

Chapter 1411: Liu Yi And Fei Hua

Jin Feiyuan's eyebrows rose. "Virtue Archives has never participated in any trips to the Dominion Realm. Seeing as how they've sent you here this time, it's clear that they plan to get involved in the four ruling powers' affairs."

If other people heard Jin Feiyuan's words and how he had accused Virtue Archives of planning to interfere with the ruling powers, then they would end up in deep trouble. The ruling powers would never let Virtue Archives off for attempting such a thing, and they could simply support a family like the Purple-Gold Family, which would be enough to spell disaster for the Virtue Archives.

Jin Feiyuan's words were like poison for the Virtue Archives.

The man rolled his eyes. "Bullshit."

Jin Feiyuan was outraged. "Wen Diyi,1 don't be rude! Aren't you a scholar?"

Wen Diyi sneered. "That's exactly how a scholar should treat a barbarian. What? Do you want to try to beat me? Are you even capable of doing so? I've studied to know how to speak to a gentleman, but to a barbarian like you, it's easier to just fight."

Jin Feiyuan instantly attacked. He would never be able to defeat Wen Diyi in a battle of words. However, Wen Diyi was not intimidated by the other man in the least. Suddenly, purple-gold flames and many strange characters appeared on the seventh floor of the Hope Restaurant. The battle entered a stalemate for an hour.

"You're not bad, Jin Feiyuan. You just got beaten up by someone else, but you still have the strength to fight me. You're truly an Undying Bird, which makes you the best target to beat up," Wen Diyi taunted.

Jin Feiyuan was panting heavily. "If you're really that powerful, then your Virtue Archives should never go to the Dominion Realm."

"Bullshit!" Wen Diyi sneered.

Jin Feiyuan snorted.

"Jin Feiyuan, do you believe me when I say that someone else will come along and beat you up again since you're such a barbarian?" Wen Diyi asked.

Jin Feiyuan's brows rose. "You're the strongest student in the Virtue Archives, so who else could fight me aside from you?"

Wen Diyi shook his head. "Illiterate people are so scary! I'm not just talking about the Virtue Archives. There are a lot of people who don't like you, and Shang Qing must absolutely hate you for him to come and beat you up like that."

"You!" Jin Feiyuan was furious.

At that moment, a pale fatty rushed into Hope Restaurant and looked at Wen Diyi with an enthusiastic expression on his face.

Wen Diyi smirked. He had arrived at Island of Hope a while ago, and he had also seen the fight between Shang Qing and Jin Feiyuan, including the part afterwards when Wang Dashuai had tried to invite Shang Qing to join the Wang family's Junior Progenitor's team. Wen Diyi immediately spoke up. "Brother Wang, just wait a moment. I'm not going to rush to go to a Junior Progenitor Planet, and I have also already made up my mind."

Wang Dashuai asked, "You've made up your mind? Who are you going to support? It must be our family, right? Our Junior Progenitor is so beautiful!"

Wen Diyi was speechless.

"It's the White Dragon Clan," Long Xi's voice rang out.

Wang Dashuai turned to face the new arrival. "Why?"

Long Xi did not bother speaking to the fatty.

Wen Diyi helplessly replied, "I really will be going with the White Dragon Clan. I hope that you can understand, Brother Wang."

Wang Dashuai blinked in confusion; was there something wrong about how he was inviting people? Or was he just too handsome?

Yu Chen and Xia Taili did not even bother leaving their planets, as they had already known that there was no way that Wen Diyi would support either the Celestial Frost Sect or Shenwu's Sky. The Virtue Archives had always disliked both of these powers.

Yu Chen's eyes flashed as she looked at Wen Diyi; the Virtue Archives? They should still be a neutral faction, as they would not be able to survive if they took a side.

Compared to the Fifth Mainland, the biggest difference in the Perennial World was the huge gap concerning the power level between cultivators.

The four ruling powers had raised many elites, and each of them had quite a few Enlighteners within the Junior Progenitors' generation. Outside of the four ruling powers, there was no force in the entirety of the Middle Realm who possessed a comparable number of young elites, not even the Liu family or the Nong family at Seed Garden.

Although the Fifth Mainland's Hall of Honor was the leader of the Fifth Mainland and they had groomed many youths who were the top powerhouses of their generation, there were still powerhouses within the Neoverse and the Inverse who could compete with the Honor Chosen. This was something that definitely did not exist in the Perennial World.

The four ruling powers had to be the strongest.

This was what Lu Yin had learned after spending a bit of time in the Perennial World. The four ruling powers possessed an overwhelming level of power in this place.

After he successfully crossed the Middle Ocean on Gui's back, Lu Yin saw a massive island floating in the sky. That should be the Island of Hope.

“Where are the Junior Progenitor Planets? Aren’t they supposed to be connected to the Island of Hope?” Lu Yin asked. Those planets should each be enormous!

Long Kui looked at the floating island with a wistful expression. “Only the people on the Island of Hope are able to see the Junior Progenitor Planets, and both the Island of Hope and the Junior Progenitor Planets will only appear after the Yuanlun Festival.”

Gui was huge, so he attracted a great deal of attention wherever he went.

Many people turned to look at the two people as they approached the Island of Hope. An elder immediately used his communication crystal to contact somebody when he saw Long Qi and Long Kui.

Jin Feiyuan was preparing himself to go to Shenwu's Sky's Junior Progenitor Planet, and he did not want to keep fighting with Wen Diyi. However, his elder from the Purple-Gold Family stopped the youth. “Young Master, Long Qi is here.”

Jin Feiyuan paused, but then he sneered. “So he really came. He’s smart enough, so he should already know that if he just goes straight to the White Dragon Clan’s Junior Progenitor Planet, nobody will be able to make any trouble for him.”

“What should we do about the matter that the patriarch told us to investigate?” the elder asked.

Jin Feiyuan thought for a moment. “Don’t mention it for now, in case anybody notices.”

The elder nodded. “Alright.”

The Island of Hope was very large, and Hope Restaurant was also very eye-catching.

Gui rapidly shrank down until it could perch on Long Kui’s shoulder while Long Kui looked up at Hope Restaurant. He had finally returned to this place after all this time. He could still recall the first time that he had visited this place. It had been a completely different time back then, and the leader of this area had also been a different person.

“Let’s go.” Long Kui made his way towards Hope Restaurant.

Lu Yin followed closely behind the Envoy.

Gui’s appearance had shocked everyone in Hope Restaurant, as this was an Envoy-level mount. Everyone was focused on Long Kui and Lu Yin.

On the first floor of Hope Restaurant, Mr. Zui also glanced over at Long Kui and Lu Yin. However, he was not interested in the two and simply continued drinking.

Lu Yin looked around with wide-eyed curiosity. This was not his first time visiting such a place. Before entering the Mountain and Seas Zone, he had first visited the Azure Mansion, which was comparable to Hope Restaurant in how they were both places where people waited for an event to start.

All of the people in this building hoped to become a Progenitor, but only a few of them would even be allowed to travel to the Junior Progenitor Planets.

“Only people with enough of a reputation, or those who are able to demonstrate their strength here on the Island of Hope will be allowed to go to the Junior Progenitor Planets. Hope Restaurant is located

right between all the Junior Progenitor Planets, and you can even see the bridges leading to the Junior Progenitor Planets from here. Thus, this is the best place for people who want to go to the Junior Progenitor Planets,” Long Kui explained.

“What about me?” Lu Yin asked.

Long Kui answered, “Princess Long Xi will take you to the Junior Progenitor Planet soon.”

The two soon stepped onto the top floor of the Hope Restaurant, where the atmosphere was very solemn. Only a few people were present, and Lu Yin’s attention was immediately drawn to Jin Feiyuan. This person was too eye-catching, as he was covered in purple-gold flames. This most likely meant that he was the Undying Bird.

Jin Feiyuan calmly met Lu Yin’s gaze.

Lu Yin continued looking around at the other people nearby. All of the seniors were Envoys, and the youths accompanying the Envoys were all elites.

Long Kui and Lu Yin sat down at a table next to a window. There, Lu Yin glanced out the window and saw four unique bridges. He blinked; were those things really bridges? After a moment of thought, he supposed that they could technically be considered bridges.

There were four curving paths floating in the sky, and they each stretched towards four enormous planets. Those were most likely the Junior Progenitor Planets!

“Senior Long Kui, do you still remember me?” a voice spoke up. The person was a middle aged man who was accompanied by a young girl. The girl was looking at Wen Diyi with clear curiosity.

Long Kui and Lu Yin both turned around at the same time.

“Are you...? Mr. Liu Ye?” Long Kui asked hesitantly.

The middle aged man laughed. “I didn’t expect senior to actually remember me! It’s an honor.”

Long Kui spoke in a serious tone, “Who in the Middle Realm doesn’t know about Liu Ye and Fei Hua? The story of how the two of you worked together to capture a traitor who had passed through five tribulations is legendary. Your efforts have greatly benefited mankind.”

Mr. Liu Ye shook his head. “You’re too kind, senior. We only managed to delay that culprit until senior Qing Chen arrived. We really did not do very much.”

The man then turned to the young girl beside him. “Step up and greet Senior Long Kui.”

The young girl immediately bowed.

Jin Feiyuan and the others only noticed the middle aged man at this moment, as they had not paid him much attention before.

There were too many powerhouses in the Perennial World, and there were even quite a few Envoys. Thus, it was not common for experts at this level to know each other. However, it was different for Mr. Liu Ye.

Liu Ye and Fei Hua were truly legends in the Middle Realm. They were both powerhouses who had passed through three tribulations, and they both had a power level higher than 700,000. And together, they were able to defeat a powerhouse who had passed through five tribulations.

There were not many powerhouses who had survived five tribulations even in the Perennial World. Thus, this pair was essentially the same as a powerhouse who had survived five tribulations, which meant that even the four ruling powers had to show them respect .

“I am Hou Qing. I am honored to meet you, senior.” The young girl bowed to Long Kui and Lu Yin in a polite manner.

Long Kui nodded and glanced over at Lu Yin. He clearly wanted Lu Yin to greet the girl.

Lu Yin ignored the older man. Why would he greet this girl? He was no idiot. Lu Yin also knew that Long Kui was unable to force him to do so. After all, Lu Yin had a higher status within the clan than the Envoy, and Long Kui was not Long Qi’s direct senior.

“Hou Qing? That’s a nice name, and your strength is not bad at all.” Long Kui smiled. He knew that he could not stand up to the combination of Liu Ye and Fei Hua even if Gui helped him, despite the two being Long Kui’s juniors.

“Thank you for the compliment, senior. Come back, Hou Qing,” Mr. Liu Ye said.

Hou Qing looked at Lu Yin and smiled before returning to her seat.

“Senior Long Kui, I have a question for Long Qi, though I am not sure whether or not I can ask him about this,” Mr. Liu Ye said.

Long Kui’s eyes flashed. “Mr. Liu Ye must be interested in this child’s mentor.”

Mr. Liu Ye solemnly replied, “Yes. My own mentor has always hoped to find out more about Semi-Progenitor Kui Luo, so-”

Long Kui raised his hand to stop Mr. Liu Ye. “A lot of people wish to ask Long Qi similar questions, but all of you are looking for the wrong person. Long Qi only received some resources from Semi-Progenitor Kui Luo, and it was not even a proper inheritance. Thus, there’s no way he could answer your questions.”

Mr. Liu Ye glanced at Lu Yin. “Is this true?”

The elder from the Purple-Gold Family, Jin Feiyuan, Wen Diyi, the other Envoys on the top floor, and even the entirety of Hope Restaurant heard Long Kui’s words. Long Kui had intentionally spoken loudly so that everyone would help him spread this news.

“Since this is coming from you, senior, I will believe it,” Mr. Liu Ye said politely.

Lu Yin never once said a single word, and he behaved in a very trustworthy manner, which made Long Kui feel a great deal of relief.

Chapter 1412: Meeting

“Bro, I’m here!” someone shouted loudly, startling all the people in Hope Restaurant.

Wang Dashuai appeared, happily running towards Lu Yin.

Lu Yin was surprised. “What are you doing here?”

Wang Dashuai laughed. “Both Unseen Light and Yu Hua were invited to my family’s Junior Progenitor Planet, and since I brought two powerhouses over at the same time, our Junior Progenitor said that I’ve got good luck when it comes to meeting people. She asked me to wait outside the Junior Progenitor Planet and help her recruit more powerhouses.”

Lu Yin was speechless and looked at the fatty with pity. He was going to end up in huge trouble after the trip to the Dominion Realm since the two that he had invited were both trespassers.

“Bro, why are you here? To have some fun?” Wang Dashuai asked.

Lu Yin was about to answer when a melodious voice rang out. “He’s headed to a Junior Progenitor Planet to help out the White Dragon Clan’s Junior Progenitor.”

The voice was very melodious, but it left Lu Yin with a very uncomfortable feeling. He looked into the distance and saw a beautiful girl slowly making her way towards them with a smile on her face.

Lu Yin calmly said, “Miss Yu Chen.”

Wang Dashuai grew curious. “Brother, you’ve already met her before?”

Yu Chen smiled. “We’ve never met, but we both know of each other.”

Lu Yin smiled. “It’s no mystery, just a lucky guess.”

“It appears that Brother Long Qi cares a great deal about me, seeing as you immediately thought of me,” Yu Chen said.

Lu Yin shrugged. “A bit.”

“Sis, listen to him. Brother-in-law cares about other people,” Xia Taili said cheekily as she arrived at Hope Restaurant’s top floor with Long Xi beside her.

Lu Yin turned to face Long Xi.

On the other hand, Long Xi turned towards Yu Chen. “I also care about you.”

Yu Chen smiled. Her appearance was very innocent, and her smile melted Wang Dashuai’s heart. An attractive woman needed to not only be beautiful, but also knowledgeable and pure. “I care about you as well. Also Brother Long Tian.”

“Aren’t you afraid that Junior Progenitor Bai will become jealous? That would not look good.” Lu Yin’s words shocked everyone nearby.

Yu Chen, Xia Taili, and Long Xi were all from the four ruling powers while Jin Feiyuan was from the Purple-Gold Family and Wen Diyi was from Virtue Archives. All of these people were cultured and well

behaved, and they would never say such a thing. Even someone as uncouth as Wang Dashuai would not dare to say such a thing to Yu Chen, but Long Qi had actually spoken such words in public.

Yu Chen was completely stunned, and she glared at him with cold eyes.

Long Xi was similarly stunned.

Xia Taili covered her mouth in shock; he was blatantly taunting Junior Progenitor Bai!

Lu Yin did not actually care. This was the best way to deal with someone as scheming as Yu Chen. He would not have acted like this if Wei Rong or Wang Wen were with him, but it was clear that Long Xi could not compete with Yu Chen in terms of scheming. Thus, Lu Yin would have to deal with this woman his own way.

Lu Yin knew that he was not gifted with words or particularly witty, but he did not want to end up being passively led around by Yu Chen in this verbal spat. He was certain that she would say something that would get him in trouble, so he had decided to upset her before that happened.

“Is this how the White Dragon Clan raises its people?” Yu Chen was annoyed. Nobody had ever spoken to her in such a manner, and it would be a big problem if Bai Shaohong heard about this.

Long Xi was still stunned. She was the White Dragon Clan’s well mannered princess.

The fatty was not surprised, but he also knew that this was not a good time for him to speak up.

Lu Yin continued, saying, “You said it yourself, about how you care about this and that. In that case, what position does Junior Progenitor Bai have in your heart?”

“Enough!” Long Xi glared at Lu Yin when she saw Yu Chen’s gaze grow vicious. “Follow me. Brother has been waiting for you for a long time.”

Lu Yin nodded.

Xia Taili blinked; Long Qi was so rude!

Yu Chen icily said, “Long Qi, the White Dragon Clan may not have taught you well, but Semi-Progenitor Kui Luo seems to have taught you a lot. It looks like you inherited a great deal from him.”

A lot of people turned to carefully observe Lu Yin after they heard Yu Chen’s comment.

Long Xi’s expression grew dark.

Lu Yin’s eyes narrowed. This woman really was vicious. He had tried his best to annoy her, but she had managed to pin everything that he had said onto Semi-Progenitor Kui Luo, who had been insane. It should not be possible for someone from the four ruling powers to be so rude unless they had been taught by someone outside of those powers, and Yu Chen had pointed out Semi-Progenitor Kui Luo as the culprit.

Lu Yin turned back around and looked at Yu Chen with a frosty expression, and his gaze actually made Yu Chen feel somewhat nervous. She had followed Bai Shaohong for a long time, and she had interacted with some of the most powerful people in the entire Perennial World. There were only a few people who could make her feel nervous, but she could feel a similar power from Lu Yin’s gaze as Lady Bai

Xian'er's. The pressure that this person gave off was not from his personal strength, but from his very soul.

This pressure made it hard for Yu Chen to breathe.

"Hey, you're not going to fight, right? Don't fight! I don't want to get involved as I still need to take care of my handsome face and see my lover. Hahahaha, goodbye!" The fatty smiled and fled after winking at Lu Yin.

His words had managed to divert some of the attention away from Lu Yin. The fatty had intentionally done so to show that the Wang family also had an uncouth person, which made Lu Yin's rudeness seem more normal.

Yu Chen frowned. She had not expected the fatty to ruin her plan. However, it was still fine, as she had succeeded in realighting other people's suspicions towards Lu Yin.

"Let's go. Brother is waiting." Long Xi made her way towards the White Dragon Clan's Junior Progenitor Planet.

Lu Yin looked back at Yu Chen one last time before leaving with Long Xi.

This had been a showdown among the junior generation. Not a single Envoy, including Long Kui, had interfered.

Xia Taili's eyes flashed. That had been very interesting! It looked like tensions were rising between the Celestial Frost Sect and the White Dragon Clan, which would be fun.

Jin Feiyuan had not dared to speak up during a conflict between the members of the four ruling powers, but after Lu Yin left with Long Xi, Jin Feiyuan walked towards Xia Taili and respectfully asked, "Princess Taili, may I go to the Junior Progenitor Planet?"

Xia Taili was Shenwu's Sky's princess, as she was the sister of their Junior Progenitor, Xia Shenfei.

Xia Taili was in a good mood at the moment. "Alright. Follow me."

"Thank you, princess." Jin Feiyuan was overjoyed.

Xia Taili turned to Yu Chen and smiled sweetly. "Do you also care about my brother, Xia Shenfei?"

Yu Chen replied, "I respect him."

Xia Taili clapped her hands and exclaimed, "Good answer."

She crooked a finger. "Let's go, Undying Bird."

Jin Feiyuan was speechless. Other people sounded envious and respectful when mentioning the Undying Bird, but Xia Taili had made it sound like an insult.

Outside Hope Restaurant, Long Xi led Lu Yin towards the White Dragon Clan's Junior Progenitor Planet. During their walk, a flying beast descended in front of her with a middle aged man and a gorgeous young man atop the beast's back.

The middle aged man immediately led the young man off of the beast when he saw Long Xi and Lu Yin emerge from Hope Restaurant. He respectfully greeted, "It's nice to meet you, Princess Long Xi. I am Shen Nan, the leader of Xiaguan City on the Bifrost."

He then signaled at the young man next to him.

However, the young man did not move an inch, and he simply stared at the duo.

Shen Nan grew anxious. "Yao Xuan, greet them!"

Yao Xuan stepped forward. "It's an honor to meet you, Princess Long Xi. I am Yao Xuan, from Xiaguan City on the Bifrost."

Long Xi nodded coldly. "The Bifrost belongs to Shenwu's Sky, so there is no need for you to greet me."

She then turned and left.

Lu Yin stared at Yao Xuan in shock; this was too much of a coincidence!

Yao Xuan was also confused, and he felt as though he had just seen a ghost. Isn't Lu Yin supposed to be missing? How did he get here? It seems like he's also become someone quite important here.

Yao Xuan simply watched Lu Yin walk away with Long Xi.

Shen Nan sighed before scolding Yao Xuan. "Fortunately, Princess Long Xi was kind enough to not do anything! Given our status, if she wanted to teach us a lesson, Shenwu's Sky would do nothing to interfere!"

"Is she Princess Long Xi from the White Dragon Clan? Who was that person next to her?" Yao Xuan asked.

Shen Nan answered, "I think that he should be Long Qi."

Yao Xuan pouted. Long Qi, Long Qi! How did that bastard join one of the four ruling powers? Not to mention, how did he get such a high position?

Although Yao Xuan had initially appeared on the Bifrost and stayed there for the majority of his time in the Perennial World, he had still learned about the various incidents that had happened in the Middle Realm, especially major events like Princess Long Xi's wedding. However, he had never expected that Lu Yin would be the nobody who had married the White Dragon Clan's princess.

Yao Xuan could still remember how Lu Yin had challenged everybody during the end of ZENITH and how the entire Astral Beast Domain had felt relieved when Lu Yin had gone missing. However, nobody had expected that he had actually gone to Perennial World before anyone else. Could it be that the humans had cheated? They must have sent Lu Yin over early without telling anybody!

"Let's go. This is Hope Restaurant. You'll need to find an opportunity to show off your strength later. We can't go up to the top floor, but you can wander about between the first and sixth floors freely. If nothing works, then you'll just have to forcefully cross a bridge. There has to be some way for you to get noticed by a Junior Progenitor," Shen Nan advised.

Yao Xuan nodded.

They walked into Hope Restaurant and immediately ran into Xia Taili as she was descending with Jin Feiyuan.

Shen Nan immediately bowed when he saw Xia Taili. "It's an honor to meet you, Princess Taili. I am Shen Nan, the leader of Xiaguan City on the Bifrost."

"It's an honor to meet you, Princess Taili. I am Yao Xuan, from Xiaguan City on the Bifrost."

Xia Taili casually glanced at the two, but she was instantly attracted by Yao Xuan's looks. This person was just too handsome! Even though Xia Taili had seen many powerhouses in the Perennial World who were good looking, nobody was comparable to this Yao Xuan. He was truly the most gorgeous man she had ever seen, and she was stunned.

Jin Feiyuan was astonished as well; this guy was way too good looking.

Shen Nan peeked at Xia Taili and smirked. He actually did not have much confidence in Yao Xuan's strength, and he had mainly brought the youth to the Island of Hope because of his appearance. Yao Xuan was prettier than a woman, and Shen Nan's main goal had been to have the youth meet Xia Taili. Still, Shen Nan had not expected to run into her the moment they reached Hope Restaurant.

Xia Taili looked at Yao Xuan with interest. "Are you Yao Xuan?"

Yao Xuan smiled in a humble manner. "Yes, I'm Yao Xuan."

"I've never seen you before. Are you from the Bifrost? Why are you here?" Xia Taili asked.

Chapter 1413: Junior Progenitor Planet

Jin Feiyuan looked rather annoyed from where he was standing behind Xia Taili. This quirky princess had never even had a proper conversation with him! This guy was too annoying.

Shen Nan continued his introduction, saying, "Princess, Yao Xuan is quite powerful, and I brought him here to meet the Junior Progenitor. If the Junior Progenitor is willing, then Yao Xuan can go with him to the Dominion Realm and help the Junior Progenitor find better resources."

Xia Taili smiled at Yao Xuan and nodded. "You're an Enlighter, which isn't bad as there aren't many Enlighters in our generation. Your strength qualifies you to at least go and meet with my brother."

"Young mistress, there are some people who've forcefully increased their cultivation in anticipation of this trip, and their strength may not match their cultivation. Such a person would just be a burden to us, so why don't you allow me to test Yao Xuan first?" Jin Feiyuan snappily suggested.

Xia Taili felt that what he said made sense since the trip to the Dominion Realm was a very important affair. After a moment's thought, she frowned and said, "Alright, you can test him, but don't be too hard on him."

She quickly added, "Don't hit his face."

Jin Feiyuan became even more outraged when he heard her condition. Don't hit his face? That only made Jin Feiyuan want to do it even more.

Shen Nan worriedly glanced at Yao Xuan. He did not want the youth to be injured too badly. Jin Feiyuan was the Purple-Gold Family's heir, and Shen Nan was worried that Yao Xuan would suffer a crushing defeat.

However, Yao Xuan himself was quite confident. "Well then, let's have a match."

Jin Feiyuan sneered. "Don't worry, I won't hit your face."

Shen Nan also warned, "Remember to protect your face."

Yao Xuan felt uncomfortable; what was that supposed to mean? He did not want to get through life based on his looks alone.

Everyone in Hope Restaurant grew curious, as Jin Feiyuan was fighting yet another battle. He had lost miserably in his previous fight, but since this second match had been initiated by him, many people were watching with interest. "That pretty boy's in big trouble."

"He's too beautiful to be a man! I'd beat him up too."

"It's very unusual for a man to be that good looking."

"What a handsome man! He has to be careful about that face."

"Don't hit his face!"

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Jin Feiyuan stood across from Yao Xuan with Xia Taili standing a bit further behind him. Jin Feiyuan glared viciously at Yao Xuan. Don't hit his face? Fine then; he would burn that face off!

Purple-gold flames rose into the sky and covered all of the Island of Hope.

Lu Yin turned around and saw the flames, where he also saw Yao Xuan about to fight against Jin Feiyuan. How had those two ended up getting in a fight?

Lu Yin was curious about Jin Feiyuan's abilities, as the man was an Enlightener who also carried the heritage of the Undying Bird.

"You've done quite a bit over the last few months," Long Xi said coldly.

Lu Yin immediately turned back around, looking rather guilty. "A lot of things were forced onto me. I was forced to do a lot of those things."

Long Xi retorted, "Like that bet that you made with the Guan brothers?"

Lu Yin bit his tongue.

"Like how you went to Huiyuan Gate to look for evidence?"

Lu Yin was left speechless.

"Like snatching that thread of tribulation crystal?"

Lu Yin reflexively answered, "Actually, I was forced to do that. Long Ting kept attacking me and I accidentally used too much strength, which forced the crystal thread out of his body. Of course I wouldn't give it back to him, as who wouldn't want to open their lower meridian point?"

Long Xi stepped foot onto the white, curved bridge. "Don't become an Enlighter."

"What?"

"Don't become an Enlighter," Long Xi repeated.

Lu Yin answered, "Right, Elder Long Kui already told me about that."

Long Xi suddenly stopped walking and looked at Lu Yin in a completely serious manner. "I'm not joking this time! The Dominion Realm is completely different from the Middle Realm. You can't survive there with just tricks, and you have to do your best just to stay alive. In addition to the dangerous environment, you also have to be careful about the people around you since you won't know who to trust. My brother will not be concerned about keeping you alive."

Lu Yin nodded.

"As long as you don't become an Enlighter, there's no way he'll take you with him to the Dominion Realm," Long Xi said.

Lu Yin nodded. "Don't worry. It won't be easy for me to break through anyways."

Long Xi turned around and started walking again. "From the past Yuanlun Festivals, we know that a lot of trespassers will most likely appear on the trip to the Dominion Realm. These trespassers are from the Forsaken Land, but they are also very powerful. Some of the Junior Progenitors have even been killed by these trespassers before. The trip to the Dominion Realm is far more dangerous than you believe, so there's no way that you can go."

"What about you?" Lu Yin asked in concern.

Long Xi felt a bit touched, as she was able to hear Lu Yin's genuine concern. "I won't take any risks, and my brother will also protect me."

Lu Yin nodded. "Will there be trespassers this time?"

Long Xi shook her head. "I don't know. It's been a very long time since the last Yuanlun Festival, and only the seniors who were a part of the previous festivals would know anything about that. Although the cultivation system in the Forsaken Land is damaged, they also have a large number of inheritances from ancient times. On top of that, it's a very large place. So, it's not impossible for some powerful trespassers to appear."

Lu Yin suddenly felt much more cautious. If Long Xi was able to consider all of these details, then Long Tian must have had the same thoughts as well. Thus, Lu Yin would have to be even more careful in order to avoid arousing any suspicion.

The bridge leading to the White Dragon Clan's Junior Progenitor Planet was very long, and even after half an hour, Lu Yin and Long Xi still had not reached the planet.

Meanwhile, outside Hope Restaurant, the people who had been watching the fight were in shock. Jin Feiyuan had been defeated once again.

However, in contrast to his previous battle with Shang Qing, Jin Feiyuan was still able to stand up after this fight. But this time, he had been left unconscious, as Yao Xuan's spiritual force had forcefully knocked the man out. It did not matter that Jin Feiyuan was an Undying Bird, as his innate gift could not deal with spiritual force.

"Young master!" The elder from the Zijin Clan immediately rushed straight over to Jin Feiyuan to help him. However, Jin Feiyuan was completely unconscious, and he was also bleeding profusely.

The elder glared angrily at Yao Xuan. "I'll kill you!"

"How dare you!" Xia Taili whirled towards the elder.

The elder immediately bowed. "I'm sorry, princess. I was too upset after seeing the young master's condition, so I misspoke."

Xia Taili snorted and looked at Yao Xuan with admiration. "Are you willing to go to Shenwu's Sky's Junior Progenitor Planet with me?"

Yao Xuan smiled and gently replied, "I wouldn't dare to defy your orders, princess."

Xia Taili smiled happily. "I didn't expect to meet someone like you."

She then turned towards Shen Nan. "Good job. My brother will reward you."

Shen Nan was overjoyed. "Thank you, princess. Thank you, young master."

He looked at Yao Xuan in delight. The older man had never expected Yao Xuan to be so powerful that he could even defeat Jin Feiyuan. Jin Feiyuan was the Purple-Gold family's heir. Besides people from the four ruling powers, the Liu family, and Seed Garden, nobody would be confident of defeating him. Yao Xuan had truly surprised Shen Nan.

Yao Xuan smiled, but then he suddenly looked at the top floor of Hope Restaurant and locked eyes with Wen Diyi.

Wen Diyi was looking straight at Yao Xuan.

Powerhouses of the same rank seemed to be able to sense each other, and Yao Xuan had immediately sensed Wen Diyi's gaze. Wen Diyi, meanwhile, had been watching Yao Xuan ever since the events had first started.

The people in Hope Restaurant were shocked by this outcome, and they started gossiping. "Jin Feiyuan is so unlucky! He's already been defeated by two people. How can the Purple-Gold Family's heir be so useless?"

"It's not that he's useless, but rather that his opponents have been too powerful."

“This guy’s spiritual force is simply freakish! Not even some older powerhouses can compare to him. With his help, Shenwu’s Sky will do well during this trip.”

Yu Chen had also been warily watching Yao Xuan from the top floor of Hope Restaurant. This person’s spiritual force was strong enough to even knock Jin Feiyuan out cold. This person would be a huge threat to their team.

The White Dragon Clan’s Junior Progenitor Planet was completely white, just like the color of the python in Lu Yin’s dreams. This white did not represent coldness, and it was simply pure white.

The mountains, rivers, and buildings on the planet were all white as well.

Lu Yin followed Long Xi and leapt up onto the planet once they reached the end of the bridge.

The White Dragon Clan’s Junior Progenitor Planet was not very big; it was only about the size of the Earth, which was considered quite small when compared to the countless planets throughout the universe. However, it was Long Tian’s private domain.

Hmm? Lu Yin suddenly realized something when he stepped onto the planet. Those twinklings in the distance were star essence!

“Who dropped star essence on the ground?” Lu Yin muttered to himself as he looked at the star essence in the distance.

Long Xi felt confused at his words. “There’s a senior who has passed through six tribulations permanently staying on the White Dragon Clan’s Junior Progenitor Planet, as well as two Envoys, a senior who has undergone one tribulation, and ten Enlighters. You don’t have to worry while you train here. These seniors will make sure that nobody can spy on you and that nobody will be able to see you when you practice the inheritance that you’ve received from the Sword Monument.

“There’s one more thing,” Long Xi continued on, “There is countless star essence scattered across the planet, and anyone who steps onto the White Dragon Clan’s Junior Progenitor Planet is allowed to use them however they wish.”

Lu Yin stared at Long Xi in utter shock. “What did you just say? Countless star essence? Scattered around the planet? I can use it however I wish?”

Long Xi nodded. “It’s not actually countless. There’s probably several billion star essence, though I’m not sure exactly how much. Regardless, there’s enough for everyone here to use however they wish, and the quantity seems to remain unchanged even after people use some.”

Lu Yin turned around to look at the star essence once again. They really were just scattered around. “I can use them too?”

“Of course. Why else would my brother insist on you breaking through to the Enlighter realm here on the Junior Progenitor Planet? The first matter concerned your safety, but the second is that there are enough star essence here for you to become an Enlighter. No, enough to break through to any cultivation realm,” Long Xi explained. Although she was not close to Long Tian, the White Dragon Clan’s Junior Progenitor Planet was still the pride of the entire White Dragon Clan, as the resources in this place had not only been supplied by the White Dragon Clan, but also by the entire Perennial World.

Each Junior Progenitor Planet and its resources were supplied by the entire Perennial World, and they were intended to aid the Junior Progenitors' cultivation. The resources on these planets were not from the White Dragon Clan alone.

Lu Yin was left stunned and jealous. He had been the champion of ZENITH! The strongest person in his generation in the entire Fifth Mainland! Why had he not received such treatment? He also wanted countless star essence! He wanted more money! Wait, he could also use this star essence however he wanted...

Chapter 1414: Dragon Saliva And Shortcuts

Lu Yin gulped the moment he realized that he could use these star essence to do anything he wanted. He immediately thought of using Enhance to upgrade the Karmic Flame, Zenith Mountain, the Skyblaze Stone, and even the froststone that he had. A lot of his items were limited due to their inherent materials and could no longer be upgraded as a result. However, there were also some other items that he could not upgrade due to a lack of funds. However, that would not be a problem with the resources available on this planet.

"So, I can use as much as I want?" Lu Yin tried to be casual as he asked.

Long Xi answered, "There are trackers on everything on this planet. It's fine for you to use things here, but you can't take anything away, and trying to do so will be discovered."

Lu Yin had no plans of taking the star essence with him, as he would not be able to take a large amount with him anyways. His only problem at this moment was finding a way to use this star essence without being discovered by Long Tian. Lu Yin could not just use all the star essence from a single area, as people would most likely become suspicious if he used too many star essence.

It was similar to how people could not repeatedly shear the same sheep.

Lu Yin followed Long Xi to a beautiful mountain as all of these thoughts raced through his mind. There, they finally met Long Tian.

This was Lu Yin's first time meeting Long Tian in person. He had not been able to feel anything when he saw Long Tian through a communication crystal, but Lu Yin was able to feel a hidden aura when he saw the Junior Progenitor's true self. Long Tian's aura was like a volcano that was about to erupt. Nobody knew just how powerful this person truly was.

This was the same feeling that Lu Yin had felt when facing Shang Qing in the Mountain and Seas Zone. Lu Yin had been unable to determine Shang Qing's full strength no matter what he had done at that time.

From the moment that Lu Yin had become a Hunter, Long Tian was one of the very few peers who could give Lu Yin such a feeling. He felt that Long Tian was probably comparable or even stronger than Shang Qing when he was using the full power of the Tri-Yang Ancestral Qi Technique.

Lu Yin had originally believed that the four Junior Progenitors were at best comparable to Shang Qing, as Wang Yi had not been able to defeat Shang Qing during ZENITH. Since Shang Qing had been able to easily suppress Wang Yi, it seemed to indicate that Shang Qing was comparable to the Perennial World's Junior Progenitors. However, when Lu Yin saw Long Tian for himself, he felt that his previous assumptions were most likely wrong.

Of course, Lu Yin was only considering Shang Qing's power during ZENITH. As soon as Shang Qing's cultivation rose, the power of the summoned Progenitor Chen and Progenitor Hui would also rise. Lu Yin felt chills when he thought about the two summoned Progenitors getting stronger.

As Lu Yin studied Long Tian, Long Tian was also observing Long Qi.

"You've really surprised me," Long Tian said solemnly. His voice carried an indescribable pressure, but this pressure did not manage to affect Lu Yin at all.

"You managed to rise tremendously from being just a normal Hunter to someone who's able to defeat Long Ding."

Lu Yin answered casually, "I kept a few things hidden."

"The inheritance from Semi-Progenitor Kui Luo?" Long Tian asked.

Lu Yin nodded.

Long Tian laughed. "Semi-Progenitor Kui Luo had an impressive spiritual force, but you didn't use that to defeat Long Ding. Everything that you used was received from the Sword Monument. As long as you make good use of those abilities in the future, you'll be able to become very strong."

He tossed a small bottle of some kind of liquid over to Lu Yin.

"This is dragon saliva, and you can use it to increase your physical strength. I'll send you to a place where the temperature is high enough to melt star energy so that you can quickly absorb it and become an Enlighter."

Lu Yin was stunned; absorb star energy in an environment with a very high temperature? That was his shortcut! Suddenly, Lu Yin realized that he had been right; he was not the only person who had uncovered this particular shortcut. However, not many people could make use of this cultivating method. The White Dragon Clan was able to use it since their members were physically very powerful.

Long Xi's eyes lit up, as she was aware of just how precious dragon saliva was. It came from the Ancestor Python's mouth, and it was very hard to gather, as doing so required both luck and skill. "Thank you, Brother."

Long Tian solemnly replied, "I only gave that to him because he's already opened his first meridian point. He has good potential. If he didn't, then I wouldn't waste such a thing on him. As for you, the clan has already prepared a tribulation crystal pillar, so you should open your first meridian point soon."

Long Xi nodded and looked at Lu Yin with open concern. "I'll stand guard over you while you absorb the dragon saliva."

"He doesn't need your protection. The process isn't dangerous, just painful. However, since he was able to handle the pain of opening a meridian point, this will be nothing for him," Long Tian said.

Lu Yin turned to Long Xi. "Don't worry. I'll do my best to become an Enlighter and help you when you go to the Dominion Realm."

“You’ll have to compete with some other people in order to qualify to go to the Dominion Realm,” Long Tian coldly stated. He then stepped down with a great deal of force, and the stomp opened a huge crack in the nearby mountain. The fissure suddenly exploded, and a surge of hot air shot into the sky, turning the previously white sky a dark red.

A shocking amount of heat surged up from the ground and burned down the trees around the mountain. Many places were reduced to ash.

Lu Yin looked at the crack and saw black magma surging within the mountain. The temperature of this black magma surprised Lu Yin, as it was comparable to what he had encountered in the Blaze Realm. The power level of this magma had nearly reached 500,000.

“This is where people from the White Dragon Clan train their bodies. This place has the lowest temperature of such places on this Junior Progenitor Planet, and you can use it to absorb star essence more quickly. I hope that you’ll become an Enlighter before the trip to the Dominion Realm. That way, you might be able to join us,” Long Tian continued to explain.

Long Xi asked anxiously, “Brother, this is the temperature that you use to train! How is Long Qi supposed to endure it?”

Long Tian retorted, “Do you think that dragon saliva is useless? You’ve never used it, but it’s extremely effective in raising a person’s physical strength. If he can’t even withstand this temperature after using it, then he cannot be considered someone from the White Dragon Clan.”

Long Xi was about to say something more, but Lu Yin interrupted her. “I can definitely handle this.”

Long Tian was satisfied. “Not only can dragon saliva raise one’s physical strength, but it can also stimulate your bloodline and allow you to gain the ability to learn the White Dragon Transformation. After becoming an Enlighter who can use the White Dragon Transformation, the battle techniques that you’ve gained from the Sword Monument and the spiritual force techniques that you’ve learned from Semi-Progenitor Kui Luo will allow you to defeat anyone that you face. At that time, you’ll be able to help me achieve an even higher status within the White Dragon Clan.”

He shot a meaningful look at Lu Yin before disappearing.

Lu Yin’s expression grew sharper. Long Tian had disappeared so quickly that Lu Yin had not even been able to sense what had happened. Long Tian was definitely even faster than Wang Yi! This was the power of a Junior Progenitor.

Wait, what had Long Tian just mentioned? The White Dragon Transformation?

Lu Yin stared at Long Xi in a daze. “Me? The White Dragon Transformation?”

Long Xi felt annoyed. Since Lu Yin was not actually someone from the White Dragon Clan, he would never gain the ability to use the White Dragon Transformation. If, after all of this, Long Qi was still unable to learn the White Dragon Transformation, her brother would definitely become suspicious of Long Qi’s bloodline.

Just thinking about it gave Long Xi a headache.

“What if Long Tian asks me to use the White Dragon Transformation?” Lu Yin asked.

Long Xi glared at him. "Don't think about that right now. Just absorb the dragon saliva."

Lu Yin nodded. He also did not want to try to deal with this matter at the moment, but he had to keep up the proper act in front of Long Xi. Once he made it to the Dominion Realm, he would be able to act as he wished. Oh wait, he had almost forgotten about his plan to find out who that finger from his dreams belonged to, not to mention his own past. Lu Yin's situation in the Perennial World was completely different from the other trespassers like Unseen Light and the rest who could simply leave after getting a decent inheritance. Arch-Elder Zen had prepared an escape route for them, but Lu Yin could not simply leave on his own.

He would still have to be careful!

"Alright then, thank you." Lu Yin opened the bottle. "Am I supposed to eat this?"

Long Xi felt increasingly frustrated. That was precious dragon saliva, and yet it was being used by an outsider. "It's up to you. You can either eat it or wipe it on your body. You just need to absorb it."

Although Long Tian had told her not to protect Long Qi, she still felt very worried about him.

Lu Yin immediately swallowed the liquid. It did not taste of anything at all, but there was a faint scent.

"Oh, I forgot to tell you that dragon saliva is the Ancestor Python's saliva," Long Xi turned around and casually dropped this bomb.

Lu Yin nearly vomited, but he suddenly felt an excruciating pain spread out within his body that was followed by a surge of heat. He clenched his fists and leaped towards the magma.

Long Xi was shocked, and she tried to grab Lu Yin, but he just pushed her hand away. "Don't worry."

He jumped straight into the magma.

Long Xi carefully watched him, as she was scared that Long Qi would be burned to ashes.

Fortunately, after sinking into the magma, Lu Yin waved as he sank down.

Long Xi felt relieved.

Nobody could be allowed to know what would happen when Long Qi used the dragon saliva to raise his strength. Lu Yin did not want Long Xi to realize just how strong he truly was.

The dragon saliva contained the power of the Ancestor Python, just like the blood essence that Lu Yin had received from Long Xi. However, one improved the user's physical strength while the other increased their cultivation.

The Ancestor Python had the strength of a Progenitor and had been alive since ancient times. Nobody knew just how powerful the creature actually was.

At this moment, Lu Yin was experiencing the python's true power. A single drop of its saliva was enough to make him physically stronger.

If he told people in the Fifth Mainland about this, they would most likely be stunned. No one there had ever interacted with Progenitors or become stronger due to the help of a Progenitor's strength, even if it was just a bit of saliva.

Lu Yin felt grossed out when he remembered that it was actually saliva. Long Xi must have intentionally waited to say that, seeing as she had only mentioned it after Lu Yin had swallowed it.

The power of the Ancestor Python stimulated the cells of Lu Yin's body. Finally, after half a day, the pain finally subsided. Lu Yin's body faintly glowed within the magma.

This was something that only happened once a person's body reached a certain level of refinement. Before, this had happened to Lu Yin when Mister Mu had helped him raise his physical strength within the hidden space with the golden sea. It had also happened when Lu Yin had broken through. Although he used his fatesand to suppress it, Lu Yin had still reached the peak strength possible for his current cultivation realm.

Lu Yin had surpassed the limit of a Hunter when it came to pure, physical strength.

Lu Yin clenched his fists and estimated that he should be able to train up to 280 or even 300 Stacks of the Overlaying Stacks Path.

It became increasingly difficult to practice the Overlaying Stacks Path as one progressed, not to mention a large increase like going from 250 stacks to 300 Stacks.

If Lu Yin could really achieve 300 Stacks, then not even Wang Yi would be able to withstand his attacks. At that point, he would have been able to easily win ZENITH.

What was truly unbelievable was that the Overlaying Stacks Path was Lan Si's top skill, and yet, Lan Si had achieved fewer than 200 Stacks as a Hunter. On the other hand, Lu Yin had nearly reached 300 Stacks. He just needed someone to help him deduce these stacks, as he did not have any Roots of Intelligence left, preventing him from deducing any more stacks on his own.

Chapter 1415: Not Very Tasteful

Lu Yin leaped out of the magma and landed on the mountain in his tattered clothes.

Long Xi sighed in relief when she saw Lu Yin had come out safely.

"How did it go?" Long Xi asked.

Lu Yin clenched his fists. "My strength increased a lot. I'm now strong enough to defeat Long Ding with a single slap if we fought now."

Long Xi replied calmly, "Absorbing star energy after it turns to liquid from a high temperature is a shortcut used by the White Dragon Clan and the other ruling powers. Not everybody can use this shortcut, and you were only able to do so because of the dragon saliva. With this, it wouldn't be hard for you to become an Enlighter."

"Don't worry, I definitely won't become an Enlighter. I'll do whatever you tell me," Lu Yin responded in a serious manner.

Long Xi was astonished and she met Lu Yin's gaze. "The only thing I can do is trust you. Don't forget what I said: if you enter the Dominion Realm, everything becomes extremely dangerous."

Lu Yin watched as Long Xi left. He felt helpless. He would not let her down this time. Although he wanted to become an Enlighter, it would be too difficult for him. While others had a much easier time with such breakthroughs, they were much harder for Lu Yin, and so he would not disappoint Long Xi, even if he actually wanted to do so.

At the moment, it was time for Lu Yin to look for some money. He looked around in excitement. Long Xi had said that the elders protecting the planet would not be watching him. He hoped that meant that they also were not watching him in secret, as if that was the case, he would need to give them a good explanation.

Since when was star essence like vegetables that could be picked up everywhere on the ground? Lu Yin was stunned.

He looked at the star essence around him that covered entire mountains. Just how much star essence was in this place? It had to be in the billions at least, and this was just a single area of just one of the four Junior Progenitor Mountains. Lu Yin was already able to see that this planet had at least three other areas with similar amounts of star essence.

If there were billions of star essence in each area, it meant that the entire planet held tens of billions of star essence! This was the support given to each of the Junior Progenitors by the Perennial World.

If the people of this universe were really able to groom a Progenitor by using this amount of star essence, it would absolutely be worth the cost.

Envoys and above were not able to use star energy, but instead used stellar energy. Thus, to such powerhouses, star essence was nothing more than a bit of low grade materials that were used for cultivation.

Lu Yin gathered a huge amount of star essence by using his star energy, and he then tossed it all into the magma. Star energy immediately filled the area and liquidated from the high temperature before turning to gas.

He had to first increase his own abilities, just in case there was anyone watching him. He could only do what he actually wanted after cultivating for some time.

As Lu Yin gathered the star essence, Long Xi was looking at a pillar of tribulation crystals with an astounded expression.

The entire White Dragon Clan had spent an entire century collecting the tribulation crystals needed to open Long Tian's middle meridian point, and this pillar was formed from the left over tribulation crystals, and it was only enough for Long Xi to be able to open her lower meridian point. There was nowhere near enough for her to be able to open her middle meridian point.

Facing this crystal pillar, Long Xi finally understood why Lu Yin had been willing to start a war in Flying Armor Pass in order to get a hold of the crystal thread.

The temptation she felt was simply irresistible.

Long Tian was standing nearby and calmly commented, "Your strength will greatly improve after opening your lower meridian point. However, a lot of other people going will also go through this process, and the Celestial Frost Sect will probably be able to have multiple people open their meridian points. You should try to avoid those people as much as possible when we're in the Dominion Realm."

"Isn't that how you like to do things?" Long Xi asked coldly.

Long Tian frowned. "I'm not scared of Bai Shaohong, but you already know just how cruel his sister, Bai Xian'er, is. You remember how Sister Xing-"

"Enough! Don't bring up the past!" Long Xi shouted.

Long Tian continued in a helpless manner, "I didn't want things to be like this, either, but we were too young. We shouldn't allow the past to continue to affect us."

Long Xi remained silent.

"If Long Qi also goes with me to the Dominion Realm, I promise I will do my best to keep you safe. I know that you must have already told him not to become an Enlightener, but you've underestimated him. As a member of the White Dragon Clan, he won't be willing to hold himself back, and he is definitely going to do his best to join the excursion to the Dominion Realm," Long Tian explained.

Long Xi looked at her brother. "You gave him dragon saliva and me a pillar of tribulation crystals. We'll both do our best."

Long Tian frowned when he heard her response. Long Xi's tone of voice left him feeling uncomfortable. "You're my sister. I won't let anything happen to you."

He turned around. "Although Wan Wu was taken away by the King of Adventure, Nong Lie and Wen Diyi are both here. Even if Long Qi wants to go to the Dominion Realm, he might not get the chance. The trip to the Dominion Realm is nothing more than the excuse I used to get that dragon saliva from the clan. You should understand how much I've already done."

He then walked away and disappeared.

Long Xi turned to face the crystal pillar and took a deep breath. "Let's get started."

She pressed her hands onto the pillar just as Long Ding had done, and started refining the pillar. However, she was much faster at the process than Long Ding had been.

Nong Lie arrived at the bridge leading to the White Dragon Clan's Junior Progenitor Planet, and the Guo fruit poked its head out to look at the surrounding area with curiosity. "Alright, you should go back now. Stop following me. I can't take you there."

The Guo did not want to leave, but it still slowly returned towards Island of Hope where people from the Nong family were waiting for it.

Wen Diyi was also walking along the bridge in front of Nong Lie. They had both selected to help the White Dragon Clan.

Of the four ruling powers, the Celestial Frost Sect was the most aggressive, and though they had many powerhouses under them, they had also offended many different organizations. Shenwu's Sky was also very aggressive, but Xia Shenfei's charisma drew people into helping him. Thus, the only two options left were the Wang family and the White Dragon Clan.

Sanniang had gone to the Wang family, so Nong Lie could not join the Wang family if he wanted to avoid any issues. Therefore, his only choice was the White Dragon Clan.

A man walked out from the forest on Island of Hope, and the sky suddenly grew dark.

This person was young and was shrouded in a black robe that covered his entire body, leaving only his face exposed.

This young man had handsome features, but he did not look like a real person. His eyes were calm, but there were black vapors that rose off of his body.

His appearance caused the sky nearby to turn dark.

"Crown Prince Gui Qian?"¹ someone exclaimed. Everyone in the Hope Restaurant turned towards the forest in surprise.

"It really is Crown Prince Gui Qian! Someone from Specter Abyss came."

"No one from Specter Abyss or the Virtue Archives ever dared to show up during the previous Yuanlun Festivals. Many things have changed since that incident, and the four ruling powers clearly can no longer control the entire Perennial World. They've overestimated themselves."

"Since Specter Abyss has shown up, will Specter Progenitor make an appearance?"

"That's impossible. Do you think the elders from the four ruling powers would ever allow that to happen? Specter Abyss won't appear that easily."

On the first floor of the Hope Restaurant, Mr. Zui looked towards the forest with a cold expression and solemnly watched Crown Prince Gui Qian.

Yu Chen, Xia Taili, and Wang Dashuai were all on the bridges leading towards the Junior Progenitor Planets, but they all stared at Crown Prince Gui Qian in shock.

Specter Abyss had existed for years and had a history as long as any of the four ruling powers. However, due to their cultivation methods, the rest of the Perennial World was scared of those from Specter Abyss, and they had been suppressed by many forces. This was why they had not revealed themselves for a long time, and nobody had expected someone from the Specter Abyss to appear.

Crown Prince Gui Qian and his dark aura approached the Hope Restaurant. He then continued on straight towards the bridges and stood in the middle of all four.

Yu Chen's eyes flickered and she smiled. "Crown Prince Gui Qian, I have heard of you."

Xia Taili looked at Crown Prince Gui Qian with curiosity. "How did you get this black aura? It looks so cool!"

Wang Dashuai just swallowed. He felt that he should not even say anything. Words from the girls could be seen as a welcome, but would Wang Dashuai's words be viewed as a challenge?

Wang Dashuai felt that it was best to keep a low profile, and had therefore never challenged anybody. He was quite loyal and charismatic, but at this moment, he felt like his charisma was a curse, as Crown Prince Gui Qian kept walking towards the fatty.

Most people, even from the four ruling powers, were wary of those from Specter Abyss, let alone Wang Dashuai. The black vapor surrounding the young man and just his surname made Wang Dashuai feel like something from a horror film.

Crown Prince Gui Qian continued walking towards Wang Dashuai.

Wang Dashuai exclaimed, "Hey- hey you! Sto- stop!"

Crown Prince Gui Qian stopped and calmly stared at Wang Dashuai.

Wang Dashuai blinked. "What do you want?"

Crown Prince Gui Qian spoke in a loud, but awkward, voice, "Help the Wang family get inheritances in the Dominion Realm."

Wang Dashuai was stunned and then awkwardly laughed. "No, no thanks! We have enough people."

Crown Prince Gui Qian looked up. "Need one more."

Wang Dashuai waved his hand in an anxious manner. "No, no we don't."

Everyone watched the two with great interest.

Crown Prince Gui Qian again started walking towards Wang Dashuai.

Wang Dashuai's eye twitched. "Wait, stop! What do you want?"

This time, Crown Prince Gui Qian did not stop, and he continued approaching Wang Dashuai. Wang Dashuai wanted to step back, but was worried about humiliating himself.

Crown Prince Gui Qian finally stopped right in front of the bridge. He turned towards the Hope Restaurant. He then just stood in place, not moving.

Wang Dashuai was only a hundred meters from Crown Prince Gui Qian and could feel a sense of cold and danger emanating from the young man. "Hey, what do you want?"

Crown Prince Gui Qian did not answer, and just stoically stood in place.

Wang Dashuai panicked. This guy was blocking the bridge so that nobody could step onto it. The Wang family already had Yuhua Mavis, Unseen Light, and Nong Sanniang, so they really were missing one more person. If Crown Prince Gui Qian blocked the bridge, nobody would be able to travel to the planet. Even if the fatty asked Jin Feiyuan for help, that person would still need to get past Crown Prince Gui Qian first.

However, this was Crown Prince Gui Qian who was trained in Specter Abyss's mysterious arts. That place held a status that was comparable to even the four ruling powers. This person was comparable to the

four Junior Progenitors, or at least on the same level as Liu Hao and Nong Sanniang; just how many people in the entire Perennial World could defeat him?

Wang Dashuai did not have the time to think about anything else as the upcoming trip to the Dominion Realm was most important. He ran towards Crown Prince Gui Qian and helplessly said, "Brother, please don't stand here! You're blocking the path, and that's not very tasteful."

Chapter 1416: A Mysterious Place

Crown Prince Gui Qian remained calmly standing where he was.

Wang Dashuai kept pleading with the young man, but Crown Prince Gui Qian refused to budge at all.

Wang Dashuai looked towards the Wang family's Junior Progenitor Planet, hoping that the elders protecting the planet would chase Crown Prince Gui Qian away. However, there was no movement from the Junior Progenitor Planet.

Crown Prince Gui Qian was powerful, but no one would be willing to allow anyone from Specter Abyss join their team to the Dominion Realm.

Not even Yu Chen was willing to invite Crown Prince Gui Qian, which showed how wary everyone was of him.

Wang Dashuai was still pleading with the prince, when suddenly he helplessly said, "Crown Prince Gui Qian, my Junior Progenitor is inviting you to join her."

Crown Prince Gui Qian turned around and walked towards the Junior Progenitor Planet. He had remained calm the entire time, as if everything had always been within his control.

Wang Dashuai gritted his teeth; why had such a person appeared?

On the White Dragon Junior Progenitor Planet, Lu Yin was devouring star energy within the magma, and liquified star energy crashed onto him. This liquid star energy transformed into a gas that he absorbed, and the entire time, his whole body was being burned.

A normal person would be able to break through very quickly as soon as they use this method of cultivating. However, Lu Yin had star energy reserves that were 200 times those of a normal cultivator. Thus, if a normal person would only need a single day to break through, Lu Yin would need 200 days.

If he took that long to break through, both Long Tian and Long Xi would realize that something was wrong with him.

Thus, Lu Yin used the Skyblaze Stone to absorb the heat of the magma while he absorbed star energy into his body.

He wanted to absorb enough heat to be able to train himself in the Timestop Space, which would shorten the amount of time he would need to break through.

He had a few million star essence still in his cosmic ring, which should be just enough to complete his next cycle. He did not really want to use his own money since he could use the star essence all over the planet.

A few days later, Lu Yin opened his eyes within the magma. His die appeared. It was time for him to complete his seventeenth cycle so that he could avoid arousing suspicion.

He placed his cosmic ring right next to him and tapped his die. The die landed on Possession, and Lu Yin appeared within the mysterious space. He saw numerous balls of light, and he immediately went to the nearest one. This light was extremely dim, which meant that the person Lu Yin would be Possessing had a lower power level than him. Lu Yin did not have much time to be observing others at this time, as he was afraid of being detected.

The scenery changed before his eyes, and he appeared within a training ground. His body was crouching low to the ground, and blood dripped from his arm. There was a sword pointed right at his throat.

Lu Yin was speechless; just what was going on? Memories surged into his mind, and his expression grew calm.

"I already told you that you're not my opponent. You should give up." The person pointing the sword at Lu Yin sneered. He looked quite impressive as he threatened Lu Yin, and the people watching nearby were all in awe.

Lu Yin had possessed an elder of a small family that lived under the Bifrost. The elder had been fighting with a rival clan over some resources, but had been defeated by the rival clan's heir. However, none of this was overly important to Lu Yin, as he did not care at all about conflicts between small families. On top of that, this elder had only just become an Enlighter.

Lu Yin was much more interested in the elder's memories. Since Lu Yin had possessed the man, he decided to immediately try to search for memories regarding the Lu family.

The person holding the sword looked at the elder with a bit of confusion; why did this elder suddenly seem dazed? However, the heir was not suspicious for long, as it was normal for an elder who had cultivated for more than 100 years to be stunned after being defeated by such a youth.

"Since you now know the difference between us, you can leave. This mine belongs to my family!" the young man shouted arrogantly.

The elder's confused expression suddenly grew solemn and he vomited blood. His head exploded and his blood splattered across the young man's face.

The young man was stunned; he had not done a single thing! No, this old man's death would definitely lead to a war between their families.

The conflicts between such small families had not affect on Lu Yin, and he returned to the dark red magma. His eyes were filled with shock.

What had just happened right then? He had hoped to find memories regarding the Lu family, but had suddenly felt an excruciating pain in his head the moment he had tried to do so. The more he pushed to

access those memories, the greater the pain. Moments later, the elder who Lu Yin had Possessed had died. Lu Yin had just experienced death yet again, and the death energy in his body slightly increased.

Why had this happened? Why would memories related to the Lu family cause that elder to die? Had his memories been sealed by something? However, the elder's memories had been complete, and so Lu Yin had managed to glean a lot of those memories during the brief time he had Possessed the elder. The only memories that had been unclear were the ones related to the Lu family. The only scene Lu Yin had managed to see before the elder had died was of red petals falling from the sky upon the entire Perennial World.

This had been the only memory Lu Yin had been able to see, and this memory had also been what had caused the elder's death.

Lu Yin fell into deep thought. This had to be related to the Lu family. When the surname Lu had appeared in the elder's memory and Lu Yin had attempted to read those memories, Lu Yin had been able to clearly feel the elder's terror and awe. Something major must have happened in this Perennial World.

The billowing red petals that had covered the sky had been beautiful, yet also deadly. They were from a flower that Lu Yin had never seen before.

After a while, Lu Yin looked up. Although he had seen the red petals, he had not managed to learn anything further about the Lu family. Despite that failure, he felt certain that powerful members of the Lu family had once existed in the Perennial World.

He sighed and suppressed the complex emotions that he was feeling and went to roll his die again. The most important thing now was to raise his cultivation.

The Possession he had just experienced had used almost ten million star essence, but Lu Yin did not mind since they had been star essence from the planet.

He rolled his die again, and it landed on Possession again. How could he have such luck? The scenery again changed before his eyes.

Lu Yin was experienced in this change, and he knew that the slower he integrated with a light ball, the more star essence that would be used up. Although the star essence did not belong to him, there was no reason for him to Possess someone far away, as they would not be able to help him.

Lu Yin immediately raced for the brightest ball of light and merged with it.

Before he could even open his eyes to take a look at his surroundings, he felt something weird about the body he had Possessed.

After opening his eyes, Lu Yin looked around and immediately saw a pillar of tribulation crystals that was a hundred meters tall.

Lu Yin's mouth fell agape as he stared at the pillar in shock. It was a real tribulation crystal pillar, and it was enormous.

This pillar was ten times larger than the one Long Ding had used. Lu Yin had just experienced having his head explode when Possessed the elder a few moments before, and this time he was astonished to see a tribulation crystal pillar.

Lu Yin looked down at his hands and his eyes narrowed. Something was wrong. This body had no vitality or star energy. The organs in the body were empty. This was a corpse, but how could he have Possessed a corpse?

Wait, Lu Yin suddenly thought of something, Where're the memories?

This body had no memories.

Lu Yin looked around. His surroundings were dark. He was not able to see anything clearly, and he also had no memories he could access. The only thing he could see at this moment was the crystal pillar. Hmm? Was that a leaf on top of the pillar?

This was a bizarre situation. There was a hundred meter tall crystal pillar and a leaf in a dark and empty space. Lu Yin tried to make the body stand up, but he was unable to control it. This was the first time he had ever not had control during a Possession.

What was going on?

His vision changed once again, and Lu Yin was dragged back to the mysterious space. He saw numerous balls of light as he returned to his own body. He looked over and saw that all of the star essence in the magma had been used up.

He had rolled Possession twice in a row, and he had experienced two bizarre situations, especially when he had Possessed a corpse. That crystal pillar he had seen was enormous, and would definitely astonish even the four ruling powers.

Lu Yin sighed; if only he could find that place again. What a shame he had not been able to control the body.

Given that he had not been able to control the body, that body clearly had no consciousness. However, he had still been able to Possess it. This indicated that the body was being controlled by someone, just like the machinery ants in the Technocracy he had once Possessed.

There were too many secrets in the universe. Lu Yin scratched his head regretfully. He looked up and rolled the die once more. He would need to go out to get more star essence after completing his seventeenth cycle.

This roll was also a failure, as it landed on one pip: Pilfer, and the item that fell out was burned to ashes by the magma before Lu Yin could even get a look at it.

He felt annoyed and tried again.

The die slowly spun before stopping on Timestop.

Lu Yin sighed in relief. Finally, he would be able to enter the Timestop Space.

He was no longer anxious after entering the Timestop Space. He increased his time in the space to half a year and pulled out the Skyblaze Stone. It was time to complete his seventeenth cycle.

Even though he was capable of completing multiple cycles in the Timestop Space, Lu Yin had decided not to do that as it would easily trigger Long Tian's suspicions.

After completing his seventeenth cycle, Lu Yin clenched his fists. He had already opened his lower meridian point and had also absorbed dragon saliva, so he was much stronger than he had been during ZENITH. Now, he had also completed his seventeenth cycle. With his current strength, he was capable of easily defeating Wang Yi or Wu Taibai without using the God of Death Transformation. He even felt that he could definitely compare to Shang Qing.

Despite his improvements, it would still be hard for him to defeat Shang Qing's Tri-Yang Technique, as Shang Qing must have also improved after ZENITH.

He still had some time left in the Timestop Space, but Lu Yin had already considered what to do with this time. He intended to train with his battle force, as he had not yet tried out his golden battle force.

...

Lu Yin leaped out of the magma with an explosion. Star energy surged around him; he had clearly completed his seventeenth cycle.

He looked around, but there was nobody nearby. He immediately used his communication crystal to call Long Tian.

"I've completed my seventeenth cycle," Lu Yin reported.

Long Tian was unfazed. "Keep going."

The call ended.

Lu Yin was unbothered by Long Tian's attitude, but it clearly indicated that a qualified powerhouse had arrived, or else Long Tian would not have been so cold to Lu Yin. Lu Yin could not allow this.

Chapter 1417: What's That Attitude?

Lu Yin did not know what to do about this. Anyone who qualified to be invited by Long Tian to the Junior Progenitor Planet had to be quite powerful.

Lu Yin wanted to fight the other candidates for the team in order to ensure that none of them would be able to go to the Dominion Realm and that he would end up as the only candidate. However, they were on a Junior Progenitor Planet, and while the elders protecting Long Tian would not spy on the people on the planet, they would absolutely be alerted the moment a battle broke out.

Lu Yin had a headache.

He kept collecting star essence as he contemplated his current dilemma. After he was done, he carried a pile of star essence back to the magma.

A middle aged man watched from the distance and saw what Lu Yin was doing. The man was left speechless, though also envious. Back when he had been cultivating, he had been forced to do his best

to acquire resources, even with the help from his family, and yet he had never obtained enough to use them freely.

“If I had this amount of star essence back then, I would have been able to become an Enlighter twenty years sooner,” the middle aged man muttered to himself. He took a picture and sent it to Long Tian.

Long Tian did not care about Long Qi’s actions. He was even willing to allow Long Qi to take some of the star essence with him away from the planet. These resources were negligible to the Junior Progenitor. Still, Long Tian was not a kind person, and so he immediately had somebody send the picture to Long Xi.

At this time, Long Xi was experiencing the excruciating pain of opening her lower meridian point. She finally understood the pain that Long Ting and Lu Yin had both endured.

She was surprised that Long Qi had been able to withstand such agony. Long Xi felt a trace of pride; her husband was actually not too bad.

At this moment, her communication crystal vibrated, and she saw a few pictures that had been sent to her. Her face sank as she looked at the pictures, and she then quickly turned off her communication crystal. She was so enraged that she completely forgot about her pain. This was absolutely humiliating! What an embarrassment! She had already told Lu Yin that the resources on the Junior Progenitor Planets were all marked and that he would not be able to take any of them with him away from the planet, so why had he still taken so much star essence? Someone had even taken a picture of him doing so. Long Xi felt humiliated and all the pride she just felt instantly disappeared.

Lu Yin tossed the pile of star essence into the magma, and the crystals immediately melted and then vaporized into a gas that filled the underground space.

Lu Yin jumped down to continue cultivating.

More and more people showed up in the Hope Restaurant, and most of them were only there to join in on the fun. However, there were some people who genuinely wanted to be noticed by the Junior Progenitors, and these people tried to initiate some fights. Despite that, their efforts were futile, as they were only seen as average to the Junior Progenitors.

One day, the Liu family’s Liu Hao and Liu Tianmu showed up.

The moment Liu Hao appeared, Yu Chen immediately approached him with a smile. “Brother Liu, I’ve been waiting for you for a long time.”

Liu Hao was dazed.

Xia Taili’s voice also rang out, “My goodness, you’re shameless! Brother Liu’s already decided to help my brother, so he’s no longer any of the Celestial Frost Sect’s concern.”

Yu Chen smiled. “The purpose of this trip to the Dominion Realm is to obtain Origin Matter, which will determine a person’s chances of becoming a Progenitor. Joining with the Celestial Frost Sect would give Brother Liu a much higher chance of getting Origin Matter. Brother Liu, even if you aren’t thinking about yourself, you should still think about your Liu family. Your family needs more powerhouses.”

Xia Taili was outraged. “Do you think only the Celestial Frost Sect is able to get Origin Matter? We’re also one of the four ruling powers; do you have an extra leg up or something?”

Yu Chen did not answer, but instead turned to Liu Hao. She had already said her piece, and it was up to Liu Hao to make his own decision.

Liu Hao said, "I have already given my promise to Shenwu's Sky, and I won't break my word."

Yu Chen shook her head. "A chance of becoming a Progenitor is far more important than your own values."

"How could I ever become a Progenitor if I lie to myself?" Liu Hao calmly replied. He turned to Xia Taili. "Let's go."

Xia Taili turned and started towards Shenwu's Sky's Junior Progenitor Planet, absolutely thrilled.

Yu Chen remained calm and continued smiling. Nobody knew what she might be thinking.

Liu Hao's arrival had attracted everyone's attention. Even though the Liu family could not compare to the four ruling powers, they were still only second to those top organizations, and over the years, they had obtained many battle techniques from the Sword Monument. Liu Hao had even fought with the four Junior Progenitors during the Yuanlun Festival. If not for lacking resources, he might have been comparable to the Junior Progenitors themselves.

This was why Yu Chen had tried to recruit Liu Hao despite knowing that she would be rejected. If Liu Hao was willing to help Bai Shaohong, they would be willing to remove anyone else from the team.

However, the more outstanding Liu Hao was, the less attention people paid to Liu Tianmu.

Liu Tianmu had arrived with Liu Hao, but everyone had been completely focused on Liu Hao, so not many people noticed Liu Tianmu as she started walking towards the White Dragon Junior Progenitor Planet. Not even Yu Chen noticed the woman walk away.

Liu Tianmu calmly walked towards the planet.

At this time, Long Xi was not waiting near the bridge, but instead one of the White Dragon Clan's Enlighters was holding the position.

The White Dragon Clan had no need to recruit any additional people since they already had Long Xi, Wen Diyi, Nong Lie, as well as Long Jue, who was a young powerhouse within the clan who had just recently become an Enlighter, and Lu Yin. Long Tian merely needed to choose one person from three options, as Wen Diyi would definitely join the trip.

The person with the highest chance of being selected was Nong Lie. Long Tian would also be happy for Long Jue to join the team, as the youth was trustworthy, given that he was also from the White Dragon Clan. Long Tian had not expected anyone else to come to his planet, and then Liu Tianmu appeared.

Long Tian was impressed when he saw Liu Tianmu's sword skills, and he immediately appeared to meet her.

"You're from the Liu family?" Long Tian asked.

Liu Tianmu answered in a cold voice, "Yes."

"Why haven't I heard of you before?" Long Tian continued.

Liu Tianmu remained calm. "I'm from a side family and only became this powerful after receiving an inheritance from the Sword Monument."

"That makes sense." Long Tian accepted the explanation. He simply assumed that Liu Tianmu had been a normal cultivator who had become a powerhouse after learning a battle technique that she had obtained from the Sword Monument. Although Long Tian did not feel that this woman could compare to Liu Hao, he still felt confident that she was among the top three most powerful members of her generation in the Liu family.

"You can start training for now. There's countless resources available here, so just let someone know if you need anything," Long Tian politely offered. He was secretly delighted to have someone from the Liu family. This was not only because of the family's sword skills, but also the family's strength of character.

Liu Hao had chosen to go to Shenwu's Sky because he was close to Xia Shenfei. Since Liu Tianmu had chosen White Dragon Clan while having no personal ties to anyone on the team, did it mean that the Liu family preferred the White Dragon Clan?

As the White Dragon Clan's Junior Progenitor, Long Tian had to consider multiple details.

If it was the case that the Liu family was favoring his clan, then Long Tian's choice for the last member of his team had just become much more difficult, as Nong Lie also represented the Nong family.

However, Long Tian realized another problem; neither Nong Lie nor Liu Tianmu were the strongest of their generation from their respective families. Neither families' strongest youth had chosen Long Tian, which upset him.

There were tens of thousands training rooms on the White Dragon Clan's Junior Progenitor Planet, and both Liu Tianmu and Nong Lie were already using these training rooms.

Lu Yin cultivated for ten more days before absorbing the heat of the magma into the Skyblaze Stone and entering his die's Timestop Space. He managed to complete his eighteenth cycle, which meant that he had only one more cycle to complete to reach the peak of the Hunter realm.

Lu Yin again called Long Tian. "I've finished my eighteenth cycle."

Long Tian was not surprised, as the speed of Long Qi's progression was normal, however it also indicated that Lu Yin only had average star energy reserves. Once Long Tian thought of that, his hopes for Lu Yin faded away. So what if this person had already opened his lower meridian point? The most important thing would always be one's strength rather than their luck.

"Come see me," Long Tian said before ending the call.

Lu Yin felt annoyed; what sort of attitude was that?

Although Lu Yin was irritated, he still had to listen to Long Tian, seeing as they were on Long Tian's planet. Lu Yin kept a neutral expression on his face as he went to meet Long Tian, though Lu Yin was secretly cursing at his brother-in-law the entire time. He found Long Tian waiting under a statue of himself that stood at the center of the White Dragon Clan's Junior Progenitor Planet.

Lu Yin was astounded upon seeing the huge statue; just how narcissistic was this person? Lu Yin could not believe that Long Tian had had a statue of himself built on the White Dragon Clan's Junior Progenitor Planet. This was so disgusting!

Long Tian watched as Lu Yin calmly approached.

Lu Yin continued forward.

"There're a few more candidates, aside from Long Xi and Wen Diyi who have been confirmed to be part of the team. I will choose the remaining two from the rest of you," Long Tian explained.

Lu Yin nodded. Judging by Long Tian's attitude, Lu Yin did not stand a good chance of being chosen. The people who had arrived on this planet all had to be quite strong, or else Long Tian would not consider eliminating someone like Lu Yin who had already opened his lower meridian point. Lu Yin had to come up with a plan.

After a while, another man arrived. Lu Yin turned to see a stranger who wore the clothing of the White Dragon Clan, which meant that this person was from the same clan.

The man bowed respectfully to Long Tian. "Junior Progenitor."

Long Tian looked at the man with a gentle expression. "Long Jue, good job on becoming an Enlighter."

Long Jue was very enthusiastic. "It would be my honor to die if it would help you, Junior Progenitor."

Long Tian smiled in satisfaction. "I understand. Take your place while we wait for the others."

Long Jue bowed again and calmly looked over at Lu Yin. He then took a few steps to stand about ten meters away from Lu Yin.

Lu Yin's eyes grew sharp. While he did not know this person, he was able to guess that this Long Jue did not have a high position in the clan, seeing how he needed to bow to Long Tian. Lu Yin assumed that this person was not from the main family, and yet there had been no reaction upon seeing Long Qi, who was the main family's son-in-law.

An Enlighter? It was quite impressive to become an Enlighter at such an age. There were only a few Enlighters in the same generation in the Fifth and Sixth Mainlands, yet the White Dragon Clan alone had three.

Moments after Long Jue arrived, Nong Lie appeared, still wearing his usual attire.

Long Tian's attitude changed drastically as soon as Nong Lie appeared. The Junior Progenitor smiled widely. "I'm grateful that you chose to help me, Brother Lie."

Nong Lie warmly responded, "Brother Long Tian, the Nong family has always been close to the White Dragon Clan, so of course I planned to help you. If my sister wasn't so close to Wang Su, she would be the one here today instead."

Long Tian laughed. "It doesn't matter if it's you or Sanniang."

Nong Lie and Long Tian had a quick chat, and then Nong Lie turned to Lu Yin, still showing similar enthusiasm. "Brother Long Qi, it's been a while."

Lu Yin smiled. "Brother Lie, I didn't expect to see you here."

Chapter 1418: Little Tricks

Nong Lie was very happy to see Long Qi again, and he smiled. "My big sister had been wanting to meet you, Brother Long Qi, but she was unlucky and things didn't work out. She should be able to see you in the Dominion Realm. I'm quite curious about you."

Lu Yin wondered, "Curious about me?"

Nong Lie laughed. "Of course. You're the one who managed to surpass even Bai Xian'er's time spent receiving an inheritance from the Sword Monument, so there's no one in the entire Perennial World who's not curious about you. I heard you opened your lower meridian point? Congratulations."

Long Jue was listening to Nong Lie's words from the side, giving Lu Yin a cold stare. What sort of dog-shit luck had allowed a piece of trash like this guy to open his lower meridian point? If Long Jue had been given the same opportunity, there would be no need to hold a selection for who would go to the Dominion Realm, as Long Jue would definitely have been the top choice.

"It was just luck," Lu Yin said. He had indeed only opened his lower meridian point by stealing the crystal thread, so it was not some glorious achievement.

Long Tian said, "Wen Diyi's here."

The group turned to look into the distance.

Lu Yin was stunned. What sort of name was that? This was a name with some personality. It should be Wen Wu First, and Wen Wu Second, but this guy's name was actually Wen Diyi? He must be seeking for a beating.¹

It was not that Lu Yin had not seen Wen Diyi in the Hope Restaurant. Wen Diyi had been quite conspicuous there as well, and he wore a very unique outfit. It was just that the two had not been introduced to each other at that time.

When Wen Yi arrived, Long Tian's attitude was just as enthusiastic as before.

Seeing the interactions between Long Tian and Wen Diyi, Lu Yin quietly asked Nong Lie, "Brother Lie, where's this Wen Diyi from?"

Given how Lu Yin's reputation had recently spread throughout the Perennial World, he was no longer worried about exposing himself by asking questions about things that should be common knowledge. No one would really question the matter anymore.

Nong Lie said, "Virtue Archives. That place is not simple, and they even have a few different secret techniques. Even the four ruling powers are constantly trying to find a way to send their kids there. This guy's the top student from the Virtue Archives."

"I've heard of it," Lu Yin said.

Wen Diyi and Long Tian spoke a few polite words to each other, and then Wen Diyi made his way towards Nong Lie and Lu Yin while Long Tian greeted a woman who had approached from the distance. She was Liu Tianmu.

Lu Yin was surprised, as he had not expected Liu Tianmu to come to this planet. It looked like she had already stepped out of the Liu family after surpassing everyone else in Liu Lu's generation, as there was no other way she would have been able to come to a Junior Progenitor Planet.

"Brother Long Qi, Brother Wen's talking to you!" Nong Lie shouted, interrupting Lu Yin's thoughts.

Lu Yin was startled, and he turned to see Wen Diyi looking at him with a smile. Lu Yin quickly apologized, "Brother Wen, I'm sorry. I was lost in my thoughts for a moment. I'm very sorry."

Wen Diyi smiled and said, "It's fine. I have been paying close attention to Brother Long Qi for quite a while. You're the only person in all of history to have surpassed the amount of time that Bai Xian'er spent receiving an inheritance from the Sword Monument. That truly impresses me."

Lu Yin replied in the same humble manner, "It was just luck."

Wen Diyi was the first to turn around and see Liu Tianmu talking to Long Tian, which surprised him. "She's someone from the Liu family."

Nong Lie was surprised to hear this. "Is she the one who's second only to Liu Hao? Her sword skills should be unmatched. Such a person is very difficult to deal with, but fortunately, we're on the same team."

"Don't forget about Liu Hao," Wen Diyi reminded.

Nong Lie pouted. "Just ask Long Xi to deal with that guy."

Even as he spoke, he seemed to feel that he had crossed a line. After all, Long Qi was standing right next to Nong Lie, and it was not very nice to force trouble onto someone's wife in front of him.

What else could Nong Lie say? Long Tian had already ended his conversation with Liu Tianmu, and he loudly announced, "The trip to the Dominion Realm will start in half a month. There are five of you here, only two of you can join my team in the Dominion Realm. As for the others, it's not that you aren't strong enough, but rather many other factors that come into consideration. I invited you here to get to know each other. Even if you don't get to join this trip to the Dominion Realm, this is still an opportunity to get to know each other and so please help each other."

Lu Yin had not expected Long Tian to have such intentions. There were people from the Nong and Liu families, the Virtue Archives, and also Long Jue. No matter who was chosen or rejected, it would make things difficult with the powers behind these people. Long Tian's words could be considered as respecting each person present, as well as apologizing in advance.

Wen Diyi and others quickly spoke up to offer polite words in reply.

Everyone got along with each other, and the atmosphere was quite harmonious. After spending an hour together, everyone went their own way.

There was a strange expression on Liu Tianmu's face as she made her way back to her training room. She had always been an indifferent person, but at this moment, she was feeling a bit embarrassed.

Lu Yin had just taken the opportunity to send her a voice transmission and had asked her to do something. It was something that she had never done before, or even thought of doing. Should she do it, or not? This was a problem.

After considering the matter for a while, Liu Tianmu finally decided to do what she had been asked. If she did this, her chances of going to the Dominion Realm would rise sharply.

She had not come to the Junior Progenitor Planet to gain face for her family. She had come in order to compete for a place on a team going to the Dominion Realm. This was a goal that deserved her casting aside all dignity and restraint for the being, and Lu Yin had not even asked her to do something against her principles. She had just been asked to keep an eye on a few people and where they went. It was observation, nothing more.

Lu Yin returned to the dark red magma to resume his own training. He had completed his eighteenth cycle, but Long Tian had not even reacted. Clearly, Lu Yin had no chance to join the team that would go to the Dominion Realm, though he also believed that Long Xi had some voice in the matter as well.

There was still half a month before the excursion to the Dominion Realm would leave, and Lu Yin could complete his nineteenth cycle during this time. After his body had been strengthened by the dragon saliva, it had reached the pinnacle possible as a Hunter, so there was no risk of raising his cultivation too fast, even if he did use the shortcut method. However, would he encounter problems when he tried to break through to become an Enlightener?

Lu Yin felt very conflicted. He finally decided to deal with the breakthrough first. If he succeeded, then he would go to the Dominion Realm, but if it was not possible, then he would just have to abandon the opportunity for the time being.

Ten days later, Lu Yin emerged from the dark magma and headed towards where Liu Tianmu and the others were training in their own training rooms. Lu Yin did not know if any of the hidden powerhouses guarding this planet were watching him, and though it was a distinct possibility, he did not care. It would be worth any cost he paid if he was able to get to the Dominion World, so why not try everything he could?

Before long, Lu Yin was looking at the ground. This was a mark that had been left by Liu Tianmu according to the plan Lu Yin had shared. These marks told him where Nong Lie and the others had been training recently. It was possible to determine the location of another star essence reserve on the planet by where these people chose to train.

This was what Lu Yin had asked Liu Tianmu to do. Without Liu Tianmu, he truly had no way of knowing where anyone was, as he could not stay and keep an eye on them himself, as he would definitely be discovered by Long Tian. However, Liu Tianmu was different, as she had been given a place to train close to the other youths.

Lu Yin's luck held out. Nong Lie, Wen Diyi, and Long Jue were not able to refuse the offer of so many star essence, and they all chose to use them to recklessly cultivate.

Lu Yin wiped away the marks and started walking in a certain direction. When he came across a bit of star essence, he sprinkled a bit of Elder Wu's poison that had been diluted. He then went to the next location and sprinkled more of the poison.

Elder Wu's poison had already been Enhanced twelve times by Lu Yin, which meant that it was potent enough to affect even an Envoy, so he had needed to dilute it to ensure that it was not too powerful. Success of this plan all depended on whether or not these people would act according to his assumptions and come to collect the star essence scattered across the planet.

After poisoning the star essence that Nong Lie, Wen Diyi, and Long Jue would take, Lu Yin started acting like he normally did, and he grabbed a bunch of star essence and took them back to the mountain where he trained.

A middle-aged man pursed his lips and appeared. That brat had actually come to this place this time. Did he think there were not enough star essence elsewhere? The man shook his head, but did not send a report to Long Tian. The picture that had been sent to the Junior Progenitor earlier had been enough, and there was no need to repeat such things.

Lu Yin himself was unaware that he had been caught and photographed grabbing a mountain of star essence before, and that it had made Long Xi angry, while Long Tian had simply seen Lu Yin as a joke. However, that incident had also made Lu Yin not look in any way suspicious as he spread the poison about.

Nong Lie emerged from a training room and stretched his waist. He was tired, really tired, of cultivating. He looked up to see a figure high in the sky taking away a large amount of star essence. It was Long Jue.

Nong Lie was put in a bad mood. He did not like Long Jue, as he was stupid. It was clear that Long Tian saw Long Jue as an idiot who could be used as cannon fodder. Although the man obeyed everything Long Tian said, the gleam in his eyes could not be hidden. It took only a glance to know that Long Jue was not an honest person.

Nong Lie suddenly remembered what Lu Yin had done while part of Humility's Gate. Now this was an interesting person.

As he looked out at the Junior Progenitor Planet, Nong Lie considered wandering about. After all, this was not a place that could almost ever be visited.

Suddenly, he felt a sense of danger. Sword qi swept through the distance, and Nong Lie looked at it. He was surprised to see Liu Tianmu.

She stood there with her sword in her hand. The weapon's blade shone brightly. It seemed as though the woman had sensed Nonglie's gaze, and she glanced over at him in a provocative manner before turning around and leaving.

Nong Lie blinked. That sword a moment ago had seemed quite sharp, and it had actually made him feel a sense of danger. However, it was also clear that Liu Tianmu had not used her most powerful sword, which was a bit of a problem. That woman was going to be a big problem.

The more Nong Lie thought about it, the more difficult it seemed to be to deal with the swordswoman. He knew that Wen Diyi would win a position on the team to the Dominion Realm, which meant that either he or Liu Tianmu would take the final place on the team. The woman was so powerful that Nong Lie would be quickly defeated if he did not work hard. Unfortunately, there were only a few days left before it would be time to leave. Still, it was best to spend the time training hard, and there was also the chance of achieving some sort of enlightenment.

With this thought, Nong Lie picked up some star essence and returned to training.

It did not take long for Wen Diyi to also take away a great deal of star essence and return to training as well.

Liu Tianmu saw all of this, and she let out a sigh of relief. That Lu Yin had been right. If someone did not want to train, then just give them some motivation. Why did they guy spend so much time on such plans? No wonder he had managed to subjugate the Outerverse, he was too scheming.

This was Liu Tianmu's first time participating in such a plan. Though she had done many things as one of the Ten Arbiters, most matters had been left to her underlings, and she had seldom stepped in to personally intervene. At this moment, she was needing to do things herself, which was not anything she was used to, but it certainly was effective.

She did not know how the others were doing.

After half a day, Long Jue was the first to encounter trouble.

Long Tian had a gloomy expression on his face as he looked at Long Jue lying on the ground. Behind him stood the elder who had been ordered to capture Lu Yin.

"Poison? When will he recover?" Long Tian asked quietly.

The elder replied, "Although this poison is quite potent, it is not actually complicated. It can be taken care of in no more than half a day, but-"

The old man hesitated to continue.

Long Tian had a bad premonition. "Tell me."

"While this poison can be easily taken care of, it is very powerful, and so it will temporarily impact his cultivation. It will take at least half a month to completely cleanse his system, and even if we use the clan's best resources, it will still take about ten days," the man explained.

Long Tian let out a sigh of relief. He had expected that there would be permanent effects from this poison, but since the effects would only last for half a month, it did not matter. He had never planned to take Long Jue to the Dominion Realm anyways.

"Have you looked into this? How was he poisoned?" Long Tian asked.

Chapter 1419: Dominion Realm

An old woman approached and respectfully said, "There are no signs of poison being placed anywhere, and no outsiders have entered the planet. Either the poison was already there, or the poison was completely absorbed."

"Absorb?" Long Tian was stunned, and suddenly remembered something, the star essence. "Find Wen Diyi and Nong Lie immediately."

As soon as his voice fell, his communication crystal vibrated. "Junior Progenitor, Wen Diyi and Nong Lie have both been poisoned."

Long Tian let out a roar of rage and rushed straight over.

...

Within the dark red magma, Lu Yin was still absorbing star essence.

After half a day, Long Tian emerged from a training room with a solemn expression. He had just seen Wen Diyi, and the youth was suffering from the exact same poison as Long Jue, as was Nong Lie as well. Long Tian's first suspect was Liu Tianmu. She had been the only one with both the motive and ability to leave poison around.

However, Liu Tianmu had never wandered to the regions where Wen Diyi and the others had grabbed the star essence they had used, so she could not have been the one to do the poisoning. On top of that, there was a trace amount of poison in the star essence in Liu Tianmu's own training room. While this was not enough to completely clear Liu Tianmu of all suspicion, it also was not enough to prove that she had been the poisoner.

"If it wasn't Liu Tianmu, then who could have done it?" Long Qi's image flashed into Long Tian's mind, but he quickly denied the possibility. That guy was training far away from the rooms where Wen Diyi and the others trained, and there was no way to accurately locate the people who had been poisoned. Also, why would Long Qi have poisoned them to begin with? What motivation? To go to the Dominion Realm? Long Qi might not even want to go.

However, if Liu Tianmu and Long Qi were both excluded, who else was there?

Long Tian thought of the people around him. This Junior Progenitor Planet had ten Enlighters, two Envoys, plus Long Tian's own protector who was a powerhouse who had passed through six tribulations. All of these people were suspects. After all, who could guarantee that none of these people had been bribed to make trouble for him by the Celestial Frost Sect, the Wang family, or Shenwu's Sky?

Long Tian's thoughts grew complicated as he continued to consider various possibilities.

After Long Xi heard of what happened, she also had a very dark expression when she arrived. "Brother, what's going on?"

Long Tian solemnly explained, "Someone is opposing me. They've already poisoned Nong Lie and the others so that they won't be able to accompany me to the Dominion Realm."

"Poison? We still have a few days before we go to the Dominion Realm; can the poison be cured by then?" Long Xi asked with a frown.

Long Tian shook his head. "It will take ten days to completely clear the poison and its effects from their systems even with the clan's best medicines. Even if I'm willing to take them to the Dominion Realm while they're still poisoned, the powers behind them will never agree."

Long Xi frowned. "Who hasn't been poisoned?"

Long Tian looked at Long Xi. "Long Qi and Liu Tianmu."

"You don't suspect Long Qi," Long Xi said.

Long Tian snorted derisively. "Of course it couldn't be him."

"What about Liu Tianmu?"

"There's also some evidence that there was also an attempt to poison her, but it didn't work since she hasn't cultivated with any of the star essence from the Junior Progenitor Planet."

Long Xi's voice dropped/ "Liu Tianmu is the most suspicious."

Long Tian replied, "I know, but for the moment, only her and Long Qi can join me in the Dominion Realm."

"Long Qi can't go," Long Xi immediately shot down that possibility.

Long Tian stared at her. "Nong Lie, Wen Diyi, even Long Jue can't go. Aside from Long Qi, who else can I even take? When it comes to pure strength, Long Qi might not lose out to Long Jue. I know I told you before that I wouldn't take him there for your sake, but with how things have turned out, he has to go. Little sister, promise you'll stay alive."

Long Xi opened her mouth, but could not argue against her brother's logic. She had promised to bring Long Qi to the Junior Progenitor Planet, but given the current situation, she really wanted to go back in time and take that back.

"Little sister, you know the clan's rules. If you are adamant about refusing to allow Long Qi to accompany me to the Dominion Realm, how will he eventually be able to gain a foothold inside the clan?" Long Tian demanded. "You really want to be your husband's protector and provider for the rest of his life?"

Long Xi's body went stiff, but she still helplessly bowed her head. "I'll go talk to him."

"It's not a discussion. He doesn't have a choice," Long Tian said firmly.

"Even if Long Qi goes, what about the last person for the team?" Long Xi asked.

"Wen Diyi."

"Isn't he poisoned? Will the Virtue Archives agree to let him go?"

"He represents the academy himself."

The next day, Lu Yin was still cultivating in the dark red magma when a shadow covered his head. He looked up to see an absolute mountain of star essence falling down towards him.

"Finish your nineteenth cycle as soon as possible. You will accompany the Junior Progenitor to the Dominion Realm." Lu Yin heard the voice of the middle-aged man, who was feeling very helpless at this moment. Before, he had watched as Long Qi had run around grabbing up star essence, and now the older man was having to do so himself for the youth.

Lu Yin was thrilled. "I understand!"

He had succeeded. Luckily, he still had time to finish his nineteenth cycle. He was about to roll his die, but he suddenly stopped. He lifted his head and looked outside.

Since all of the participants for the team going to the Dominion Realm had been confirmed, it was likely that Lu Yin was currently under observation. Given Long Tian's personality, even if he had no suspicions of Lu Yin being behind the poisonings, the Junior Progenitor would still send someone to observe Lu Yin just to ensure that everything remained in Long Tian's control.

Lu Yin could not roll his die. He only had two days left, so there was no possibility of him completing his nineteenth cycle in such a short amount of time, but even if he failed, it would still be better than revealing his innate gift.

Two days later, Lu Yin was still absorbing the star essence, and he had not managed to complete his nineteenth cycle. At this moment, Long Tian's voice spread across the entire Junior Progenitor Planet, "Come."

Lu Yin opened his eyes and leaped out of the magma. He then flew to where he had seen the statue before.

Once he arrived, he saw that Long Tian, Long Xi, Liu Tianmu, and Wen Diyi had all already arrived.

Lu Yin was surprised to see Wen Diyi. The man had clearly been poisoned, yet he still dared to go to the Dominion Realm.

Wen Diyi showed no signs of poisoning from a glance. His complexion was clear and rosy, if slightly pale.

"Everyone's here. Get ready. We're about to go to the Dominion Realm," Long Tian told them.

Lu Yin stood next to Long Xi, and he tried to quietly sate his curiosity, "How are we going to get there?"

Long Xi was in a miserable mood at this moment. She was remembering the video she had been shown of Long Qi grabbing a large amount of star essence, so she snapped back, "The Junior Progenitor Planet will fly straight to the Dominion Realm."

"Are you serious?" Lu Yin was surprised.

Long Xi frowned. She then threw a circle over to Lu Yin. "Keep this on you. If anything goes wrong, immediately hide yourself within its protection."

Lu Yin's previous ring-shaped power vessel had been destroyed by Long Xian. He looked at the ring, speechless. "Your family's trade is ringmaking?"

Long Xi shot him a sharp glare. Her amber eyes were as beautiful as ever, but also fierce.

Lu Yin smiled back.

Long Tian glanced over at Lu Yin and Long Xi. The two left him feeling quite frustrated. Those two were clearly of one mind, while he, the older brother, was an outsider. It was dangerous to be an outsider within a team going to the Dominion Realm. Only one of the reasons that Long Tian had not wanted to take Long Qi to the Dominion Realm had been because he did not want to have to protect Long Qi.

It was impossible for Nong Sanniang and Nong Lie to join the same team, and the same was true for Liu Hao and Liu Tianmu. Having allies together on a team would leave the Junior Progenitor nervous.

However, Long Tian had no choice. Wen Diyi was able to represent the Virtue Archives and give approval for him to join the excursion to the Dominion Realm, but the Nong family had immediately refused to allow Nong Lie to go. As for Long Jue, it was not a big deal to leave him behind. He had been poisoned, and he had already been weaker than Long Qi.

"Where's Nong Lie?" Lu Yin wondered.

Long Tian coldly replied, "Something came up and he can't come."

"What about Long Jue?" Lu Yin asked again.

Long Tian frowned. "That has nothing to do with you."

Long Xi looked up. "How can that be when we're all from the same clan?"

Long Tian simply stopped talking.

Lu Yin was in a good mood. Long Xi was good to him. While she herself would ridicule and mock Lu Yin, she would never allow anyone else to do so.

As these thoughts were going through Lu Yin's head, the Junior Progenitor Planet trembled beneath their feet. Lu Yin and others on the planet were not able to see it from where they stood, but if one was far above the planet, they would be able to see that the four bridges connecting the Junior Progenitor Planets to Island of Hope had moved to form a square. Suddenly, the entire square started moving through space, rapidly rising upwards. Countless people on Island of Hope stared blankly, and as they watched, the Junior Progenitor Planets disappeared.

The Perennial World had been born from the Mother Tree, and the crown of the tree formed the Dominion Realm. Typically, a tree's crown would be larger than its root system, and this was also true of the Mother Tree. The top-most Realm, the Dominion Realm, was larger than the Lower Realm at the roots, and also larger than the Middle and Higher Realms along the Mother Tree's trunk.

According to Lu Yin's understanding of the Dominion Realm, only Progenitors could survive there. From ancient days to the present, all of the Perennial World's Progenitors, both the living and those already dead, had always resided in the Dominion Realm. This was why the Dominion Realm held the greatest legacies and resources of the entire Perennial World, and the most valuable resource was Origin Matter.

Each powerhouse needed Origin Matter in order to become a Progenitor, and Origin Matter could only be found in the Dominion Realm.

The Junior Progenitor Planets were connected to each other as they moved towards the Mother Tree's canopy at a shocking speed. Lu Yin and others were not able to see anything that they passed by, just the blur of space speeding by.

"When we get to the Dominion Realm, stick close to me and keep that ring in your hand. Don't put it back in your cosmic ring! That way you'll be able to activate with a thought, which will help keep you alive. Got it?" Long Xi quietly gave Lu Yin some words of warning. Her eyes were stern at this moment.

Lu Yin nodded. "Don't worry, your words will be my actions."

Long Xi did not know why, but every time she heard reassurances from Long Qi, she became far more uncomfortable than before. It seemed she had suffered some sort of trauma.

She glared fiercely at Lu Yin. "Just stay with me!"

Lu Yin pursed his lips. This woman had a fierce temper; he had not even said anything wrong! He had made certain to show a proper attitude, and yet still she was put in a rotten mood.

The square formed by the Junior Progenitor Planets shot through the void, rising up from near the bottom of the Mother Tree. Finally, the square stopped on one of the Mother Tree's massive Branches. Just a branch was large enough to support all four Junior Progenitor Planets.

Lu Yin and the others' eyes flickered. Gradually, their surroundings became clear to them. Lu Yin was able to see clearly. Behind, he could see an endless starry sky, while in front of him and past the statue, he could see a dense tangle of huge branches. Each one looked to be connecting the earth and sky, and they extended far out of sight in both directions.

The Junior Progenitor Planet suddenly trembled more violently than before. A leaf had fallen, and the enormous shadow of it shrouded half of the Junior Progenitor Planet.

Lu Yin had never seen such a gigantic tree. Just a leaf was large enough to cover a planet? What sort of scale was this? Also, as he looked at the leaf, he saw that it did not seem to be fully formed, and was likely relatively small.

"Everyone, this is the Dominion Realm!" Long Tian quietly informed his team as he glanced at all of them with a determined expression. "Let's go!"

With that, he leaped forward and started traveling away from the Junior Progenitor Planet in front of Long Xi, Lu Yin, Liu Tianmu, and Wen Diyi. The youths quickly followed the Junior Progenitor. They were like a line of ants invading a kingdom of giants as they stepped onto a branch.

A single branch was able to hold the four Junior Progenitor Planets, which showed the size and strength of the tree. Lu Yin was not even able to see the end of the branch. Even when he looked across the branch instead of down its length, he still could not see how far it extended. It was just too large.

Chapter 1420: Withered Glory

The four Junior Progenitor Planets were firmly atop a single branch, but the branch was so large that even its cross-section was larger than the four planets combined. Lu Yin estimated that this branch had a larger diameter than even Zenyu Star.

The moment they left the Junior Progenitor Planet, Lu Yin looked over at the other three Junior Progenitor Planets. He could sense there were people leaving each of them as well, but the branches of the Mother Tree were all forked, so it was possible that the people on the other teams would not travel the same path as Long Tian's team.

They touched down, and Lu Yin's feet stepped onto the branch, officially entering the Mother Tree's canopy. Lu Yin struck the branch, but was unable to damage it in the slightest. It was so hard.

"This is the Dominion Realm's Withered Glory region. This region is the entire goal of our excursion, as it's never been carefully explored. Only Progenitors themselves have taken a rough look at this region. This is a place that is dangerous even to powerhouses above the Envoy realm, so be careful and don't drag anyone else down with you," Long Tian said, glancing at Lu Yin.

Lu Yin immediately took out the ring-shaped power vessel, which was essentially telling Long Tian that Lu Yin did not need additional protection.

Long Tian just glanced at his brother-in-law before continuing to lead the way deeper into the Dominion Realm.

"This place has never been explored? I thought that it was said that there are inheritances from Progenitors here? None of the powerhouses from the four ruling powers ever found anything?" Lu Yin asked Long Xi in a low voice.

Long Xi indifferently explained, "It's precisely because it holds inheritances from Progenitors that we can't fully explore this Dominion Realm. Only powerhouses who have surpassed Semi-Progenitors can enter this place."

"So there's an inheritance, but not one that's been explored." Lu Yin felt this seemed odd.

Long Xi frowned. "There are rules from ancient times that no one can break. All you need to do is take care of yourself. You don't have to worry about anything else."

After half an hour, the environment they were surrounded by had changed greatly. Lu Yin turned around, only to see that the starry sky had become blocked by the Mother Tree's branches and leaves. They had not fully entered the Mother Tree's canopy. They were truly in the Dominion Realm.

There were several forks in the branches up ahead. Long Tian raised his communication crystal, and a map-like image appeared. He looked at it, and then continued forward.

Lu Yin was surprised to see that there was a map, but felt it was rather normal after thinking about it. How could the four ruling powers have been willing to allow their Junior Progenitors to enter a completely unknown danger zone? Some powerhouse must have mapped out the region long ago and left a map for future generations. The map should be guiding them towards Origin Matter.

There was a click, as though someone had stepped on something. It was a perfectly normal sound that no one would typically even notice, but in this place, everyone froze.

They were in the Dominion Realm, and the branches they were walking along were extremely hard, and it was not easy to damage them, so how could there be a crack from a simple footstep?

There were several more cracking sounds as the topmost layer of the branch cracked in front of the group. Suddenly, a cold wind swept by them as a silver-white light shot towards Long Tian. It passed over his shoulders, and then paused in the air, revealing it to everyone's sight.

It was a creature that looked similar to a praying mantis with a body the exact same color as the Mother Tree's branches.

The bug swept out a blade, and Long Tian avoided the attack. The creature turned about in the air and slashed a blade at Wen Diyi, who was closest to the bug.

Wen Diyi raised a hand, and a strange symbol appeared at his fingertips. He pointed at the mantis-like creature and sent it flying.

This bug was only about as strong as a Cruiser, and Wen Diyi was more than strong enough to utterly crush the creature. However the bug was not crushed by the attack, but instead actually seemed to be transformed by it, as its body swelled up and it became larger.

Everyone was surprised, as this was quite the strange reaction.

The dry body of the mantis-like creature quickly recovered, and it quickly grew larger and larger. Finally, it was as long as a human arm, which was four or five times its original size, and its blade was nearly a meter long.

"Don't kill it," Long Tian quietly ordered.

A number of characters appeared a Wen Diyi's fingers. "Literary Prison."

After the voice fell, the mantis-like creature was trapped by chains that were formed by characters. It could no longer move.

Behind several other people, Lu Yin was left completely stunned; Literary Prison? This place also had Literary Prison? Also, judging by Wen Diyi's posture, it was the exact same technique as the Wen family possessed in the Fifth Mainland. What the hell was going on?

Lu Yin suddenly remembered the Zijin family's Undying Bird, which was the same as the Phoenix Clan in the Fifth Mainland, though clearly much stronger. It seemed that many of the Fifth Mainland's cultivation systems actually originated from the Perennial World.

If that was the case, did it mean that the Virtue Archives where Wen Diyi came from possessed knowledge of more of the ancient characters than the Fifth Mainland's Wen family?

The mantis-like creature had been trapped within the Literary Prison, and was unable to move anything except its eyes. Those were overflowing with ferocity and cruelty.

Long Tian raised his hand. Star energy gathered at his fingertips before smashing into the bug's body. The creature then grew a bit bigger once more.

The people watching felt this thing was becoming more and more strange.

"Can these things absorb star energy?" Long Xi guessed.

Long Tian's eyes flickered, and then waved his hand. A surge of pure energy swept through the air before smashing into the mantis-like creature, causing it to yet again become bigger and fiercer.

"Not just star energy, then. Looks like this thing is able to absorb any form of energy to strengthen itself," Long Xi observed in shock.

Long Tian looked away with a frown. "It's possible that only the Celestial Frost Sect has a good understanding of this Withered Glory region."

Wen Diyi twirled his fan and folded it up. "I have heard from my elders that the Withered Glory region holds the secrets of human aging and immortality. We are in the Withered Glory region, which is where the Progenitor Ku resided. The creatures found in this region might possess the Progenitor Ku's power."

Lu Yin's eyes flashed; withered...1 Ku family... Ku Secret Art... There's another connection here.

Suddenly, he turned to look at something in the distance. "Something's coming."

Long Tian glanced over at Liu Tianmu. "Deal with it."

Liu Tianmu's sword flashed, and the mantis-like creature's head tumbled off, sliced by the blade.

Even if these creatures were able to absorb all types of energy, there was still a limit to their abilities.

Liu Tianmu killed the mantis with one swing of her sword, and the movement caused Wen Diyi and Long Xi's eyes to light up; what a beautiful sword!

There was a large group of the mantis-like creatures swarming over from the distance. Each of them was the size of a palm, and all of them had dry bodies. They were also approaching very quickly.

Liu Tianmu moved forward, step by step. Her long sword slashed out sideways, the Thirteen Swords' Tenth Sword: Star Slayer.

With one move of her sword, all of the mantis-like creatures were cut. The power of this strike exceeded the bugs' limit to absorb.

Wen Diyi spoke his admiration, "Well, with sword skills like that, there aren't many in our generation who can go up against you."

Long Tian felt quite satisfied. "As expected of someone from the Liu family."

Liu Tianmu remained indifferent.

Long Xi was warily appraising Liu Tianmu. She then whispered to Lu Yin, "Stay away from her."

Lu Yin pursed his lips; were these people really surprised by Liu Tianmu's Star Slayer? That should be impossible given the fact that Wu Taibai and Wang Yi had both been able to take on the Thirteenth Sword. Long Xi and Wen Diyi both must also have a similar level of strength. These two had to be putting on an act.

Withered Glory region had far more than just one species living there. As the team moved further into the region, they encountered more and more strange creatures. Most of the creatures were about as

strong as mantises, and Liu Tianmu was easily able to deal with them. However, they also encountered some creatures that were able to survive her sword attacks.

At one point, the team ran into a flock of dried up creatures that resembled bats. However, they each had two heads, and the second head was at the tip of their tail.

"Go!" Long Tian shouted fiercely.

The flock of desiccated bats flew towards the youths. There was an endless number of the bats, though each was as weak as the mantises. Still, the sheer number of these creatures was enough to make a person's scalp go numb, and not even Long Tian was willing to recklessly fight these creatures.

As the team pushed further into the Dominion Realm, they came across more and more rubble on the branches. This rubble seemed to be the dried bark that had been shed by the Mother Tree, but since there was no wind or rain in the entire canopy, the detritus had accumulated on the branches. Piles of debris appeared that were not as durable as the branches themselves.

Some of the piles formed hills.

In order to avoid the bat swarm, Lu Yin and the rest rushed towards a pile of debris, only to run into a massive slitted eye.

Both parties were startled, and the vertical pupil instantly shrank as a terrifying aura was released. Everyone was horrified. They had not expected to find such a terrifying creature along the branch. This was a giant desiccated python, and its aura showed that it absolutely surpassed the Enlighter realm.

It was at this moment that Long Tian's expression changed. He pulled out a strange power vessel, wanting to quickly retreat.

However, oddly enough, the snake fled even faster. While Long Tian's team had been frightened by the snake, they had also startled the python.

Everyone was completely stunned.

"That should have been because of the Ancestor Python's traces. Princess Long Xi recently went to visit the Ancestor Python," Wen Diyi observed.

Only after he spoke did everyone remember that Long Xi and Lu Yin had recently gone to pay their respects to the Ancestor Python, and so they still had traces of the ancient snake on themselves. No wonder that snake had been so terrified it had fled.

Lu Yin silently removed his ring-shaped power vessel and looked outside the pile of debris, all without making any sound.

The swarm of bats still hovered outside, as they seemed reluctant to enter the debris.

Long Tian said, "These bats seem to be afraid of the giant pythons, so they won't dare enter this place. The giant python fled because of the Ancestor Python's aura. This is a good enough place for us to rest."

Everyone let out a sigh of relief. The Dominion Realm truly was very dangerous. They had only just arrived, and already they had run into a giant python with the strength of an Envoy. If not for a healthy bit of luck, none of them might have escaped this encounter.

The bats did not leave the area outside the pile of debris for two days. They constantly circled the youths' hiding place.

Lu Yin took a guess, "This couldn't be their nest, right? They are constantly be in this area, which means they'll never leave."

"What a killjoy," Long Xi complained.

Wen Diyi helplessly spoke up, "Brother Long Qi just spoke what I've been thinking. It looks like we'll need to fight through these bats if we want to leave this place."

Long Tian suddenly spoke up, "Long Qi, use your domain to scout the nearby area."

Wen Diyi lit up. "That's right! That giant python didn't dare stick around after sensing the Ancestor Python's aura, and it never came back. Clearly, it's able to travel through this debris, and we can do the same, so long as we don't run into anything too powerful."

Long Xi also looked at Lu Yin.

Lu Yin nodded. "Okay."

With that, he unleashed his domain and slowly spread it out.

After receiving some training from Guo Shan, Lu Yin had become quite proficient at using his domain, and it spread into the distance like mercury spilled on the ground.

Sensing Lu Yin's domain, Wen Diyi was quite impressed. "Brother Long Qi, you really hid your strength! This domain has almost reached the realm of spiritual manifestation. Once you reach the void realm, you'll be famous throughout the entire Perennial World."

Lu Yin shot an odd look at Wen Diyi. This guy complimented everyone. "I'm still a long ways from reaching the spiritual manifestation stage, so I don't dare to even consider the realm of empty gods."

Wen Diyi smiled. "One of my seniors at the Virtue Archives has cultivated his domain to the realm of emptiness. If Brother Long Qi is willing, you can come visit my Virtue Archives and study."

Both Long Tian and Long Xi shot Wen Diyi looks of surprise. They had not expected this person to seize the initiative to invite Long Qi to the academy.