

## ODYSSEY 1461

### Chapter 1461: Bringer Of Misfortune

Lu Yin instantly stopped Yun Yang. The youth frowned and wanted to pick up his speed in order to leave, but Lu Yin was faster and he blocked Yun Yang's path.

There were Smokecloud disciples all around, and they glared at Lu Yin with wary eyes. Wang Dashuai was terrified; why was Long Qi trying to create more trouble at this time?

Off in the distance, Cai Shu was similarly stunned. Causing more trouble at this time would be asking for too many problems. Cai Shu was certain that the four ruling powers were all focused on the Cloud Shuttle at this moment to ensure that no news regarding the stellar liquid leaked out. Long Qi could not act so stupidly!

"What are you doing?" Yun Yang gritted his teeth as he glared at Lu Yin.

Lu Yin acted curious. "Why are you running?"

Yun Yang whispered, "The third elder is already dead, so if you don't want to die, get out of my way."

Lu Yin arched a brow. "Is this because of the stellar liquid?"

Hearing Lu Yin's words, Yun Yang instantly blanched. He had only been allowed to stay at the Cloud Shuttle because of his knowledge of the previous day's matter. In the past, the third elder had been the one to handle everything related to stellar liquid, but the recent incident had caused the Celestial Frost Sect to suffer horrible losses, and so the elder had been executed. In order to prevent anyone else from learning of the stellar liquid, Yun Yang had been selected as a replacement for the elder. After all, Yun Yang already had knowledge of the stellar liquid, and he was also part of the Smokecloud Sect.

The truth was that Yun Yang did not want the job, but he had no choice in the matter. If he refused the task, he would die.

At this moment, Yun Yang was much like a bird who had been scared by a bow. He could not wait to escape anyone who so much as mentioned stellar liquid, as he was absolutely certain that he would be the first one to die if anything went wrong.

"Even if you want to die, don't take me with you! How could you say those words?" Yun Yang quietly raged as he reflexively glanced around. He could not help but have the other Smokecloud Sect disciples pull back a bit further.

"What words? Stellar liquid?" Lu Yin was being entertained by the youth's terror, though Lu Yin also realized the seriousness of the matter. One of the Smokecloud Sect's elders had suddenly died, and it was all because stellar liquid had been found.

Yun Yang ground his teeth until he almost crushed them. "Long Qi, what do you want?"

Lu Yin shrugged. "Nothing much. I'm just curious why you're running."

Yun Yang fell silent and simply stared at Lu Yin. Yun Yang was scared of this new Gate Master, and clearly Long Qi had loose lips. Did he really not understand the seriousness of the matter?

Lu Yin did not continue frightening Yun Yang, and instead Lu Yin continued to tour about the Cloud Shuttle while accompanied by the fatty and a few other people. Though Yun Yang had wanted to run and hide, he had remembered something that had caused him to go pale, and then he trailed after Lu Yin like a thief while keeping his distance.

After a while, the Smokecloud Sect Envoy re-appeared. He said a few words to Yun Yang before fixing a vigilant watch onto Lu Yin and his group.

A respected Envoy was forced to simply watch Lu Yin and several more youths for an entire day until they finally left the Cloud Shuttle.

However, the very next day, Lu Yin arrived again, and he resumed wandering about the Cloud Shuttle.

Yun Yang and the Envoy maintained their vigil for another entire day.

The fourth day, the fifth day, the sixth day. Every single day for an entire week, Lu Yin spent visiting the Cloud Shuttle. Xia Taili had grown impatient long ago, or perhaps it was due to the warning she had received from her clan, but she did not accompany Lu Yin. The fatty similarly wanted to avoid the Cloud Shuttle, but Lu Yin forced Wang Dashui along. Yun Yang absolutely hated Lu Yin, but every time that the new Gate Master appeared, Yun Yang would watch him like he was a thief.

The Smokecloud Sect's Envoy had also grown frustrated. He was an Envoy, and he was not supposed to be a bodyguard, but every time that Lu Yin appeared, the Envoy had to watch from a distance, which was quite uncomfortable.

Yun Yang wanted to grab Lu Yin and beat him and ask why he kept returning to the Cloud Shuttle.

Cai Shu also wanted to ask Lu Yin why he was so focused on the Cloud Shuttle, but Lu Yin was still the acting Gate Master of Huaiyuan Gate. No one had the authority to interfere with Lu Yin's activities. Not even Qing Chen or the other Middle Realm Gate Masters possessed such authority.

One seventh day, while Lu Yin was still at the Cloud Shuttle. Wang Dashuai had already become numb to the situation. "Bro, where's that traitor you mentioned?"

Lu Yin instantly grew serious. "I've been observing them for more than ten days. Don't worry, we'll have results soon."

The fatty just rolled his eyes. He had lost faith in Lu Yin. In the Yinshan District, Long Qi had managed to immediately arrest multiple traitors after barely laying eyes on them. At this time, Yun Yang had grown so nervous that he had pulled back even further while watching Lu Yin. Just why did Lu Yin need more than ten days to observe a traitor?

The fatty guessed that Lu Yin was returning every day because there had been no show of support by way of donations from the Smokecloud Sect. Actually, the fatty was starting to wonder why the Smokecloud Sect was so oblivious as to ignore the tribute they owed Humility's Gate. Had it gotten lost?

Wang Dashuai had no choice but to give Yun Yang a reminder.

However, Yun Yang was helpless. His sect master was in isolation, and nothing had been decided before that. This was a matter that the sect master had to personally decide. Yun Yang had tried to explain the

situation to Lu Yin, but the new Gate Master had not understood the situation, which left Yun Yang in a helpless position.

Lu Yin leaped and landed on a cloud platform. The fatty and the others followed. They had all become numb to Lu Yin's recent behavior. Off in the distance, Yun Yang's heart skipped a beat. He reflexively glanced over at the Envoy the Smokecloud Sect had sent, Uncle Kuang.

Uncle Kuang squinted, and unconsciously, his fingers twitched.

Lu Yin calmly moved along. It looked like he was simply intending to move on to the next cloud, which he had been doing for more than ten days.

However, this time Lu Yin stopped in front of a certain man on the cloud platform. He smiled at the man.

Uncle Kuang was watching, and he instantly felt that this was not good. He immediately attacked, but it looked like Long Qi was already prepared, as he had taken out the power vessel he had received from Liu Ye and Fei Hua.

This was a defensive power vessel that had been given to Lu Yin. The ring-shaped power vessel had been destroyed in the Dominion Realm, so this new power vessel had arrived at a convenient time.

Just as the name of the power vessel suggested, a phantom willow leaf appeared when the power vessel was activated and would swirl around the user's body. At the same time, a beautiful flower would bloom on the willow leaf.

Uncle Kuang shattered the void with a hand to grab the man in front of Lu Yin, but the Envoy was blocked by Lu Yin's power vessel, and the powerhouse was left unable to move even an inch.

Cai Shu was not able to react in time to this sudden change due to his distance. He could not understand why Uncle Kuang had attacked so suddenly, but Cai Shu could also not understand how Long Qi had managed to react so quickly with putting up a defensive power vessel.

Although the power vessel managed to block Uncle Kuang's attack, the shockwave still impacted the surrounding area, and it pushed back Shang Qing and the others while simultaneously breaking apart the cloud beneath their feet.

Lu Yin grabbed the man in front of him, though the man instinctively resisted. However, the man was only an Enlightener, so how could he overpower Lu Yin? The man ended up being easily captured.

Cai Shu emerged from the void and stood in front of Lu Yin. At the same time, Uncle Kuang also appeared, and the Envoy stared at Lu Yin with bloodshot eyes. "Let him go."

Cai Shu gave Lu Yin a suspicious look. The older man had a bad premonition.

Lu Yin kept a tight hold of his captive. "I'm sorry, did you just tell me to release this traitor?"

Uncle Kuang shouted, "He's a distinguished guest of my Smokecloud Sect! What do you mean a traitor?"

At this moment, Yun Yang arrived. His face was pale. "Long Qi, let him go! Let him go!"

Lu Yin glared at the other youth. "This person has been very suspicious, and I'm quite sure he's a traitor. What is the Smokecloud Sect's intentions by stopping me from arresting people?"

The air around Uncle Kuang's body warped. The man was clearly about to explode.

Yun Yang turned his focus over to Cai Shu. "This man is the same as the person who was found ten days ago! Please release him!"

Cai Shu was shocked; this man was another mule for stellar liquid! Cai Shu looked at Lu Yin. "Long Qi, release him. Don't move on this person."

Lu Yin frowned. "Senior, something's off about this person."

As Lu Yin spoke, he squeezed his hands and exerted a bit of strength to force the man to the ground. Pain overcame the man, and he roared, "Boy, let me go! You're courting death!"

Lu Yin slapped the man, stunning him dizzy and leaving him barely conscious.

Uncle Kuang grew anxious. "Junior, you really are asking to die!"

Cai Shu's face twitched, as even he was growing a bit nervous. "Long Qi, this really is someone we can't touch. Have you already forgotten what I said?"

Wang Dashuai was in the back, and he was absolutely terrified. It was happening again! He desperately wanted to return to the Junior Progenitor Planet, even if it did mean that he would be hung from the bridge again. Even that was better than death! How was it that Long Qi kept targeting people transporting stellar liquid? This was chasing death!

Shang Qing's eyes flashed. They were close.

Lu Yin frowned and glanced back at Cai Shu in surprise. "Senior, do you mean that this person is also transporting-"

"Long Qi!" Yun Yang and Uncle Kuang both shouted as one to prevent Lu Yin from saying anything further.

Lu Yin pursed his lips. "Is that really the case? I have an innate gift that allows me to see through people, and I'm positive that there's something wrong with this guy."

Uncle Kuang quickly said, "That's all it is! Please don't make a mistake, and just let him go."

Lu Yin looked over at Yun Yang. The youth was about to cry. "Long Qi, let him go! No one wants to die, so just go with what you've been told."

Lu Yin looked back at Cai Shu once more, and the older man nodded.

Lu Yin let out a breath and relaxed his grip. "Well, looks like he really is just delivering-"

"LONG QI!" everyone shouted once again.

Lu Yin rubbed his ears and kicked the man away. "Alright! I really didn't know the deal."

He paused, and then looked at Yun Yang and the others' flushed faces. He spread out his hands in an innocent manner. "My mistake."

Yun Yang and Uncle Kuang both heaved sighs of relief. Luckily, Long Qi was not stupid and he was not pursuing the matter of transporting stellar liquid. He had immediately released the mule upon realization of what was happening, which was only right. Only an idiot would search for stellar liquid. They had been worrying about nothing for these ten days, and the transporters would be fine in the future, as Long Qi did not dare move against them.

Cai Shu also felt relieved, though he was staring at Lu Yin in surprise. How had this kid known that there was something off about that particular person?

After the incident several days before, all of the inspections for the transporters had been conducted out of sight, in order to ensure that nothing was seen by accident. However Lu Yin had a domain. While his domain was not able to pass through the visual barriers that were used to hide the inspections, Lu Yin was still able to observe people with his domain.

In the past, he had rolled a six on his die and had Possessed someone from the Fifth Mainland's Honor Mountain. The man's name was San Liang, and he was a talented individual who had also studied psychology for many years, which had allowed him to become quite accurate when reading body language. Lu Yin had gleaned a great deal of memories from the man, and had gained a bit of understanding of the man's methods.

His domain had allowed him to observe the Smokecloud Sect's disciples, and he had noticed how respectful they had been to this man. While it had not been very obvious, they had not been able to hide their subtle behavior from Lu Yin, who had used their behavior to confirm that something was off about the man he had targeted.

There had certainly been a degree of luck to the whole thing, but there had been no risk. After all, no one would say anything if Lu Yin had been wrong, but since he had been correct, it had become a big deal when he had won his bet.

Lu Yin released the man, which left everyone happy. The fatty patted his chest and finally relaxed.

Lu Yin had kicked the man away, which enraged the man to the point that he whirled around, ready to cuss Lu Yin out. However, the man was stopped by Uncle Kuang. The Envoy said something quietly, and it caused the man's expression to instantly change. He then immediately turned and made his way towards another cloud platform. He had clearly been frightened.

#### Chapter 1462: Purpose

Cai Shu secretly shook his head at the scene Lu Yin had just created. The four ruling powers silently cooperated when it came to stellar liquid. The first person Lu Yin had caught had been from the Celestial Frost Sect, but Cai Shu did not know which power the second man had come from. Still, the two men had known of each other, which meant they were both from one of the four ruling powers.

Lu Yin had found another stellar liquid mule, and though he had quickly released the man, the incident had terrified many people, and even the Smokecloud Sect's master had been scared out of seclusion.

The first thing the sect master did after leaving isolation was invite Lu Yin into the Smokecloud Sect for a talk.

Yun Yang was truly relieved at this news, for as long as his sect master stepped forward, there was no way that Long Qi would return to the Cloud Shuttle.

Lu Yin was also happy to meet the Smokecloud Sect's master, as this would lead others to believe that he frequented the Cloud Shuttle for so many days just to have the Smokecloud Sect bribe him.

The Smokecloud Sect was second only to the Liu family within the Middle Realm. They were a powerful organization that stood on the same level as the Nong family. They stood guard over the Cloud Shuttle for the four ruling powers. Legends claimed that the Smokecloud Sect came from a powerful Progenitor, but no one knew if the legend was true or not.

The Smokecloud Sect was based on a mountain that floated in the sky to the west of the Cloud Shuttle. There was no soil on this mountain, only smoke. This was the magical smoke that was the foundation of the Smokecloud Sect's disciples techniques.

The moment Lu Yin saw the Smokecloud Sect's mountain, he could not help but wonder if it was the same as the Fifth Mainland's Smoke-Eater Peaks, as the two groups seemed to have a common heritage.

Actually, Lu Yin felt that many of the Fifth Mainland's powers had inheritances from the Perennial World, and all of them seemed to be quite advanced. For example, he had witnessed powers similar to the Liu family, the Wen family, the Phoenix clan, and more.

Wang Dashuai and the others did not enter the Smokecloud Sect with Lu Yin, and he met with the sect master, Yun Mubai, alone.

Yun Mubai was the first ruler of an entire region who Lu Yin had met in the Perennial World.

The man seemed to give off the same feeling as Cai Shu, though Yun Mubai had an even more refined demeanor. However, Lu Yin felt a bit of familiarity from first sight, as the sect leader looked a great deal like Yun Tingting.

Yun Mubai smiled when he saw Lu Yin and said, "Gate Master Long Qi, I've heard about you for quite a while."

Lu Yin smiled. He did not betray any of the fierceness he had displayed when arresting people at the Cloud Shuttle. "Sect Master Yun, this junior has long admired your reputation."

"Gate Master Long Qi is the first person since the founding of Humility's Gate to become a Gate Master before becoming an Envoy. To be honest, I did not quite believe the news when I first heard it, but I've since come to accept it. It appears that the Supervisor has an exceptional eye for talent, as Gate Master Long Qi accomplished something the moment you arrived in Huaiyuan," Yun Mubai commented.

As he spoke, a young girl entered the room to serve tea to Yun Mubai and Lu Yin.

Lu Yin took a tea cup. "Sect Master Yun is mistaken. This junior did not accomplish anything, but on the contrary, I nearly created a disaster."

Yun Mubai acted surprised. "A disaster? Is Gate Master Long talking about the stellar liquid?"

Lu Yin had not expected Yun Mubai to be so blunt, as he boldly brought up the subject before the serving girl could even leave. She heard the sect master's words and looked completely shocked.

Suddenly, the girl's expression changed and smoke rose from her head before she crumpled to the ground.

Lu Yin's pupils shrank and he turned to stare at Yun Mubai. "You killed her?"

Yun Mubai smiled casually as he slowly sipped his tea. "Since she heard what I said, shouldn't she die?"

Lu Yin had encountered many ruthless people since he had first started cultivating, but he had not come across many who were capable of killing people while talking and laughing. While Yun Mubai looked elegant and refined, he was actually an incredibly cruel man.

Yun Mubai was surprised at Lu Yin's reaction. "Is Gate Master Long Qi very surprised? Words spoken between people such as you and I are not things that a mere servant can hear, and since she did hear, she had to pay the price, no?"

Lu Yin glanced at the girl's corpse and felt incredible disgust for Yun Mubai. This sect master left Lu Yin feeling very uncomfortable, though also a bit guilty. If not for Lu Yin, the girl would not have died. Yun Mubai had killed the girl as a warning to Lu Yin.

"Sect Master Yun is decisive, and you deserve your position overseeing an entire sect," Lu Yin commented indifferently.

Yun Mubai laughed. "People are also divided into different classes. There's no need for Gate Master Long to care about the lives and deaths of such ants.

"Getting back to what we were discussing, what does the Gate Master Long think about stellar liquid?"

Lu Yin looked at the sect master with cold eyes. "Sect Master Yun, what do you want me to consider?"

Yun Mubai set his teacup down and grew serious as he focused completely on Lu Yin. "Gate Master Long is from the White Dragon clan. While you are merely a member of a branch family, you still possess a superior bloodline. You should understand the rules of survival in this universe. While the stellar liquid is a taboo and forbidden to be extracted, there isn't anyone above the four ruling powers. What are your thoughts?"

Lu Yin replied casually, "The stellar liquid has nothing to do with me. I'm only concerned with catching traitors."

Yun Mubai retorted, "I only oversee the Cloud Shuttle, and I have nothing to hide."

Lu Yin sneered. "Is this the attitude that Sect Master Yun revealed when speaking with Guan Tong?"

A slight frown appeared on Yun Mubai's face, and he tossed Lu Yin a cosmic ring. Lu Yin glanced at it and found it held nearly 50 million star essence. "I'm aware that Gate Master Long needs cultivation resources and this is of utmost priority to cultivators such as yourself. It's our gift to welcome the new Gate Master to Huaiyuan Gate, and a similar gift will arrive every year. I just wish that Gate Master Long Qi will understand that there are no spies nor Redbacks at the Cloud Shuttle"

Lu Yin rubbed the cosmic ring he had just been given. In the past, such a gift would have delighted him, but what Lu Yin had just witnessed had soured his mood and he felt disgusted by Yun Mubai.

"If there are any traitors, we will know after investigating, but Sect Master Yun has no need to worry; I, Long Qi, will not disrupt the normal operations of the Cloud Shuttle." Lu Yin had lost any interest in speaking further with Yun Mubai. Lu Yin stood and prepared to leave. The expression on the girl's face as she died would not leave his mind.

Yun Mubai watched Lu Yin in a relaxed manner. "Gate Master Long, I'm not sure, but might you have met a certain girl while in the Dominion Realm?"

Lu Yin froze and turned around. "Yun Tingting?"

Yun Mubai nodded.

"I met her and we fought, but then we were separated."

This was something that Yun Mubai must have been told long before. "Are Yun Tingting and Princess Long Xi together?"

Lu Yin shook his head. "I don't know. It was too dangerous at that time, and even Junior Progenitor Long Tian wasn't able to keep Long Xi close. I was not able to pay any attention to the others. Sect Master Yun should ask the Celestial Frost Sect, not me."

With that, Lu Yin left.

Yun Mubai stared at Lu Yin's back as the youth left. No particular emotion could be seen on his face, and the truth was that he was not at all concerned about Long Qi. The first incident had been nothing but an accident, while the second had truly been a coincidence. It was possible that Long Qi had an innate gift for observing things, but it did not matter at all so long as he did not disrupt the transport of the stellar liquid.

Since the youth had been given a gift, there was no chance that he would continue to frequently visit the Cloud Shuttle. After all, he was just a child. Thinking of this caused the sect master to glance over at the corpse of the serving girl. He then left the room, still unconcerned.

Indeed, Lu Yin did not return to the Cloud Shuttle for two days after receiving the gift from Yun Mubai, which greatly relieved Yun Yang. Every time Long Qi visited, Yun Yang would watch the new Gate Master all day, and it was exhausting.

During this time, Shang Qing received a call from Yu Chen.

"So, the rumors are true. No wonder my senior has been in a bad mood for the last two days and all of the disciples have been punished. While losing the stellar liquid is a minor matter, this incident had caused us to lose a great deal of face." Yu Chen laughed.

Shang Qing watched Yu Chen and quietly listened to everything she said.

"As far as you know, did Long Qi know about the stellar liquid before finding it?" Yu Chen asked.

Shang Qing shook his head. "He didn't even know what it was."



"Then why was he trying to stir up trouble with the Smokecloud Sect?" Yu Chen was surprised, and a bit of doubt appeared in Shang Qing's eyes.

Shang Qing replied, "The excuse he gave was that he was searching for traitors, but he was really there for resources. When the Guan brothers ran Huaiyuan Gate, the Smokecloud Sect offered them a great deal of cultivation resources every year. However, the sect showed no response when Long Qi became the Gate Master, and Wang Dashuai gave a bit of a nudge, so Long Qi went along with it."

Yu Chen smiled. "So Wang Dashuai was behind it. He was sent to the Yinshan District because of a fight he had with Yun Yang, so it's certainly possible for him to instigate some trouble. Stil..."

According to Yu Chen's understanding of Long Qi, he was no longer just a son-in-law of the White Dragon Clan's main family, but was something much more. He was a truly capable person who had managed to overturn her predictions and schemes time after time. How could such a person be so easily provoked?

However, she had no explanation for what had happened aside from what Shang Qing shared. Not even Yu Chen would consider that Lu Yin was simply using the Smokecloud Sect to purposely create a massive incident that would keep Cai Shu busy so that Lu Yin could escape with Shang Qing and the others.

While Yu Chen would never be able to find Lu Yin's true motivation, she was still able to read through his actions and see that he had not merely acted in order to procure resources. If it was just for resources, why would he have nearly captured a second mule? What was the explanation for that? Yu Chen did not believe in coincidences, so she did not even consider such a possibility. With that view of the situation, it meant that Long Qi was truly too bold. How would such actions do anything other than make things worse? If that was the case... Yu Chen's eyes flashed.

"I'll give you information concerning a few other people for you to pass on to Long Qi. All of the people will be mules transporting more stellar liquid for the Celestial Frost Sect. As for your source, go ahead and tell him you received the information from me," Yu Chen said.

Shang Qing was caught off guard. "Tell him I got the information from you?"

Yu Chen nodded. "Make sure he's clear on that bit."

She then passed on the information regarding the people over to Shang Qing and quickly ended the call.

After Yu Chen's image disappeared, Shang Qing went to find Lu Yin.

"So these are all people who will be transporting stellar liquid for the Celestial Frost Sect? Yu Chen told you?" Lu Yin wondered.

Shang Qing replied, "She also told me to make sure that you knew the information came from her."

Lu Yin's eyes narrowed. That woman had a terrifying mind, and she had already seen that Lu Yin wanted to exacerbate the current situation. That was why she had sent him a few more targets. However, the people she had given information on could not be transporting stellar liquid for the Celestial Frost Sect, but must be working for one or another of the other four ruling powers.

Yu Chen wanted to see how Long Qi handled this situation, and so she had inserted her own schemes into the equation.

Lu Yin frowned. He felt like his actions had been seen through, but that did not actually matter. As soon as things blew up, he would leave. Even if he one day returned to the Perennial World, he would use a different identity. Long Qi would vanish, so preserving his identity was useless.

If not for the fact that Lu Yin was worried about Qing Chen who stood behind Cai Shu, Lu Yin would have long since left with Shang Qing and the others. He would certainly not have waited so long.

"When will these people be arriving at the Cloud Shuttle?" Lu Yin asked.

"In two months" Shang Qing replied.

Lu Yin nodded. "Then we wait for two months."

Two months soon passed. During this time, Lu Yin did nothing at all. Almost all traitors in Huaiyuan had already been caught. Normally, the Gate Master would work on the Gate's intelligence network and assist various investigations, but Lu Yin did nothing at all. The members of Huaiyuan Gate grew increasingly upset with their acting Gate Master.

#### Chapter 1463: Jade Butterfly Conspiracy

For two months, Lu Yin did not visit the Cloud Shuttle even once, which provided the Smokecloud Sect completely relieved. Also, the White Dragon Clan had also contributed to alleviating the sect's anxiety, as they had sent a clan elder named Long Quan, who sought out Lu Yin and warned him to avoid anything to do with stellar liquid.

Lu Yin acted very honest and well behaved in front of Elder Long Quan, which left the elder without much to say to the disruptive youth.

Xia Taili left Huaiyuan, as she had become bored. There was no one in Huaiyuan who was worth bullying. That was the excuse she gave for leaving, but Lu Yin suspected that the princess left because of the stellar liquid. The girl just wanted to play, and things had become too serious.

The day after Xia Taili left, the jade butterfly hidden within Huaiyuan Gate's intelligence organization who Lu Yin had been keeping an eye on finally made a move. The person sent out a message that they believed to be a secret that no one knew about. In fact, not even Lu Yin would have known about the jade butterfly without having Possessed Yu Chen's guardian.

The message that was sent out roused Lu Yin to action from his lethargy. It was time to move.

The next day, Lu Yin led Wang Dashuai, Shang Qing, and Liu Tianmu from Huaiyuan Gate and they made their way towards the Cloud Shuttle.

Some distance behind, Cai Shu was surprised that Long Qi was returning to the Cloud Shuttle. The Envoy had believed that Yun Mubai had gotten through to Long Qi.

When Lu Yin and the others arrived beneath the Cloud Shuttle, Yun Yang heard of the acting Gate Master's arrival, and it caused Yun Tan's expression to instantly change. He hurried out to meet Lu Yin.

"What is Gate Master Long doing here again?" Yun Yang asked as soon as he saw Lu Yin.

Uncle Kuang also appeared the moment he received the news. Lu Yin had left a deep impression on the Smokecloud Sect.

Wang Dashuai sneered when he saw Yun Yang's nervous appearance, but Yun Yang completely ignored the fatty. Yun Yang was aware that another shipment of stellar liquid was due to pass through, and the timing of Lu Yin's left Yun Yang very uneasy.

Lu Yin looked around. "It's been quite a while, so I just wanted to come take a look."

Yun Yang responded in dismay. He took a few steps forward and quietly asked, "Gate Master Long, might you have forgotten why my sect master said to you? Or did you forget that corpse?"

Yun Yang's words reminded Lu Yin of the serving girl who Yun Mubai had killed during their meeting, and Lu Yin's excitement instantly chilled. He turned to direct rather frigid eyes towards Yun Yang. "Are you threatening me?"

Yun Yang sneered. "Gate Master Long should consider this matter clearly! There are certain things that you can't interfere with, and does Gate Master Long really think that it's impossible for you to meet the same fate as that girl?"

Suddenly, the air was torn apart as a terrible sword blade stabbed past Lu Yin's ear and was thrust towards Yun Yang. He had not expected anyone to attack him with a sword, and he did not have any time to react. Actually, not even an Envoy like Uncle Kuang was able to react in time.

By the time anyone was able to process what had just happened, they found that Liu Tianmu's sword was out, and its tip was less than a millimeter away from Yun Yang's neck. The slightest move would send Yun Yang's head and body to two different places.

Yun Yang stared at the sword in awe. He could sense an authentic killing intent and knew that he was standing at the precipice of life and death.

Uncle Kuang grew furious. He stepped forward and raised a hand to attack the swordswoman. However, Lu Yin simultaneously raised his own hand and unleashed a Vacuum Palm. The two attacks hit the sword at the same moment, and the sword was the epicenter of a shockwave that twisted the void before blasting out with terrifying power.

Liu Tianmu's sword grew a bit unsteady, and its edge trembled.

Uncle Kuang and Lu Yin both retreated at the same time.

Yun Yang's body was blown back by the shockwave. He felt a certain tightness in his chest, and he almost vomited blood.

Uncle Kuang stared at Lu Yin in amazement. This child actually possessed enough physical strength to force an Envoy to retreat?

Lu Yin shook his hand to dissipate the residual force. He stared straight back at Uncle Kuang with cold eyes. Lu Yin had previously used a Vacuum Palm to for another Envoy, Emperor Luo, back. Lu Yin's cultivation and physical strength had both greatly improved since that time, and he had reached the point where he had become able to compare to an Envoy's strength.

If Lu Yin had actually used his golden battle force on his attack, the Envoy would not merely have been forced back a bit.

Lu Yin could not compare to the true strength of an Envoy, as there was too great of a discrepancy between his strength and that of an Envoy. However, Uncle Kuang had attacked without preparation, which had led to his suffering when faced with Lu Yin's Vacuum Palm.

Liu Tianmu retracted her sword and turned to stare coldly at Uncle Kuang.

Uncle Kuang stared at Lu Yin alone. "Gate Master Long, that was impressive."

Lu Yin coldly retorted, "Is threatening all that Smokecloud Sect teaches its disciples? I am the Gate Master of Huaiyuan Gate, and yet one of your sect's disciples actually dared to threaten me with death. If I report this matter back to Supervisor Qing Chen, I believe the old man will uphold justice."

Uncle Kuang glared at Yun Yang with cold eyes.

Yun Yang quickly spoke up, "Gate Master Long, don't spout nonsense! I never said that."

"If you didn't say that, the Supervisor will know after asking your sect Master Yun. Just wait," Lu Yin loudly stated.

Yun Yang grew flustered. If he proved to be the reason that the Supervisor of Humility's Gate's nine Middle Realm Gates stepped forward, there would be no way to escape punishment. The third elder's death had motivated Yun Yang to be somewhat meek, and he had no desire to create any problems.

Out of desperation, he took a deep breath and quickly apologized, "Gate Master Long, please forgive this little brother for his inconsiderate words. This little one had no intention of causing any offense."

Wang Dashuai felt a wave of relief. He had also been forced back by the shockwave from the colliding attacks, and the fatty had been stunned by Lu Yin's strength. Still, for the moment, it felt incredible for the fatty to see Yun Yang bowing his head.

Lu Yin stared at Yun Yang, and quickly calmed down. "I'm not an unreasonable person. Given the apology, I see no reason to pursue this matter. Don't worry, I'm not here to cause any trouble. I just want to take a look before moving on."

You wouldn't fool a ghost! Yun Yang inwardly cursed. Still, he did not know why Long Qi had come to the Cloud Shuttle. He could not believe that the acting Gate Master had plans related to more stellar liquid, as he did not believe Long Qi to be bold enough to do such a reckless thing. In the end, so long as Long Qi did not pursue anything related to stellar liquid, there was nothing worth notice at the base of the Cloud Shuttle.

"You have my thanks, Gate Master Long," Yun Yang said.

Uncle Kuang stared at Lu Yin with pure amazement. "I see the truth of the White Dragon Clan's notable physical strength. Gate Master Long did not even use the White Dragon Transformation, and yet you have such impressive strength. Honestly, there are not many Envoys who can compare to your strength."

Lu Yin casually replied, "You're overthinking things. I simply absorbed some dragon saliva."

"Dragon saliva?" Uncle Kuang, Yun Yang, and Wang Dashuai all exclaimed at once as they stared at Lu Yin with pure jealousy. Dragon saliva was not something they were ignorant about. They knew it was one of the White Dragon Clan's treasures that they took from the Ancestor Python's own body. Absorbing it allowed a person's physical strength to rise sharply.

"No wonder. No wonder." Uncle Kuang felt that he understood, and he mentally reviewed what he knew of Long Qi's past. The Envoy had first heard that the White Dragon Clan's son-in-law was a timid and incompetent person, but it had not taken long to hear that Long Qi received an inheritance from the Sword Monument that surpassed even Bai Xian'er's. There had been more and more rumors concerning this youth after that, and facing Long Qi directly had given Uncle Kuang a more intuitive understanding of this youth's abilities.

Also, it seemed that Long Qi had not even revealed his full strength yet. After all, he had received a portion of Semi-Progenitor Kui Luo's inheritance, and that powerhouse had been most skilled at using his spiritual force.

Yun Yang was shocked at Lu Yin's explanation, and he stopped lurking about Lu Yin like a haunting ghost, and instead simply watched the Gate Master from a distance, just to be safe.

Lu Yin continued to wander about below the Cloud Shuttle, and he quickly found his target, who was one of Yu Chen's jade butterflies. This particular jade butterfly had a hidden identity.

The Cloud Shuttle connected the Middle Realm to the Higher Realm, and in addition to transporting people, goods, materials, and many other types of cargo were transported. The vast majority of items could be transported within cosmic rings, but there were still many other goods that could not be transported in such a manner due to excessive volume. For example, Lu Yin saw a great deal of raw ore loaded up on the cloud platforms, as well as living creatures.

The Smokecloud Sect was typically very strict when it came to items that could not be stored in a cosmic ring, though there were exceptions. There were a few people who enjoyed the same privileges as the mules who carried stellar liquid.

Lu Yin watched as a lively young girl ordered some of the Smokecloud Sect's disciples to carry piles of goods over to a cloud platform, and no one inspected any of the goods.

Yun Yang saw Lu Yin focus on the girl and her goods, but did not feel anything, but the deputy chief dispatcher's expression changed, and he quickly winked at someone who started the cloud platform moving as soon as the last of the goods were loaded. The platform started to rapidly rise up along the Mother Tree's trunk on its way to the Higher Realm.

Lu Yin smiled gently, and then his body disappeared.

Yun Yang's eye twitched, and his heart sank when he saw Lu Yin move. He had a premonition that what would happen next would not be anything good.

Lu Yin appeared atop the cloud platform, and he used a bit of strength to shatter the cloud.

"What are you doing?" The young woman grew furious, and she raised a hand to point a finger towards Lu Yin and attack with the Celestial Frost Sect's battle technique, Celestial Being Shows the Way.

Lu Yin did not move. Suddenly, a stream of qi twined about the girl's arm and smashed her arm into her own stomach. The impact bent her almost double, and she nearly voided her stomach.

Shang Qing had moved. Both he and Liu Tianmu had followed Lu Yin up to the cloud platform.

Yun Yang raced over, and as he flew over, he received a report through the voice transmission that caused his expression to change drastically. He called out, "Gate Master Long, please be merciful."

From further away, Uncle Kuang reflexively attacked Lu Yin. The brat was making trouble once again. However, Cai Shu was not slow to react this time, and he instantly blocked Uncle Kuang's attack.

More of the Smokecloud Sect's disciples appeared one after another and they surrounded Lu Yin and others.

The young woman grew so anxious that sweat dripped from her as she stared at her pile of goods in a panic.

Lu Yin quietly stood next to the pile. Yun Yang hurried over and quickly asked, "Gate Master Long, what are you doing?"

Lu Yin glanced around before pointing at the girl. "She's traitor."

The girl grew furious. "That's bullshit! I'm a Celestial Frost Sect disciple and I follow the Junior Progenitor! How could I be a traitor? You have guts!"

Yun Yang gritted his teeth. "Gate Master Long, what evidence do you have?"

Lu Yin sneered. "Since when does Humility's Gate need evidence to arrest someone? Still, since you've asked, I'll show you."

Lu Yin then waved a hand and lifted the pile of materials. Once everything was moved, everyone saw what had been hidden: children.

No one could have imagined that children had been hidden beneath a pile of goods, and they were each no more than five years old, and they lay unconscious on the ground.

Everyone who was lined up in the area to use the Cloud Shuttle were shocked at this sight.

Yun Yang's face fell further than ever.

The young woman's body swayed; it was over! Everything was over!

Cai Shu's expression also changed, and he glared at Yun Yang with a frosty expression.

Uncle Kuang was also stunned for a moment. He had not expected to find a child being smuggled up to the Higher Realm. No one had said anything to the Envoy.

Chapter 1464: Attack

No matter where one went or what time period it was, dark and hidden things would occur. There would always be certain people who would want to train loyal puppets who would always be loyal. Such servants naturally had to be trained and brainwashed from a young age.

The children who had been discovered were to be Yu Chen's future jade butterflies, and they were being taken to the Celestial Frost Sect for group training. After they grew up, they would be sent out into the world to become Yu Chen's information gatherers.

The young woman's face grew pale. "What happened? I don't know! I don't know! Someone framed me."

Lu Yin spoke coldly, "Over two months ago, I received information from Huaiyuan gate that a nearby lord's son inexplicably disappeared. The child had a unique innate gift, and the lord searched for more than two months for his child, yet found nothing. His child was taken away to be raised as a traitor to humanity, and one of these children is likely that lord's son."

Everyone nearby went silent, and many quietly activated their communication crystals in order to call someone.

"Yun Yang, you just tried to stop me; are you colluding with traitors?" Lu Yin shouted.

Yun Yang was startled, but he quickly replied, "No! I only asked you to let that woman go because she's one of the Celestial Frost Sect's disciples."

Lu Yin's voice was cold. "You know, you kept an eye on me this entire time, and it looks like you were afraid that I would find this traitor, and Uncle Kuang is the same. Humility's Gate will need to investigate you."

Yun Yang was stunned. Even an idiot would know why he had been keeping an eye on Long Qi, so how could this Gate Master make such a claim? Wasn't this defamation? At this thought, Yun Yang immediately tried to defend himself.

Uncle Kuang's face flushed with rage, but he could do nothing. Long Qi had found reasonable evidence, and there was no denying the existence of the children, so there was no argument to be made.

This matter quickly reached Yun Mubai, the Smokecloud Sect's master. He frowned at the news. "This was discovered, but it has nothing to do with us. The Celestial Frost Sect was unable to keep their matters hidden, but there's no need for us to worry about it."

As long as the matter did not involve stellar liquid, the sect master did not care. Yu Chen had no authority over Yun Mubai.

Two months had passed without any movements on Long Qi's part, yet the moment he had moved, a traitor had been arrested. This news immediately spread throughout the Middle Realm, and also through the Higher Realm.

When Qing Chen heard of what had happened, he was as surprised as anyone. Had Long Qi discovered this matter by himself? Or did he have other sources of intelligence?

Long Qi had not visited the Cloud Shuttle for two months, so there was no way that he could have uncovered the traitor by himself, which meant that he had a source of information. Could it be the same unknown party who had helped the youth before?

Qing Chen did not know if the children had truly been captured by a traitor, but that did not even matter. There was no way that Long Qi had been wrong to save the children.

At this moment, Yu Chen was the person who was the most upset. It had been a great deal of trouble to capture those children, and every single one of them had an innate gift. They would have been of immense help to her after they had grown, and they would have become the sharpest of hidden knives that her Junior Progenitor wielded. And yet, all of those possibilities had been destroyed by Long Qi. Even more importantly, those children were not only intended to serve her, but also that person. Yu Chen could not bear the responsibility for this incident.

That night, Yu Chen called her jade butterfly in Huaiyuan Gate. The mole was tasked with finding a way to silence the girl who had been arrested so as not to implicate Yu Chen in the mess.

Kidnapping people's children and training them into loyal puppets was a terrible thing, and even if Yu Chen was a member of the Celestial Frost Sect and had no reason to fear the people who had been crossed, it was still a risk she did not want to take.

Unfortunately, the jade butterfly failed at the assigned task. The young woman who had been arrested could not be found anywhere.

As for the children, they were returned to their homes. Word of Long Qi's virtue spread, and countless people thanked and praised him.

Lu Yin had casually completed this matter, and it was merely a warm up for the big things he had planned next.

After a few days passed, Lu Yin once again led Liu Tianmu, Shang Qing, and the fatty back to the Cloud Shuttle.

Yun Yang felt like his head was going to explode when he saw Lu Yin. Yun Yang wanted to step forward to stop the Gate Master, but the most recent incident had left an impression on Yun Yang, and so he instead asked if anyone important was scheduled to ascend to the Higher Realm on this particular day.

How could Yun Yang know that Lu Yin was only targeting people as he observed them.

Yun Yang felt helpless. All he could do was watch Lu Yin from a distance. Not even Uncle Kuang dared get close, as he feared Long Qi's potential accusations.

Several days before, Lu Yin had made an accusation, and it had ended up with Yun Yang and Uncle Kuang being incarcerated for two days while they were investigated. Fortunately, they had suffered no real losses, though they had lost a great deal of face after being accused of assisting a traitor.

Regardless, both people had been keeping an eye on Lu Yin, as they had both been afraid that Lu Yin would once again expose the transport of stellar liquid. They had gained confidence that Long Qi knew what boundaries to not cross, so they felt there was no need to keep too close of an eye on the Gate Master.



Wang Dashuai felt triumphant. He had originally been worried about getting caught up in the matter with the stellar liquid, but with Long Qi no longer getting involved with such a mess, the fatty felt that he could walk sideways throughout the Cloud Shuttle.

During the two days that Yun Yang was held in Huaiyuan Gate to be investigated, the fatty had made quite a name for himself.

"Are you ready? Whether or not we can leave this universe alive will all depend on today," Lu Yin secretly spoke to Shang Qing and Liu Tianmu.

Shang Qing looked up above. "I feel it's a pity that I haven't even seen the Higher Realm."

Liu Tianmu also looked up. "True."

Lu Yin's eyes flashed. "We might have another chance in the future."

The two turned to look at him in shock; there might still be an opportunity?

Lu Yin did not explicitly state that he would make sure to return to the Perennial World, but he had not yet unraveled the full mystery regarding the Lu family. Still, he was confident that the four ruling powers were his family's enemies. He was also eager to try attacking the Perennial World with the full strength of the Fifth Mainland.

Lu Yin had several people safe on Zenith Mountain, but unfortunately, he had no idea where Xia Luo or Qiu Shi were as neither of them had ever appeared. It looked like they were both destined to remain in the Perennial World.

Before long, a disciple approached Yun Yang and whispered something.

Yun Yang instantly grew solemn. "Are they here?"

"Come, they've already landed on a cloud platform," the disciple said.

"Where's Long Qi?"

"He hasn't reacted."

Yun Yang let out a sigh of relief. He looked over at a young man with a sallow complexion. Lu Yin and his little group had already passed by the man, but they were not far away.

"By the way, one more person will be arriving soon," the disciple reported.

Yun Yang frowned. "Why are there two at the same time?"

"It's just a coincidence. It happens sometimes, and we've even had three appear at the same time before," the disciple commented.

Yun Yang waved a hand dismissively. "Don't make any show of inspecting them and just get them to leave as soon as possible. The god of misfortune is here, and if he notices anything off.. Well, I just don't want to deal with such crap again."

"Understood."

Elsewhere, Lu Yin and his companions had stopped walking and seemed to be talking.

There was a middle-aged man who was personally received by the chief dispatcher, and he was quickly sent to a cloud platform that was near to the one where the sallow-faced young man was waiting.

Everything had been observed by Lu Yin. He shot Shang Qing a glance. "Do it."

The moment the words were spoken, Lu Yin, Shang Qing, and Liu Tianmu all charged forward at the same time, racing towards the middle-aged man and the sallow-faced youth.

Off in the distance, Yun Yang's expression changed. He had been carefully watching Lu Yin this entire time. Shit, here we go again! "Uncle Kuang!"

The void twisted over Yun Yang's head, and Uncle Kuang appeared like an angry lion. He attacked Lu Yin with one hand, and this time the Envoy did not hold anything back. However, Lu Yin had already expected this, and he again used the power vessel he had received Liu Ye and Fei Hua to defend himself.

Uncle Kuang's attack was blocked by the power vessel, and Lu Yin successfully captured the sallow-faced young man. At the same time, Shang Qing and Liu Tianmu captured the middle-aged man.

Cai Shu's eye twitched; the brat was acting up again! Long Qi was making it perfectly clear that he would not make peace with the Cloud Shuttle. Cai Shu had no choice but to move to stand between Uncle Kuang and Lu Yin and the other youths.

Uncle Kuang glared at Cai Shu and quietly warned, "It's stellar liquid. Let them go."

Cai Shu's expression changed, and he turned to look at Lu Yin before quietly saying, "Let's go."

Lu Yin and Shang Qing moved together, protected by the power vessel. They both looked at Cai Shu. "Senior, these two could be traitors."

Yun Yang arrived, and he asked the disciples of Smokecloud Sect to keep back everyone on the nearby cloud platforms. He then softly threatened, "Long Qi, these two are transporting stellar liquid. Release them."

Lu Yin sneered. "Your Smokecloud Sect really is colluding with traitors! I'm starting to think that Yun Mubai is a Redback. How else would you be connected to a traitor?"

"Long Qi, don't try to slander people! Release these two, or else you won't be able to handle the consequences," Yun Yang spoke quickly, as he could not shake the memory of the third elder's fate. Yun Yang had no wish to die.

The young man who had been captured was terrified, but the middle-aged man was calmer. "We are indeed transporting stellar liquid."

Lu Yin smacked the middle-aged man back with a slap to the face. Lu Yin's eyes blazed, and Yun Yang's heart sank at the sight. This bastard was determined.

Lu Yin was unconcerned with Uncle Kuang or Yun Yang, and instead turned to Cai Shu. "Senior, trust me, these two are definitely traitors. There's something wrong with the Smokecloud Sect."

Cai Shu frowned, and his determination wavered. Naturally, no one wanted to become enemies with the four ruling powers. Long Qi already knew about stellar liquid, so it was impossible for him to deliberately cause trouble. The youth had remained quiet for two months, and he had done so for the sake of the four ruling powers. Since that was the case, why was Long Qi going after the stellar liquid mules at this time? This did not make any sense.

The only logical reason was that the two people really were traitors and that the Smokecloud Sect harbored a Redback.

Cai Shu recalled Long Qi's impressive record when it came to uncovering traitors, particularly the young woman who had been recently arrested. The more the Envoy thought, the more convinced he was of Lu Yin's words. Cai Shu suddenly looked at Uncle Kuang with suspicion.

Uncle Kuang spoke up in a deep voice, "They really are transporting stellar liquid."

He then turned to Lu Yin. "Junior, what do you want to do? Don't make a mistake and end up as an enemy of the four ruling powers. Even one of Humility's Gate's Gate Masters can die."

"Long Qi, release them and I'll prove they're transporting stellar liquid," Yun Yang urged.

Lu Yin answered coldly, "They'll run the moment they are released. We're in the Smokecloud Sect, so who is capable of proving things to me? You're claiming that they're transporting stellar liquid? That's how your Smokecloud Sect works. You use the excuse of transporting stellar liquid to get traitors into the Higher Realm. I've already received the information concerning your methods."

Cai Shu's eyes flashed; Long Qi had received information? Was this also from the unknown informant?

Cai Shu became even more convinced of Lu Yin's words, as the youth had inadvertently revealed that someone was helping him. There was no way that Long Qi was wrong. Cai Shu grew wary as he stared at Uncle Kuang. "Stand down now. I'll report this matter to the Supervisor and he will decide what's to be done."

Uncle Kuang and Yun Yang glanced at each other and immediately contacted Yun Mubai.

The entire Smokecloud Sect was thrown into chaos.

Cai Shu quickly called Qing Chen.

Chapter 1465: Forceful Accusations

Lu Yin was not worried about Qing Chen. Even if Qing Chen asked Lu Yin to release these two, Lu Yin had no intention of obeying. Lu Yin was determined to frame these two and make it look like the Smokecloud Sect was protecting traitors.

Yun Mubai was enraged the moment he received word of what was happening. His anger shook the Smokecloud Sect.

The four ruling powers also received news at the same time.

No one had expected Lu Yin to again arrest someone transporting stellar liquid, and this time he had arrested a person from the Wang family and another from the White Dragon Clan.

Yun Mubai arrived at the Cloud Shuttle to see a confrontation between the two sides.

He angrily shouted, "Long Qi, release them!"

Lu Yin grew wary, and he told Cai Shu, "Senior, he must be Redback running things! Stop him for me!"

Cai Shu naturally believed Lu Yin due to a variety of reasons. It was known that Long Qi was supported by a mysterious informant, and the three Guan brothers had indeed been Redbacks.

His gaze towards Yun Mubai changed.

The most worrying thing was that Cai Shu was not able to contact his master and did not know where his master was at the moment.

"Cai Shu, do you want to become a public enemy? Release those two! They're transporting stellar liquid!" Yun Mubai shouted, a clear threat in his voice.

Lu Yin loudly responded, "The stellar liquid they're carrying is fake! This is how your Smokecloud Sect works to get traitors into the Higher Realm."

"Long Qi, what do you want? Do you want to become an enemy of all four ruling powers?" Yun Mubai was furious. He glared at Lu Yin with eyes that radiated an unprecedented killing intent.

The previous loss of stellar liquid had caused the death of the third elder, but Yun Mubai had also been put under a great deal of pressure. At this moment, there was the risk of losing two shipments of stellar liquid. He could not afford any further accidents.

"Stop pretending, Yun Mubai! I think you're the top Redback involved in this! You murdered a person right in front of me two months ago, and it's clear that you're familiar with such acts as you showed no emotions at all to your actions. That's the same behavior as those who caused the destruction of Red Orchard City! No one will believe that you aren't Redback!," Lu Yin shouted.

Yun Mubai was furious. He had killed a chicken to scare the monkeys, yet it was coming back to bite him.

At this moment, Lu Yin's communication crystal vibrated, but he blatantly ignored it.

Yun Mubai gritted his teeth. "Your elders from the White Dragon Clan are trying to call you to tell you what these two people are doing."

Lu Yin solemnly replied, "Even if I offend my own clan, I, Long Qi, will never let a traitor go! These two are traitors, I'm certain of it."

Yun Mubai was truly left speechless, and he failed to make any sense of Lu Yin's words.

Cai Shu spoke up, "We'll take these two to Humility's Gate's headquarters. There we'll be able to confirm if they really are only transporting stellar liquid."

This was the option that had the lowest possibility of causing any complications, yet Yun Mubai rejected the offer the moment Cai Shu spoke. Transporting stellar liquid was incredibly important, and if the stellar liquid was taken back to Humility's Gate, no one could know what would happen. Even more importantly was the possibility of there being more Redbacks in Humility's Gate, and if such a person leaked news of the stellar energy, it would deal a massive blow to the four ruling powers.

This was most important, as the status of the four ruling powers could not be touched, thus, there could be no problems when it came to transporting stellar liquid.

Suddenly, Yun Mubai's communication crystal vibrated, and he glanced down to see a simple message: grab them.

He knew who had sent him the message. Since they had sent such a message, it meant that they were already prepared. Given that person's status, there was nothing that Humility's Gate could do.

This realization prompted Yun Mubai to become decisive. He formed a massive palm out of smoke, and it dropped down to envelop Lu Yin and others. The star energy throughout the entire base of the Cloud Shuttle was instantly suppressed, and that included the star energy within Lu Yin's own body, as it became unstable and uncontrollable.

Lu Yin shouted, "You want to take them back? You really are a Redback!"

Cai Shu counter attacked. "Yun Mubai, stop!"

Cai Shu was a powerhouse who had survived three stellar tribulations, but neither Yun Mubai nor Lu Yin knew just how strong the man was. Still, Yun Mubai was not weak himself, seeing how he was bold enough to try to grab two people from Cai Shu.

The void instantly shattered, and the willow leaves covered with beautiful flowers swirling around Lu Yin instantly trembled. Everyone saw the void shattering around them. Cai Shu and Yun Mubai stood at the edge of the spatial cracks. Smoke drifted and a palm image shot forward. It was a startling attack.

Uncle Kuang roared, and his arms suddenly bulged to look like the arms of a giant ape. He released a punch that broke through the void. While Lu Yin's power vessel was durable enough to block an Envoy's attack, it was still a lifeless object, and after three attacks, cracks appeared on the power vessel.

Wang Dashuai, Yun Yang, and the other youths had all been blasted away by the violent shockwaves.

Liu Tianmu attacked with her sword. Twelfth Sword: Fathomless.

There was a bang. The Twelfth Sword was formless and invisible, though it was not as unavoidable as the Thirteenth Sword. Still, Fathomless was an incredibly sharp attack, and it actually caused Uncle Kuang to pay attention to it.

Still, in the end, Liu Tianmu's Twelfth Sword used star energy, so the moment the sword technique was unleashed, the star energy within Liu Tianmu's body was disrupted, and she became unable to stabilize it. Her sword missed.

Uncle Kuang's fists continued to rain down on the swirling willow leaves and flowers, until finally the power vessel failed. The next moment, Uncle Kuang saw an umbrella fill his vision. It was the Voidsoul Umbrella which Shang Qing had obtained from the Voidsoul Palace.

Shang Qing lacked the strength to unleash the full power of the Spirit Void Umbrella, but it was still a power vessel on the level of a Semi-Progenitor, and it was not something that an Envoy could break. Uncle Kuang's fist struck the umbrella and the force of the attack pushed Lu Yin and the others back.

Shang Qing groaned, as he had been slightly injured.

Liu Tianmu looked up. Her sword moved again. She released the Thirteenth Sword.

Uncle Kuang stepped forward and was about to chase after the youths, only to suddenly have a look of shock appear on his face. Blood leaked from the corner of his mouth. He examined his heart in disbelief. He had actually been injured? How was that possible?

Liu Tianmu's face grew pale.

Lu Yin quietly urged, "Go!"

He then grabbed the other two and took off to the east.

Uncle Kuang gritted his teeth and used both hands to tear open the void before entering it. Darkness loomed over everyone's heads as they were all suppressed by a terrifying aura.

Lu Yin frowned. Envoys were basically cheats. Stellar energy was a ruthless energy, and it completely suppressed star energy. Even though Lu Yin's control of star energy had reached the Worldliness realm, it was still not enough for him to be able to control his own star energy when influenced by an Envoy. There was no need to even mention Shang Qing or Liu Tianmu. While they were powerful enough to be able to attack or even wound an Envoy, they both suffered too much of a disadvantage when facing an Envoy.

Uncle Kuang might not be as strong as Leader Hong had been at his peak, but Lu Yin had fought against Leader Hong when he had been injured and had been left unable to use stellar energy, which was an Envoy's greatest advantage. Despite Leader Hong's weakness at the time, Lu Yin had still almost lost the fight. While it was possible that Liu Tianmu and Shang Qing might be capable of a similar level of power that Lu Yin had demonstrated against Leader Hong, neither of the two was capable of displaying their full power at this moment.

Fortunately, Lu Yin had already predicted this particular situation. He had purposely asked Shang Qing to use the Voidsould Umbrella to block Uncle Kuang, and he had used this opportunity to call the Fourteenth Gate Master, which was something the Fourteenth Gate Master had authorized Lu Yin to do.

There was a tremendous boom as Uncle Kuang emerged from the void and dropped down upon the youths with a fierce attack.

Shang Qing blocked the attack with the Voidsould Umbrella, and he was barely able to resist using his Tri-Yang Technique.

Lu Yin raised his hand, and the power vessel that looked like an aquatic plant appeared over his arm before wrapping around Uncle Kuang. The Envoy did not care about the plant, and he tried to immediately destroy it, but Lu Yin had already Enhanced the power vessel, and it was tougher than when Xia Taili had used it. Uncle Kuang lacked the strength to destroy the power vessel, and his legs were bound by the power vessel and he was thrown back.

Many of the Smokecloud Sect's disciples were nearby, and they all attacked. Many of them were Enlighters.

Liu Tianmu slashed out with her sword, and no one dared to stand up to her blade.

Smoke appeared from all directions. It rose from the Smokecloud Sect's mountain, and it formed a cage that trapped Lu Yin and others.

Feeling he had no choice, Lu Yin took out his walnut-shaped power vessel. "Everyone, get behind me!"

He then lifted the small power vessel.

Uncle Kuang saw Lu Yin's actions from the distance, and while the Envoy did not know what the walnut-looking power vessel was, it made his scalp tingle the moment he saw the power vessel. Uncle Kuang had cultivated for many years, and he had developed an instinctive sense of danger, which prompted him to flee without any hesitation.

The walnut-shaped power vessel erupted, and the void condensed before exploding.

Beneath the Cloud Shuttle, the ground broke apart and the void shattered. The spatial cracks spread all the way to the Mother Tree and encompassed everything nearby.

Countless people screamed as they tried to escape.

Even Cai Shu and Yun Mubai were stunned, as neither had expected for Long Qi to possess such a terrifying power vessel.

The walnut-shaped power vessel had cut off Uncle Kuang's path to pursuing the youths, and Lu Yin and Shang Qing fled at top speed to the east.

When the effects of the power vessel finally dissipated, Lu Yin and the other two were long gone.

Yun Mubai was furious. "Follow me! We have to get those people back!"

"Yun Mubai, are you really a Redback?" Cai Shu glared at his opponent.

Yun Mubai gritted his teeth and glared at Cai Shu, still raging. "I'm not! You're falsely accusing me of this!"

Cai Shu's communication crystal suddenly trembled. Qing Chen was calling.

Cai Shu instantly answered the call. "Master! Long Qi caught two traitors, but the Smokecloud Sect is trying to protect them."

Qing Chen was startled. "The Smokecloud Sect is protecting traitors?"

Across from Cai Shu, Yun Mubai roared, "Senior Qing Chen, those two people are transporting stellar liquid for the Wang family and the White Dragon Clan! Neither of them are traitors, but nothing can happen to them!"

Cai Shu interjected. "Long Qi received this information from his informant! The child is certain that there is a Redback in the Smokecloud Sect and he arrested those two as traitors. He also claimed that the Smokecloud Sect is using a front of transporting stellar liquid as an excuse to send traitors up to the Higher Realm."

"That's ridiculous!" Yun Mubai roared. He was going crazy, as it felt like the entirety of Humility's Gate was ganging up against him.

This was such a headache! How could everything have happened? Shaman God had not tried to make a move on Long Qi, and instead, one problem after another had popped up until Qing Chen was no longer certain what was happening. He only had one option. "Don't let anything happen to Long Qi and capture the two traitors."

"They're not traitors!" Yun Mubai roared.

Cai Shu answered, "Yes, Master. Your disciple is holding Yun Mubai back."

Yun Mubai was ready to cough up blood. If Supervisor Qing Chen's words proved true, Yun Mubai would really end up suffering. He had never expected that a prominent sect master like himself would one day be falsely accused of such a thing.

The Smokecloud Sect had not always been the guardian of the Cloud Shuttle, and they had gained the role through the support of the four ruling powers.

After Lu Yin had used the walnut-shaped power vessel to break free of the Smokecloud Sect, the sect's entire forces, including their hidden powerhouses, moved out to form a net that encompassed heaven and earth to ensure that Lu Yin was surrounded and trapped.

It was impossible for Lu Yin and his companions to escape no matter which direction they fled. They were in a location that was the gateway to the four ruling powers.

Lu Yin had expected for the Cloud Shuttle to have terrifying defenses, but he had not expected for there to be two Envoys. In addition to Uncle Kuang, there was also a fierce-looking woman.

The void tore open and the woman appeared. She held a bizarre weapon that transformed into countless snakes that bit at the youths from every direction.

Lu Yin and Liu Tianmu attacked as one, and fortunately, the small snakes were only weapons, not power vessels, and they were easily destroyed.

However, the female Envoy suddenly appeared from the belly of one of the small snakes, and she lifted a hand that formed a claw and she grabbed for Liu Tianmu.

#### Chapter 1466: Meeting Place

Liu Tianmu tried to force the female Envoy back with her sword, but the Envoy dissolved Liu Tianmu's star energy the moment the attack touched her. That showed the absolute suppression that stellar energy had over star energy.

There was a bang. Liu Tianmu was struck in the abdomen, and blood splattered to the ground.

Lu Yin used a hand to shove Liu Tianmu behind himself while raising his other hand to release a Vacuum Palm.

The female Envoy raised a clawed hand to block the Vacuum Palm. There was a violent crash, and the void shattered. Lu Yin was forced back a few steps, but the woman was also forced back.



She was shocked. A Hunter could actually force an Envoy back?

Just as she was about to resume her attack, the ground beneath her feet took on a life of its own and pushed her up. At the same time, countless sharp swords filled the air around her.

The Envoy snorted derisively, and her bizarre weapon swept out, knocking away all of the attacks. At that moment, a horrifying domain spread out, and the pressure made the woman feel as though the sky was falling.

The woman let out a low shout as she broke free of the ground and disappeared. She had entered the true universe.

When she reappeared, she was right in front of Shang Qing, the sallow-faced young man, and the middle-aged man. She attacked Shang Qing, who raised the Voidsoul Umbrella to block the Envoy's attack.

Her hand slapped against the umbrella, but she was the one who was forced back.

The woman was an Envoy, but she was far from possessing enough strength to overpower a power vessel that was as powerful as a Semi-Progenitor.

"Long Qi, it really is you!" There was a loud shout as Guo Shan appeared. He was the one who had momentarily blocked the Envoy with his domain.

Uncle Kuang and a vast number of the Smokecloud Sect's disciples gave chase from behind Lu Yin and the others.

Lu Yin had no time to catch up with Guo Shan. "Hurry up and block those people! They're trying to rescue these traitors!"

Guo Shan was left speechless. "Is the Smokecloud Sect trying to rebel?!"

Several more figures appeared in the area, each of them a member of the Fourteenth Gate. They worked together to stop the Smokecloud Sect disciples from advancing, but there was no one who could stop Uncle Kuang.

At this moment, Lu Yin no longer wished to hide anything. He was being attacked by two Envoys, so he returned to a method that he had not used in a long time. The power vessel that looked like an aquatic plant appeared the moment the Envoy emerged from the void and bound the man's legs. Uncle Kuang roared in annoyance. Even though Lu Yin had Enhanced the power vessel several times, it was still just a power vessel, and it was being controlled by a Hunter. It was impossible for it to defeat Uncle Kuang.

However, Lu Yin had never intended to use that power vessel to defeat an Envoy. The instance the Envoy was restricted by the power vessel, Lu Yin pulled out the sourcebox array that he had taken from Bai Shaohong—the open sky formation.

It was an original treasure formation which had been incorporated into the Celestial Frost Sect's ultimate combat technique: Void Rip.

Lu Yin instantly attacked, and two dots connected to form a black line that swept out. The sight of this attack terrified Uncle Kuang, and for the first time in this battle, he pulled out his own power vessel for

protection. However, Lu Yin used the Yu Secret Art to shift the power vessel the slightest bit away. It was just enough for the Void Rip to bypass the power vessel and slash through Uncle Kuang's neck.

No one nearby saw what happened. Uncle Kuang's attack had disrupted the nearby star energy, and it had also distorted the void. All anyone saw was a vague image of Lu Yin and Uncle Kuang fighting, but there were no details to be seen.

The moment Uncle Kuang died, the star energy in the area returned to normal, which allowed everyone to see the fresh corpse.

Elsewhere, Shang Qing had summoned Progenitor Hui to stall the female Envoy by taking advantage of Progenitor Hui's As If Closed sourcebox array. However, their fight did not drag out. Shang Qing could only use star energy, and the same was true of the Progenitor Hui that he had summoned. His star energy was quickly dissipated, and the Envoy set a hand on Shang Qing's chest. However, she quickly discovered that Shang Qing was unharmed.

"Impossible!" The woman was startled.

Shang Qing raised a hand. "Banishment."

The secret technique instantly forced the woman a thousand meters back. At the same time, Lu Yin killed Uncle Kuang and rejoined the other youths.

The woman saw Uncle Kuang's corpse, and her pupils shrank. She turned to stare at Lu Yin in utter disbelief. How in the world had a Hunter managed to kill an Envoy?

Uncle Kuang's death left the woman terrified of Lu Yin.

Lu Yin seized this opportunity to lead his group further east.

He had already known that his actions would kick up quite a fuss, but the full reaction had exceeded all expectations. Lu Yin had touched upon the four ruling powers' bottom line, and even worse, some of the people within the four powers already held grudges against Long Qi.

An old woman had descended from the Higher Realm the moment she had learned that Lu Yin had arrested two mules.

Simultaneously, many other powerhouses descended upon the Middle Realm, and all of them were Envoys. Lu Yin had shaken the four ruling powers themselves.

At the White Dragon Clan's Dragon Mountain, Patriarch Long Ke's expression was terrible. There was an old man in front of the patriarch, and the old man said, "A son-in-law from a mere branch family dares to disobey the main family? This is simply outrageous."

"Long Qi doesn't know that one of the people transporting the stellar liquid is from my White Dragon Clan," Long Ke said cautiously.

The old man shouted back, "Yun Mubai already told him!"

Long Ke replied, "He is certain that those two are traitors. There should be a reason for this."

"Hmph! Patriarch, why would he dare to not even answer this elder's call? He clearly has no respect for his elders. If we suffer a loss of stellar liquid because of him, then who can take responsibility? Even more importantly, the loss won't come from outside the clan! We'll be seen as a joke," Long Quan sneered.

"That old woman, Wang Si, has already headed out. There's no way that child will be able to survive. You know her temper—no one can change her mind. I just hope that we won't suffer a loss of stellar liquid. If that is lost, then that old woman will definitely place the loss on our heads and come here to collect." The old man shook his head in a helpless manner.

Long Ke's expression grew even worse after hearing about Wang Si.

The four ruling powers had dispatched top experts to the Middle Realm from the Higher Realm, but they had other means of traveling between the realms and did not need to use the Cloud Shuttle like others. In short, they were able to travel much faster.

Everyone became absolutely certain that Lu Yin and his group would soon be trapped by the four ruling powers' experts and that the youths would suffer a miserable end.

However, Lu Yin was of a different mind. Uncle Kuang's death had made the female Envoy scared of Lu Yin, and she did not dare to push the youth too far.

The woman had been surprised to see that Long Qi had comprehended a secret technique, but it was only a mild surprise. After all, Lu Yin came from the White Dragon Clan, and naturally, such a powerful organization was capable of retaining one or two secret techniques.

While it was impossible for Lu Yin to escape from the Envoy's senses with the Ce Secret Art, he was still rapidly approaching the rendezvous point that Unseen Light had mentioned. Lu Yin estimated that he only needed another half hour to arrive.

"Are you sure that we'll be able to return from there?" Lu Yin asked.

Shang Qing was confident. "Absolutely."

"If we can't go back, then we'll be in huge trouble," Lu Yin solemnly warned. He had used his walnut-shaped power vessel, the Ce Secret Art, and a sourcebox array to kill Uncle Kuang. Lu Yin could not return, as he had no way to explain any of this.

Cai Shu and Yun Mubai were still stuck in a stalemate below the Cloud Shuttle. After almost thirty minutes passed, Qing Chen finally arrived. A wave of his hand forced Yun Mubai back, and the sect master did not dare to move again after seeing Qing Chen.

"Where are the ones being arrested?" Qing Chen asked as he looked at Cai Shu.

Cai Shu was somber. "They were headed east, but I don't know if they were captured. People from the Fourteenth Gate are doing their best to stop the Smokecloud Sect."

Qing Chen glared at Yun Mubai with frosty eyes. He was just about to head east himself, but he suddenly stopped and turned to look in a certain direction. The void twisted before Qing Chen's eyes, and an old woman emerged.

Yun Mubai was thrilled when he saw the old woman. "Senior."

The old woman was Wang Si, a Semi-Progenitor from the Wang family. She was also the person who had ordered Yun Mubai to grab the two mules.

"Where are they?" Wang Si stared at Yun Mubai with a stern expression.

Yun Mubai's face twisted as he answered, "They headed east."

Wang Si sneered. "A son-in-law from one of the White Dragon Clan's branch families dares to become an enemy of the four ruling powers? Where did he gain such courage?"

"Elder Wang, it's been a long time," Qing Chen said.

Wang Si had already noticed Qing Chen, and she had meant for him to hear everything that she had said. "Qing Chen, your Humility's Gate is growing more and more audacious. People even dare to stick their fingers into something like this."

"My Humility's Gate's Commander established this organization to find and arrest traitors. Why do you want to stop one of my people?" Qing Chen asked.

Wang Si sneered. "Don't try to trick this old woman. Neither of those two are traitors."

Qing Chen frowned. Wang Si's appearance had already led him to this assumption. If either of the transporters were traitors, then the Wang family would have never sent out this elder. Without arresting a real traitor, it was possible that the mess that Long Qi had created would make it impossible to keep the youth alive.

Even though Qing Chen and Wang Si were both Semi-Progenitors, Qing Chen was well aware of Wang Si's strength. Everyone in the four ruling powers was wary of this old woman, and she had the direct backing of a Progenitor. People could not afford to offend such a powerhouse.

"Alright, let's head out. This old woman needs to see how a mouse grew so bold as to mess with my business." With that, Wang Si headed east.

Qing Chen let out a silent sigh while making his way east as well.

At this time, Lu Yin finally arrived at the rendezvous point with Shang Qing. It was beneath a perfectly normal mountain. This was the place that Unseen Light had told Lu Yin would take them back to the Fifth Mainland.

"It's right beneath that mountain," Shang Qing said. They were finally going back home. This trip to the Perennial World had been a long one.

Lu Yin turned around, and he saw the female Envoy staring at them. She was the only one who had managed to catch up.

He felt that he should thank her for not blocking their path too much. She had merely stared at Lu Yin and the others. If she had wanted to make things difficult, then it would have taken them double the time to arrive at the rendezvous location.

It was not that the woman did not want to stop Lu Yin and the other youths, but rather that she was afraid of them. She was a bit weaker than Uncle Kuang, and even he had died. Thus, she felt that she stood no chance at all.

She was not someone who sought out danger and adventure, which was why she had remained at a place like Cloud Shuttle. If she was different, then she would have joined the Star Alliance long ago.

The best that she could do was keep her distance while keeping an eye on Lu Yin and the others.

"It's time to go back." Lu Yin sighed emotionally. He was not worried about Cai Shu, but Qing Chen was someone else to consider. The Supervisor was a Semi-Progenitor, and although Arch-Elder Zen and the others who had sent the youths to the Perennial World were also Semi-Progenitors, Lu Yin was still very nervous. As for the female Envoy, Lu Yin was completely unconcerned.

He turned to Shang Qing and Liu Tianmu and led them towards the mountain.

Suddenly, the small group stopped, and everyone's expressions changed.

None of them could determine when a smiling old man had appeared in front of them.

It was nothing strange to run into other people on a mountain like the one that they were on, but this old man stared at the youths with a smile that made them all feel incredibly uncomfortable.

Lu Yin and Shang Qing glanced at each other. They both intended to simply ignore the man and leave.

The old man opened his mouth and spoke with a smile. "Children, where are you headed? This old man is very familiar with this place, so I can guide you."

Lu Yin's expression grew sharp. "There's no need to go out of your way, old man. We know where we're headed and can find it ourselves."

"Go alone? That won't do. This old man's favorite pastime is helping others. Come now, tell me, where are you headed? This old man will lead you to it." The old man had a strange smile, and the atmosphere only grew more uncomfortable as time passed.

Chapter 1467: Reversal

Lu Yin frowned. Then, without any hesitation, he attacked with a Vacuum Palm. However, even though the old man did not make even the slightest bit of movement, the Vacuum Palm vanished.

Lu Yin's expression changed, and he stared at the old man in fear.

The old man observed Lu Yin's hand with a bit of surprise. "What a powerful physique. Also, a good use of the Overlaying Stacks Path. Kid, were you just trying to beat little old me? That's no good! You should respect the old and cherish the young."

Lu Yin wiggled his fingers. He could not afford to get entangled with this man, as the pursuers would catch up soon. The old man was standing in front of the youths, and Lu Yin's Vacuum Palm was useless. Clearly, this man was an Envoy, and not an ordinary one at that. He was obviously stronger than Uncle Kuang, as there was no other way for him to have simply ignored Lu Yin's Vacuum Palm.

At this thought, Lu Yin took out the power vessel that looked like an aquatic plant, and it wrapped around the old man. "Let's work together to deal with him."

One of Shang Qing's qi streams shot forwards, and Liu Tianmu instantly used the Thirteenth Sword. She had actually been readying herself all this time.

The old man continued to just stand there as he had been without moving in the slightest. The ancestral qi and the power vessel were unable to approach the old man, and Liu Tianmu's Thirteenth Sword had no effect.

All three were horrified, as this was not a normal reaction!

The old man turned to look at Liu Tianmu and raised his eyebrows. "So, it's the Liu family's lost Thirteen Swords, and that was even the unavoidable Thirteenth Sword. It really is the pinnacle sword technique. Not bad. Not bad."

Lu Yin asked quietly, "Who might senior be? Why have you stopped us?"

The old man showed the same strange smile as before. "This old man just heard what you were talking about. You're trying to return to that place, right?"

Lu Yin's heart sank.

"Haha, return? Return where? Kid, can you tell this old man where you're headed?" the old man asked with blatant interest.

Lu Yin's expression grew sharp. "Senior, you can come with us, if you like."

The old man shook his head. "You're a sneaky brat, trying to pull one over on an old man like me. Unfortunately for you, this old man has no interest in returning to where you came from. I simply heard that you were headed back there and that you were about to succeed, so I came to this place to stop you."

Lu Yin's eyes blazed with killing intent. "Was senior sent by the four ruling powers?"

The old man sneered, "What are those four ruling powers? Do they qualify to give this old man orders? The worse off they are, the happier I am."

"If that's the case, then I can tell you that they will be hurt the most if senior lets us go," Lu Yin suggested.

The old man smiled and shook his head. "There's something else that I forgot to mention. This old man not only enjoys seeing the four ruling powers suffer, but I also enjoy watching everyone suffer. The more uncomfortable people are, the happier this old man becomes! Hahahaha."

Lu Yin did not say another word. Instead, he took out the sourcebox array and released a Void Rip. A black line appeared between two points before shooting towards the old man. At the same time, the power vessel that Lu Yin had received from Xia Taili entangled the old man. Lu Yin did not want to waste any more time here.

The old man was caught off guard. "The Celestial Frost Sect's Void Rip? Kid, how do you have this? This old man is getting more and more curious about you."

Lu Yin's pupils shrank to pinpricks. He had believed that Void Rip would be able to force the old man to move, especially after he was bound by the power vessel. In fact, Lu Yin had intended to kill the old man, and he had not expected the attack to be completely useless.

"Stop struggling. That umbrella is the only thing you have that's worth my attention. Everything else you have is worthless," the old man said with a yawn.

Lu Yin's heart lurched and he blurted out, "Are you a Semi-Progenitor?"

The strange smile returned to the old man's face. "You're sharp."

Lu Yin and the other two lost all hope. It was over for them. This man was a Semi-Progenitor. A Semi-Progenitor! Even if Arch-Elder Zen were present, while he could fight a Semi-Progenitor, it would be impossible for him to easily escape. Everything was over.

Who could have expected that their path would be blocked by a Semi-Progenitor? This was a terrible joke.

Lu Yin exhaled. "Well, this is just life."

He was already plotting a means of explaining everything that he had revealed earlier.

Shang Qing and Liu Tianmu both had ugly expressions, but they knew that it was impossible to escape. Everything was open and clear in front of them, but the old man who stood there was blocking their path like an insurmountable mountain.

When the old man noticed that Lu Yin and the others had stopped resisting, he murmured something about 'boring.' Suddenly, his eye twitched. He looked back at the woman who had been shadowing Lu Yin and the others. "People from the four ruling powers? How annoying."

The woman then strangely disappeared. It was as though she had been swallowed by the void.

Lu Yin and the others lost their last trace of hope when they saw this. They possessed no means of escaping from an Envoy, and yet this old man had eliminated their threat like she was nothing. They were not capable of doing anything to this old man.

"What is senior thinking?" Lu Yin asked.

The old man's strange smile returned, and his lips moved. However, Shang Qing and Liu Tianmu were not able to hear anything, only Lu Yin.

Lu Yin's mouth slowly fell open from disbelief. "Really?"

The old man's mouth curled into a smile. "Believe whatever you want. Do you even have a choice?"

Lu Yin's expression changed as he pondered what to do.

"Come on, kid. Life or death, it's up to you," the old man urged before disappearing.

The next moment, two people appeared in the sky. Despite their sudden appearance, the void remained calm. They were Qing Chen and Wang Si.

The two Semi-Progenitors had arrived, and the pressure that they exuded caused space itself to roil from the unbearable force. The mountains and the ground beneath them along with the stars above all trembled from the terrifying auras.

Lu Yin and the other two put on their best behavior when facing the two Semi-Progenitors. They immediately released the two captives, though they remained unconscious and were simply shoved to the side.

Wang Si looked down at Lu Yin's trio, though most of her attention remained on Lu Yin. She had fierce eyes, but they also contained a playful glint. She had not taken action in a long time, and it was very unexpected that some measly Hunter had forced her out again.

"Long Qi, tell me what happened." Qing Chen made sure to speak before Wang Si, as there was a possibility that the old woman would not even give Lu Yin a chance to speak for himself. Qing Chen was familiar with Wang Si's personality, and it was not impossible for her to immediately attack.

The entire Perennial World knew how ruthless this old woman was.

Lu Yin moved a few steps forward and respectfully asked, "Lord Supervisor, where is Yun Mubai, the Smokecloud Sect's master?"

Qing Chen replied, "He's still back at the Cloud Shuttle."

"Could you have him come here? Your subordinate would like to confront him in person."

Wang Si was taken aback, and she looked at Lu Yin oddly. "Confront him? About what? Those two are nothing more than mules for smuggling stellar liquid, and yet you used them as hostages to escape to a place like this. To what end? I'm quite curious."

Lu Yin answered in a respectful tone, "This junior's purpose was quite simple. I stirred things up at Cloud Shuttle and drew out the Smokecloud Sect's powerhouses in order to give Captain Wang the opportunity to search for evidence."

Wang Si asked, "Evidence of what?"

She had become truly curious. She had thought that Long Qi was completely wrong, and she had intended to simply kill him, but it was starting to look like she had been wrong.

Lu Yin quietly answered, "Yun Mubai is a Redback."

Wang Si was shocked.

Qing Chen trembled. "What did you just say? Yun Mubai is a Redback?"

Shang Qing and Liu Tianmu both stared at Lu Yin, speechless. That accusation had been unfounded slander thrown out in order to make a mess of things at the Cloud Shuttle. Just how was Lu Yin planning to turn that accusation into reality?



"If you two seniors don't believe this, then you can go to Smokecloud Sect. Captain Wang should have found the evidence by now," Lu Yin solemnly suggested.

Qing Chen and Wang Si glanced at each other. "Okay, let's all go."

With that, Qing Chen brought the youths with him, and everyone made their way back to the Smokecloud Sect.

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Elsewhere, Wang Dashuai was looking around at the unfamiliar setting. He felt incredibly confused.

Lu Yin had suddenly kicked the hornets' nest at the Cloud Shuttle and incited a veritable war. Battles had immediately erupted around the fatty, and he had been blasted away, his ears ringing. He had then hid himself, and he had not expected to suddenly arrive in such a place. There were currency cards and numerous power vessels abound. The few things that he was able to identify were truly amazing treasures.

What the hell? Who had brought himself to this place?

He looked around but could not find the exit. He was in a hurry to leave. But in his rush, he found a scarlet eye with a vertical pupil. This belonged to a Redback, as no one else would ever touch such a thing!

Wang Dashuai tried everything that he could think of to escape, but it was all futile. All he could do was wait. Someone had sent him to this place, so someone would definitely come back for him. The fatty was quite confident in this. Still, with the scarlet eye present, the fatty hoped that no one was trying to frame him! If they were, he would not take it lying down.

After he waited for a while, the entire place vibrated, and then the ceiling of the location was suddenly removed, allowing the fatty to see cloud and mist outside. Isn't this the Smokecloud Sect?

After a moment, the fatty saw Lu Yin, Qing Chen, and Wang Si.

"Wa- Wa- Elder?" the fatty exclaimed.

"Captain Wang, did you find any evidence of Yun Mubai's collusion with the monster?" Lu Yin spoke up, and his voice startled the fatty.

Yun Mubai colluded with monsters? He's a Redback? The fatty suddenly realized that he was inside the Smokecloud Sect, which caused him to jump. He reflexively pointed to something some distance away. "Look, I found something."

Qing Chen and the others all saw the scarlet eye with a vertical pupil off in the distance, as well as a pile of power vessels.

The entire Smokecloud Sect was shaken. Many of the disciples saw the scarlet eye with the vertical pupil, and it terrified them. There really was a Redback in their Smokecloud Sect.

Lu Yin let out a sigh of relief. This was what that old man had mentioned to Lu Yin. Lu Yin had never considered that Yun Mubai could really be a Redback.

Lu Yin had originally made a baseless accusation without considering the possibility of it being true. It was no wonder why Yun Mubai had reacted so strongly to the accusation.

Lu Yin felt grateful towards the old man, who had transferred Wang Dashuai to this hidden place.

Yun Mubai and Cai Shu arrived at this moment, and they both saw the exposed scarlet eye. Yun Mubai immediately turned to flee, but he suffered the exact same fate as Guan Tong. It was impossible for the sect master to escape.

Qing Chen had never expected Huaiyuan to hide so many Redbacks. First, there were the three Guan brothers, and now, there was Yun Mubai. The supervisor did not even dare to imagine how long these people had been Redbacks for or how much damage they could have done to humanity if Long Qi had not exposed them.

Yun Mubai's face had gone pale, and he did not say a single word in his own defense. Everything had happened so suddenly that the sect master had not had even the slightest bit of time to understand what had happened. Who could have predicted such a move from Lu Yin when not even Lu Yin himself had known?

Qing Chen looked over at Lu Yin. "How did you discover that he's a Redback? How did you uncover that location?"

Lu Yin replied in a respectful tone, "Doesn't the supervisor understand this underling's abilities?"

Qing Chen understood that Long Qi had received another piece of information from that unknown source. With this, Qing Chen's appreciation for Long Qi rose even more. This child had connections to hidden information that not even Humility's Gate could find. Who was behind this child?

Wang Si had never expected such a reversal. She had assumed that Long Qi was spouting bullshit, and she had never expected the youth to actually uncover a Redback. "Kid, you purposely accused those two mules of being traitors just to empty out the Smokecloud Sect?"

"Yes. This junior seized those two and fled the Smokecloud Sect with them in order to avoid Yun Mubai's suspicions to give Captain Wang the opportunity to take action."

The fatty had a blank look on his face, but since Long Qi was dishing out compliments, the fatty gladly accepted them.

Chapter 1468: Pretty Far

Wang Si glanced over at Wang Dashuai, rather impressed with the fat young man. This was the same youth who had sent two trespassers to join Wang Su's team in the Dominion Realm. "Your achievements and mistakes are now equal."

The fatty grew excited. "Thank you, elder!"

He actually did not feel the need to gain further achievements—he just wanted to rectify his previous mistakes. Previously, Wang Dashuai had truly believed his life to be over.

Huaiyuan was located in a very important location, and the Smokecloud Sect had been placed in charge of overseeing the path that led to the four ruling powers in the Higher Realm, as well as transporting contraband such as stellar liquid for the four behemoths.

If any of the recent incidents were exposed, then it would be a massive blow to the four ruling powers. While nothing that had happened was enough to jeopardize their actual power, the events were certainly enough to damage people's opinions of the Perennial World's overlords.

Throughout everything that had happened, the people transporting the stellar liquid had been the most unfortunate. They had believed that they could be lawless since they had been acting on behalf of the four ruling powers, but after the recent unforeseen events, many of the couriers had grown nervous and were feeling rather traumatic.

Despite the methods that Lu Yin had used, and the fact that he had risked the four ruling powers' interests, he had still managed to uncover Yun Mubai as a Redback, which was an incredible achievement. Not even Wang Si could hold Lu Yin's actions against him.

The Smokecloud Sect suffered terribly from the incident, and they were forced to ask their Semi-Progenitor to step out and take charge of the sect.

There were very few groups throughout the entire Middle Realm who had Semi-Progenitor powerhouses, but the Smokecloud Sect was one of them.

There was no need for Lu Yin to worry about any sort of aftermath. The moment that Yun Mubai was verified to be a Redback, countless cheers and words of amazement were sent to him. Countless people in both the Middle Realm and the Higher Realm began to admire Long Qi. A person did not need to look around to know that there were very few people who would risk becoming an enemy of all four ruling powers. The slightest mistake would spell death.

This was not something that could be pulled off with mere courage.

Still, the matter had not ended there without any questions. Thinking about the situation would reveal better methods of exposing Yun Mubai as a Redback, but since the results spoke for themselves, it was difficult for anyone to question what had happened for the time being.

There were many people who were puzzled by the walnut-shaped power vessel that Lu Yin had used, as well as how he had managed to kill Uncle Kuang, and that was not even mentioning the secret technique that he had used. Still, it was not yet time to ask such questions.

Lu Yin told Qing Chen that he was tired and wished to return to rest, and Lu Yin even coughed up a bit of blood. Shang Qing and Liu Tianmu had both been injured, as had Wang Dashuai.

Qing Chen quickly tasked Cai Shu protecting Long Qi and then sent them back to Huaiyuan Gate while forbidding anyone from disturbing the young Gate Master.

After Lu Yin returned to the headquarters, many members of Humility's Gate who were stationed there looked at him with admiration. Their eyes blazed with respect and fanaticism.

Within the crowd, Lu Yin spotted the old man who had stopped Lu Yin and the others from returning to the Fifth Mainland. Lu Yin's eyes narrowed. This old man clearly was not just watching them, and he had

definitely been observing Lu Yin for quite some time. If that were not the case, it would be impossible for the old man to be in Huaiyuan Gate.

After dismissing the crowd, Lu Yin fell into a bad mood. He had just used his walnut-shaped power vessel, exposed the fact that he had a secret technique, revealed the aquatic plant-shaped power vessel, and even more cards. He had completely offended the Smokecloud Sect, and he had not even managed to return to the Fifth Mainland. This incident had been a complete failure.

Shang Qing and Liu Tianmu both returned to their own quarters to rest in peace. Wang Dashuai had been silent the entire time, but after entering the headquarters, he asked, "How did I end up in the Smokecloud Sect?"

He was not stupid and wanted to know this detail.

Lu Yin answered in a serious tone, "I arranged for someone to put you there."

The fatty frowned. "Then why didn't you give me some heads up? Also, since you were able to get someone to find that place, why even bother sending me there?"

Lu Yin was at a loss. "Because you're a part of the Wang family, and the Wang family is one of the four ruling powers."

The fat young man blinked. He put on a front of understanding despite his continued ignorance. Lu Yin's gaze indicated that he should already understand this, so Wang Dashuai did not want to pursue it any further.

After the fatty also left to rest, Lu Yin returned to his personal quarters. He sat down, exhausted, but then a voice called out from behind, "That was a big accomplishment."

Lu Yin knew who was speaking, and he did not even turn around. Instead, he casually asked, "What might senior's name be? What is it that you want?"

"I'm just old and bored, and I enjoy watching kids struggle."

"What does that mean?" Lu Yin frowned.

"I'm an old man, and I want to see how high you can climb given my experience and resources."

Lu Yin's eyes flickered. "Senior wants to help me?"

"You're starting to get it, hehe."

Lu Yin laughed. "Why?"

"When you get old, you just want to watch kids run around struggling. You're still young, so you don't understand, but when you get old and infirm like me, your mentality changes."

Only a fool would believe such nonsense. Who would offer free help without some sort of reason?

"Kid, stop thinking so much. This old man won't hurt you."

Lu Yin clenched a fist. He really wanted to beat this old man up. If not for this person, Lu Yin and the others would have already returned to the Fifth Mainland. "Senior, this junior has no need for your help."

"Did this old man ask if you needed help? Help is what I do! Whether or not you're willing to accept my help, what does that have to do with me?"

Lu Yin turned around to glare at the old man. "What is it that you want? You just randomly want to help me? What's in it for you?"

The side of the old man's mouth bent upwards, and he leaned forward. A mysterious sense of gloom filled the air. "Kid, this old man is quite curious about you. Where were you trying to return to earlier?"

Lu Yin's eyes flashed, and he fell silent.

"Hmmm... Should this old man go and talk about this with Qing Chen? Regardless, we haven't seen each other for many years." The old man's strange smile returned.

Lu Yin looked away. "Senior can do as he wishes."

"You really don't believe this old man. Alright, I really will go see Qing Chen," The old man threatened.

Lu Yin's expression remained calm and still.

The old man let out a deep laugh, and he rolled his eyes like a rogue. "You guessed right! But this old man still hasn't played around enough, and I don't want to be done already."

Lu Yin looked over at the old man. "Might I ask for senior's name?"

"Don't want to say," the old man lazily replied.

"Might I ask where senior comes from?"

"Don't want to say."

"Might I ask senior-"

"Alright, stop it with the questions. This old man's not going to say anything. I just found you interesting 'cause you've got guts. No one's been bold enough to cross the four ruling powers for many years. People look at stellar liquid like its a ghost, but a kid like you used that stellar liquid to scare others again and again. That's not something that you generally see." The old man chuckled again and then disappeared.

Lu Yin frowned. The old man had pressed Lu Yin and the others about "where" they were returning to several times now; did the old man know or not? If he did not know, then why would he use it as a threat? However, if he did know, then why would he help Lu Yin?

The old man was a powerful Semi-Progenitor, and yet he had remained hidden while helping Lu Yin, even keeping his identity hidden. Everything made Lu Yin feel like this old man was very dangerous, but there was no way Lu Yin could get rid of the old man.

Waiting was all that Lu Yin could do. He could only wait for another opportunity to slip away. However, things had changed, and Lu Yin now needed to lose both Cai Shu and the old man.

Lu Yin's headache grew worse and worse as he thought about the old man. He had a feeling that he would not be able to break free from the old man for the rest of his life.

Lu Yin just hoped that the four ruling powers would take a bit longer to rescue Long Tian and the others so that Lu Yin and his companions would not be exposed prematurely.

As the old man had said, throughout so many years, how many would dare to become the enemy of the four ruling powers?

While the situation was resolved his efficiency and decisiveness in exposing another Redback shook the entire Perennial World. The very next day, some people abandoned their organizations, hoping to enter Huaiyuan Gate and become one of Long Qi's subordinates. This continued on the third day, the fourth day, and the fifth day...

Every single day, more people came, and Long Qi's reputation grew greater and greater.

Lu Yin himself did not know how his reputation was spreading. It felt like someone was deliberately using him as a poster child of a fearless person who was not intimidated by even the four ruling powers if it meant capturing a Redback and eliminating a threat to humanity. When Lu Yin heard what outsiders said about him, he was shocked at his own greatness.

Still, it was not bad to be known for being unafraid of the four ruling powers.

There were many among the new arrivals who hailed from families and powers that had been suppressed by the four ruling powers, and they all saw Long Qi as an emotional pillar of support. He had become something of a hero who stood up to the four ruling powers and refused to be intimidated by them.

Lu Yin was left speechless at this public reaction. After all, in this universe, his identity was that of the White Dragon Clan's Long Qi.

Many people arrived at Huaiyuan Gate to enlist, and Lu Yin also received invitations to visit many other different organizations. They pleaded with him to investigate whether or not they had any traitors or Redbacks within their ranks. Among those who invited Lu Yin were the Liu family, Seed Garden's Nong family, and even the Purple-Gold family, Virtue Archives, powers from the Bifrost, and more.

Lu Yin did not even consider visiting any of those places. All he wanted to do was find a way to escape as soon as possible.

For the Smokecloud Sect, the aftermath of the incident was much more complicated, as they were the guardians of the path that connected to the four ruling powers in the Higher Realm. How many people had learned about stellar liquid being smuggled to the Higher Realm, and how many were involved? Every single person in the sect had to be individually investigated in order to ensure that no word of the matter leaked to the public.

One day, Lu Yin was looking at the dozens of new cultivators who had joined Huaiyuan Gate. All of them had joined because of him. They looked at him with eyes filled with blazing excitement and adoration.

Lu Yin met the people before handing them over for Chen Xiazi to settle arrangements.

Alone, Lu Yin looked up at the water flowing above the headquarters. He let out a sigh. How could he return home? Given his current circumstances, Lu Yin did not even dare to take out Zenith Mountain to meet with Unseen Light or any of the others. Lu Yin did not even know if there had been fights on the mountain.

Suddenly, the color of the water changed. It became gray and then froze. Everything else in the area went gray and still as well. It was as though time and space had all been frozen.

Lu Yin's expression instantly changed, and his head snapped around to see Mister Mu calmly staring at him.

Lu Yin had never dreamed of seeing Mister Mu in the Perennial World, but Lu Yin's master was right in front of him, appearing like a ghost. Mister Mu was just as mysterious as he had been in the Fifth Mainland.

It had to be acknowledged that Huaiyuan Gate was not King Zishan's palace. Cai Shu was guarding Lu Yin, and there was also the Semi-Progenitor old man, but everyone had been locked in place. Well, according to Lu Yin's extremely limited understanding, it seemed as though time and space themselves had been locked in place.

"Ma- Master?" Lu Yin exclaimed as he looked at Mister Mu with great excitement. Lu Yin ran over to his master, eager to embrace the older man.

Mister Mu gave Lu Yin a flat stare. "You ran pretty far; I almost couldn't find you."

Lu Yin pursed his lips. How could traveling to another universe be a matter of simply finding someone?

"Master, why did you come to this universe?" Lu Yin asked, feeling quite curious.

Mister Mu casually replied, "If I want to visit, then I'll do so."

Lu Yin did not know how to reply. His master saw things from a perspective that was too difficult for Lu Yin to comprehend.

"You did well by taking first place during ZENITH. What would you like as a reward?" Mister Mu spoke calmly and did not betray the slightest hint of curiosity as to why Lu Yin was in the Perennial World.

"Master, are you here to reward me?" Lu Yin asked in surprise.

Chapter 1469: Enlighter Realm Breakthrough

Mister Mu's eyes betrayed a hint of admiration. "You were warned that you would be dismissed as my disciple if you didn't take first place in ZENITH, which was a very harsh penalty. However, your reward for winning is correspondingly generous."

Mister Mu then raised a hand and offered a Root of Intelligence towards Lu Yin.

Lu Yin blinked. "Master, do you have a lot of these Roots of Intelligence?"

"I like my tea," Mister Mu replied. "Have you considered what you would like as your reward?"

Lu Yin thought for a bit, and then answered in a serious voice, "Your disciple wishes to break through to the Enlighter realm."

Mister Mu showed no surprise. "Very well."

Lu Yin felt a bit hesitant. "Master, your disciple may have some trouble with this breakthrough. There might be some obstacles."

"Try," said Mister Mu. He was as calm as always.

Without understanding why, Lu Yin grew confident and nodded in excitement.

"Wait." Mister Mu took out another item. "First, open all three of your meridian points. You've already opened your lower meridian point, so the middle and upper points still need to be opened."

Lu Yin stared at the huge pillar of tribulation crystals that stood in front of him in stupefaction. Mister Mu possessed such a thing? This was much, much larger than the pillar that Long Ding had used to open his lower meridian point, and it was actually even larger than the pillar that Lu Yin had obtained in the Dominion Realm.

"You should already know what it means to open the three meridian points since you've already opened your lower meridian point. Use these tribulation crystals to open your middle meridian point," Mister Mu ordered.

"What about the upper meridian point?" Lu Yin looked at Mister Mu with high expectations.

Mister Mu raised a hand, and a branch appeared. This was not the leaf that Lu Yin had picked up in the Dominion Realm, but Lu Yin was no stranger to this branch. It was the same one that he had used to raise his physical strength to the limit in the Limiteer realm. He had then been given fatesand to suppress his strength.

"Is this- Is this branch Origin Matter?" Lu Yin felt shocked as he took the branch in a daze.

Mister Mu answered indifferently, "Indeed it is."

"Is- Is this for your disciple?" Lu Yin became extremely excited. He had already picked up an Origin Matter, though he suspected that what he had picked up might be fake. Still, it might be real. As far as Origin Matter was concerned, the more the better.

Mister Mu observed Lu Yin with an odd expression.

Lu Yin started to get nervous.

"You'll have to find Origin Matter on your own. I can send you to the Dominion Realm," Mister Mu said as he took the branch back.

Lu Yin felt disappointed. Still, it was not unexpected. He felt that it was impossible to receive Origin Matter from Mister Mu. Even though the four ruling powers had Origin Matter in reserve, they had still sent their Junior Progenitors to risk their lives in the Dominion Realm to search for it on their own.

"First, worry about opening your middle meridian point," Mister Mu stated.



Lu Yin grew excited. "Yes, Master."

He had actually gotten his hands on two tribulation crystal pillars while in the Dominion Realm. One had come from the Voidsoul Palace, and it could be used to open a person's lower meridian point as it was about the same size as the pillar that Long Ding had used to open his lower meridian point. The second pillar was the one in the Forgotten Ruins, and it had been a part of the trap that the monsters had set for the Junior Progenitors. In the end, it had fallen into Lu Yin's possession. The second pillar was much larger than Lu Yin's first and was nearly as large as the pillar that Mister Mu had just offered Lu Yin. These pillars could be used to open the middle meridian point.

Since Mister Mu had given Lu Yin a crystal pillar, the two that Lu Yin had found on his own could be saved.

The truth was that, at this moment, Lu Yin looked at Mister Mu as a Progenitor. He had shown that he was able to completely ignore a Semi-Progenitor, and he had also taken out an amount of tribulation crystals that even the four ruling powers would struggle to take out. What could Mister Mu be if he was not a Progenitor? Lu Yin's understanding had expanded drastically while in the Perennial World.

However, Mister Mu was not aware of everything, and he did not know that Lu Yin had already picked up not only tribulation crystal pillars, but also Origin Matter.

Lu Yin had not yet opened all of his meridian points because he was afraid of being discovered, but there was no risk of that happening with Mister Mu present. Lu Yin could just return home with his master.

Such random thoughts drifted through Lu Yin's mind as he placed both of his hands upon the crystal pillar and began to refine it.

Given Lu Yin's strength, he refined the tribulation crystals much faster than Long Ding had.

Lu Yin had no way of knowing how long he spent refining the tribulation crystals. He might have taken a few hours or even a few days. Regardless, he eventually absorbed the entirety of the tribulation crystal pillar into his body. Everywhere, his skin tore open, and blood flowed down to his feet, painting them red.

Mister Mu quietly stood nearby. It was impossible to know what the man was thinking, and he did not even look at Lu Yin.

There was a deep roar as a powerful surge of energy shot into the sky. Lu Yin had succeeded in opening his middle meridian point, and he had stepped onto the same qualifying level as the Junior Progenitors. As of this moment, Lu Yin was certain that he possessed the strength to defeat any of the Junior Progenitors without relying on his God of Death Transformation, even if the Junior Progenitors did use the visualization method.

"Now you should immediately break through to the Enlighter realm," Mister Mu said.

Lu Yin asked, "What about the upper meridian point?"

"You can open that even after you become an Enlighter," Mister Mu replied.

"Wouldn't it be better to open it before a breakthrough?" Lu Yin pressed.

Mister Mu stared at Lu Yin. "If you want Origin Matter, then you'll need to find it yourself. You chose becoming an Enlighter as your reward."

Lu Yin lifted a hand and brought out the leaf that he had found.

Mister Mu stared at it, stunned for a moment. There was a rare expression of surprise on his face and uncommon satisfaction in his eyes. "Open your upper meridian point now then. Treat the Origin Matter like the tribulation crystals, and absorb it into your body. This step is called rooting."

He then grew a bit more serious as he stared at Lu Yin. "You did pretty well."

Lu Yin let out a sigh of relief. Fortunately, the Origin Matter that he had picked up was not fake. After a second thought, he realized that that actually made sense. After all, how could the Junior Progenitors have been deceived by a fake? Also, Lu Yin had tried to absorb the leaf before opening his middle meridian point, and at that time, it had been completely unresponsive.

Lu Yin had just been praised by Mister Mu, and Lu Yin realized that he had never received any compliment from his master before. Thus, this bit of praise went to Lu Yin's head. "Master, your disciple was able to defeat all of this universe's four Junior Progenitors."

Lu Yin was like a child fishing for praise from his elders.

A tiny smile that Lu Yin had never seen before appeared on Mister Mu's face. "Junior Progenitors? That's nothing more than self-deception."

Lu Yin then began to absorb the Origin Matter as his master watched on.

Unexpectedly, this process involved no pain. The leaf simply and smoothly opened up Lu Yin's upper meridian point, but then, the leaf remained in the meridian point and acted as though it was taking root. The only difference that Lu Yin noticed was that a certain glow had appeared on his body. This was not the light that appeared once a cultivator's physical strength reached the limit for their realm. Instead, it was some kind of surging vitality that could not be described.

The entire process was very short.

Lu Yin opened his eyes and stared at his hands in an odd manner. Were there any changes? There was nothing to be found. His body felt exactly like it had after he had opened his middle meridian point, though there seemed to be some sort of subtle difference.

Suddenly, the void tore apart, and so did Lu Yin's stomach. He did not have any chance to even react, as Mister Mu had attacked.

Lu Yin was shocked. He could not understand why Mister Mu would suddenly injure his own disciple. However, the next moment, something truly bizarre occurred; the wound on Lu Yin's stomach healed within only a few seconds. The only sign of injury was the hole in his clothes, as there was not even a scar to be seen on his body. It was as if Lu Yin had never even been injured.

"Master, what happened?" Lu Yin was shocked.

Mister Mu explained, "This is what happens after you open the upper meridian point. There is now a seedling in your body that will give you endless vitality, and that will be the beginning of all changes."

Lu Yin did not understand.

"Cultivators who have opened all three of their meridian points are completely different from anyone who has not done so. There can be Realmbreakers in every realm except for the Progenitor realm. A Semi-Progenitor can never stand up to a Progenitor. Only a Progenitor can face another Progenitor. You now possess the qualifications to become a Progenitor." Mister Mu gave a simple explanation.

Lu Yin grew excited. His injury had healed in an instant. How was this any different from repeatedly using the Ku Secret Art? Who would be able to defeat him in the future? As long as he faced someone within the same cultivation realm, Lu Yin could not think of anyone who qualified to be his opponent.

Lu Yin wanted to return to the Dominion Realm and revisit the Forgotten Ruins so that he could have a rematch with all of the Junior Progenitors. No, Lu Yin wanted to face off against an Envoy!

There was a fundamental change when one became an Envoy, and it resulted in a massive power spike. It could be seen in the simple fact that Enlighters could not enter the true universe. However, despite this massive handicap, Lu Yin was confident that he could challenge an Envoy with his newfound strength.

The transformation provided by opening all three meridian points was too incredible, and Lu Yin was currently over the moon.

It would have been perfect if he had managed to reach such a level of strength during ZENITH. He would have been able to defeat all of his opponents with nothing more than a single finger, and there would have been no need to use the God of Death Transformation at all. Lu Yin would have crushed all opposition.

"At this moment, you have finally stepped upon the threshold of cultivation. No one who does not qualify to become a Progenitor is even qualified to cultivate," Mister Mu commented lightly.

Lu Yin asked, "Master, can your disciple attempt to breakthrough to the Enlighter realm?"

Mister Mu nodded. "Do it."

Lu Yin sucked in a deep breath. This day could be considered the culmination of all of his efforts and preparations. With a thought, he brought out his Skyblaze Stone and used it to liquify a massive amount of star essence that he pulled out. He began to absorb the star energy and circulated it through his body. He had already become a peak Hunter, and he was only a single step away from touching the threshold of the Enlighter realm.

It was only one step, and it was an easy one to take. Lu Yin's eyes suddenly snapped open, and the formcast model within his body dissolved and merged with his body. He had never even heard of a person using a formcast model when reaching the Enlighter realm, and Lu Yin believed himself to be the first.

Mister Mu was surprised.

The formcast model melted and merged with Lu Yin's body as star energy surged like water past a broken dam. Lu Yin could hear the pounding star energy, and he felt the pain of his body being smashed apart. This pain was even slightly worse than what Lu Yin had suffered when opening his middle meridian point.

Mister Mu silently watched as Lu Yin took the step to become an Enlighter. Energy eruptions leaked out, but the star energy was all quickly absorbed back into Lu Yin's body.

It did not take Lu Yin long to complete a cycle, and at that point, he had technically broken through to the Enlighter realm.

This breakthrough did not trigger Lu Yin's seal, and the entire process was smooth, much smoother than Lu Yin had expected. However, the momentum from his breakthrough did not abate.

Enlighters cultivated like Hunters, but there was a reason why becoming an Enlighter was considered a watershed moment in one's cultivation journey. It was because a human's body would undergo a fundamental change during the breakthrough. Besides that, the cultivation method remained unchanged, and Enlighters also absorbed star energy to complete cycles.

An average cultivator's power level would increase by 10,000 at the end of each cycle, and thus, they needed to complete fifty cycles to become an Envoy. Enlighters, unlike Hunters, had undergone a bodily transformation, and this fundamentally changed how quickly a person could absorb star energy. Despite this, most cultivators still failed to ever reach the threshold of the Envoy realm, let alone break through.

Each of the Ten Arbiters had been capable of becoming Enlighters long ago, and the reason why they had all delayed their breakthroughs to establish a deeper foundation. The deeper their foundation was, the greater the change after becoming an Enlighter.

After Unseen Light and others had broken through to the Enlighter realm, they had immediately completed twenty four cycles, which meant that they had completed three cycles in one push. After Shang Qing had become an Enlighter, he had completed twenty seven cycles. As for the four Junior Progenitors, each of them had instantly completed thirty cycles, which meant that they had essentially leaped up to a power level of 300,000 from their breakthroughs.

#### Chapter 1470: Return By Yourself

After Lu Yin's breakthrough, he started absorbing star energy faster than ever, and he soon completed his twenty first cycle, followed by his twenty second, then twenty third... After he finished his twenty fourth cycle, the star energy from the star essence he was using had been depleted, and the Skyblaze Stone's raging flames had also disappeared.

Mister Mu's eyes shifted to show a hint of curiosity and anticipation. He waved a hand, and a massive amount of star essence fell out. At the same time, the star energy in the nearby area started to melt, even without the Skyblaze Stone. Lu Yin continued to absorb the vaporized star essence, and his speed far exceeded what he had been capable of with the Skyblaze Stone.

Lu Yin was unaware of what was happening around him, as he was completely focused on his cultivation, and he simply continued to absorb star energy faster and faster.

Twenty five cycles, twenty six, twenty nine... He eventually completed his thirtieth cycle, and ultimately, his thirty second cycle.

After his breakthrough, Lu Yin managed to complete far more cycles as an Enlighter than an ordinary cultivator, and he had even surpassed the four Junior Progenitors.

This was the strength of his foundation.

Not even Mister Mu had expected Lu Yin to have established such a terrifying foundation.

There was actually no one, not even Lu Yin, who knew that Lu Yin had absorbed Progenitor Chen's blood while in the powerhouse's mausoleum. More recently, Lu Yin had opened all three meridian points, tempered his body with dragon saliva, absorbed Origin Matter, and used a seven-stage formcast model. Lu Yin's foundation exceeded all others, and now, after his breakthrough, his cultivation also surpassed all of his peers. He had truly reached the peak.

Lu Yin opened his eyes and stood up. He felt the surging star energy moving through in his body. It was astonishing.

Lu Yin's star energy reserves far exceeded those of his peers even when he had only been a Hunter, and those reserves had just drastically increased. Lu Yin had about ten times more star energy than his peers, but that also meant that he required ten times the resources to cultivate.

Why was there such a massive difference?

"Master? Did your disciple absorb all of the star essence that I took out?" Lu Yin was shocked to see that there was no star essence remaining on the ground.

Mister Mu looked at Lu Yin before ordering, "Take out all of the star essence that you have in your cosmic ring."

Lu Yin reacted without hesitation, and star essence quickly piled into hills on the ground. Mister Mu took all of it.

Lu Yin was stunned. What did this mean?

"After becoming an Enlighter, you managed to complete your thirty second cycle, and by doing so, you absorbed the star energy of 600 million star essence," Mister Mu casually explained.

Lu Yin then understood that his master was settling a debt. All of the star essence that Lu Yin had absorbed after his breakthrough had been provided by Mister Mu, and now that the breakthrough had ended, Mister Mu was settling the bill.

At the same time, Lu Yin felt rather speechless. Was this really fine? He might have more than 600 million star essence stored within his body, but he was broke once again.

Lu Yin wanted to ask for his money back, but after looking at Mister Mu, the thought died. After all, just the Root of Intelligence alone was worth more than the star essence that Lu Yin had lost.

"Master, are we going back now?" Lu Yin asked.

"Back where?" Mister Mu asked.

Lu Yin spoke in a matter-of-fact tone, "Back to the Fifth Mainland."

Mister Mu lifted a hand and touched Lu Yin's forehead. Lu Yin did not know what his master was doing, but there was no change to his body, so he felt rather confused.

"I just hid your cultivation so that no one will be able to clearly see your strength," Mister Mu informed Lu Yin.

A bad premonition overcame Lu Yin, and he let out a dry laugh. "Master, what do you mean by that?"

"You came here alone, so you need to find your way back alone."

What? Lu Yin was stunned. "Master, your disciple can't go back there! There's a shameless Semi-Progenitor keeping an eye on me, and your disciple can't get rid of him!"

Mister Mu said nothing more, and his body vanished in an instant. Everything around Lu Yin returned to normal, except for the appearance of a single jade talisman.

Lu Yin stared blankly at his vacant surroundings. Mister Mu had just ignored him!

The jade talisman quietly fell to the ground. Lu Yin reluctantly picked it up with a sigh. Fortunately, Mister Mu had left one of these talismans behind, which meant that Lu Yin would be able to call his master. Otherwise, Lu Yin would have nothing to rely on.

Also, Mister Mu had hidden Lu Yin's true cultivation, which was a very good thing. It would keep him from being too conspicuous.

"Hey Bro, are you out of seclusion?" The fat Wang Dashuai approached from a distance and seemed surprised to see Lu Yin.

Lu Yin was startled. Out? Wait... Lu Yin remembered something and asked in a casual tone, "How long has it been since we got back?"

The fatty thought for a moment. "More than a month."

Lu Yin's eyes flashed. Apparently, Mister Mu had not frozen time, and things had proceeded normally. However, Lu Yin had been taken to a strange space that had isolated him from everyone, which had given everyone a false impression of what he had been doing. This was as shocking a revelation as when Mister Mu had frozen time; it was an ability that Lu Yin could not understand at all.

After all, there was still a Semi-Progenitor in Huaiyuan Gate.

"Has anything happened while I was busy?" Lu Yin asked.

The fatty considered the question. "The White Dragon Clan's Elder Long Kui stopped by once, but he left after hearing that you were in seclusion. There were also a few others who were looking for you... Right, Liu Ye and Fei Hua were among them."

Lu Yin frowned. It looked like those two did not want to leave him alone.

"Also, some of the elders from my Wang family asked me to speak to you. They want to talk to you," Wang Dashuai continued to say. "Also, Supervisor Qing Chen wants to speak with you. Actually, a bunch of people want to see you, but the White Dragon Clan has been the most active."

"What about the Celestial Frost Sect?" Lu Yin asked. He had uncovered a jade butterfly, and that Yu Chen definitely would not let this matter go.

The fatty shook his head. "No one from the Celestial Frost Sect has looked for you. Also, the Smokecloud Sect has recovered, and they're back to guarding the Cloud Shuttle. The four ruling powers sent down a bunch of powerhouses, and apparently, there are Envoys running things now. All of the old monsters have moved out."

Everything that Lu Yin heard were updates that he had expected.

After speaking with Wang Dashuai, Lu Yin immediately went to go find Shang Qing and ask him what had happened with Yu Chen.

Unfortunately, Shang Qing had not had any contact with Yu Chen while Lu Yin had been gone. "She never trusted me in the first place. After you arrested those people, she preferred exposing the jade butterfly that she had hidden in Huaiyuan Gate than approach me about the issue."

Lu Yin had been the one to arrest the girl, so it was impossible for anyone to release her unless they were from Huaiyuan Gate.

"Why do I feel like there's something different about you?" Shang Qing showed a bit of surprise as he studied Lu Yin.

Lu Yin shrugged. "It's not much of a difference. I just became an Enlighter."

Shang Qing showed no surprise, as Lu Yin was overdue for this breakthrough despite already being the most powerful of their generation. "So it was a breakthrough? Congratulations."

Lu Yin smiled. Mister Mu had hidden Lu Yin's exact cultivation, but not the fact that he was an Enlighter. He could let people know that he was an Enlighter. After all, he had just been in seclusion, so it would be no surprise for anyone to discover that he had used the time to become an Enlighter.

This breakthrough was also an excuse for Lu Yin to reveal even more strength than he had before.

Next, Lu Yin went to find Cai Shu, only to learn that Qing Chen had headed to the Higher Realm and would contact Lu Yin after returning to the Middle Realm.

That night, the old Semi-Progenitor approached Lu Yin. "Hey kid, do you want to get some more credit with Humility's Gate?"

"Not interested." Lu Yin was very blunt with his response. After repeatedly dealing with this old man, Lu Yin had lost most of his fear. Plus, with the support of Mister Mu, Lu Yin was fearless, as he now had a way out.

"Kid, how can you act like such an old man when you're still so young? Don't you want to be famous in this universe? To make the four ruling powers jealous of you? Don't you want to be a powerhouse? In the future, your descendents could become the White Dragon Clan's main family. Let me tell you this—the clan's current main family took their position from another family. Before that, they were just another branch family," the old man said temptingly.

Lu Yin felt a jolt. He had nearly forgotten that he needed to investigate what had happened to the Lu family. Since he was unable to return to the Fifth Mainland, it would be a good time to start probing into the matter now.

Also, when it came to getting information about the Lu family, this old man was likely the best place to start. He was a Semi-Progenitor, so there should be no restrictions placed on his mind!

"Senior, what's your goal?" Lu Yin said.

The old man lazily answered, "Like I said, I'm just looking to have fun. This old man has lived for too long, and I've learned many things that most people are ignorant about. I can share all of this information with you."

Lu Yin and the old man stared at each other. "So what? Why are you using a junior like me for these things? This junior does not appreciate being used, but I'm willing to cooperate."

"Hahahaha, kid, you think too much! You don't qualify to cooperate with this old man! Many people have tried to get in touch with you recently, but all of them want to ask you questions. There's no one else who's willing to tell you anything. Do you want to know about the past? You should already know that not even Humility's Gate was able to find out anything about Yun Mubai being a Redback. You also already know that if there was even the faintest suspicion, Qing Chen would not let the matter rest until it was resolved. Do you want that kind of man keeping tabs on you at all times?" The old man laughed.

"If Senior Qing Chen truly asks, then this junior will have to tell him the truth," Lu Yin said somberly.

The old man made a point of not caring. "Alright, fine. Before you ran into this old man, where were you trying to take those two stellar liquid mules? What were you up to?"

Lu Yin's eyes grew sharp. He really could not determine whether or not this old man knew that he was from the Fifth Mainland.

"This junior doesn't understand what Senior is asking," Lu Yin said.

The old man stretched his waist. "If you don't understand, then you don't get it."

The old man then spread his fingers open to reveal a delicate jade pendant in his hand. "If you ever end up in a position where you don't know how to deal with Qing Chen, just show him this thing, and he'll understand."

After that, the man slowly walked away.

Lu Yin stared at the jade pendant. He was becoming more and more confused by the old man. There had to be some sort of motivation behind the Semi-Progenitor's actions, but why had the man still not said anything? Was he afraid of exposing his identity? Or had things not yet progressed to the point where the old man could reveal his purpose?



The old man was only increasing Lu Yin's accomplishments within Humility's Gate, so clearly, the old man's ultimate purpose was connected to Humility's Gate.

Lu Yin thought for a while. He believed that the old man had already moved far away, so Lu Yin closed his eyes and slowly let his domain spread through the air.

His breakthrough to the Enlighter realm had brought about changes to his domain as well, and he had instantly reached the spirit manifestation realm in his domain. This improvement did not offer much assistance in battle, but it did make Lu Yin's domain much more sensitive, which meant that it was easier for him to perceive powerhouses like Cai Shu and the old man.

Naturally, such people were also able to sense Lu Yin's domain, but they did not react to it. It was quite convenient for Lu Yin to use it to monitor the two.

Lu Yin saw that neither powerhouse was focused on him, so he set aside his cosmic ring. It was time to roll his die.

He found a hidden place, raised his hand, and brought out his die. He immediately tapped it, and it slowly spun around before landing on four pips. Lu Yin was delighted at how easily he had gotten his desired roll, and he instantly snatched up his cosmic ring as the scenery changed before his eyes, and he appeared within the Timestop Space.

The first thing that he did was extend his time in the Timestop Space. Unfortunately, given that he was practically out of star essence, his only option was to extract a bit of his internal reserves in order to extend his time.

Once that was done, he took out the Root of Intelligence. It was time to comprehend more of the Overlaying Stacks Path. The Vacuum Palm was still Lu Yin's most effective attack method.