this was the World Tree's plan, they could not let go of their suspicions. This was an open conspiracy. If the information was leaked by a third party, it might have been calculated in advance. Not only did they help the World Tree, but they also used the World Tree to raise suspicion in the galactic society.

Han Xiao paused for a moment, put away these speculations, changed the topic, and said, "No matter what, the battle situation has changed. Make preparations as soon as possible to deal with the World Tree's full invasion. This is the most important task."

The three of them nodded.

Although the three Universal Civilizations were prepared for war in the various Star Fields, compared to the border of the Flickering World, the defense of the other areas was naturally much weaker. There were still countless planets scattered around, allowing the enemy to enter their familiar battle rhythm of 'sustaining war with war'.

"We have to find the traitor. Since they've done such a thing, they will definitely do something that benefits them at some point. Sooner or later, they will be exposed," the Pope said coldly.

"The earlier we confirm the target, the better. I will immediately order a specialized team to investigate this matter," Louis said.

Han Xiao thought about it and said, "I need to study these encrypted particles personally. Maybe I can find some clues."

Hearing this, the three of them exchanged looks and finally nodded.

"We can give you a portion of the encrypted particles for research. I hope you find a clue soon."

"Sure."

Looking at the three of them, Han Xiao knew that he was one of their suspects. He could not help but shake his head. At this time, he did not care. If he was in their position, he would not have trusted anyone either.

'I didn't expect the name of the version to come true so quickly. Who is the one behind this... It can't be them, right?'

Han Xiao thought to himself. The stealthy Super Star Cluster Alliance flashed past his mind, and the figures of the Avengers appeared.

### **Chapter 1423 Third Party And Paying One's Debts**

After learning about the situation from the three leaders, Han Xiao did not continue to participate in the 'Among Us' brainstorming of the three of them. He deactivated the remote projection and went to the frontline research facility.

As soon as he walked into the laboratory hall, he could smell anxiety and panic in the air. Countless researchers were moving back and forth, deciphering the encrypted particles.

"Your Excellency Black Star, Ruler Marbruce has given me a secret order. Please follow me."

An officer who had been waiting for a long time immediately came forward and led Han Xiao into the corridor.

Not long after, the two of them arrived at a private laboratory. There was an expert team doing decryption work, but it was different from simply decrypting the content of the encrypted particles outside. This place was also responsible for finding the technical characteristics of the encrypted particles. The moment the door opened, Han Xiao heard the endless argument inside.

"... The structural deviation of this particle is obviously too high, forming a typical three-direction ratio with Marvir's readings. It has the characteristics of the Karpoke warped technology and the Siber space conversion. It's definitely based on the third theoretical model of particle space!"

"It's just similar! You ignored the characteristics of dimension change folds and the weakening of the nuclear force. This is a technology that the three Universal Civilizations have already eliminated!"

Han Xiao turned around and saw the group of experts gathered in front of the experiment table and arguing while pointing at the readings on the apparatus.

The same theory could extend to all kinds of applications and achieve the same goal through different means. However, although some techniques were similar in their performance and final results, there were many differences in the actual usage process. If one tried to understand it in a less correct but simpler way, it would be equivalent to the same character having different ways of writing, so there was naturally more than one way to modify the particles...

By studying the characteristics of these technologies, he could reverse engineer the specific technology used by the encrypted particles. This was also the focus of the research. They were trying to reduce the scope of suspicion by using the encrypted particles' technology. Han Xiao did not conceal his footsteps and walked over in large strides. Only then did the experts realize that there was an outsider. Seeing that it was Han Xiao, they all bowed respectfully.

He looked up at the encrypted particles floating on the experiment table and waved his hand.

"Alright, stop arguing. Let me see what's going on."

"Please let us know if you need anything."

The group of experts had no objections and retreated to the side, obediently giving up the experiment table behind them.

Black Star was not only the strongest individual strength in the Galaxy that was on the same level as the three leaders, he was also one of the best scientists. These researchers had always admired Black Star, and a small portion of the people present were his worshippers. These normally esteemed high-level researchers were all willing to be his assistants.

Han Xiao looked at the readings and studied the encrypted particles from head to toe. He quickly analyzed the data in his mind and locked onto a few technologies.

As far as he knew, these technologies seemed to be used by members of the Super Star Cluster Alliance. Of course, he could not rule out the possibility of other organizations imitating them.

‘According to normal judgment, the Super Star Cluster Alliance is now even more suspicious, but it could also be a deliberate framing... In this case, it’s more like a traitor in the galactic society.’

With a thought, Han Xiao released his Mechanical Force and connected it to the encrypted particles. He then activated (Bold Explorer).

Buzz!

Han Xiao’s vision suddenly changed, and he arrived at a research institute with different styles. Many researchers were working.

A huge device was spinning. Particles were opened in low dimensional space and recorded into information. Then, they were restored and turned into encrypted particles that were injected into three white cylindrical containers.

He could not control his vision and followed the three white tubes closely. The white tubes were placed into a suitcase and sent into a groove of a material transmission device.

The next moment, his vision turned once again, and he had already arrived at a secret underground base. He saw another material transmission device, and with a flash of light, the white suitcase was sent over. A few life forms walked up and opened it, revealing the white tubes inside.

This time, his vision changed again, and he came to a space in the universe. A blue and black wormhole opened up in front of him, and three white tubes were thrown in. They passed through the colorful space tunnel and flew out from the other end of the wormhole. Then, the three white tubes suddenly burst out with heat, releasing a wave of energy, and all the encrypted particles inside were thrown out.

In the last scene, a World Tree exploration team shrouded in green light appeared in the distance.

The illusion stopped, and Han Xiao’s vision returned to normal.

“It seems like these encrypted particles appeared from nowhere till they were intercepted by the World Tree...”

Han Xiao’s eyes sparkled.

Although the illusion provided by (Bold Explorer) did not involve a specific location, Han Xiao was almost certain that this was a third party's doing. There was no other reason other than the researchers in the illusion were all unfamiliar species that he had never seen before. Among the people who received the white suitcase, there was a race that should have disappeared long ago.

"The Lorese people, the intelligent species of the Lore Civilization... The Lore Civilization, the loser of the exploration era, was destroyed by the three Universal Civilizations. It should have been exterminated..."

Han Xiao took out the information and started to think

From the looks of it, the Lore Civilization had survived, and their goal should be revenge. They were not fighting alone and had even found helpers. Those intelligent species had never appeared in the history of the three Universal Civilizations, so they should be foreign civilizations.

According to the detailed information within the encrypted particles, this foreign civilization should have been lying in wait in the explored universe for many years without being discovered.

'Tsk, another old enemy of the exploration era. The three Universal Civilizations are constantly paying their debts for their past deeds...'

Han Xiao subconsciously rubbed his fingers.

In the World Tree War in his previous life, this foreign civilization did not appear and did not seem to have interfered with the direction of the war. Now, however, they took the initiative to backstab the three Universal Civilizations. Maybe it was because this foreign civilization's situation was different in different timelines, or maybe it was because the situation in his previous life did not require them to interfere... Of course, Han Xiao was not sure if this foreign civilization took action in his previous life. The players did not have the relevant information.

"Seeing that the three Universal Civilizations have the upper hand, they want to destroy our strategy, shatter our advantage, and help the World Tree invade us... They want to take revenge on us, but they also want to take advantage of the situation. They want to hide in the dark and watch the tigers fight each other while they snipe for profits. Tsk, quite malicious."

Han Xiao guessed the motive of the foreign civilization while thinking of a solution.

Although he had confirmed that it was a third party, he did not know their location, so he could not follow the clues. If he searched with great fanfare, it was very likely that the foreign civilizations would withdraw all their spies and cut off all clues.

Furthermore, without evidence, it would not be easy to convince the three big hooligans. Although with his position, even without evidence, the three Universal Civilizations' leaders would still take his words seriously, now that even he was suspected, the credibility would naturally be reduced. The three big leaders would at most be skeptical.

[Information Form Obliteration) could see the connection threads, but this was a destructive ability. It could not see the specific situation and could not trace the source. Even if this batch of encrypted particles was wiped out, the World Tree's side most likely had others, and the situation could not be resolved. After all, this ability wiped out 'individuals', not 'concepts' and 'collective body'. It would not be that if it killed one or two humans, the others would forget about the entire human race.

In fact, the effect of (Information Form Obliteration) was very 'precise', and it would not have much effect on the Information Form of anything else other than the target's. Therefore, the effect of this move would be quite peculiar when it targeted the split parts of a whole body.

If he used (Information Form Obliteration) on this part of the encrypted particles, Han Xiao estimated that the three leaders would remember that he had taken some things to study, but they would forget that he was studying the encrypted particles. Furthermore, the experts present would not remember what they were studying, and these machine readings would also be erased.

If he 'erased' the other encrypted particles that the three Universal Civilizations had intercepted, Han Xiao felt that the result would probably be that the three Universal Civilizations had forgotten about the existence of the encrypted particles, but remembered that 'something' had exposed the presence of a spy leaking information. As for the World Tree, they would remember that they had given 'something' to the three Universal Civilizations, but they would forget that they had handed over the encrypted particles. However, they would not forget about the encrypted particles in their hands.

Han Xiao had made a hypothesis before. If he used (Information Form Obliteration) to deal with the entire World Tree Civilization, the reaction of the three Universal Civilizations would most likely not be 'what have we been doing all these years', but 'we defeated a Universal Civilization with difficulty, but we can't remember what that civilization is called'.

Therefore, (Information Form Obliteration) had a very good effect on individuals with different Information Form, such as living beings. However, when dealing with individuals with a large collective body (such as a grain of sand in a desert, a gun in a batch of standard firearms), the Information Form gap could be deduced by logic... For example, if the experts forgot what they were researching previously, but came to the experiment hall and saw others studying the encrypted particles, they could also deduce that they were probably researching this before.

However, even if you used logic to deduce that, (Information Form Obliteration) was still in effect, you would subtly have memory deviations, quickly forget, subconsciously ignore, common sense errors, and so on. It was just like when you thought of something, you would suddenly forget it and would not be able to recall it no matter what. This kind of situation was not uncommon. It was also like when you believed that the temperature of a normal person's bath was eighty degrees instead of forty degrees, there would be a common-sense deviation that you would not be able to detect, or it would be like the legendary war of '99...

'In any case, I have to find a way to capture this group of lurkers. Currently, I can only use conventional methods to collect intelligence in secret. It's best to monitor the artificial intelligence in the quantum network... They will most likely continue to observe the follow-up effects of this 'borrowing knife to kill others' tactic. Seeing that the three Universal Civilizations are suffering, they probably did not retreat.

Sigh, it would be great if we could retrieve the World Tree's Information Form Warning Network. This thing is simply a black technology to prevent the territory from being infiltrated.'

Han Xiao shook his head helplessly. Compared to the World Tree, the territories of the three Universal Civilizations were like a sieve. Other people could enter and exit as they wished, even leaving something behind. The three Universal Civilizations would not be able to discover it in a short period. It was simply the standard model of a victim.

He stroked his chin and pondered.

The World Tree and the third party's goal was to cause internal strife in the galactic society, so the most important thing now was to not let the enemy's plan succeed. Since the infiltrators could not be found in a short time and the three Universal Civilizations' suspicions could not be dispelled, it seemed like they could only start with the suspects.

"It seems like the three Universal Civilizations are most suspicious of the Super Star Cluster Alliance, and they happen to be cooking other plans in secret. However, I have yet to find out what's going on... If this causes a misunderstanding between the two sides, I'm afraid both sides will suffer heavily."

Han Xiao was helpless.

In the past, he had always cheated the Super Star Cluster Alliance, and it was not the first time they had suffered for no reason. However, it was the opposite now. He had to think of a way to reduce their suspicion so that they would not become scapegoats...

Indeed, one had to pay for everything they have done!

#### **Chapter 1424 The Face of the Pugilist**

In the next few days, the World Tree Army laid low and did not launch any attacks on the Flickering World border or the shallow layer dimensions. They did not exert any pressure, and the flames of war were briefly extinguished. However, the strategic command center of the three Universal Civilizations did not relax at all. The atmosphere was as though they were still fighting intensely, and they knew that this was only the calm before the storm.

The armies that were originally stationed in the various Star Fields for emergencies were put to use. They all entered war mode and patrolled the areas they were in charge of.

The encrypted particles had leaked the star maps of the entire explored universe, including countless spatial coordinates. There were too many routes that the enemy could choose, and they could invade from anywhere.

Han Xiao sent most of the Mechanical Oracles to the main universe to increase the number of high-level combatants. Originally, the three Universal Civilizations had the upper hand in terms of individual strength, but if the World Tree invaded all the territories, the effect of the high-level combatants would be completely different from a frontal battle. The high flexibility would bring about a powerful destructive force, and the battlefield would be split into countless sections. As the defending party that had no choice but to surround and intercept the enemy, their Beyond Grade As would not be enough.

In addition to dealing with the changes in the situation, Han Xiao had also been secretly searching for the spies of the foreign civilizations in the past few days. It was a pity that he was searching for a needle in a haystack and did not find anything. However, he did have some results from his investigation of the Super Star Cluster Alliance.

"So, they want to take advantage of the intense battle and escape from the control of the three Universal Civilizations when they have no time to deal with other matters. They want to head to the unexplored universe and find a place to develop freely..."



Han Xiao looked at the information on the virtual screen with a strange expression. How badly had they been bullied by the three Universal Civilizations that they wanted to leave their home?

He could roughly understand the thoughts of the Super Star Cluster Alliance. Staying in the explored universe would only result in endless suppression, and they would forever be constrained by the three Universal Civilizations. No matter how much they developed, they would never be able to exceed these three ceilings.

During the reshuffling of the structure due to the enemy invasion, the Super Star Cluster Alliance considered their future and made a decision. For their civilization to develop freely, they decided to take the risk and explore the unknown. This was understandable. After all, they were never on the same side as the three Universal Civilizations.

“This is bad. The World Tree’s invasion is their chance to escape. If they really do that, it would be the same as admitting the suspicion. This was akin to having mud on the back of one’s pants. Even if it was not sh\*t, people would naturally assume it to be.”

Han Xiao massaged his brows.

He had already told the three leaders about the result of the third party causing trouble and even pointed out the existence of the Lore Civilization. However, as expected, the three of them did not say that they did not believe it, but only accepted that this was one of the reasons. Unless there was conclusive evidence, they still had to find traitors.

Only when the battle becomes chaotic would the three Universal Civilizations not be able to spare energy in this, and the Super Star Cluster Alliance would be able to carry out their plan. However, it just so happened that someone leaked the information at this time. Such a coincidence? To be honest, if Han Xiao did not know the truth, and looked from the perspective of the three Universal Civilizations, even he would have thought that the Super Star Cluster Alliance was resolute and fierce, and it was definitely because they wanted to escape that they lured the World Tree to invade all territories.

In his previous life, the Super Star Cluster Alliance did not do this but stood on the galactic society’s side and fought against the enemies together. This time, they made a completely different choice. Maybe it was because the time period was different, the upper echelons were different, and the logic of their decisions was different. Or maybe it was because their situation was slightly different from his previous life, most of it was because of the butterfly effect he brought. It was more likely that the Super Star Cluster Alliance had not seen the full power of the World Tree invasion like in his previous life and did not feel the true threat of this cosmic disaster, so they still felt that they could stay away from the flames of war and not die at the hands of the enemy...

In other words, they had not been beaten by the World Tree.

“I have to convince the Super Star Cluster to cancel the escape plan. Otherwise, the internal division will be right in front of us. However, no matter how great my reputation is, the Super Star Cluster will not be convinced by my words.”

Han Xiao pondered.

On one hand, he did not want the Super Star Cluster to take the blame and allow the third party to go unpunished. On the other hand, the galactic society needed the Super Star Cluster's strength to resist the World Tree's invasion. As long as they were determined to fight, their combined strength could not be underestimated. They were also an important part of the combat power of the explored universe.

"I have to think of a way..."

While he was pondering, an urgent internal message from the three Universal Civilizations popped up on the virtual screen. "Primeval Star River, Ancient Star Desert, Sea of Star Spirits, Blackhole Edge, Endless Nebula, Shattered Star Ring, and other Star Fields have all discovered traces of the World Tree fleet! Requesting reinforcements! Requesting reinforcements!"

Han Xiao sat up straight, and a cold light flashed in his eyes.

They're here!

In the Ancient Star Desert, blue wormholes formed one after another, forming a huge oval-shaped space crack. It was like God had cut open the curtain of the universe, leaving behind a blue scar.

Immediately after, a green light appeared in the enormous space crack. It grew brighter and larger, and finally turned into an overwhelming green tide pouring out!

The seemingly endless fleet of the World Tree crossed the border of the Flickering World and descended directly along the wormhole. The dense streams of hyperdrive light condensed into pillars of light and shot in all directions like a plague virus in the enemy's body, spreading in the blink of an eye.

Countless World Tree warriors revealed fanaticism on their faces as if they were holding a banquet. After being in a stalemate for so many years, they had finally made their way in and dismembered their prey! On the planets that the World Tree fleet passed by, there was a violent fluctuation in the space. The thick roots of the World Tree tore open space cracks like drilling through soil and extending out from the void into the planets like straws, drawing out dazzling energy visible to the naked eye.

The planet's crust softened and flowed into the roots of the World Tree like a liquid. The material of the planet's mantle and core was also swallowed in large mouthfuls. The planet slowly shriveled up and was rapidly approaching its end. Wherever the green tide passed, the stars slowly extinguished, and the planets gradually dissolved, leaving only death and desolation.

This reminded the World Tree warriors of the past. They roamed the endless universe, unrestrainedly tasting the delicious taste of the enemy's territory. They cut off pieces of meat from their still struggling prey and ate everything. After all, they were the best hunters in the universe, or even the only predator!

The same thing happened in many Star Fields at the same time.

In a hurry, the Galactic Alliance Army launched a counterattack with the local Star Systems and Star Cluster Civilizations. The flames of war spread across the explored universe.

The battlefield was divided into countless areas, and the World Tree experts finally had a place to use their strength. They were scattered all over the place, fully displaying the flexibility of high-level combatants. The Beyond Grade As of the three Universal Civilizations could no longer stay together, so they could only leave Aurora and go to different areas.

The sudden change scared countless galactic residents, and the situation turned around instantly. The panic that was suppressed in their hearts was released, and it erupted like a volcano, burning away their remaining rationality.

The Ancestral Tree King looked into the distance. His vision seemed to have passed through the barriers of endless space and it locked onto the direction of the Central Galaxy. "Eat. Eat everything. Give us a feast, and we will give you despair."

In a certain army base in the Shattered Star Ring, the Black Star Army's guards were engaged in a fierce battle with the World Tree fleet. On the battlefield, there was a black tide formed by the mechanical soldiers, tearing apart the World Tree battleships one after another.

On a planet not far away, hundreds of World Tree Roots had already been inserted into the planet's core, absorbing energy. In outer space, three Holy Tree Emissaries were chasing after two figures, and five streams of light collided time and time again.

Clang!

Lothaire held a dagger in each hand, and his slash was as fast as lightning. His body was agile, and he moved back and forth between the three Holy Tree Emissaries. They fought intensely, and the silver dagger clashed with the laser and magic. It looked like he was unstoppable, but in reality, his entire body was covered in wounds. In the intense battle, he had to divert his attention to take care of Karlot, who was slightly weaker. It was unavoidable for him to show flaws.

Lothaire crossed his daggers and slashed out a bright light blade, forcing back the Mechanical Pugilist Holy Tree Emissary. A flash of light appeared in the corner of his eyes, and he dodged without hesitation. In an instant, a gorgeous high-level Arcane Light penetrated his waist, leaving a burning mark. "Protected your vital point? Your reactions are quite fast."

The Mage Holy Tree Emissary spoke with regret.

Among the three Holy Tree Emissaries, two of them had never appeared on the battlefield before. They were all experts from other races who had been restraining themselves. It was not until they entered the territory of the three Universal Civilizations and split countless battlefronts that the World Tree activated the foreign experts to increase the size of their high-level combatants.

On one hand, they were agile enough to move alone. Even if Black Star had the method to awaken the foreign experts, he would not be able to catch them all in one swoop. On the other hand, the World Tree was already desperate. As long as they could speed up their invasion, they did not care about losing some of their manpower. They were already mentally prepared for a portion of their experts to be wiped out by Black Star's (Information Form Obliteration).

Lothaire's expression was tense. He pressed on the wound and used his energy to quickly heal it. The wound quickly formed a scab. He looked at his three opponents and felt a chill.

His style of martial arts focused on dexterity, stealth, and assassination. He was not strong in a head-on battle, and it was even more disadvantageous when he was surrounded. At this point, he could not take it anymore.

“Are you alright?” Karlot, who was on the side, also came over. He was also covered in wounds, and he was leaning back to back with Lothaire, and staring at his enemies. It had only been a few years since he entered the Beyond Grade A realm, and he was still in the process of activating (Everlasting Martial Path). His combat strength was still at the level of a new Beyond Grade A, and it was extremely difficult for him to fight. He might not even be able to defeat any of the enemies in a one-on-one battle.

The two of them were originally training here, but the World Tree suddenly attacked and dragged them into the flames of war. “I can still hold on for a while.” Lothaire adjusted his breath, and the Pugilist flames climbed up his daggers again.

The five of them locked onto each other. Their bodies paused for a moment before suddenly bursting out at the same time. They charged forward and clashed again. Blade light, flames, and magic power shot out. The five streams of light were like five silk threads tangled together.

All of a sudden, Lothaire’s body paused, and he slashed out with his two daggers, shattering the Arcane Charge of the Mage Holy Tree Emissary. However, amidst the shattered light, the Mechanical Pugilist suddenly appeared, and he was thrown toward Lothaire by a hand formed from magic. Eight spider legs-like mechanical spears suddenly extended from the back of his mechanical suit, and the spears pierced through the protective flames and into Lothaire’s body.

Crack!

The silver daggers flashed, and the eight mechanical limbs were all cut off.

Lothaire retreated rapidly, controlling his muscles to squeeze out the broken spear tips in his body, leaving eight shallow wounds. These were nothing more than superficial wounds to him.

However, just as he was about to continue attacking, his body suddenly stiffened. A dark green color suddenly appeared on his wound, and the flesh that was originally recovering suddenly began to fester. “Biological toxin?”

**eco**

Lothaire’s expression changed. He looked up and saw that the broken spear tips were leaking green liquid. He looked at it with his microscopic vision and realized that the green liquid was a group of dark green tiny molecular robots that carried powerful toxins.

Waves of intense pain exploded like a tsunami, and Lothaire’s senses were suddenly messed up. It was as though he had lost control of his body, and he began to tremble uncontrollably. The cells in his body were being eroded. With a flash, the last Pugilist Holy Tree Emissary took the opportunity to join the battle. He held a sharp blade made of anti-regeneration alloy and stabbed Lothaire’s neck from behind, wanting to remove his entire spine. Right at this moment, Karlot charged over from the side to stop this Pugilist Holy Tree Emissary. Unfortunately, he was a step too slow and could only throw a punch in an attempt to save him.

“A new Beyond Grade A wants to... hmm?!” The Pugilist Holy Tree Emissary originally wanted to kill Lothaire even at the cost of getting injured. However, just as Karlot’s fist approached, a strong sense of danger exploded in his heart!

The flames around Karlot's body flowed like water, condensing at the tip of his fist. His strength was contained but not released, but the power of his fist rose steadily, like the Milky Way was turned upside down, the stars were shattered, and an intense sharpness burst out.

At this moment, a thunderous roar containing spiritual fluctuations exploded!

"Martial Deity Fist—Galaxy Severance!"

The fist suddenly landed on the Pugilist Holy Tree Emissary's hastily raised arm, and a bright light burst forth, stealing everyone's vision!

Time seemed to freeze for a moment before it started to flow again.

The other two Holy Tree Emissaries regained their vision and hurriedly looked over, only to see that Karlot had already retreated to the side with Lothaire in his arms. Meanwhile, the Pugilist Holy Tree Emissary remained in place, still in a parry position, but did not move.

However, the next moment, the body of the Pugilist Holy Tree Emissary cracked like porcelain and fell into pieces, eventually turning into dust and scattering in the galaxy.

Instant kill!

"What move is this?"

The two remaining Holy Tree Emissaries were shocked. They could not believe their eyes. One of their comrades was killed just like that.

It would be understandable if the other was a peak Beyond Grade A, but was this the power of a new Beyond Grade A? Lothaire had a chance to catch his breath, and he suppressed the poison with difficulty. Seeing this, he could not help but widen his eyes. "You've already created that kind of fist technique?"

"Phew... Phew... No, I only created two stances. I'm still far from perfecting the Martial Deity Fist."

Karlot had expended a lot of energy. This punch contained all of his essence, energy, and spirit, and its power far exceeded his level. At this moment, his entire body was sore, and his stamina was almost depleted. He did not even have ten percent of his energy left.

When he stepped into the Beyond Grade A realm, Karlot had some special insights, and he had an idea. He wanted to create a Pugilist style suitable for himself and named it 'Martial Deity Fist'. He did not use this name because it was arrogant, but because it contained his expectations for himself, hoping to create the most amazing Beyond Grade A Fist Style.

All these years, Karlot had been exploring and integrating all the knowledge he had, and he had only figured out two scattered stances. The power was extremely exaggerated, but the consumption was equally frightening. Even with his Beyond Grade A Pugilist foundation, he could only execute three to four moves. Lothaire looked at the enemy's corpse and said, "What a terrifying move. You've already surpassed me."

"Do you want to learn? I can teach you."

Karlot smiled shyly.

The two of them thought that this Martial Deity Fist was very powerful, but if Han Xiao was here, he would be able to tell that although the Martial Deity Fist was very magical, it would not be able to unleash such great power when used by others. The truly powerful one was Karlot himself.

This was because the process of creating the Martial Deity Fist was also the stage where Karlot was able to master everything he had learned. During this process, he could almost comprehend a new talent every few days, three of which were extremely powerful.

[Martial Saint's Strength]—When using any Pugilist skills, base power increased by 80% to 240%!

[Martial Deity Fist's Ancestor]—When you use the "Martial Deity Fist" series, your base strength will increase by 100% to 300%!

[One Punch Martial Deity]—Every time you use the skills of the "Martial Deity Fist" series to hit your opponent, you will be able to trigger a severe injury judgment / instant death judgment (the success rate depends on the power of the skill, the difference in level, energy level, attributes, and so on). If the judgment fails, an additional 50% to 150% damage will be dealt!

With so many Pugilist talents, although Karlot was only a new Beyond Grade A, his explosive power was unbelievably strong. As long as he was lucky, it was even possible for him to instantly kill the enemy.

Bang! Bang!

Karlot clenched his fists and looked at the two Holy Tree Emissaries. He said to Lothaire, "I still have some strength left. Continue, don't let them escape."

"Alright." Lothaire gripped his daggers tightly.

While many people were unaware, the face of the Pugilist was quietly forming.

## **Chapter 1425 Attack and Plan**

Somewhere in the Sea of Star Spirits, a refugee planet had already been tightly bound by the roots of the World Tree. The soil, minerals, and forests all turned into streams of data, flowing into it. In the distance, the emergency refuge ship carrying the people of this planet was fleeing through the galaxy. A World Tree fleet was chasing after them, and the escort fleet of the Galactic Alliance Army was covering them as they escaped.

The two sides fought intensely, leaving traces of energy explosions everywhere they passed. The light reflected in the eyes of the fleeing citizens.

Ten figures with metallic luster dashed around in the escort fleet, firing psionic cannons and destroying spaceships one after another. They were the Machinery Apostles, and their master was in the main ship of the World Tree fleet. It was a Lord's Avatar controlling the mechanical army from afar.

However, there was not a single Beyond Grade A in the escaping fleet. Thus, they could only use the battleship to block the advance of the mechanical apostles.

"The enemy has a Beyond Grade A Mechanic, and we urgently need high-level combatants to help!"

The commander of the escort fleet looked at the one-sided situation and had no choice but to order the fleet to retreat while asking for help in the military channel.

The World Tree ignored their losses to send out a large number of Beyond Grade As, and their total number of high-level combatants exceeded that of the three Universal Civilizations in an instant. The entire force was mobilized, causing the three Universal Civilizations to not have sufficient Beyond Grade As, and they were unable to stop any World Tree Super.

The fleet that was escorting the evacuation of the civilians did not have any high-level combatants. When they met the World Tree fleet that had a Beyond Grade A Mechanic commander, they were immediately beaten black and blue.

“Please continue to hold on for a while longer. We are sending out the available Beyond Grade As.” The military intelligence’s response immediately sounded in the channel.

The commander gritted his teeth and shouted loudly, ordering the fleet to continue attacking. However, the scale of their army was unable to change from quantitative to qualitative. The ten mechanical apostles led the army and devoured the starships like locusts.

Just as the number of casualties rose to a shocking number, a space on the battlefield opened up like a wave of ripples on water. Then, with a flash of light, a figure rushed out like a burning meteor and slammed into the nearest Mechanical Apostle, sending it flying.

“Reinforcements are here!”

The commander immediately looked at the Beyond Grade As who had come to reinforce them.

Upon seeing this person’s appearance, the joy on the commander’s face froze.

“Why is it you?!”

“Why do you sound so disappointed? I’m the only one who’s free now. If you don’t want to, I’m leaving!”

Kohler was furious.

What’s wrong with you, little brother? I came to support you, and you’re still looking down on me?!

“...I’ll leave the enemy’s Mechanic Super to you. My troops will support you from the side.” The commander smiled bitterly and could only express his cooperation. Kohler snorted and charged at the ten mechanical apostles.

The soldiers looked over with hope. However, within a few minutes, the imposing Kohler was crushed by the combined attacks of ten mechanical apostles.

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The commander covered his face.

The internal rumors were not false. Kohler was indeed the weakest among the Beyond Grade As.

“I don’t want to despise you either, but you’re too much. I gave you a chance, but you can’t even take care of the apostles, let alone a real battle. I don’t even like to use you when playing Wayne Cards...” Kohler dodged a few psionic beams and managed to return a punch. He sent a mechanical apostle flying and shouted in the channel, “What are you waiting for? I’ve helped you stall the enemy. Continue asking for help!”

Your tactical role is only to stall...

The commander cursed silently.

Just as he was about to resume his call for reinforcements, a wormhole suddenly opened not far away.

A Mechanical Lifeform flew out from within. Heavy mechanical armor covered its body, and every part of its body was equipped with high-tech melee weapons. It was armed to the teeth, and there were two wing-shaped vector thrusters erected on its back like two chess pieces. It was one of the Black Star Mechanical Oracles who had received orders to reinforce the various battlefronts in the universe, Heaven-Suppressing Banner.

“Black Star’s elite troops are here!” Kohler was overjoyed and quickly waved. “Allies! Switch!”

Electric arcs flashed across the Heaven-Suppressing Banner’s eyes, and his thrusters shot out streams of light. He instantly accelerated and rushed into the battle.

The ten Mechanical Apostles detected a strong energy reaction. Immediately, eight of them set off to meet the Heaven-Suppressing Banner, leaving only two to hold Kohler back.

A dense psionic cannon beam shot out, and the arm of the Heaven-Suppressing Banner turned into a heavy shield. It suddenly pushed forward, and a bright complicated energy circuit appeared on the shield. A thick psionic shield popped out, blocking the concentrated fire.

Amidst the bombardment, the distance between the two sides rapidly shortened. A mechanical apostle popped out a few wrist blades and headed straight for the energy core of the Heaven-Suppressing Banner. However, the Heaven-Suppressing Banner only turned around lightly and avoided the attack. The moment it passed by, he swiped at his waist, and a mechanical axe immediately unfolded, slashing out like a thunderbolt. The blade light instantly flashed past the mechanical apostle’s body.

The next moment, the two halves of the Mechanical Apostle flew out due to inertia. The cut was smooth, and countless precise parts could be seen. The energy core that had been accurately cut in the center jumped slightly, and then exploded!

A huge explosion lit up behind the Heaven-Suppressing Banner, reflecting on its cold alloy shell.

The Heaven-Suppressing Banner was the master of close combat weapons among the Mechanical Oracles. All kinds of weapons appeared like magic, constantly changing and dealing with the Mechanical Apostles with ease. Not long after, it killed more than half of the Mechanical Apostles like cutting vegetables. It was completely different from the scene Kohler showed. Suddenly, the Heaven-Suppressing Banner stomped on the ground, and an energy shockwave exploded behind him. He turned into a shooting star and rushed toward the World Tree fleet.



The axe slashed out beams of light, cutting the World Tree spaceship in half. In just a few blinks of the eye, the Heaven-Suppressing Banner had already arrived in front of the main ship, and the huge axe surrounded by golden lightning hacked down. A thick bolt of golden lightning shot out from the axe, instantly shattering the shield of the main ship and melting through the armor. The entire ship exploded, and dazzling light spread out!

Two figures, one chasing and one escaping, rushed out of the explosion. The Lord's Avatar of the Mechanic Army Head was running in front, and the Heaven-Suppressing Banner was chasing after it. After exchanging a few blows, the Heaven-Suppressing Banner cleaved the enemy's head in half with a swing of the axe. Electric arcs exploded, and the power contained in the body disappeared instantly. The Lord's Descent had already been destroyed by him, and he looked like he had taken the head of an enemy general. With the current strength of the Mechanical Oracle, ordinary Beyond Grade As were no match for it at all. Their strength was on a completely different level from the Mechanical Apostle stage, and it would not be a problem for them to hold their own in battles against Beyond Grade As.

The high-level combatants of the enemy were eliminated, and the escort fleet immediately stopped their retreat.

The Heaven-Suppressing Banner did not continue to help. It reached out to remove the head of the enemy's Lord's Avatar, before hanging it on its waist as a trophy. Just as he was about to open the wormhole and leave, Kohler flew over and gave him a thumbs up.

"Not bad. We've finally defeated this powerful opponent."

"When did we join forces? Were you fighting just now?"

The Heaven-Suppressing Banner tilted its head in confusion.

"I helped you restrain two mechanical apostles. Without me, you would have been in danger." Kohler patted his chest and said, "Black Star and I are good friends after all. Protecting his mechanical apostles is just a matter of convenience. You don't have to thank me."

While the Heaven-Suppressing Banner was still calculating the logic behind this sentence, Han Xiao's annoyed voice sounded in the channel.

"Shut up. You're really a noob."

"Oh, so you're here." Kohler laughed without any shame. "I was just joking."

"Hehe." Han Xiao curled his lips. "Heaven-Suppressing Banner, ignore him. Continue your mission."

The Heaven-Suppressing Banner tilted its head, before ignoring Kohler. It opened the wormhole and went to reinforce the other battlefronts according to Han Xiao's orders.

Primeval Star River, Mechanical Race territory.

The endless World Tree army was attacking the Mechanical Race's defense line, and the two fleets were already locked in battle.

On the main planet of the Mechanical Race, Manison and Nilfgadi's Lord's Avatar stood at the highest point and looked up at the sky.

The Mechanical Race troops behind him did not panic at all. Instead, they looked at the backs of the two generations of Mechanical Race leaders with fanaticism.

“The Mechanical Race is the first target of the World Tree. Do they think we’re easy to deal with? We’re not easy to bully.” Nilfgadi stood with his arms crossed.

“You don’t have the right to say that. All these years, the Mechanical Race was able to develop to its current state because of me. It has nothing to do with you,” Manison said calmly.

Nilfgadi snorted but did not retort. He slowly said, “I didn’t expect us to fight together under such circumstances.”

“I know you don’t like me, but don’t worry, this battle won’t take long.”

Manison raised his hands slightly.

Boom!

All the planets in the Mechanical Race territory started buzzing, as though countless things were about to break out of the ground.

“After accumulating for so long, let the world see the strength of the Mechanical Race.”

Manison’s eyes flashed, and his tone was cold.

“Listen to my command, leave no one alive!”

Boom!

A seemingly endless mechanical army flew out from the planets one after another, covering the sky and earth as they welcomed the World Tree fleet.

“It’s starting, it’s starting...”

Many hidden Star Alliance observers looked at the chaos in the various Star Fields and could not help but smile.

“The World Tree invaded in one night. Clearly, our intelligence has come in handy. Very good! Very good!”

The Observer Captain clenched his fists with a ferocious expression on his face, gleeful at having gotten his revenge.

This time, the result of using someone else to do the dirty work was very obvious. It successfully turned the stalemate into a chaotic battle. This was what the Star Alliance wanted to see. It would be best if both sides were heavily injured.

“This way, even if the three Universal Civilizations can fight the World Tree Civilization, it would be difficult to stop their territories from being devoured step by step. If this continues, the three Universal Civilizations would be defeated sooner or later. It might just take decades, or maybe centuries,” someone said excitedly.

The Observer Captain sneered.

“Heh, this is only the first wave. In my opinion, the three Universal Civilizations won’t be able to last that long. According to the deductions of the upper echelons, it’s very likely that the World Tree will use the information we leaked to fan the internal suspicions of the three Universal Civilizations and disintegrate their fighting spirit. From the start of the war until now, the morale and faith of the three Universal Civilizations have been supported by belief. When this momentum is gone, it will be their defeat.”

As he spoke, a look of longing appeared in his eyes, as if he could see the future of the galactic society. “The three Universal Civilizations have been high and mighty for too long. It’s time for them to taste the feeling of their homeland and their nation being destroyed! Just like us back then!”

On the other side, the Super Star Cluster Alliance.

The sudden full-scale invasion of the World Tree gave the Super Star Cluster Alliance a shock.

Although the Super Star Cluster Alliance had received some news from the three Universal Civilizations over the past few days, they had only asked them to strengthen their internal defenses. They did not mention anything about the inside story, so the Super Star Cluster Alliance did not know anything about the situation of the information being leaked.

The various Star Fields were attacked, and the Super Star Cluster Civilizations were naturally targeted as well. However, compared to the intense battles in the other Star Fields, the size of the World Tree fleet that invaded the Super Star Cluster Civilization was very small, as though it was just a formality.

The Super Star Cluster Civilization thought that the World Tree did not want to bite them in the first wave of attacks, they were glad.

At this moment, an important meeting was being held in the conference room.

“...Everyone, the three Universal Civilizations have lost their border line of defense, and the World Tree has completely invaded. Let’s put this aside for now. The current situation is developing in the direction we’re looking forward to. A once in a lifetime opportunity has appeared in front of us, and we definitely can’t miss it. I think we can consider officially starting the ‘Great Relocation’ plan.” The leader of the Star Arc Civilization said with a deep voice. Everyone was whispering and discussing, their faces filled with joy.

Everyone felt that it was very magical. They could only passively wait for the right time, hoping for the chaotic battle to break out, but they did not expect the opportunity to come so suddenly. It was like the Goddess of Luck was on their side.

“Seconded.”

“I agree.” Everyone voted one after another. They had been waiting for this opportunity for too long, and there were very few objections. Now that the World Tree had successfully invaded, it was tearing apart the flesh and blood of the explored universe every second. With the three Universal Civilizations having failed, they would only be devoured if they stayed here.

No one wanted to lose everything, so they decided to give up the territory that would fall sooner or later and leave as soon as possible to preserve their strength.

Seeing this, the leader of the Star Arc nodded, took a deep breath, and said, "It seems like everyone's opinion is rather unified. Then it's decided. Let the three Universal Civilizations and the World Tree drag it out for a while longer. After we officially enter a stalemate, we'll start the plan immediately!"

As he spoke, he paused before continuing solemnly. "Everyone, once we take this path, there will be no turning back. For the future of our civilization, we can no longer live under someone else's roof."

Everyone nodded slowly.

The experience of being bullied by the three Universal Civilizations over the years flashed through their minds, making them more determined.

However, just as the leader was about to give a speech to strengthen his resolve, a communication request from Han Xiao suddenly popped up on the virtual screen. "Black Star? He wants to see us at this time?"

The eyes of the upper echelons of the civilizations froze, and their nerves tightened.

As the saying went, they had a guilty conscience. Although their escape was a result of careful consideration, they were considered deserters in the war. Therefore, just seeing Han Xiao's name made them feel an invisible pressure.

The leader raised his hand and gestured for everyone to calm down.

"Connect me to Black Star and hear what he has to say."

#### **Chapter 1426 Negotiation And Lobbyist**

Han Xiao's remote projection landed in the conference room. He looked around and saw the expressions of all the Super Star Cluster Civilizations' leaders. He could not help but smile and joke.

"Everyone, what were you talking about? The atmosphere is so tense."

"We're talking about how to deal with the World Tree's invasion," the Star Arc Leader said.

"Is that so? But from what I know, the World Tree Civilization's army did not harass your territory much. Most of your troops are still on standby." Han Xiao shrugged.

"The entire galactic society is united against a common enemy. If the other regions are attacked, it also affects our safety. As long as our homeland is safe, we will naturally help," the Star Arc Leader said.

Han Xiao's expression changed. "It's really strange of you to say that."

"The World Tree has invaded. We are already in the same boat," The Star Arc Leader nodded and said with a solemn tone. "If that's what you think, that would be best."

Han Xiao raised his brows. He knew that the words the Star Arc Leader was saying were mostly empty and not sincere. A leader of the Super Star Cluster coughed and

said,

"Your Excellency Black Star, are you looking for us to discuss the World Tree invasion?"

Han Xiao looked at him and nodded. "You can say that, but I am here mainly for you guys."

Everyone exchanged looks. The Star Arc Leader said, "I hope you can explain it clearly."

Han Xiao raised his arms and said casually, "The World Tree invasion is already a fact. How much do you know about the cause of this?"

"We don't know the inside story. The World Tree was originally separated from the Flickering World by the three Universal Civilizations, and the situation was very stable. However, the enemy suddenly launched a full-scale invasion. They must have used some method to obtain our intelligence, but we don't understand how they did it." The Star Arc leader frowned and shook his head.

"I can tell you the inside story. This is not the World Tree taking an initiative. Someone deliberately leaked the information about the explored universe, daringly colluding with the enemy. This kind of action is like opening the border, inviting the World Tree in to burn, kill, and loot!" Han Xiao's tone was heavy.

As soon as he said that, the expressions of the Super Star Cluster upper echelons changed. Surprise, shock, disbelief, and other emotions appeared in their eyes.

The Star Arc leader's eyes were filled with shock. He emphasized, "You mean there's a traitor in the galactic society?"

"That's right." Han Xiao nodded slowly and said softly, "We're still investigating the identity of the traitor."

There was a slight commotion in the room. Everyone was whispering and discussing.

The Star Arc Civilization was also confused.

"To be able to pass the intelligence to the World Tree, they must have quite good technical strength. They chose to betray us in such a dangerous situation. What are they after..."

However, halfway through his sentence, he suddenly paused and looked up at the expressionless Han Xiao.

The upper echelons also snapped back to reality. They had all realized Han Xiao's true intentions, and their expressions changed.

Wait a minute, Black Star came to our door at this time and purposely brought up this topic. Does he think we're the traitors who leaked the information?

Of course, the Super Star Cluster Alliance had always been at odds with the three Universal Civilizations and was the biggest suspect, but this matter had nothing to do with them!

"Are you suspecting us!" The Star Arc Leader's eyes widened.

Han Xiao looked around and did not reply directly. Instead, he summoned a virtual screen and said,

"According to the information I've found, you guys set up a plan called 'Great Relocation Plan' more than ten years ago. The specific content is probably to take all the people and resources and leave the explored universe while the war is still ongoing to find another territory. This plan needs an opportunity,

and only when the three Universal Civilizations are at a stalemate with the World Tree will you have a chance...”

The upper echelons of the Super Star Cluster became even more solemn.

They had thought that this plan was rather secretive. Gathering the people and resources was for the sake of war in name only. On the surface, it seemed like they had a reasonable motive. At most, the others would think that they were leaving a way out if the war failed, and they would not think that they were planning to run away.

“You already know... It’s no wonder. With your ability, as long as you’re suspicious of us, it won’t be difficult for you to find these things.” The Star Arc Leader was shocked, but when he thought of Han Xiao’s ability, he accepted reality and said helplessly, “So, you think that we deliberately lured the World Tree into an all-out invasion to mess up the situation and make it easier to retreat?”

“What do you think?” Han Xiao tilted his head.

Hearing this, everyone knew that Han Xiao was probably here to condemn them. The Star Arc Leader gritted his teeth and said, “I know you think we have a motive, but we did not do this. We are not traitors!”

Although they wanted to escape, they did not want to become traitors. Otherwise, if they were targeted by the three Universal Civilizations, there would definitely be many twists and turns in the ‘Great Relocation Plan’. The three Universal Civilizations would not allow a ‘traitor’ like them to escape easily.

“What evidence do you have to prove that you didn’t do it?” Han Xiao said emotionlessly.

Hearing this, the Star Arc Leader’s thoughts raced, but his mind was in a mess. He could not think of any reason to prove that this matter had nothing to do with them. How much evidence did he need?!

However, before he could reply, Han Xiao continued.

“Maybe this wasn’t your idea, but can you guarantee that this wasn’t done by one of the civilizations present here?”

The Star Arc leader was stunned, and his expression changed. He knew that Han Xiao was right. He could only guarantee that he was not a traitor, but he could not guarantee that the other Super Star Cluster civilizations would not do anything in private.

He slowly turned his head and looked at the other members of the alliance with a questioning look in his eyes. Everyone understood what he meant and spoke.

“It’s not me, I didn’t do it!”

“It’s not me either. I don’t know anything about this!”

Very soon, the Star Arc Leader looked at the last person. He remembered that during the meeting some time ago, it was this leader of the Super Star Cluster who suggested helping the World Tree.

The leader of this civilization was furious. “What are you looking at me for ? I didn’t do it! We’re all in this together, I won’t ignore the collective interests of the alliance!”

The Star Arc Leader gritted his teeth and looked at Han Xiao. "As you can see, this has nothing to do with us..."

Han Xiao did not say anything. He only tilted his head and looked at the Star Arc Leader with a strange gaze as if saying 'are you joking with me?'

Seeing this, the Star Arc Leader fell silent.

He also knew that no one would admit it if he asked this question. It was ridiculous for everyone to deny it together. It was not convincing at all. No one knew if the members of the alliance were lying.

However, the Star Arc Leader knew very well that no matter if it was done by a member of the Super Star Cluster, they definitely could not admit it. Otherwise, they would become 'traitors'.

Han Xiao narrowed his eyes and said in a more serious tone, "Don't say I didn't warn you. I'll give you one more chance. Are you sure you didn't do it?"

"Black Star, we can't produce any evidence at the moment, but we really didn't do it," the Star Arc Leader said anxiously.

"Alright, I trust you guys."

"I hope you won't jump to conclusions. If you keep watching us, the real traitor will escape. I..." The Star Arc leader subconsciously trailed off before suddenly raising his voice. "Wait, you believe us?"

He had just racked his brains to convince Han Xiao, but he did not expect Han Xiao to change his mind before he could even use his justifications.

However, at this moment, Han Xiao spoke again. "However, it's useless for me to believe you. The three Universal Civilizations have to believe you. You have to find a way to prove your innocence."

"You mean..."

"It is natural for you to stay and fight hard." Han Xiao spread out his hands and said, "Think about it, the three Universal Civilizations are suspecting a traitor. The moment you leave, you'll confirm your identity as a traitor. The only way is to give up on your so-called relocation plan and focus on fighting the World Tree. Only then can you clear the suspicion."

Hearing this, the eyes of many Super Star Cluster Civilizations' leaders narrowed.

The Star Arc Leader frowned and no longer panicked. He slowly said, "Your Excellency Black Star, I'm afraid this is your true purpose for coming, isn't it?"

He was not an idiot, and he immediately realized Han Xiao's true goal.

There were priorities in everything. The Super Star Cluster Alliance did not want to become traitors, but the relocation plan was more important. They would not give up the migration just to prove that they were not traitors.

The Star Arc Leader even suspected that the so-called traitor was just an excuse that Han Xiao came up with after discovering their relocation plan.

Han Xiao did not think much of it. He smiled and said casually, "Hehe, I know what you guys are thinking. Traitors really exist, and the three Universal Civilizations suspecting you guys is also true. However, I never thought that you guys were traitors." "Why do you think so?" The Star Arc Leader was curious.

"We've known each other for decades. I know the style of your decision-makers quite well. In fact, given your situation, the possibility of you daring to collude with the enemy is quite low. However, because of your past history, you're the most suspicious. This is very similar to framing someone. My intuition tells me that this has little to do with you... Of course, this doesn't mean that you're not suspicious. I can't confirm if you're doing the opposite."

Han Xiao did not plan to eliminate all the pressure on the Super Star Cluster, so he did not reveal (Bold Explorer] to them.

Han Xiao knew that the Super Star Cluster Alliance would not give up on the relocation plan so easily. He planned to have this talk to use the suspicion of traitors as an excuse at the start. He only wanted to make the Super Star Cluster Alliance nervous and understand the situation.

"It seems like even though your big picture has been destroyed, you still have your rationality." The Star Arc leader had mixed feelings. He nodded and said, "I really don't know about the traitor, but we can't give up on the relocation plan and stay behind to fight. Since you've found the information, you should know how important this plan is to

us."

Han Xiao nodded and said, "The existence of the three Universal Civilizations has limited your development. For many years, they have been using all kinds of excuses to suppress you and prevent you from entering the era of technological explosion. The top talents and resources of the galactic society have all flowed to them, and as this continued to accumulate, the gap between the two of you became larger and larger..." "That's right! Thinking back, when the exploration era war had just ended, the three Universal Civilizations set the order. They did not have the strength to dominate all the civilizations back then, but now? So many years have passed, and they are enjoying the best resources and the biggest development dividend in the entire galactic society. There is already a generational difference in our technologies... Now, we still have some ability to resist, but the longer we wait, the bigger the gap. Sooner or later, we will completely lose the qualifications to challenge the three Universal Civilizations, and we will only become servants."

A Super Star Cluster leader said with a helpless tone.

The Star Arc Leader nodded and added, "It is precisely because we can see the distant future, that we have to constantly search for opportunities to change our fate while we can still resist. The Flickering World was an attempt, but it failed. The migration now is a better opportunity, and we will not give up." "I understand your appeal, truly I do... but with all due respect, what you're doing is just a slow death. What you're thinking of being mutually tied down is only superficial, thinking that you'll be safe once you leave the war zone. You have nowhere to run. After the World Tree destroys the three Universal Civilizations, they will definitely find you. They have extraordinary abilities in the Information Form aspect..."



Han Xiao explained the Information Form ability of the World Tree in detail, ensuring that everyone present knew the true situation. He then paused and continued,

“Therefore, your only way out is to stay and destroy the World Tree Civilization with us... This is a very simple choice. This way, your development might not be free, but at least your civilization can survive.”

The leaders of the Super Star Cluster looked at each other and discussed softly. The Star Arc leader pondered for a while before slowly saying, “For us to send our troops into the battlefield, you have put in a lot of effort. You even personally acted as a lobbyist... Let’s assume what you said is the truth, but I have a concern that needs your answer.”

“Speak.”

“Will the three Universal Civilizations let us go so easily?” The Star Arc leader leaned forward and asked, “Let me make myself clear. If we defeat the World Tree and win back peace, how can you guarantee that the three Universal Civilizations won’t settle the score afterward? How can you guarantee that they won’t give us the identity of ‘traitors’ and attack us rightfully?”

Everyone stared at Han Xiao with a forceful gaze. This was not the first time the three Universal Civilizations had used ‘groundless’ tactics on them. Therefore, the Super Star Cluster Alliance did not have any hope of getting rid of the suspicion. Whether or not they were ‘traitors’ would still depend on what the three Universal Civilizations said. If they were to be labeled as ‘colluding with the enemy’ after this, they would not be able to turn the tables and might even face a disaster.

“Regarding that...” Han Xiao stroked his chin and said calmly, “If we win this war and you guys don’t leave, I can stand on your side and prevent the three Universal Civilizations from using this method. I will also try my best to help you break the development restrictions of the three Universal Civilizations so that you guys don’t have to abandon your homeland to have a chance to develop freely.”

“You?” The Star Arc Leader narrowed his eyes. “You might have such an organization, but why are you doing this?”

“Don’t forget, war is a huge reshuffle. The structure of the three Universal Civilizations will definitely be overturned after the war. It’s rare for the three Universal Civilizations to weaken, and they will lose their firm control. This is the best time to change things... Also, helping you guys is also helping myself. Without the invasion of foreign enemies, we will all be the eyesores of the three Universal Civilizations. We have a lot of room for cooperation.” Han Xiao said slowly.

The Star Arc Leader did not budge.

“Sounds good, but how can you guarantee that you won’t go back on your word like before? You have to know that your reputation isn’t too good.”

“I don’t need to promise anyone,” Han Xiao said casually. “I’m just telling you which path is of death and which path is of life. I helped you analyze the pros and cons and gave you a better choice, but I can’t make decisions for you.”

“What if we don’t accept your suggestion?” The Star Arc Leader said with a solemn tone.

“If you insist, I will express my regret. Without the armed forces of the Super Star Cluster, our pressure will be greater, and our losses will be more exaggerated. However, our chances of winning are still very high.”

Han Xiao stroked his chin, paused, and said softly, “As for you guys... do I need to explain what will happen to deserters? With me around, we will be able to find you no matter how far you run. Don’t blame me when the time comes. I’ve given you guys a chance.”

Everyone’s expression changed as they heard the blatant threat.

“Black Star!” one of the Modo Civilization’s leaders shouted. “We know that you’re very powerful. Perhaps no one is your match in individual strength level, but do you really think that you’re invincible after entering the Transcendent Grade? Do you think you can influence the decisions of so many civilizations?”

However, Han Xiao shook his head and said calmly, “No, there’s no such thing as true invincibility in the world. The so-called invincibility is only invincible in the current technological level environment, and the development of the world is dynamic. As the times change and the civilizations progress, more new technologies will appear. Maybe one day, all the principles of the Space Wonders will be discovered, and the Transcendents will no longer be unbeatable. Maybe it would even be possible to mass-produce Beyond Grade As and Transcendents. Any individual achievements that feel unbelievable now will eventually be duplicated by the collective civilizations, resulting in fission.”

Everyone was stunned. They had thought that Han Xiao would refute, but they did not expect him to agree. They did not know how to respond. They thought that Han Xiao was trying to ease the atmosphere and take back his threat.

However, the next moment, they knew they were wrong.

Han Xiao looked at everyone and said coldly,

“However, those things will only happen in the future. At least in the foreseeable future, I am an unbeatable existence! You can see my words as a threat, or as an ultimatum. Anyway, do your best and don’t make a choice that disappoints me. Otherwise, I don’t mind destroying all the civilizations here. At that time, you will know that I’m more dangerous than the World Tree!”

Everyone in the room fell silent.

After a while, the Star Arc Leader seemed to have made a decision.

“If the situation is as you say, we can temporarily put aside the relocation plan and send more troops to participate in the war. However, if the losses are too great, we will definitely evacuate. No matter how much you threaten us, it will be useless.”

Han Xiao’s expression returned to normal, and he nodded.

“That’s enough. You will know in the future that this is a wise choice.”

## **Chapter 1427 Wuornos’ Sensation**

In the shallow layer dimensional base.

Han Xiao turned off the communicator and deactivated the remote projection. He rubbed his forehead and closed his eyes for a while before opening them again. "The Super Star Cluster has reached a consensus that they will not cause any trouble for the time being."

Han Xiao heaved a sigh of relief.

He tried to reason with them, analyzed the situation for them, threatened them, and tempted them. In the end, he finally managed to persuade them back.

Of course, this was only a temporary consensus. The Super Star Cluster Alliance did not agree to give up on migrating and was only willing to stay and watch, and increase the support for a while longer. However, this was enough. If the Super Star Cluster Alliance did not give him face and ran away, even if he could make the Super Star Cluster Alliance pay the price afterward, he would not be able to stop the negative chain reaction in the war.

Currently, the armed forces of the explored universe were not lacking, and the internal division had temporarily disappeared before it even started. The Super Star Cluster Alliance would not become a 'traitor' for the time being

Damn it, the galactic society is indeed carried by me!

Han Xiao shook his head. He opened the real-time military star map of the explored universe, and areas appeared in front of him, blue in color. Inside the various Star Fields, green spots were appearing, expanding at an extremely slow speed. This represented the invasion range of the World Tree.

"The World Tree has great momentum, but the territory of the three Universal Civilizations is too large, and even if the World Tree blossoms more, its invasion will still be slow. Although the battle is intense, the threat in the short term is still low."

Han Xiao analyzed.

A sudden change in the situation would more or less affect the mentality. The three Universal Civilizations were a little flustered when dealing with this, but Han Xiao still maintained his calm. He ignored the anxiety of the territories being continuously devoured and calmly judged the situation. After all, he had seen worse situations in his previous life, so this small situation could not scare him.

No matter how strong the World Tree was, it had to be eating slowly. It couldn't become fat in one bite. Furthermore, the resistance of the Galactic Alliance Army made it very difficult for it to 'feed'.

In comparison, Han Xiao felt that the biggest effect of the World Tree's full invasion was firstly a blow to the people and morale of the galactic society, and secondly, it affected their resource production and productivity.

According to the information that was leaked, as well as his experience from his previous life, Han Xiao could guess the World Tree's priority targets. The military factories and resource planets of the various organizations were definitely the first choices, which would reduce the speed of the three Universal Civilizations' troops mobilization.

Second would be the mother planets of some Star System or Star Cluster civilizations, governance planets, and refuge planets with large populations. This way, they could cause panic and internal chaos in the galactic society. The World Tree had invaded many civilizations, so it was clear about this trick.

Then, there were the important bases of some Beyond Grade A races and private organizations. Destroying them would cut off the wings of the three Universal Civilizations.

Of course, as the core of the galactic society, the Central Galaxy was the most important target. However, Han Xiao guessed that the World Tree would most likely not attack it for the time being because the Central Galaxy would be heavily guarded. Once they invaded, a large group battle would break out, similar to the border war.

The World Tree now had many space coordinates, and with such an advantage, it should not be willing to continue fighting with the low-efficiency frontal attack method. Instead, it chose to strike the weakest areas and focus on continuous harassment, displaying its high mobility and advantage in sustaining war with war.

“These are all areas that need to be protected. After this battle, I wonder how many more desolate universe belts there will be... It’s a pity that the World Tree’s mechanism is too perverse. Otherwise, I could have given it a taste of its own medicine.”

Han Xiao was a little helpless.

With his individual strength, he could go to the World Tree territory and make a scene. However, more than ten years ago, he had learned a lot of information from the foreign experts of the World Tree. The World Tree’s base could be retracted into its body at any time, and it could pack up and run away. There was not much use in harassing them as they could just move to another place. This would not affect the enemy’s productivity much, because the World Tree itself was the largest military factory. It could directly convert resources inside, and there was no need to build countless factories like normal civilizations. Otherwise, Han Xiao would not think that it was a complementing target to (Virtual Creation (Pseudo)). Furthermore, the Blessed Races of the World Tree were eyeing the Pivotal Snake. Han Xiao did not want to leave the shallow layer dimensions. Even if he had to reinforce the main universe, he would only send out a portion of the Mechanical Oracles. His main body would remain in the secondary dimensions to guard his ‘home’.

The World Tree was not willing to sit back and do nothing. Apart from invading the territory of the three Universal Civilizations, it would not give up on killing the Pivotal Snake. He did not know what the other party’s plan was, so he had to be careful. “However, although it’s not very useful, it’s not bad to be able to give them trouble. With my current strength, I don’t have to worry about being besieged on a large scale as I did in the past. Wouldn’t it be even greater if they get agitated and fight me head-on?” Han Xiao felt that it was worth a try.

Arcane Church, Temple of Ten Thousand Gods.

Wuornos walked slowly in the corridor formed by tall God sculptures of different shapes and sizes, holding a ball of spiritual light in his hand. Every time he walked in front of a God sculpture, he would use the corresponding simple ceremony to perform a ritual that was neither too fast nor too slow. He then flicked the spiritual light into the body of the statue, looking like he was feeding his pets or

spreading bait to the fishes. This was his daily ritual. Usually, he was alone, but today, there was a bunch of 'tails' behind him. A group of senior members of the Arcane Church, who were wearing priest robes and officer uniforms, followed behind him. "High Priest, now that the World Tree has invaded, our high-level combatants are not enough. I hope you can help." "Aren't you afraid that I'll die on the battlefield and drop the National Treasure?" Wuornos said casually without looking back.

"Of course, we don't wish to take the risk. When the border wars occurred and secondary dimensions were invaded, we did not request you to take action. It's just that the situation is urgent this time, and we need you to use some of the incarnations to help..." an officer said softly.

This was a very normal request. In the past, Wuornos would have agreed to it, but now, he was different.

"I refuse." Wuornos shook his head.

"This... why?"

"I'm only one step away from the Transcendent Grade, and I can obtain the opportunity to advance at any time. I need to maintain my peak state at all times to prevent myself from missing the opportunity. As long as the enemies don't attack the Arcane Church's mother planet, don't look at me for anything else. I don't want to waste my energy elsewhere," Wuornos said casually.

"But the other direct descendants are all fighting a bloody battle. Isn't your refusal a little..."

"You don't understand. Whether or not I can advance to the Transcendent Grade is more important than these battles. This is the independence granted to me by the Pope. I have the right to decide if I want to participate in the battle." Wuornos waved his hand casually. "Stop pestering me here. Go back."

The group of people looked at each other, clenched their teeth, and left with dissatisfaction.

Wuornos did not care.

His last advancement had failed, causing him to be heavily injured. However, there was also an unexpected benefit, which was that the Pope saw that he indeed had the possibility of advancing at any time, so he simply allowed him to decide when he wanted to join the battle.

Therefore, over the past ten years, Wuornos did not participate in the war, nor did he attempt to advance rashly. He had been recuperating and reflecting on why he had failed.

Wuornos always felt that he was missing some key elements. It was not as if he had gained nothing after searching for so long. He had vaguely discovered the mysterious ability hidden in his body, but it had yet to be fully activated. It seemed to be able to sense something unknown, and his intuition told him that this feeling was very important for Promotion.

"When I figure out what's going on, I should be able to step into the Transcendent Grade. Maybe this is the secret of Black Star's Promotion. I won't fail again this time..."

Wuornos' eyes flashed.

Somewhere in the Endless Nebulae, two fleets were engaged in an intense battle. One side was the World Tree invaders, and the other was the Black Star Army.

A large number of charge cabins latched onto the spaceships of the World Tree and sent out batches of army players to board the battleships. The World Tree battleships fell one after another from the inside. Many Calamity Grade players wore mechanical suits and swam around the battlefield.

Due to the sudden change in the situation, the combat missions of the players had also changed. From guarding the borders, they had gone to different areas to stop the World Tree invaders. The mission format was much more varied.

The border defense circle of the Flickering World almost transformed into a teleportation station, and the Multi-Dimensional Sky Opening Transportation Device operated continuously, sending batches of players to the various Star Fields.

The new level cap was unlocked in Version 5.5, and many players had just entered the Calamity Grade. A Calamity Grade that did not fear death naturally could not be underestimated. Furthermore, there was a large group of them. Although there were many Calamity Grade Supers on the World Tree's side, they were not as expendable as the players.

Everyone could revive, but the time interval between the revivals of the World Tree was longer, and the dead warriors appeared in the mother tree's body. They could not be revived on the spot like the players, and their effectiveness could not be compared at all. It was equivalent to the players' real strength being many times stronger than on the surface; one player was equal to many. There were Immortals on both sides, and the battle was extremely intense. However, it was clear who was stronger, and the World Tree warriors were forced to retreat.

"This group of Immortals is too terrifying. With so many Calamity Grades as a suicide squad, only the main elites can fight them. We can't hold on at all."

Inside this invading main ship of the World Tree, the commander was surprised.

Ever since the World Tree obtained the intelligence of the three Universal Civilizations, this information had been shared in the mental network. From the Tree King to the grassroots soldiers, they all understood the Super classification of the three Universal Civilizations, as well as the Immortals and other strange existences.

"There seems to be a limit to the revival of these Immortals. If we kill them multiple times in a short period, they won't be able to revive for some time," the aide-de-camp said.

The commander murmured, "I wonder what kind of existence this is. What kind of power did their revival come from..."

The aide-de-camp shrugged and said, "Maybe they have a World Tree too? Who knows?"

A few days later, somewhere in the World Tree territory.

A wormhole slowly opened, and a mechanical body came out. It was Han Xiao's Lord's Avatar.

Han Xiao twisted his neck and activated the self-inspection device. The outer armor opened and closed like scales, revealing fine cracks. He felt the exquisite feeling of the mechanical body and let out a comfortable groan. Due to the (Energy Base-God of All Machines), the Transcendent Grade Lord's Descent had improved in perception aspect. With the Lord's Descent of a Beyond Grade A, there was

still a barrier between his senses and the Lord's Avatar body. Although he could control it like his arm, he could clearly tell that it was not his body.

But at the Transcendent Grade, the feeling of the Lord's Avatar was almost the same as the main body. It was not like a mechanical avatar but more like a main body. The control was fine and smooth.

If an example was to be given, a Beyond Grade A's Lord's Descent was like the remote control of a virtual reality. It was very real, but deep down, he knew it was fake. The feeling of a Transcendent Grade's Lord's Descent was like he had been reborn...

"This feels good. The avatar's power capacity has reached more than 94%. Not bad." Han Xiao clenched his fists. He could feel the rhythm of every alloy, every part, and every biochemical tendon in his body. He nodded with satisfaction, then looked up at the sky full of stars in the World Tree territory.

"More than ten years ago, I was heavily injured by you guys and almost died in your base camp. Now is the time to settle the score!"

### **Chapter 1428 Unexpected Discovery**

The mechanical army swarmed out like a black tide and gathered together, covering the Lord's Avatar. It quickly combined and turned into a huge Mechanical Deity that spanned across the galaxy.

Han Xiao controlled the gigantic Supreme Heavenly Venerate and cruised through the galaxy of the World Tree territory, heading toward the dazzling starlight.

Not long after, a planet wrapped in roots appeared in his sight, getting closer and closer.

Without saying a word, Han Xiao raised his palm, and a strong psionic light appeared in his palm. The next moment, a thick beam of light shot out and penetrated the planet like a spear.

A hole was left on the surface of the planet, and the internal structure of the planet was exposed through the hole. The crust, the mantle, and the core of the planet were clearly separated, like the layers of a cake.

After a moment of stagnation, the planet suddenly collapsed inward toward the opening. Its crust shattered and turned into a molten stream. The mantle surged violently, and the brightness of the planet's core increased. Powerful light burst out from the center, and the next moment, the entire planet exploded, turning into an expanding ball of light.

Han Xiao's body did not move at all, and his shield automatically blocked the strong shockwave of the planet's explosion. The electric arcs were not damaged at all, as though there were layers of energy hurricanes surrounding him.

This time, he was here to cause trouble. He did not need to be as cautious as he had been more than ten years ago. What he wanted was to create a huge commotion. The next moment, the information state alarm was triggered. Not long after, the entire World Tree Civilization knew that Han Xiao had suddenly appeared and destroyed a planet.

Han Xiao had not gone far when the space around him fluctuated. Group after group of World Tree fleets passed through the World Tree Express and headed toward the area of the explosion. Without hesitation, they opened fire on the planet-sized Supreme Celestial Body.

A dense rain of light rained down on the Supreme Heavenly Venerate's shield. However, while the thunder was loud, the resulting rain was small. It could only create large sparks of energy, unable to break through the seemingly indestructible shield. Han Xiao raised his hand and clenched his fist. Energy gushed out and crushed the battleships. Although he was surrounded by the fleet, he seemed to be the one surrounding all the enemies instead.

Very soon, more World Tree fleets arrived at the battlefield with the help of the World Tree territory's rapid descent channel. They all joined the battle, and more and more battleships surrounded Han Xiao.

In the Tree King Palace on the other side, both the Ancestral Tree King and the Fortitude Tree King were paying attention to Han Xiao's actions through the mental network.

"Why did this guy suddenly come here?" The Fortitude Tree King was shocked. "Is he planning to attack our territory alone?" "Looks like it." The Ancestral Tree King narrowed his eyes.

"Should we stop him?"

When the Ancestral Tree King heard this, he shook his head firmly. "There's no need. He's very difficult to deal with. Human wave tactics are very inefficient against him. We don't know how many troops we'll have to invest to stop him. We'll also have to send a portion of the invading troops back. That's exactly what he wants. He wants to divert our attention and obstruct our progress."

"Then what should we do? Just watch him wreak havoc in our territory?"

"Since we can't stop him, we won't. Let the Mother Tree retract its territory and change its base. We'll leave this place to him."

The Ancestral Tree King spoke without hesitation.

There was another method, which was to use the Tree God's Descent to fight a Transcendent Grade. However, after the last battle, the Ancestral Tree King felt that the incomplete Tree God's Descent would not be able to defeat Black Star, so he decided not to waste the time and simply abandoned the area.

Due to the connection of the mind network and the unique parent tree mechanism, the World Tree Civilization had a huge advantage, which was its astonishing executional ability. As soon as the Ancestral Tree King gave the order, the enormous World Tree territory immediately began to alter itself.

In the starry sky, the roots of the World Tree could be seen moving slowly, as though they were uprooting themselves. The 'land' that carried the World Tree was the universe of the territory. Usually, these roots were hidden, but now, they appeared one after another.

The planets turned into liquids and fused into the World Tree Root. The World Tree Root also retracted, and the space crack outside the planet disappeared.

For a time, the countless stars dimmed until they disappeared. The originally prosperous and bright galaxy slowly turned into a desolate universe. As the World Tree retrieved the planets, the Star Field was quickly recovering its original appearance. It was desolate, cold, and dark. Not a single blade of grass grew here.



Han Xiao, who was slaughtering the World Tree fleet, also noticed the abnormal changes in the universe space. This was also the first time he had seen the World Tree migrate its base. He gazed at the universe filled with tree roots, revealing their 'uprooted' state.

"You're planning to move the moment you see me? How decisive."

Han Xiao was surprised.

Without the ability of the roots, the World Tree fleet could not be deployed. The World Tree fleet present received the order and immediately ended the siege. They took advantage of the last moment to quickly teleport out, planning to retreat.

Han Xiao crushed another fleet. Suddenly, he activated the Tree God's Character Summon Card.

Swoosh!

The next moment, space cracks suddenly appeared around the Supreme Heavenly Venerate. Roots shot out and swept across the fleet, swallowing the battleships.

The roots that he had summoned with his Character Summon Card flowed with blue light, completely different from the green World Tree itself!

"How can he use the power of the World Tree?!"

The Ancestral Tree King had been paying close attention the entire time, and he was stunned upon seeing this.

Could Black Star be a member of the World Tree?! Their kin?!!

That's not right. How is this possible?

At the same time, the Mother Tree's consciousness also reacted, and the Ancestral Tree King could sense the shock within.

The World Tree itself was also confused, wondering why a life form that was not controlled by it had the same power. Han Xiao was controlling the summoned roots to attack the fleet, and he was enjoying this novel feeling. Suddenly, he owned a bunch of 'tentacles', and he finally experienced the joy of being a Tree King. Right at this moment, a wave of mental fluctuations suddenly transmitted over, bringing along the Ancestral Tree King's shocked voice.

"Black Star! How do you have the power of the World Tree?!"

"Guess?"

Han Xiao raised his brows.

He activated this Character Summon Card on a whim mainly to test if the root he summoned was connected to the World Tree.

After this attempt, he was certain that the roots of the Character Summon Card belonged to him and would not be controlled by the World Tree.

Even if he devoured the matter, he could only disassemble it into energy to replenish his own, unlike the World Tree, which preserved the information form and converted it. When the Character Summon Card's effect ends, these temporarily summoned roots would automatically disperse, and the things he devoured during this period would vanish as well.

However, in the eyes of outsiders, these blue roots used him as the source. Their strength was extremely similar to the World Tree, but they were an independent entity. This made the Ancestral Tree King's imagination run wild.

At this moment, information about the revivors and Immortals of the explored universe flashed through his mind. The Ancestral Tree King's eyes widened, and he felt that he had found the truth.

"I understand! There's actually another World Tree in the universe, and it's on you!"

The information leaked by the Star Alliance included Han Xiao's life. The Ancestral Tree King had always been surprised by how short Han Xiao's rise had been. At this moment, he felt enlightened and found an explanation.

The undying characteristics of those Immortals were very similar to the members of the World Tree. If those Immortals were members of another World Tree, it would make sense. Black Star had been pretending that he had nothing to do with them, but he was secretly making a fortune. He was the one behind this!

"Two World Trees? You really dare to fantasize."

Han Xiao could not help but laugh at the Ancestral Tree King's imagination.

Just as he was about to say something, many spatial tunnels suddenly opened up around him, and green roots of the World Tree extended out, wrapping around Han Xiao's blue roots. They twisted together like snakes, slowly wriggling, squeezing, pulling, and sticking. Seeing this, Han Xiao paused, and his expression suddenly became strange.

This scene, why does this look like a tongue kiss...

It was a little painful for the eyes to see...

The corner of Han Xiao's eyes twitched. He could even feel the emotions of the World Tree from where the roots were intertwined. It was an extremely passionate and yearning thought that contained the desire to become one.

The power of the World Tree flowed along with the roots and into the blue roots. It was actively transferring its energy as if it could not wait to share the good stuff. The World Tree was also moving the power contained in the blue roots out of it as if it wanted to make a special 'body fluid' exchange.

"Is he treating the root I called out as a spouse?!?!"

Han Xiao's eyes widened in shock, his body frozen stiff.

He had thought that when the original World Tree saw him, the blue version, they would be hostile to each other and would fight to the death. He did not expect that not only would they not fight, but the

World Tree would take the initiative to 'communicate' with him. It did not have any hostility and was very passionate.

Could it be that... this was because the original World Tree had always been a unique existence that was lonely? Now that it had finally found someone of the same species, its mating habits were ignited, and its thirst unbearable. Its instincts claimed the upper hand?!

"The ancients did not lie to me. Two tigers cannot share one mountain unless it's one male and one female." Han Xiao's interest was piqued.

On the other side, the Ancestral Tree King was completely dumbfounded. As the Tree King, he could feel the joy and excitement from the mother tree's consciousness. Even his gaze toward Han Xiao was affected.

Han Xiao, who was supposed to be his enemy, suddenly became friendly in his eyes.

F\*ck, we were about to fight to the death, why did Her Majesty surrender first?!

The Ancestral Tree King hurriedly shook his head to get rid of the influence of the Mother Tree's consciousness. "What's going on?"

Han Xiao came back to his senses, chuckled, and said with a teasing tone, "Didn't you say there were two World Trees? I'm a male version, yours is a female, what do you think will happen?"

The Ancestral Tree King was furious. "Bullsh\*t! Why is it that when a female sees a male, the female loses all will to fight? Shouldn't it be the other way around?!" "Woah, I didn't expect you to be so opinionated. To think you're actually good at both fists and words."

Black lines appeared on Han Xiao's forehead. He turned around to look at the blue and green roots that were entangling him. Suddenly, he chuckled.

"This is too proactive. By the way, your mother tree is amazing!"

Although the Ancestral Tree King did not understand Han Xiao's teasing, he knew that it was not a good thing. He felt a sense of sourness, and the green light on his body seemed to have become brighter.

He deactivated the telepathic communication, suppressed his anger, and ordered the troops to evacuate quickly.

Not long after, the World Tree finally returned to its base. The fleets that surrounded Han Xiao were either fleeing or dying and the World Tree Root, which was frantically looking for a mate, also reluctantly returned to the space channel. No matter how it teased, the blue root that Han Xiao had summoned with his Character Summon Card did not respond.

In reality, it was because the blue root was a temporarily generated rootless tree. It was akin to a castrated version of the World Tree. Since it was completely controlled by Han Xiao, it did not have any self-awareness, nor the ability to procreate. Not long after, the time for the Tree God Character Summon Card ended. The blue roots shattered inch by inch, turning into light fragments that dissipated. Only the Supreme Heavenly Venerate was left floating in the desolate universe.

The World Tree had already abandoned its territory, and all the planets and individuals had returned to the mother tree. They had completely evacuated. It was as if they had been frightened by Han Xiao alone and did not even want their base anymore. They had moved overnight... and that was the truth.

It was just two words, having face!

“Tsk, unknowingly, my deterrence is already so strong.”

Han Xiao shook his head and laughed.

If it was anyone else, they would most likely have run away because they would not want to lose face. A civilization as large as theirs would not be scared to the point of abandoning their homeland by him alone. At the very least, they would have to send enough troops to fight until they suffered heavy casualties and felt that they could not take it anymore. Only then would they have a reason to retreat. However, the World Tree did not care about such things and did not feel embarrassed at all. He had not even gone all out yet, and they had already retreated. Such enemies were the hardest to deal with.

“Although forcing the World Tree to move will give them some trouble, it won’t solve the root of the problem. However, this trip was worth it. I seem to have discovered something interesting.”

Han Xiao smiled. He did not expect the Tree God’s Character Summon Card to have such a miraculous effect.

“Now that I’ve used it for an experiment, this Character Summon Card has three more uses. It might be effective at the right time.”

### **Chapter 1429 Premeditated Assassination**

The World Tree moved overnight, and the thought of causing a huge ruckus naturally fell through. Han Xiao left behind a group of mechanical troops in this Star Field that had once again become empty and lonely, then took back his Lord’s Avatar.

As long as the World Tree’s mechanism was not disturbed, its base could be built anywhere in the universe. They had wiped out many civilizations over the years and had the coordinates of many areas. They could just find a place that they had turned into a desolate universe belt and migrate there.

The migration process had a certain impact on their invasion at the frontlines, which caused a slight gap in support. Han Xiao told the three Universal Civilizations about this.

After learning that the World Tree had been frightened by Han Xiao alone, the three leaders were shocked and also ordered the strategic command center to make adjustments.

The flames of war raged across the entire explored universe, and a month passed very quickly. Under the Galactic Alliance Army’s attack, the World Tree’s first full-scale invasion finally stopped.

Although the World Tree’s aggressive arrival had caused quite a bit of panic in the galactic society, in terms of practical benefits, the World Tree’s first wave of invasion did not cause too much damage. Most of the invading teams were intercepted by the Galactic Alliance Army. Although they had devoured some planets, this number was just a drop in the ocean for the entire explored universe. Furthermore, they were scattered everywhere and did not have much development potential. Although the three Universal Civilizations did not have a powerful home defense system like the Information Form

Warning Network and the World Tree Express, the Multi-Dimensional Sky Opening Transportation Device was just as amazing, allowing the galactic alliance army to have extremely strong military mobility. As long as an invader appeared, they would be able to send reinforcements in an instant.

If it were any other civilization, they would be extremely passive in the face of the World Tree's unpredictable harassment and invasion. This was the battle of attrition that the World Tree was good at, but the technologies of the three Universal Civilizations countered the usual tactics of the World Tree, preventing it from achieving the best results. Of course, although the first wave of the World Tree fleet was repelled, there were still quite a few World Tree fleets left in the galactic society, hiding in the dark. This was the weakness of the three Universal Civilizations. Without sufficient monitoring devices, although the reinforcements were fast, as long as the World Tree fleet hid and did not appear, it would be difficult for them to lock onto the enemy within their territory.

After resolving the current emergency, the upper echelons of the Galactic Alliance Army invited the various officers and the Beyond Grade A Association upper echelons to hold a strategic meeting to analyze the current situation and discuss the subsequent actions. "...Although the traitor leaked the information and caused the World Tree to invade the entire realm, our current situation is not as bad as we thought. The vast territory and the rapid reinforcement speed are two of our greatest strengths in maintaining the situation. It has already shown a significant role in the war."

Teny pointed at the 3D star map on the table and summarized the current situation.

The same star map model was floating in front of the participants, displaying the current strategic deployment.

"According to the statistics, most of the World Tree's targets are military facilities, resource planets, civilizations' mother planets, and Beyond Grade A race territories. From this, it can be seen that the World Tree's main strategy is to destroy our productivity and social stability. However, at present, the World Tree has only succeeded a few times. We have already secretly relocated the important facilities in the early years, and part of the information leaked by the traitor is outdated."

Teny spoke with confidence.

The way the Star Alliance Observers hid was too low-profile, causing them to only be able to obtain general information from the internet. As such, the information was lagging. Thus, the Star Alliance Observers naturally had no way of knowing some confidential information of the advanced civilizations. The most valuable information they leaked to the World Tree was the star map and spatial coordinates.

"Does this mean that the traitor's position isn't high?" an officer asked.

"Not necessarily. Maybe it's just a disguise," another person retorted.

Teny interrupted the two of them, coughed, and said, "Ahem, regarding the traitor, we have someone else to take care of them. We don't need to discuss this matter, let's get back to the main topic... Our intercepting efficiency is quite good, and it's all thanks to the support of His Excellency Black Star and the Beyond Grade A Association. Otherwise, the high-level combatants of the World Tree would have been able to wreak havoc for a long time."

Hearing this, the officers turned around and nodded at the representatives of the Beyond Grade A Association.

Han Xiao nodded and said, "We wiped out quite a number of World Tree experts this time. They will need at least a year or two to make a comeback."

His Mechanical Oracles had worked together with the Beyond Grade As of the Association, direct descendants, and Holy Accord, eliminating a large number of high-level combatants of the World Tree. They had sent at least two to three hundred people back to be watered in the World Tree, so they would not be able to return anytime soon.

A portion of the experts from the other races encountered Han Xiao's Lord's Avatar and was hit by (Virtual Purification-Restore). They exploded on the spot and turned into fireworks.

Other than dying in a normal battle, some of the high-level combatants of the World Tree had been used by Han Xiao to test the effects of (Information Form Obliteration), or they had been sealed by the Spacetime Amber and turned into his collection. There were about thirty of them, and the World Tree had lost these powerful individuals forever.

Due to the division of the battlefield, some Beyond Grade As from the three Universal Civilizations also died. They were logged in the Soul Comfort Monument that the three Universal Civilizations had set up and had recorded a new number of deaths.

Teny then turned to look at Manison and said with a deep voice, "This time, the Mechanical Race's territory was also the main focus of the invasion. We did not arrive in time. Luckily, His Excellency Mechanic Emperor defeated the enemy. We offer our apologies."

"It's just a small matter, not worth mentioning." Manison waved his hand and said calmly.

Everyone was surprised.

Manison's force was one of those which showed an astonishing performance against the invasion. He had hidden an astonishingly large mechanical army in the Mechanical Race's territory and wiped out the World Tree invaders without the aid of the galactic alliance army. The military strength he displayed was shocking. Although Manison was no longer the authoritative figure of the Mechanic class, the foundation that he had built over the years was not just for show. Among the Beyond Grade As, he still had a lot of weight.

This time, an officer suddenly said thoughtfully, "Speaking of which, the Super Star Cluster Alliance had also sent out a lot of troops to provide support."

"Now that you mention it, I thought of something unusual. The World Tree's invasion seemed to have avoided the territory of the Super Star Cluster Alliance, and it was at most a small-scale harassment. That's why the Super Star Cluster was able to help."

"It is indeed a little strange..." All the officers had strange looks on their faces.

In their eyes, the World Tree did not treat the Super Star Cluster Alliance as an invasion target. It was a little strange, giving them the feeling that they were in cahoots with each other. The suspicion of them being the traitor was quite high. However, the Super Star Cluster Alliance did not just stand by and

watch but took the initiative to send troops to support the Galactic Alliance Army. This was a good action, which confused many of the upper echelons of the military, reducing their suspicion. The Super Star Cluster Alliance did this to fulfill its agreement with Han Xiao. If they had not taken the initiative to provide support, the three Universal Civilizations would have been even more suspicious of them. But now, they were more confused than doubtful, and there were no signs of internal conflict for the time being.

Listening to everyone's discussion, Han Xiao's expression remained the same. He had convinced the Super Star Cluster Alliance, barely suppressing the suspicion within. However, he did not intend to speak of his contribution.

At this time, Commander-in-chief Simon took over the conversation and pulled it to the main topic.

"Currently, there are two things that we need to pay attention to. The first is to clean up the dormant World Tree invaders. Their main force has been chased away, but there are still a small number of troops within the borders. This is a hidden danger, and it has put quite a bit of mental pressure on the galactic society. What do you guys think?"

The three Universal Civilizations had neutralized the first wave of invasion, but the aftereffects were severe. Because their line of defense was suddenly breached by the World Tree, the people were panicking, and chaos broke out everywhere. The three Universal Civilizations had no choice but to take out more energy to deal with the refugees.

In this regard, the three Universal Civilizations were no different from normal civilizations. The World Tree was one of the few civilizations that did not have any internal conflicts.

After some discussion, the result was only to strengthen the strict military control. Now was not the time to talk about freedom.

Seeing this, Simon continued, "In addition, we have to figure out the World Tree's next move and make some preparations in advance. They did not invade the Central Galaxy this time, but they will take action sooner or later. They are in a race against time, so they won't be able to wait long."

The upper echelons of the military began discussing this topic. Han Xiao and the others did not participate and listened quietly. After some discussion, the military finally came to a consensus. The meeting temporarily ended, and the participants passed down the order.

Secondary Dimension World, World Tree Blessed Race territory.

The roots of the trees formed a spiral-shaped pagoda that stood in the middle of the ground. Surrounding the pagoda were buildings formed by huge trees that formed a tree city. Countless members of the Blessed Race lived there.

Space cracks opened from time to time, and the battleships of the Blessed Race came and went.

Two figures floated in the blue-green sky, looking down at the tree city below. One was the Ancestral Tree King, and the other was a female figure in a gorgeous robe. Her skin was like tender leaves, glowing with jade green light. Her long white hair was spread behind her back, and there was a complicated and mysterious mark on her forehead. She was one of the 13 Ancestral Spirits, Hayleen.

“Your Excellency Tree King, why are you looking for me?” “I have a mission for you.”

“Please speak.”

“The Secret Tree King is not coming back. His crown needs a new master, and we also need a new Tree King. Are you interested?”

Hearing this, Hayleen could not help but look at the Ancestral Tree King with surprise in her eyes.

“Am I qualified to become the Tree King?”

“Of course, your magic strength has already reached the standard for this position.” The Ancestral Tree King nodded.

Hayleen narrowed her eyes. “I am indeed interested... but there are more powerful mages than me. Why me?”

“I only said that you are qualified, not chosen,” the Ancestral Tree King said calmly. “Under normal circumstances, the position of the Tree King will not be yours. What I mean is, if you want to become the Tree King, I can give you a chance. As long as you complete one objective, you will be able to inherit the crown of the Secret Tree King. The magic left behind by generations of Tree Kings is stored in there, and I believe you will be interested.”

“...What do you want me to do?”

“I know that your genes mutated in your early years, fusing with your own magic power, and you entered a rare ‘Warlock’ branch, forming some strange innate spells. You can use a very strange method to hide your existence, and you’re very good at stealth and assassination... Now that the civilization is facing an unprecedented threat, we need your ability to assassinate the Pivotal Snake’s infant protected by Black Star,” the Ancestral Tree King said with a deep voice.

“Are you asking me to die?” Hayleen frowned.

The Ancestral Tree King shook his head and raised his palm. A black-green liquid substance suddenly seeped out from his palm and floated in midair. Following that, the phantom of a golden leaf appeared beside him, and the two objects circled his palm.

“These are two key items to carry out the mission. One is a lethal poison that the mother tree specially synthesized to restrain her natural enemy. As long as you give it to the Pivotal Snake, it can quickly deprive the other party of their life force. Be it through injection or poisoning the food, it will be effective. This golden leaf is a child treasure derived from the mother tree, called the Leaf Concealment Robe. It can hide your tracks on all levels and enhance your stealth ability.”

Hayleen’s expression changed, and she took the two items hesitantly.

Seeing this, the Ancestral Tree King said indifferently, “The growth of the Pivotal Snake is very fast, and the mother tree’s perception of it is becoming clearer. Follow its guidance and you will be able to find its traces. As long as you can kill the Pivotal Snake, you will be the hero of the civilization. When you return, this tree crown will be yours!”

Hayleen played with the two items for a while and finally nodded.



“...I can try.”

### **Chapter 1430 Harrison’s Determination**

In a desolate universe belt in the explored universe.

The lurkers of the Star Alliance were paying attention to the progress of the battle on the news and were somewhat dissatisfied with the current situation.

“The three Universal Civilizations managed to repel the World Tree’s first wave of invasion, and also managed to stabilize the situation despite the sudden chaos. As expected of the three Universal Civilizations, they’re not that easy to deal with.”

“The World Tree’s attacks are a little weak... No, I should say that the three Universal Civilizations’ resistance is too strong.” They had leaked the information because they wanted to see the World Tree invade and bring despair to the three Universal Civilizations. However, the current situation was far from their expectations.

“The good news is that although the progress of the World Tree devouring the territory is slow, it will eventually cause the three Universal Civilizations to fall into a hopeless situation with no chance of turning the tables.”

“That’s right. The resistance of the three Universal Civilizations will gradually weaken and die.”

“I hope to see that day before my life ends.”

The members of the Star Alliance calmed down and gathered their confidence.

In their eyes, this was a long-term war that might last for decades or even centuries. They decided to wait patiently. No matter how long it took, they had to witness the three Universal Civilizations’ defeat.

Under the harassment of the World Tree’s full invasion, the lives of the galactic residents were extremely tough. Half a year passed in the flames of war.

The World Tree had launched a large-scale invasion of the various Star Fields on more than one occasion, and the three Universal Civilizations had been resisting nonstop. Both sides had fought back and forth for more than half a year, and hundreds of thousands of battles of various sizes had erupted in the cold universe.

The strategic command center calculated the losses. The total area of the planets lost and swallowed by the World Tree was about three and a half Star Systems. Compared to the Star Fields that had hundreds of Star Systems, this loss was not much. There were more than ten Star Fields in the explored universe, and the planets that the World Tree had taken away were just a drop in the ocean. According to this trend, the World Tree theoretically needed hundreds or thousands of years to defeat the Galactic Alliance Army and devour the entire explored universe. However, the three Universal Civilizations would not relax because of this. They would fight for every inch of land. The players followed the fleets to fight the invaders, and their experience quickly accumulated. The number of players who stepped into the Calamity Grade increased.

On the other hand, Karlot, Evans, and the other new Beyond Grade As were also rushing around the battlefields. They did not usually have so many combat opportunities, so their strength was growing rapidly.

Han Xiao was always guarding the shallow layer dimensions alone. In the past half a year, the World Tree Blessed Races had invaded seventeen times, big and small. They all either got killed or fled, unable to shake the secondary dimension defense line that he was guarding.

Other than that, Han Xiao had been focused on cultivating the Pivotal Snake, trying to find a way to make it grow and mate with the secondary dimensions to produce an embryo.

Originally, he did not have much hope, the Pivotal Snake infant was a baby after all. Reproduction was a pressure that it should not bear at its age.

However, what Han Xiao did not expect was that this experiment actually succeeded. Not only did the Pivotal Snake infant stick it up, but it was also very strong. It eagerly destroyed three secondary dimensions that gave birth to ignorant consciousness, leaving behind three embryos. However, after studying the 'snake p\*rn' that was specially recorded, Han Xiao also found the reason.

Due to the pursuit of the World Tree and the dangers of the secondary dimension environment, the life of the Pivotal Snake was extremely difficult. Therefore, mating as soon as possible and giving birth to offspring might be an instinct carved into their genes. Their reproductive ability was naturally mature, and they did not need to wait until they reached adulthood to give birth.

With the three embryos, he had finally opened the door to the breeder job. Han Xiao had spent most of his time on this, making the Stockman Realmless King bleed.

However, he did not turn the Pivotal Snake infant into a Virtual Life Form because of this. He planned to wait for the embryos to mature. After he had the second and third Pivotal Snake, he planned to try this.

On this day, Han Xiao received news from Oathkeeper and Kasuyi. They planned to visit him together, so he invited them to visit the base.

In the circular corridor of the observatory, three people walked slowly side by side, chatting. The dazzling aurora outside the window left mottled shadows on the three of them.

Han Xiao smiled and said, "How do you have time to visit me today? How's the battle in the main universe?"

"The Galactic Alliance Army has repelled another wave of the World Tree invasion. We can take a break, so we came to see you." Kasuyi smiled.

"What about him?" Han Xiao turned to Oathkeeper. "When did you guys get together?" "Are you even going to care about who I make friends with? Such a great superior," Oathkeeper said with his hands behind his back.

"What are you talking about? I'm just afraid that you'll be led astray by Kasuyi. He's a veteran two-faced actor." Han Xiao snorted.

"You have no right to say that about me." Kasuyi inwardly rolled his eyes.

The three chatted for a while before getting down to business. "Speaking of which, some of the Beyond Grade As have died in this battle. When do you plan to revive them?"

Han Xiao shook his head. "Not at the moment. Although my authority is high, I will have to spend two to three months in the Sanctum. If I don't stay here, it will be easy for accidents to happen. Protecting the Pivotal Snake is more important now, so I can't leave yet."

Oathkeeper nodded and suddenly changed the topic. "When the war is over, I will leave the explored universe. I will leave the Holy Accord to you."

Han Xiao was stunned.

What are you doing? What enmity do we have? Why are you suddenly sticking a flag in my face? You are making me panic!

At this moment, Kasuyi smiled and said, "Me too. After this battle, I'll leave with him."

What? Are the two of you eloping?

Han Xiao had a strange expression. "This is what you came to talk to me about today? What are you doing? Why do you want to leave when everything is alright?"

Kasuyi shrugged. "It's just a long journey. Although it's convenient to stay in the galactic society, this is just a corner of the world. The universe is so big, I want to take a look." ...So capable? The Underworld is huge too. Do you want to take a look?

Han Xiao criticized inwardly.

"You can go if you want to. It's not like I won't let you go. Or do you want to see if I will make you stay?"

Oathkeeper said, "That's not the case. The unexplored universe is filled with unknown dangers. We came to inform you in advance. We hope that every time you enter the Sanctum, you will use Revive on us. If we are still alive, there will naturally be no effect. If we unfortunately die and no news is sent back, you will be able to revive us."

"That's it? So, you guys are going out to have fun, and you want me to back you up at home?" Han Xiao said.

"That's about it." Kasuyi was not embarrassed at all.

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Han Xiao was speechless. He waved his hand and said, "Alright, I'll remember this... but aren't you guys talking too early? The war is not over yet. Didn't you hear the analysis of the Military Strategy Department? They predicted that this war would take another 200 to 500 years under normal circumstances."

Kasuyi laughed. "That's for the average person to see. How can we, the upper echelons, not know? As long as your Pivotal Snake matures, it will be time for us to officially counterattack. It won't take that long."

“That’s hard to say.” Han Xiao shook his head and said, “The Pivotal Snake is similar to most creatures. It has six stages of growth, namely the embryo stage, infancy, childhood, adolescence, adulthood, and old age. Although the Pivotal Snake infant is growing quickly, it has only been less than a year since it broke out of its shell. At most, it is still in the infant stage, and it is still too far from adulthood.” “No matter what, the Pivotal Snake won’t take a few hundred years to reach adulthood. I estimate that it will take at most ten to thirty years,” Oathkeeper concluded.

“That isn’t short.” Han Xiao spread out his hands. “Therefore, the expeditionary army still has to continue moving. We have to search for the World Tree’s main body together. Now that we know each other’s strengths, we don’t have to worry about leaking information. The expeditionary army doesn’t have to be as secretive as before.”

Kasuyi suddenly thought of something and said, “By the way, is there someone called Harrison among your subordinates?”

“You know him?” Han Xiao was surprised.

“I went to reinforce a battlefield not too far away from Planet Aquamarine’s refuge planet, so after the battle, I went to Floating Dragon to take a look. Ames was not at home, and her manager, Jenny, received me. She knows about our relationship and wanted me to pass you a message.” “What is it?” Han Xiao was curious.

“She said she’s pregnant.” Kasuyi’s tone was playful.

“F\*ck!” Han Xiao was shocked. “It’s not mine! I’ve never mated with her! Don’t talk nonsense!”

“What are you thinking?” Kasuyi raised his brows. “She said the child’s father is Harrison, not you. Why are you so agitated?”

“Phew, that’s good... Can you finish your sentence in one breath next time?”

Han Xiao heaved a sigh of relief.

If Ames misunderstood that he had something going on with her sister, things would get interesting...

Kasuyi sized him up from head to toe and laughed. “How can a Transcendent be afraid of a mere Ames?”

“What do you mean scared? What do you know? No matter how strong you are, strength is not used to intimidate your family. This is called protecting the harmony of your family.” Han Xiao said with disdain.

Kasuyi did not comment and continued, “Anyway, Jenny told me to tell you that she hopes you can persuade Harrison to give up his position in the expeditionary army and not take the risk again. She doesn’t want her child to lose his father the moment he’s born.”

Hearing this, Han Xiao also stopped joking and told Phillip to check on Harrison’s current situation.

He did not have the time to dig into his subordinates’ privacy, and he only found out about this today. In the past, he only knew that the two of them had some ambiguous relationship, but he did not confirm their relationship. After some investigation, he realized that the two of them had only officially gotten together half a year ago. In the past decade or so, Harrison had been participating in the expedition in the secondary dimension and rarely contacted Jenny. He had originally thought that he would not be

able to take care of her feelings, but Jenny did not know if it was because no one wanted her or because she was old and did not want to be alone anymore. Not only did she not have any complaints about this, but her feelings for Harrison also grew deeper instead.

More than half a year ago, the expeditionary army outpost was breached by the World Tree Blessed Race, and the expeditionary army suffered heavy losses. Harrison escaped with his life, and when the expeditionary army reassembled, he finally had the time to return to the main universe. He had escaped death, and Jenny was burning with passion. The two of them finally did it, and the long-distance relationship had come to fruition. They seemed to have made up their mind to reproduce, and they did not take any safety measures.

A month ago, Harrison returned to the expeditionary army and left Jenny's side.

Han Xiao looked at the file and said, "No one seems to have recruited him. He returned to the expedition army voluntarily."

Because of the Pivotal Snake, Han Xiao did not continue to force Harrison to participate in the subsequent expedition. Now, he realized that it was Harrison's own doing.

"Why is this guy so proactive?"

Han Xiao was curious. Using the Realmless King as a transit station, he contacted Harrison, who had been branded.

A few seconds later, the call connected.

"Your Excellency Black Star."

Harrison's remote projection appeared and greeted Han Xiao respectfully.

"There's no need to be so polite. It's like this. Jenny is pregnant, and she told me to persuade you not to take the risk with the expeditionary army. Furthermore, you're not the only one in the army. How about it? Do you want to go back?" Han Xiao went straight to the point.

Harrison shook his head. "I appreciate her kindness, but I won't go back."

"I noticed that you joined the expedition willingly. What were you thinking?" Han Xiao asked.

Harrison was silent for a moment before slowly saying,

"When I was on Floating Dragon Island, I came into contact with many refugees. Do you know their current state? They live in panic every day. Many of them can't take the pressure and choose to free themselves, while those who are alive fear the unknown tomorrow. No one knows if they will one day become the target of the World Tree invasion. New religions are popular, and countless people are looking for comfort. Everyone is praying for the war to end soon.

You said that my luck is very good, and it's very suitable for me to find things. I don't know if it's true, but I hope you're right. I hope that this illusory luck will be of use and contribute to the end of the war as soon as possible."

Han Xiao raised his brows and chuckled.

“Not bad, you’ve made me feel a little respect for you... However, you should know that we have a very high chance of winning now that the Pivotal Snake is in our hands. The expeditionary army is no longer the only way, and it might not be of any use. You’re not the only one in the army, and your actions might just be a waste of effort and a risk to your life. Why not go back and accompany your unborn child?”

Harrison shook his head. “I don’t want to enjoy myself under your protection for these reasons. My colleagues are here, and I don’t want to run away. Please don’t persuade me anymore. I’ve made up my mind.” “Alright, I won’t persuade you then. Be careful.” Han Xiao nodded.

“... If possible, please tell Jenny that I love her.”

Little brother, do you know that the moment you say this, your death omen is flashing?

“Tell her yourself. Who do you think I am? Your mouthpiece?”

Han Xiao clicked his tongue and hung up before Harrison could reply.

Little brother, don’t thank me. I’m helping you pull out the flag to save your life!

Kasuyi listened to the whole conversation from the side and sighed. “You have a good officer.”

“He wasn’t like this in the past. He was at most a curious child, but now it seems like he’s already an adult.”

Han Xiao paused and smiled. “This person might be a little stupid, but the world needs some idiots like him. Maybe he can really give me a surprise.”