

ODYSSEY 1611

Chapter 1611: Unease

Lu Yin just laughed when he heard Balsam's answer. "Give me ten. Don't try to tell me that the pills haven't been developed. The truth is that I reached an agreement with Yu Mu before, and he was going to give me one. However, you were in such a rush to deal with him, so you now have to take over his responsibilities."

"Ten? Impossible! Not to mention that the pills haven't even been fully developed yet. Even when that happens, it will be impossible for you to receive ten," Balsam bluntly refused.

Lu Yin nodded. "Okay; then let everyone learn the three words 'stellar energy pill,' which will cause your Shamrock Enterprise to be focused on by the entire universe, not just our Fifth Mainland."

Balsam's pupils instantly shrank. "One is the most I can do. This is the limit."

Lu Yin's eyes narrowed and he considered the offer for a bit. "Three."

Balsam took a deep breath. "Alright."

"I'm in Giant Consortium's territory, so send them to me here." Lu Yin then immediately ended the call, and after disconnecting, his expression changed and he was no longer as relaxed as he had been a moment before. During their conversation, he had deliberately mentioned that Shamrock Enterprise had dealt with Yu Mu, and yet Balsam had not denied the casual accusation, which had actually been a subconscious reaction. With Balsam essentially admitting to the assassination, Lu Yin had become certain that Yu Mu had been killed by Shamrock Enterprise. However, how had they pulled it off?

Lu Yin had become very uneasy, and he quickly called Duane Daynight back and asked for all of the details concerning Yu Mu's death. Lu Yin also pushed to have the matter further investigated, as he had to learn the truth behind Yu Mu's death in order to ever be able to relax again.

On the other side of the ended call, in Shamrock Enterprise's hidden world headquarters, Balsam's angry expression suddenly disappeared and was replaced by a cold expression. "I'll give you what you want, but it's up to you whether or not you can survive."

Neither of the two individuals was stupid. Lu Yin believed that he had uncovered a secret of Shamrock Enterprise. On the other hand, if everything was still in Balsam's control, then why had she played along and given in to Lu Yin? Balsam was the company's Innerverse president, and she was naturally not an average person.

Just as Lu Yin was confident that he would be able to gain control of Shamrock Enterprise, Balsam was similarly confident in turning the tide to her favor.

In another part of the Innerverse, to the Erudite Flowzone, Dean Han welcomed a guest to Lost Radiance Academy who had not visited in a truly long time: the Wen family's patriarch, Wen Zizai.

"What are you doing here instead of sweeping the grounds at your home?" Dean Han made no effort to be polite when speaking to Wen Zizai, as the dean already knew the patriarch's purpose for visiting.

Despite his position as the Wen family's patriarch, Wen Zizai enjoyed sweeping the grounds, and he treated it as a form of meditation. The man was also completely unbothered by Dean Han's words. "What the younger generations can't manage can only be left to an old man like me. How about you give me some face?"

Dean Han shook his head and grew solemn. "I won't lie to you; we do indeed have a painting of mountains and seas, and Chong'er managed to see it once and tried to copy it, but that is precisely why he suffered a fatal disaster."

Wen Zizai grew puzzled. "What is the story behind that painting? Even my Wen family knows nothing about it."

Dean Han sighed. "It's a remnant from long ago that's been protected by my Han family. As for why there remains no record of it, all that I know is that every member of my Han family must protect this relic painting. It's a coincidence, my old friend, that this painting is so important and that we cannot give it to anyone at all."

"How did Lu Yin learn of it?" Wen Zizai wondered.

Dean Han's expression changed slightly. "That's something that I also want to know. No one in my entire Han family knows about the painting, except for me. Not even you were aware of it, so how could he have known about it?"

"He said that Han Chong used a battle technique from the painting during the Astral Combat Tournament; could that painting have been the copy of your family's relic?" Wen Zizai guessed.

Dean Han frowned, as he had been unaware of this detail. "Do you think Chong'er's death could have anything to do with him?"

Wen Zizai grew solemn. "There should be no connection at all, as if there were, he would not ask for the painting so openly."

Dean Han nodded, his expression complicated.

Wen Zizai looked at the other man. "Do you know what Lu Yin is offering to my Wen family in order for us to help him get this painting?"

"What is he offering that not even you can refuse?" Dean Han asked. Wen Yao had already made a request for the painting, but the dean had simply refused the request without even considering the motivation behind the request. With Wen Zizai himself asking, Dean Han grew genuinely curious.

Wen Zizai's voice dropped low, "An alternate method for using and training with the Literary Prison. He is offering my Wen family a lost portion of our inheritance."

Dean Han was shocked. "No wonder you came here."

Wen Zizai stared at Dean Han. "With my Wen family here, your Han family has no cause for worry. However, if my family one day ceased to exist, the painting and even your Han family will cease to exist. Han Chong's death had proved that someone is eyeing the painting. A force able to capture him without causing a ruckus in the Lost Radiance Academy should speak volumes of what they're capable of, and the Neohuman Alliance is very likely the culprit."

"I'm not even sure I can stop such an opponent."

"What are you trying to say?" Dean Han asked in a sour tone.

Wen Zizai sighed. "Let's give him the painting. You can think of it as payment for the care and protection my Wen family has given your Han family over so many years."

Dean Han trembled and he closed his eyes in agony.

Soon after that, Wen Zizai personally contacted Lu Yin. This was not the first time the two had spoken to each other, but each time that they did, their relationship was fundamentally different from before. At the moment, Wen Zizai was unable to even see the standard reverence and respect that people held towards powerful Envoys in Lu Yin's eyes. The youth remained as calm as if he were meeting with some peer.

"Alliance Leader Lu, if you truly want that painting, you should be aware of its importance. Our conditions are going to change: I will give you the painting, but you will give me the technique first," Wen Zizai spoke openly, thinking that he finally held the initiative.

However, Lu Yin simply ended the call as soon as the Envoy stopped talking.

Wen Zizai frowned and reconnected the call. "What are you saying, Alliance Leader Lu? Do you not want to discuss this matter?"

Lu Yin replied in a casual manner, "Senior Wen, it instead looks like you have no intention to discuss this matter. Do you really think your painting is worth the missing inheritance of the Wen family, which can very well push you to the top power of the Inverse? Do you think I'm gullible enough to make a deal like that?"

Wen Zizai stared into Lu Yin's eyes, unable to determine if the youth was telling the truth or not. Could it be that Lu Yin was unaware of the importance of the painting? For the Han family, the painting had held unparalleled importance.

"Does Alliance Leader Lu not understand the importance of this painting?" Wen Zizai shouted.

"No clue," Lu Yin answered bluntly.

Wen Zi was stunned, and thought that he must have misheard. "What did you say?"

Lu Yin elaborated on his answer, "I have no idea how important it is, which is why I wanted to see it. However, if your Wen family doesn't care enough about this deal to show some sincerity, then I don't want the painting."

Wen Zizai Rao had lived for many years, but despite that, he had no idea how to respond to Lu Yin. Negotiations were always determined by both parties recognizing the terms being put forward. If one of the parties held an unquestionable advantage, then the matter ceased to be a negotiation and it became simple extortion. Lu Yin was trying to extort the Wen family without even caring about the value of the painting. He had instead set the painting as the base price for delivering Wen Diyi to the Wen family.

As for whether or not the painting proved to be valuable or not, Lu Yin was unconcerned and would simply obtain it first.

Wen Zizai ended the call, as he could not speak to Lu Yin any longer. The youth was totally ignorant of what the Mountain Seas Painting represented! Truthfully, Wen Zizai was similarly ignorant of its value, but he had gained some inkling from the attitude that the Han family had shown. The painting was more important to them than the lives of their own clan members, which meant that the painting was invaluable. If the painting could only allow Lu Yin to allow them more options to choose from instead of choosing their own conditions, then he was not interested in the negotiation.

Before the ending the call, Wen Zizai had again asked Lu Yin to change his price for delivering Wen Diyi, but Lu Yin refused.

This was because Lu Yin still had no idea of what he wanted from the Wen family.

Wen Zizai was incredibly frustrated. If he were dealing with almost anyone else, he would have 10,000 different methods to seize the initiative and force the other person to negotiate, but with Lu Yin, the Wen patriarch was unable to find a place to even start. The youth had a foundation that was invincible with no clear weaknesses, and he was also very powerful. There was no opening for Wen Zizai to exploit.

The Wen family became utterly passive in their negotiation with Lu Yin.

On the other hand, Lu Yin was in no hurry to resume negotiations, which also left the Wen family feeling helpless. It would not even make any difference if they sent their patriarch to meet with Lu Yin.

After his time in the Perennial World, Lu Yin was no longer impressed by speaking with Envoys. He had long since lost his awe of such powerhouses, and he had even killed quite a number of them.

For the moment, his negotiations with the Wen family had failed, so Lu Yin quietly waited for the day when people from Chaosgod Mountain would come to Giant Consortium.

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A huge mountain floated through space. No matter if it was seen from a distance or up close, it was still clearly a mountain.

Colossal giants entered the mountain and disappeared.

Qing Kong stared at the mountain, somewhat nervous. He was unaware of what Lu Yin was planning, but the giant did know that Ku Wei had transformed into a giant and had joined the others who had gone to the mountain. Lu Yin's plans were clearly not small-scale.

Thinking about it, Qing Kong was unable to stop himself from glancing to his side where an old man was looking at the mountain with his hands clasped behind his back.

Ahem, Cang Song coughed and patted his chest. When the Sixth Mainland had invaded, he had been struck by an Imprinter on a mini mainland. Cang Song had been lucky to survive, but he was also plagued by an injury that could not be cured.

"President Qing, I'll take these people with me," Cang Song said, somewhat fatigued.

Qing Kong nodded while staying silent.

Giant Consortium was protected by Chaosgod Mountain, but the giants were also exploited by Chaosgod Mountain. The giants had no freedom at all.

Cang Song was unconcerned by Qing Kong's attitude, and he jumped after the mountain and entered it.

A total of ten giants stood quietly on the mountain. Aside from them, the mountain was massive and empty. These giants were only a few kilometers tall, which meant that they were less than half the height of the mountain.

Ku Wei stared at Cang Song, when suddenly, the mountain collapsed and the giants were pressed to the ground. Ku Wei was no exception, and he was almost unable to stop himself from turning back into his original size.

"Before arriving at Chaosgod Mountain, you should put up with this. It will also prevent you from destroying the mountain," Cang Song commented indifferently before turning around and leaving without so much as a glance at any of the giants.

Ku Wei gritted his teeth. The mountain pressed against his entire back. It was an unusual mountain, and not only for its weight. Even if Ku Wei had suppressed his cultivation to just below that of an Enlightener, he still found it difficult to withstand the weight on his back. This was a unique characteristic of Chaosgod Mountain's weapons that they used to suppress the giants.

The enormous mountain began to move back towards Chaos Flowzone, and it moved quite quickly.

Giant Consortium did not have its headquarters anywhere close to Chaos Flowzone, but they were also not too distant from each other. They were separated by several minor flowzones and Soulseal Flowzone.

Lu Yin, Liu Ye, and Fei Hua followed closely behind the mountain, also making their way towards Chaos Flowzone.

A few days later, the mountain encountered a massive spacecraft. It bore an emblem that Lu Yin had seen before: it was the Blackbeard Pirates who he had dealt with before.

It was clear that the pirates recognized the mountain, as they turned and left the moment they saw it. However, the mountain accelerated and rammed into the vessel.

From behind, Lu Yin was able to clearly see that the pirates' vessel had been smashed to pieces, and several Explorers fled through space, only to be slaughtered by Chaosgod Mountain's cultivators.

Chapter 1612: Infiltration

Lu Yin started to wonder about the matter as he observed. The Blackbeard Pirates were the uncrowned kings of pirates in Chaos Flowzone. They were powerful enough to survive in that place, and they clearly had a good relationship with Chaosgod Mountain.

He saw a figure off in the distance who was fleeing in terror. He was surprised to see it was Mad Viper Knight, who could be considered a person who had changed Lu Yin's fate.

If not for Mad Viper Knight, Zhuo Daynight would never have been badly injured, and then Lu Yin would never have gone to the pirate port. Without that trip, he never would have been thrown to Driftcharge Planet as white meat, and therefore would never have met the old grandpa there.

Mad Viper Knight had indeed changed Lu Yin's fate, but the man himself was still Lu Yin's enemy.

A rock distorted the void and smashed into Mad Viper Knight's head, piercing his skull. His body slowly crumpled and then floated through space.

Before long, the mountain continued on its way towards Chaos Flowzone.

Using his gadget, Lu Yin learned that the Blackbeard Pirates had been wiped out by Chaosgod Mountain as far back as a year before. What Lu Yin had just seen was a vessel carrying the pirates who had escaped that purge.

Lu Yin grew rather excited, as he realized that he was actually plotting against Chaosgod Mountain, which showed how far he had come.

It was possible that his status would be completely different after another ten years.

After crossing through Soulseal Flowzone, two more days passed, and finally the mountain entered Chaos Flowzone. They were very close to Chaosgod Mountain.

When a huge black mountain came into view, Lu Yin's expression became serene. This was Chaosgod Mountain. This place ruled over the underworld of the entire Innerverse.

Long ago, Chaos Flowzone had hosted ZENITH, and prior to the tournament, the Hall of Honor had forced Chaosgod Mountain to cleanse Chaos Flowzone. Chaosgod Mountain had not disappointed. All of Chaos Flowzone had been purged, which had shown the universe the power of Chaosgod Mountain.

The mountain had been a monstrous existence for Lu Yin in the past, but at the moment, Chaosgod Mountain's strongest powerhouse was not someone who Lu Yin could not touch.

All of Chaosgod Mountain was solid black, and the sides of the mountain were smooth, as though the mountain had been polished. It stood tall and stretched far into the distance. Stars rotated around the mountain and illuminated it.

Atop a huge black dome, Ku Wei waited for the giants to catch up while looking around with curiosity.

There were several of the colossal giants who stood nearby to protect Ku Wei, and he shot them a subtle look, telling them to move away. Everything would be ruined if they were discovered.

Some distance away, there was another group of giants watching Ku Wei and the others approach. Compared to Ku Wei's group, the waiting giants were much shorter.

After assimilating Ku Wei's blood, the colossal giants from Giant Consortium had experienced an incredible increase in size. At this point, Chaosgod Mountain had thought that Ku Wei had arrived with

the largest giants, but they had in fact only been of average height before. Even so, after these giants had received Ku Wei's blood, they had become much larger than the ones on Chaosgod Mountain.

If Chaosgod Mountain saw the largest of the colossal giants who had assimilated Ku Wei's blood, they would be startled and terrified at the power Ku Wei could provide.

The waiting giants looked up at the newcomers with confusion, and one of them asked, "Little Twinkle? How have you gotten so large?"

The giant beside the one who spoke out also looked curious, but no one else paid any attention to them.

The black dome was smooth, and the surface was extremely tough. When the ten giants reached the platform on the dome, stone pillars rose around the dome to completely isolate it.

Above these pillars stood a group of Chaosgod Mountain's powerhouses, and each one of them possessed an impressive level of strength.

One of the Enlighters grew eager as he looked at the newly arriving giants and Ku Wei. He jumped down. "I can't wait! I want to test the quality of this batch."

As he spoke, he shot through the void and punched at a giant.

The colossal giant looked at the tiny human shooting towards him, but made no effort to move. Ku Wei pretended to twist his foot, and by doing so, he nudged the targeted giant and shifted him enough that the Enlighter's attack just missed.

The punch erupted, and it shattered the void. The nearby colossal giants were all startled, and they pulled back while staring in horror at the tiny human who had just unleashed just terrifying power.

The Enlighter turned around to look at the giant he had just missed, and he punched again. This time, the giant knew that a powerful attack was coming, so he raised a hand to slap down at the Enlighter.

Adult colossal giants were at least as strong as Hunters, and due to the relation between size and physical strength for giants, they possessed an impressive amount of destructive power. However, their immense size caused them to suffer a severe disadvantage in a fight.

Destructive power was one thing, while active combat was something else entirely.

The Enlighter from Chaosgod Mountain tried to use his star energy to force the giant to retreat, but the giant used his physical strength to resist, and he slapped the Enlighter down to the ground.

The Enlighter immediately leaped back up, and he again charged the giant. The colossal giant raised a hand and slapped at the Enlighter once again, but this time, the Enlighter evaded.

Up above, Cang Yi looked down and was staring at Ku Wei. No one else had paid any attention to what Ku Wei had done, but Cang Yi had watched. Ku Wei had caused the other colossal giant to stumble and dodge the first punch. A single successful punch would leave a giant suffering quite badly.

This giant was interesting. Thinking of this, Cang Yi jumped down and stood in front of Ku Wei. "Come spar with me."

Ku Wei's face remained calm, and he raised a hand and slapped out. Cang Yi easily avoided the attack. After all, he was an Enlighter with a power level of more than 300,000. His strength placed him among the five top experts in Chaosgod Mountain. The colossal giant in front of Cang Yi was almost an Enlighter, which would barely provide a warm-up, but Cang Yi had become very interested in Ku Wei.

Ku Wei also did not let the man down. Ku Wei was far more agile than other giants, but regardless of his agility, he was unable to land a single attack on Cang Yi, and Ku Wei ended up being badly beaten by Cang Yi.

Even though the giants who had accompanied Ku Wei did not make any rash moves after receiving his orders, their eyes slowly grew bloodshot as they watched Ku Wei being beaten.

Ku Wei was also feeling frustrated. Even if he was able to reveal his full strength, Cang Yi would still be a difficult opponent. He had been able to fight against ZENITH's ten finalists, and all of those people were able to stand up to experts with power levels of about 400,000. Still, the plan called for Ku Wei to simply endure and be beaten.

There was a bang as Cang Yi punched Ku Wei in the jaw. Even though the human Enlighter was small, the punch sent Ku Wei flying and he slammed against the mountainside.

It took skill to be beaten, as it required a person to be able to avoid serious injuries while also wearing down the opponent. One would need to put on a good show and make things boring in order to end things as soon as possible. As for Ku Wei, there was another thing that he had to keep hidden while being beaten: he could not reveal any of his battle techniques.

Colossal giants had no battle techniques, though they were able to cultivate battle force.

Unfortunately, the colossal giants protected by Giant Consortium were raised in a greenhouse, and thus they lacked the necessary spirit to train battle force.

Ku Wei was beaten for half an hour. During this time, Lu Yin stepped onto Chaosgod Mountain in another location.

Chaosgod Mountain was not sealed off from the outside world. Rather, it was only the inner portion of the sect that was sealed off and isolated from the outside world. There were many planets that could be found around the mountain, and these were where the families of the sect disciples and various guests were allowed to stay, and there were also various trial grounds for people waiting to enter the sect.

The greatest difference between Chaosgod Mountain and other leaders of the eight great flowzones was that Chaosgod Mountain ruled over the Innerverse's underworld. This was a place that focused on backroom deals and shady negotiations. In this way, Chaosgod Mountain was similar to the Neoverse's Black Street, though no hint of trash or refuse could be found near the mountain.

Lu Yin and the other two concealed their cultivation as they walked down the main street.

Lu Yin was no stranger to such a place. He had not only visited Black Street, he had also seen a pirate port and had attended a meeting of the Outerverse pirates. Lu Yin had already seen everything, so there

was nothing in this place that was new to him. Unfortunately, there were no locals to lead the way, as Lu Yin was not familiar with the place to know his way around.

Liu Ye and Fei Hua had absolutely no interest in the place, and they soon parted from Lu Yin. The three people had too grand a goal for them to remain together.

A dark yellow sun shone above the street where Lu Yin walked, and it cast the entire place in a dim light. The pedestrians walking the street were all wary of each other, and Lu Yin had already witnessed three robberies while walking along. There was no order to this place.

Miserable wailing harmonized with wanton laughter to create the unique ambiance of such a place. This was where the ugliness of humanity could be fully appreciated.

All sorts of shady dealings were conducted in this place. There were many disciples of great powers here, as well as many of Chaosgod Mountain's disciples. However, they all hid themselves, as none of them wanted to be recognized.

Any minor matter in this place could end up in murder.

Lu Yin had not come to this place for fun, as he had no interest in this place. However, Lu Yin was looking for someone. Someone from the Anglers' Club.

The Anglers' Club was an informal organization that could not be seen as any sort of real group. Instead, the club was simply a platform for fishing enthusiasts across the universe to communicate with each other.

Since the Great Eastern Alliance controlled the Astral River Ark, the Anglers' Club was forced to contact the Great Eastern Alliance to gain permission to fish from the Ark. Over time, the Great Eastern Alliance had come to know the members of the Anglers' Club quite well, as well as the strange fish that they caught throughout the universe. They sold the fish they caught to all parts of the Innerverse, including Chaosgod Mountain.

The more precious and strange the fish, the more likely it would be sold to a powerful force.

Long ago, a fruit fish was sold to the Daynight clan. At the moment, a member of the Anglers' Club had caught a strange fish that Chaosgod Mountain's Elder Cang Song was said to greatly enjoy, and such information needed to be exploited.

Chaosgod Mountain had kept the colossal giants' existence hidden for countless years. If Lu Yin wanted to gain entry, he could either try to force his way in, or find an alternate path. This was his most likely means of entering the inner sect.

Forcefully breaking in was impossible, as it would be no different from publicly announcing the existence of the colossal giants, and that would not be good at all for Lu Yin.

He had no idea how Wang Wen had managed to get this member of the Anglers' Club to agree to be used by Lu Yin, but he also had no need to know such details.

Before long, Lu Yin found the man in a corner of the street, and the man also noticed Lu Yin.

"Here's the fish. It was supposed to be delivered today, but I managed to hold off for a day. Someone from Chaosgod Mountain will come pick you up tomorrow."

Lu Yin took the fish and looked at the man in front of him with interest. "Your Anglers' Club has been constantly fishing in the Astral River; what's the strangest fish you've caught?"

The man looked up at Lu Yin in surprise. He had no idea who he was speaking to, only the threat that the Great Eastern Alliance presented and that he had to work with this person and get them into Chaosgod Mountain. As he thought about the fact that doing this was going to get him kicked out of the Anglers' Club, his mood turned sour and he replied brusquely, "There are all kinds of fish."

With that, he left. He was in no mood to chat with Lu Yin. However, Lu Yin did not care. He looked at the strange fish he had been given. It was truly odd, and it actually had two heads and three tails. It was just half a meter long. Was this kind of fish actually tasty?

Lu Yin was already at the door and peering in at Chaosgod Mountain. Things really had changed for him. Even during ZENITH, he had not dared move against powers like Chaosgod Mountain, and yet at the moment, Lu Yin looked at them as a power with only Envoy realm powerhouses, which made them a slightly stronger organization. They were no longer a big deal.

The presence of Liu Ye Fei Hua had given Lu Yin a great deal of confidence.

Chapter 1613: The Time Has Come

Lu Yin waited quietly, and the next day, a female disciple from Chaosgod Mountain arrived and met with him.

Lu Yin had disguised himself with the fisherman's appearance, and given his current strength, no one on Chaosgod Mountain would be able to see through his disguise unless it was Cang Zhou.

"Let's go. Elder Cang Song is waiting for you," the woman said.

Lu Yin was caught off guard. "You?"

The female disciple pointed outside. "You're not the only one here; there's another person from your Anglers' Club who wants to sell fish. You two should know each other."

Lu Yin followed her finger and saw a familiar middle-aged man. Lu Yin's expression instantly changed a bit; wasn't that the same man who had cooked the fruit fish on Nightking Planet?

The man looked at Lu Yin, and his expression also changed. He smiled as he said, "Number Six, I didn't expect to see you here. What kind of fish did you catch?"

Lu Yin hefted the bucket in his hand. "Elder Cang Song likes to eat these. How 'bout you?"

The man looked in the bucket Lu Yin held and frowned. "Number Six, how many times have I told you that you can't store that kind of fish like this! It messes with the taste. What will Elder Cang Song do if he isn't satisfied when eating it?"

He then turned to the female disciple. "Please wait a moment. I'll help him resituate the fish."

"Hurry up." The woman was impatient and had no interest in fish.

The man led Lu Yin back into the house, and his expression changed. He stared into Lu Yin's eyes. "Who are you?"

Lu Yin was startled. "I'm Number Six; what's wrong?"

The man sneered. "But who is Number Six?"

Lu Yin arched a brow. "I'm Meng E. You haven't forgotten my name, right?"

Meng E was the name of the man whose appearance Lu Yin had adopted.

The man's eyes narrowed. "He has never been called Number Six."

Lu Yin understood; the name Number Six had been made up by the other fisherman in order to test Lu Yin. "How did you figure it out?"

The man snorted derisively. "The members of our Anglers' Club are always fishing in the Astral River, and the air around us is different from other people. We always have a fishy scent on us, and it's our greatest struggle as it can't be removed. Your body doesn't carry that smell."

Lu Yin shrugged. "I just had bad luck to run into you."

The middle-aged man suddenly attacked, and he grabbed for Lu Yin's neck. He wanted to subdue Lu Yin, but Lu Yin reacted at the same time and grabbed the man's hand. He pushed back, and the man's arm bent as his body was forced to the floor by Lu Yin. He stared up at Lu Yin in shock. "You?"

Lu Yin gave a small smile. "I just want to talk. No need to make a fuss."

"Who the hell are you?" The man was stunned. He had a power level that exceeded 300,000, and he could be considered a powerhouse in both the Outer and Innerverse. Even on Chaosgod Mountain, he had the power to rank among the top five experts of the sect out of all of their countless members. He was an independent powerhouse, but he had not expected to run into someone who could leave him feeling completely helpless. This person was pretending to be a member of the Anglers' Club, so the man knew that things would not be simple.

Lu Yin restored his normal appearance and calmly stared at the man.

The man's pupils instantly shrank. "Is it really you?"

Lu Yin released his hold on the man and smiled. "It's been a long time. That fruit fish was delicious; do you have any more?"

The man frowned and rubbed his wrist. This was unbelievable! Long ago, the man had met Lu Yin on Nightking Planet, and right after that, the battle between Lu Yin and Nightking Zhenwu had stirred up waves throughout the entire Innerverse. However, it had still been a fight between youths. While Lu Yin from back then might have been able to fight against the fisherman, it would have been impossible for the man to lose to the youth. How much time had passed since then? Already Lu Yin was able to leave the man unable to mount any hint of resistance.

"What do you want to do?" the man asked. His tone of voice had soured, but he was actually more afraid than ever. He had already caught another fruit fish from the Astral River Ark, but it had been stolen by Tian Shao. The fisherman was not someone who was fearless in the face of death.

Lu Yin said, "My plans have nothing to do with you. Just don't expose me, and everyone will be better off. Otherwise, I'll make it impossible for you to leave Chaosgod Mountain alive, and I'll also make sure the Anglers' Club will be banned from fishing in the Astral River."

The man replied in anger, "You steal the identity of a member of my Anglers' Club in order to make trouble here on Chaosgod Mountain. They'll definitely come after us! Things are not going to go well for us after this."

"Do you actually think they'll even be able to waste any time on you after this?" Lu Yin casually asked before walking out of the room. "Get the fish."

By the time Lu Yin left the building, he had already regained Meng E's appearance. The fisherman followed behind Lu Yin. He had no choice but to dutifully behave and pick up Lu Yin's fish.

The woman from Chaosgod Mountain did not feel that anything was different, and she led Lu Yin and the fisherman into the inner sect.

They walked for a long time before finally entering the inner sect through a teleportation device. After that, they saw various disciples training as they continued along.

All of the disciples were impressive, and they far outclassed the disciples groomed by the major forces of the Outerverse. Even with Lu Yin's perspective, these students could all qualify to study at the Astral Combat Academy. In the past, Cang Shi had also performed well during the Astral Combat Tournament.

As soon as Lu Yin thought of Cang Shi, he appeared.

Lu Yin was left speechless.

Cang Shi was merely passing by. He was no longer a member of the younger generation, and instead had become Chaosgod Mountain's youngest elder.

Right when Lu Yin entered Chaosgod Mountain's inner regions, Ku Wei looked up above the black dome. It was time.

In front of him, a Hunter from Chaosgod Mountain was fighting against another colossal giant. Suddenly, Ku Wei shrank his body when no one was paying attention to him. He then moved over to the group of giants who had already been at Chaosgod Mountain before his arrival, and he threw some blood towards them.

Chaosgod Mountain made no efforts to prevent the colossal giants from speaking to each other. The colossal giants were not technically prisoners, if one was speaking nicely, but they were not much better off from prisoners as they were forced to spar and fight with Chaosgod Mountain's disciples. Fortunately, the giants were not prevented from communicating with each other.

The giants had already know from the previous day what Ku Wei would do, and they did nothing to stop him.

After absorbing Ku Wei's blood, a total of twenty colossal giants started to transform.

Twenty colossal giants had been left at Chaosgod Mountain, the strongest of whom was Chen Ling, whose power level surpassed 300,000, which meant that he was about as strong as Chen Jian.

As Ku Wei's blood entered the giants' bodies, Chen Ling showed the strongest reaction, and his body started growing without any sign of stopping.

Off in the distance, the people from Chaosgod Mountain stared in amazement and confusion, as they could not understand what was happening to the giants.

Cang Yi was in charge of keeping an eye on the giants, but at this moment, he had no idea what was happening. Thinking quickly, he moved over in front of Chen Ling. "What's happening? Chen Ling, what are you doing?"

Chen Ling's eyes gleamed as a terrifying aura shot into the sky. The ground shattered and Cang Yi was sent flying with a slap.

Due to his years of training, Cang Yi was able to sense the approaching danger, and was only barely able to avoid a direct attack, but he was still caught up in the powerful gust of wind that was stirred up by the slap, and his body was smashed against the stone wall. He coughed up blood and looked up in shock. Chen Ling's strength was supposed to be at a similar level to Cang Yi's, but this slap was more powerful than anything Cang Yi had ever witnessed from the giant. Chen Ling's strength had taken a qualitative leap upwards.

The top of the mountain ranges came pressing down from overhead. This was the same method used by Chaosgod Mountain to subdue the giants, but Chen Ling's change had destroyed this method of containing the giants.

Chen Ling clenched a fist and threw out a punch against the approaching mountain. He barely managed to affect the mountain. The mountain was also targeting the other giants, but Ku Wei released his full strength and regained his full height of 8,000 meters. He was about as tall as Chen Ling. Ku Wei cooperated with Chen Ling and unleashed the Ku family's Finger Tap.

Cang Yi stared at Ku Wei, his face pale with fright; since when were giants able to use battle techniques?

There was a crack, and the mountain shattered.

Cang Yi's pupils constricted, and he quickly ordered the other Chaosgod Mountain disciples to move against the giants. "Chen Ling, you're insane! Do you want to bury all of the other giants with you? We've been helping you!"

Chen Ling slapped at Cang Yi once again, and Cang Yi quickly dodged.

Many of Chaosgod Mountain's disciples raced down towards the dome to suppress the colossal giants. The newly arrived giants were still not a problem, as they were not in their prime. They were unable to stop any of the disciples. However, the giants who had already been at Chaosgod Mountain were not being suppressed, and several of them had already achieved the strength of Enlighteners.

The news of this incident quickly spread through Chaosgod Mountain, and one by one, the elders and powerhouses were sent to the black dome. Cang Song was also sent, and he sneered as he glared at Chen Ling. "Chen Ling, just what are you doing? I never treat you badly! Do you really want to cause Giant Consortium to be destroyed?"

Chen Ling punched at Cang Song, and the elder coughed as he faced the attack.

Chen Ling's power level exceeded 400,000, which was even stronger than Chen Jian, and placed him at a similar level to Cang Song. However, the giants had no battle techniques, and they also had not been able to comprehend battle force, so they held no advantage in the fight. Neither side was able to gain the upper hand.

Another elder with a power level of more than 300,000 appeared. Ku Wei moved to face off against the newly arrived elder, but Cang Yi launched a sneak attack on Ku Wei from behind. Ku Wei sneered and spun around to point a finger at Cang Yi. "Brother Wei has endured you for long enough!"

The Ku family's battle technique was able to deprive their opponents of the will to fight, and this was what happened to Cang Yi. As he faced Ku Wei's Finger Tap, Cang Yi was momentarily unable to attack. Also, because Ku Wei was a colossal giant, each of his fingers was like a mountain, and the finger smashed into Cang Yi.

Cang Yi's head rose and he vomited blood. His body struck the mountainside with a splat. His legs were bent in odd angles, and he was clearly badly wounded.

Ku Wei was then attacked by another elder from behind, but the attack only managed to scratch his skin. Ku Wei whirled around and slapped at the elder. "Get lost."

The elder evaded the attack and stared at Ku Wei in surprise. "Who are you?"

Ku Wei grinned. "Captain of the Great Yu Empire's 10th Imperial Squadron and disciple of the leader of the Great Eastern Alliance: Ku Wei!"

The elder's expression instantly and drastically changed. "Someone from Lu Yin?"

The giants were rioting, and Chaosgod Mountain was locked down as fast as possible. Everything proceeded just as Lu Yin had expected. Chaosgod Mountain was sealed off completely.

At the moment, Lu Yin and the fisherman were no longer able to meet with Cang Song, and the woman guiding them was staring at the dome in amazement. Just what had happened?

One after another, Chaosgod Mountain's powerhouses were sent out to the black dome.

Without additional help, Chen Ling and other giants would eventually be subdued.

The fisherman stared at Lu Yin; all of this had to have something to do with this person.

Suddenly, the void trembled. Lu Yin's expression grew focused; the Envoys were moving. He was feeling a fluctuation of stellar energy.

Stellar energy swept out, disrupting everyone's star energy and suppressing them. However, this was useless against Chaosgod Mountain's disciples and the giants. Both of them focused on physical

strength, though things were different for Ku Wei. He had directed a Finger Tap at an elder, but his attack had just been dispersed.

Suddenly, the void broke open and Cang Zhou stepped out. There was an ugly expression on his face as his eyes swept the place. He raised a hand and pressed down to instantly and completely subdue all of the colossal giants at once. Given his strength, this was an easy task.

Chapter 1614: Gaining Control

Ku Wei looked up, his face pale, Master, you still aren't making your move? This guy's an Envoy! Your disciple can't deal with this!

Cang Zhou's palm slammed down, but suddenly, flying flowers and willow leaves appeared around him and trapped him.

The man's expression changed drastically. "Who is so presumptuous on my Chaosgod Mountain? Come out and face me!"

As Cang Zhou spoke, his powerful aura swept through the void, drifting up from the bottom of Chaosgod Mountain and igniting the entire mountain. The mountain did not burn with true flames, but instead it was the visual result of an explosive power that had shattered the void. It also resulted in a terrifyingly hot gas forming, and the attack shifted between the visible and the true universes.

Cang Zhou's attack created countless eruptions of energy that tore across the top of Chaosgod Mountain. The mountain was completely covered by the spatial tears that looked like a black hole.

The willow leaves and flying flowers were destroyed.

Liu Ye and Fei Hua both emerged from the void with solemn expressions. "That's a truly impressive level of physical might, but you still can't escape."

The two then worked together. Their cooperation resulted in a greater strength than just one plus one, and Cang Zhou's movement were quickly restricted.

The master of Chaosgod Mountain stared at Liu Ye and Fei Hua before moving his hands and causing countless flames to shoot towards the two Envoys. Pressure burst out, and it crushed both the colossal giants and Chaosgod Mountain's disciples to the ground where they all trembled in fear. This was the power of an Envoy. No, this was the power of an elite Envoy. The strength caused the entire mountain to shudder and ripple effects spread out throughout Chaos Flowzone, stirring up the nearby universe.

At the same time, nine lined battle force shrouded Cang Zhou's body, causing his strength to rise further than ever.

Liu Ye and Fei Hua looked at each other. They each were about as strong as Cang Zhao, but when working together, the two of them were able to match up to an Envoy who had passed five stellar tribulations, and were able to defeat four tribulation powerhouses. Clearly, Chang Zhou could not reach this level of strength, but he was still a difficult opponent to lock down. It would be easy for the couple to defeat the master of Chaosgod Mountain, but they would struggle to capture him. Still, it was within their means.

Within the black dome, Lu Yin emerged from the void and looked up.

Above him, there were several Chaosgod Mountain disciples attacking a colossal giant with the strength of an Enlightener.

Lu Yin's face gradually changed back to his own.

One disciple watched as this happened, and his expression twisted with fear as he screamed, "Lu - Yin!"

His yell startled many people, and many other disciples, including Cang Shi, turned and saw Lu Yin.

Many things pieced together in Cang Shi's mind after he saw Lu Yin. Everything that was happening had to be related to this person.

Lu Yin had a reputation not only for being the most powerful member of his generation, but also for being an ambitious leader. He had appeared quietly while the giant had been rioting, so even a fool would realize that Lu Yin was related to the chaos.

"Lu Yin, what have you done?" An old man rushed at Lu Yin and attacked him with a long ax. The man's body had six lined battle force wrapped around it.

However, Lu Yin did not even look at the man or his ax. Instead, his spiritual force swept through the area, stunning many Chaosgod Mountain disciples. They swayed on their feet or collapsed to the ground, but they were unable to retain control of their own bodies. The old man in front of Lu Yin also crumpled to the ground.

Spiritual force was the weakness of Chaosgod Mountain's cultivators, and Lu Yin's spiritual force had become very powerful.

He looked up and locked eyes onto Cang Zhou, and then Lu Yin's focus heightened: Daynight Praises.

Cang Zhou was in the process of wildly attacking Liu Ye and Fei Hua in an attempt to break free of the two Envoys, but suddenly his brain was rattled, and it caused his movements to falter. At that moment, Liu Ye and Fei Hua both suddenly retreated before willow leaves and floating flowers appeared. Cang Zhou was completely restrained, and he fell down to the top of the black dome.

Cang Zhou glared in fury at his attackers, but he was unable to free himself.

Liu Ye and Fei Hua both landed on the ground. They maintained their vigilance against their captured opponent.

"Who are you? Why are you attacking my Chaosgod Mountain?" Cang Zhou shouted he glared at the two other Envoys with murder in his eyes.

Footsteps could be heard from behind the captured Envoy. "Senior Cang Zhou, it's been a long time. This junior, Lu Yin, greets you."

Cang Zhou's face betrayed his startlement, and he slowly turned his head to see a familiar-looking person walking over.

There was a small smile on Lu Yin's face. "Even though it's already been a few years, Senior still has the same attitude as ever."

Cang Zhou roared, "This old man knew there was no way you had settled down! I should've killed you in Chaos Flowzone back then!"

"Senior, even if you go back in time with perfect foresight, you still would never have been able to kill me two years ago." Lu Yin laughed.

Cang Zhou glared at Lu Yin. "You planned the colossal giants' riot in order to force me to lock down Chaosgod Mountain and seal this place to isolate us. If you want to secretly control my Chaosgod Mountain, you're dreaming! My Chaosgod Mountain has no cowards! Not one of us is afraid of death."

The man had almost instantly understood the entire situation. He only regret was not understanding the truth sooner, as his actions had actually helped Lu Yin.

Lu Yin nodded. "This junior understands the struggles that Chaosgod Mountain's disciples endure, and I'm also aware that your people are not afraid of death. However, since this junior is already here, I refuse to leave empty-handed."

"What do you want?" Cang Zhou gritted his teeth as he stared at Lu Yin.

The greatest regret in Cang Zhou's mind at this moment was not pushing to carry out the Purge when the chance had arisen. Why had he listened to this youth's deceptive words back then? That moment had led to the destruction of Chaosgod Mountain! Lu Yin had already taken control of one of the ruling powers of the major flowzones.

Ku Wei shrank himself down and moved to Lu Yin's side. His breath was ragged as he greeted Lu Yin, "Master."

Just as Lu Yin was about to reply, he sensed runes moving. He turned his head back around to look see what was happening, and he saw that Cang Yi, who supposedly had been left lying on the ground badly wounded, had somewhat recovered and was fleeing.

Lu Yin raised a hand and flicked a finger. A powerful gust of wind shot through the void, and even entered the true universe before finally piercing through Cang Yi's legs. The man fell with a scream.

Cang Zhou saw the entire exchange, and his expression changed dramatically as he gazed at Lu Yin in disbelief. "You- your strength?"

"You little shit, you still want to run away? Master, that kid beat me up for an entire day! His name Cang Yi, and today, Brother Wei is going to rip off his bird wings!"¹ Ku Wei angrily declared.

Cang Yi? Lu Yin raised a hand to hold Ku Wei back even as he looked over at Cang Yi, who had been left in a miserable state some distance away. Lu Yin became quite interested, as this person was actually one of his primary targets in Chaosgod Mountain. He had not expected to find the person so quickly. Fortunately, Lu Yin had not attacked Cang Yi with much strength. "Go get him and bring him to me. Don't hurt him any further, as he's of use to me."

Ku Wei grew curious. "Master, what use do you have for that kid?"

"Just go," Lu Yin whispered.

Ku Wei nodded and moved towards Cang Yi.

Cang Zhou was confused, and he looked at Cang Yi as he was captured where he had fallen. "Lu Yin, what is it that you want? Do you want my Chaosgod Mountain to join your Great Eastern Alliance? That's impossible!"

Lu Yin waved a hand dismissively. "Liu Ye, you can take care of him, so please keep a close eye on him."

Cang Zhou shouted, "Lu Yin, no one in all of Chaosgod Mountain is afraid of death, but we can still cooperate with you! We will never move against your Great Eastern Alliance. Even if all of your Great Eastern Alliance moves into the Inniverse, Chaos Flowzone will still give you a place to stay."

Lu Yin just waved a hand to have Liu Ye take Cang Zhou away.

All of the other humans from Chaosgod Mountain were also rounded up by the giants, including Cang Song, who had almost died. There was another elder with a power level of more than 300,000 who had been unlucky enough to have been stomped to death by the giants.

Everyone pulled back to allow Lu Yin the privacy to speak with Cang Yi alone.

Cang Yi was lying on the ground with both of his legs destroyed. He had suffered grave injuries after being attacked by Ku Wei's Finger Tap, and he was essentially only a breath away from death.

"I can let you live and have a good life," Lu Yin slowly offered.

Cang Yi looked up, and his eyes flickered. "What do you want from me?"

Lu Yin squatted down and stared at the man. "Will you agree or not?"

"I'll agree," Cang Yi struggled to speak.

Lu Yin laughed. "Cang Zhou told me that Chaosgod Mountain disciples don't fear death, and yet you didn't even put up any sort of struggle; why?"

Cang Yi's voice grew bitter, "Living is better than dying. Alliance Leader Lu, you've worked so hard to gain control of Chaosgod Mountain, so how could you ever leave with nothing? Even if I die, other Chaosgod Mountain disciples will surrender to you and become your puppets."

Lu Yin nodded as he exclaimed, "I think the same. As expected of one of the Fifth Mainland's rare traitors who's turned to the Technocracy."

Cang Yi stood rooted to the spot in horror the moment he heard Lu Yin's words.. It was as though he had been struck by lightning on a cloudless day. He stared at Lu Yin in a daze. This revelation was completely beyond belief.

Lu Yin smiled. "What? Is it so strange for me to know about that? It's not just you, but also many others from throughout the Inniverse who have turned to the Technocracy. No, I should say the Sixth Mainland. I know about many of you; why else do you think I spared you just now? The only reason for me to leave you alive is because I know that you're afraid of death and someone who's already become a traitor has no lines that they won't cross." At the end, Lu Yin stretched out a hand and grabbed hold of Cang Yi's hair, and his voice became icy cold.

Cang Yi hung his head as sweat dripped down. Blood and sweat mixed together, and his mouth was dry. He had no idea how to respond.

Lu Yin released his grip and took out an Enhanced pill that he stuffed into Cang Yi's mouth. "Tell me: who do you serve? You should be aware that your only path to survival is to beg me for mercy, or else you'll quickly find yourself dead, especially because there are many other traitors in the Innerverse. No one will care if one of you dies. Why else do you think the Xun family was wiped out? There's also Wen Zhaocheng."

Cang Yi's heart fell the moment he heard Wen Zhaocheng's name. He closed his eyes and twice. "Madam Hong."

Lu Yin's eyes flashed. "Flying Horse Manor's Madam Hong?"

Cang Yi nodded. "More than ten years ago, just when the Inner and Outerverse had become separated and the Sixth Mainland had started its invasion. Back then, all I knew was that the person who gave me my orders was Madam Hong, an elder from the Sixth Mainland's Daosource Sect. My orders were always given in the Technocracy's First Edition City."

The Technocracy's First Edition City was absolutely massive. It had been built by the Technocracy's Master Brain, but was controlled by the Sixth Mainland. It had been the base from which the Sixth Mainland had launched their assault on Endless Weave. It was a place that had been at war with the Human Domain for countless years.

Cang Yi had betrayed the Human Domain and joined the Technocracy. It was only natural for him to have been based out of that particular city, but Lu Yin had not expected that Cang Yi would be controlled directly by the Sixth Mainland's Daosource Sect.

It looked like it had not been Flying Horse Manor who had made Cang Yi become a turncoat, but rather the Sixth Mainland's Daosource Sect. Madam Hong had not been acting as part of Flying Horse Manor, but as a protector of the Daosource Sect.

"When the Sixth Mainland invaded, people from the Grand Martial Realm were able to easily slaughter countless cultivators from the Innerverse and they even managed to seize control of Chaos Flowzone. Flying Horse Manor even destroyed Astral-3; were you involved in any of this?" Lu Yin asked.

Cang Yi's expression changed. "I had nothing to do with any of that! A- all I did was tell Madam Hong where Astral-3 could be found, but I had nothing to do with anything that happened!"

Lu Yin's eyes turned icy cold. At this moment, he contemplated killing Cang Yi immediately. The Astral Combat Academy's Astral-3 had been destroyed, and their headmaster had been killed by Flying Horse Manor. Many of the students had been captured, and then used as bait to lure out Innerverse cultivators who tried to rescue the students. If not for Lu Yin's arrival, all of those people would have eventually been killed.

Chapter 1615: Wealthy Again

"Are you able to contact Madam Hong?" Lu Yin asked.

Cang Yi briefly hesitated before nodding. "Yes."

Lu Yin's eyes narrowed; since Cang Yi could contact Madam Hong, he would prove to be incredibly useful.

Madam Hong had been the one to capture the Sea King, and Lu Yin had never forgotten that detail.

Cang Yi's existence provided Lu Yin with the best candidate to maintain secret control of Chaosgod Mountain. Anyone who was allowed access to the black dome were elite members of Chaosgod Mountain. It was normal for people from Chaosgod Mountain to go into seclusion to train, and their entire inner sect was closed to the outside universe. Cang Yi was in a position to become the ambassador of Chaosgod Mountain.

Still, this would only be a temporary arrangement, as if it continued for too long, Cang Yi's connection to Lu Yin would be discovered.

There were hundreds of underground groups that were directly or indirectly controlled by Chaosgod Mountain. They had millions of direct disciples, but there were also countless other cultivators who followed Chaosgod Mountain's orders.

Before ZENITH, Chaosgod Mountain had managed to cleanse an entire flowzone.

Cang Yi led Lu Yin through the mountain, and Lu Yin obtained 2.2 billion star essence that had been gathered by Chaosgod Mountain over many years.

The greater the power, the greater their operation costs. So far, Chaosgod Mountain possessed the greatest power and wealth out of everywhere that Lu Yin had observed. Their wealth and power were directly related to their control of the underworld forces of the Inniverse.

With 2.2 billion star essence, Lu Yin's breathing started to accelerate; he was rich! Rich! His wealth had accumulated to over 3 billion star essence!

Only when his funds were sufficient was Lu Yin able to feel any sense of relief.

If not for his concern about creating tremendous confusion, Lu Yin would gladly have gathered up all of the materials, natural treasures, and power vessels that had been stored in Chaosgod Mountain's treasury with the star essence in order to sell it all. Actually, he had also gained control of all of the Inniverse's underworld powers, and their tributes would amount to a great deal of wealth.

Despite his reluctance to do so, the fisherman asked to see Lu Yin. The man wanted to leave Chaosgod Mountain. He had personally witnessed the change of power controlling the place, and even if he was an expert with an impressive power level of more than 300,000 who had witnessed many things throughout his life, he still could not believe what he had seen.

The Inniverse's eight great flowzones were controlled by the most powerful organizations in the entire Inniverse, and yet one of those powers had fallen under control of another. This revelation caused the fisherman to view Lu Yin with uncontrollable apprehension and nervousness.

Lu Yin patted the fisherman on the shoulder. "Leave? Isn't Chaosgod Mountain beautiful? Why would you leave? By the way, the Astral River was recently closed, so there's no reason for you to leave."

The man bitterly replied, "I won't go fishing for now. I just want to go home."

Lu Yin smiled. "There's no hurry! Just stay here for now. Actually, why don't you do me a favor? You can keep an eye on these people here in Chaosgod Mountain. My followers here are all giants, so things should be easy for you."

The man wanted to refuse, but Lu Yin's hand pressed firmer and firmer upon his shoulder. The man quickly realized that staying was his only option.

The fisherman also realized that it would not be easy for him to leave. Lu Yin had secretly gained control of Chaosgod Mountain, so how could he possibly allow anyone out who could leak news of this event?

The man left, and Lu Yin spoke with Cang Zhou alone.

Cang Zhou felt humiliated at this time. In order to prevent the master of Chaosgod Mountain from escaping, Sister Fei Hua had badly injured the Envoy, and he looked half-dead.

"Senior, I'm truly sorry. If possible, I didn't want to do this, but it was the only option available to me," Lu Yin casually "apologized" to Cang Zhou.

Cang Zhou sighed. Blood dripped from the corner of his mouth as he stared at Lu Yin. "I already told you that no one from my Chaosgod Mountain fears death. Even if you capture all of us, you still won't be able to keep this matter hidden. Chaosgod Mountain can't go even a day without its master."

"That's true, and that's also why Cang Yi is the new master of Chaosgod Mountain," Lu Yin reported with a smile.

Cang Zhou's expression changed. "Cang Yi?"

Lu Yin showed a small smile. "Senior, didn't you know? Cang Yi's been working under the Technocracy's capital city for many years. He's a traitor to the Fifth Mainland."

"Impossible! My Chaosgod Mountain doesn't have anyone who would do such a thing!" Cang Zhou shouted.

Lu Yin shook his head. "It doesn't matter if you believe me or not. Regardless, Cang Yi is now working for me, and he'll be obedient in his management of Chaosgod Mountain, so no one will learn anything at all."

Cang Zhou's face turned red, and veins erupted across his forehead as he angrily demanded, "Where is Cang Yi? I want to see him!"

"There's no need for that. Besides, you now don't have to worry about how I control Chaosgod Mountain. I actually just came here to say hello to Senior and reassure you," Lu Yin said as he stared into Cang Zhou's eyes.

Naturally, Lu Yin was not bored enough to visit Cang Zhou without a reason. Lu Yin had wanted to speak with the Envoy to see if he had missed anything. After all, given the size of Chaosgod Mountain, it was possible for Lu Yin's schemes to be incomplete.

At this moment, Ku Wei approached. "Master, there is someone from the Longevity Brigade here. They say they're looking for Cang Zhou."

Lu Yin wondered, "The Longevity Brigade?"

He looked back at Cang Zhou. "What's the Longevity Brigade looking for you for?"

Cang Zhou replied, "They're wanting to use my Chaosgod Mountain to find some cultivators who are foolhardy enough to use them to explore the Cosmic Sea. We periodically supply them with a group of such people."

Lu Yin knew that the Cosmic Sea was dangerous, and naturally the Four Pirate Crews would not use their own people to explore. Chaosgod Mountain controlled Chaos Flowzone, and there were many criminals in the flowzone, so it was perfectly natural to find such people to work with the pirate crews. "Have Cang Yi send a group of people to the Longevity Brigade. Also, tell them that Chaosgod Mountain is currently sealed."

"Understood, Master." Ku Wei hurriedly back out.

Lu Yin was unable to learn anything useful through his conversation with Cang Zhou, so he soon left the Envoy alone.

Elsewhere in Chaos Flowzone, there was a spacecraft making its way towards the Cosmic Sea. The vessel belonged to the Longevity Brigade, and it was transporting hundreds of captured criminals.

Inside the vessel, a man made a call to the Cosmic Sea. "Captain, I wasn't able to meet with Cang Zhou, but he did send us a signal indicating that something's happened to Chaosgod Mountain."

As the man spoke, he glanced over at the group of cultivators.

"I see," a deep voice replied, and the call was ended.

...

Two days passed from the time that Cang Zhou had been captured. During these two days, aside from the people who had been captured in the black dome, everything remained normal for Chaosgod Mountain. Once Cang Yi stepped into power, even if there were some people who had their doubts about the matter, they were quickly shushed.

Twenty-nine colossal giants stood above the black dome listening to Ku Wei. Each of them was obedient towards Ku Wei and had heart-felt respect for him.

Lu Yin happily watched the scene. Colossal giants were not weak.

Beep beep beep

His gadget beeped, and Lu Yin answered the call. Wang Wen instantly reported, "We forgot something very important."

"What's wrong?" Lu Yin frowned. It was very unusual for Wang Wen to speak with such worry.

"The Innerverse is only really second tier in the Fifth Mainland. While the forces there are able to easily overpower the Outerverse, not one of the Innerverse powers is able to go against the powers in the Cosmic Sea, let alone the Neoverse. The powers controlling the various flowzones rarely change. Even if you are able to gain control of Chaosgod Mountain, the Cosmic Sea and the Neoverse, the factions residing in the eight great flowzones are still ultimately the rulers here."

"What are you trying to say?" Lu Yin asked as an ominous feeling overcame him.

"There's a certain stability inherent to every ecological environment, and the same holds true for the Innerverse. Don't look at the eight great flowzones as being hostile towards each other and constantly fighting between themselves. I can promise you that there are connections between them that we are completely ignorant about. Those other organizations will soon learn about what happened, as if they weren't able to do so, it would be too easy to seize control of them each, one by one. If that were possible, the Innerverse powers would already have become subordinate to some other, greater power, and they would not have their independence," Wang Wen explained.

Lu Yin tapped a finger as he silently listened.

"The entire reason that the Great Eastern Alliance was able to be created in the very beginning was entirely because we controlled the secrets of the powers directing the various weaves and managed to easily control those powers as well. Also, do you remember the excuse that was used to tell the various alliance members for initially creating the alliance?" Wang Wen asked.

Lu Yin remembered that he had initially told the Vastdearth Sect, Millions City, and other major Outerverse powers that the Great Eastern Alliance was being formed to protect the Outerverse from pressure from the Innerverse powers. It was an alliance to allow the Outerverse to stand up to the Innerverse. Naturally, the Innerverse wanted the same ability, but towards the Neoverse.

"The Great Eastern Alliance was established to stabilize the Outerverse and prevent the Outerverse powers from becoming mere puppets of the Innerverse forces. If not for the Hall of Honor, the Outerverse's top powers would have disappeared long ago," Wang Wen continued.

"The Innerverse may not fear the Neoverse because of the influence of the Hall of Honor," Lu Yin countered.

Wang Wen shrugged. "That's impossible. While the Outerverse isn't very important, the Innerverse is different. Even the Hall of Honor may want to control that place, so there's no need to mention the monstrous entities in the Neoverse. The universe is not a peaceful place, and the Innerverse has to have some form of stability in order to prevent any accidents from occurring to the various major powers. Whenever something happens, the other top powers have to quickly learn about it in order to ensure countermeasures are put into place as soon as possible. This has to be a secret that only the controlling powers of the eight great flowzones are privy to.

"You're already running out of time. You have to find out from Cang Zhou how to keep the recent events on Chaosgod Mountain from leaking, or else I'm sure that the other flowzones will unite. The war in Blazing Mist Flowzone will stop, and everything will become peaceful. Our entire plan will die a quick death."

"Why didn't you say something sooner?" Lu Yin angrily demanded. He had felt that things had progressed too smoothly, and he had always felt that something was off. This was why he had met with Cang Zhou on his own, as he had wanted to probe the matter, but Cang Zhou was too cunning and Lu Yin had not been able to determine anything at all.

Wang Wen felt helpless. "It really is my fault this time, as it simply didn't occur to me. I was careless, and you moved too fast."

Lu Yin ended the call and went straight to see Cang Zhou.

"I don't know what you're talking about," Cang Zhou sneered. He closed his eyes and would not even look at Lu Yin.

Lu Yin frowned. "You have to have a way to let the Sword Sect and other Innerverse powers know when something happens to Chaosgod Mountain."

Cang Zhou casually replied, "There indeed is a means to do so, but it's impossible for me to tell you."

This was a problem. Chaosgod Mountain's people were cultivators who were capable of enduring all kinds of hardships, and they constantly dealt with underworld organizations. They were accustomed to seeing various means employed to force people into things, and their ability to endure could not be compared to ordinary people. Lu Yin could not think of anything that would be of use in this situation.

"I can destroy your stellar energy vortex," Lu Yin indifferently commented.

Cang Zhou opened his eyes and stared at Lu Yin. "That's still better than my Chaosgod Mountain being controlled by you. Since you've already guessed that there's a connection between us, you should also have guessed that we have an agreement. Even if my stellar energy vortex is destroyed, the situation in the Innerverse will remain unchanged. I'm fighting for my Chaosgod Mountain; so what if I don't have stellar energy?"

"Harming me will only make the Sword Sect and the others more afraid of you."

Lu Yin was really in trouble at the moment, and Wang Wen was facing his own troubles: the Autumnfrost family was finally knocking on the door.

The Autumnfrost family had sent Uncle Hua and others with Di Fa to find Aegis, but they had all been captured by Lu Yin before arriving. To cover Yu Mu's tracks, they were all being held captive on Zenyu Star. However, news of them being held there was going to leak out sooner or later, and the Autumnfrost family had finally arrived at Zenyu Star, demanding for their people.

Fortunately, Frostwave Weave had Envoys, as without them, the Autumnfrost family's Imprinters would have employed a brute force approach.

Chapter 1616: Mystery

It was not long before Lu Yin received another call from Wang Wen.

"I think it would be best to release Uncle Hua and the others. Now's not the time to try to go up against the Autumnfrost family," Wang Wen suggested.

Lu Yin's eyes flashed. "Cang Zhou still hasn't said anything at all. Sooner or later, the Innerverse will learn that something's wrong with Chaosgod Mountain, but they won't necessarily know that it's got anything to do with us, right?"

Wang Wen's eyes lit up. "Are you wanting to use the Autumnfrost family to divert attention away from us?"

"Is that possible?" Lu Yin asked.

Wang Wen thought for a while. "It'll be very dangerous, but we can use the Autumnfrost family to divert people's attention, though it's also possible that the Autumnfrost family will ruin or even destroy our efforts. The Sixth Mainland is incomparable to the Innerverse."

Lu Yin said, "I can antagonize the Sixth Mainland, but the Autumnfrost family can't be allowed to destroy my Great Eastern Alliance."

"This won't work for long." Wang Wen obviously did not agree with Lu Yin's choice. In order to hide the fact that Lu Yin had gained control of Chaosgod Mountain, they would go up against the Autumnfrost family. Even if the Innerverse's major powers did not suspect the Great Eastern Alliance of being involved in the matter with Chaosgod Mountain, they would still become cautious after learning that something had happened to Chaosgod Mountain. The only difference would be that the Great Eastern Alliance would not become a target.

Taking a greater loss than one's gains was always only the last resort.

"Get us some time, and then we'll think about things," Lu Yin said.

Wang Wen ended the call. He really had not expected the Autumnfrost family to approach at this time. This was really creating problems.

Even if the eight great flowzones did have their secret connections and communications to cooperate, such things could not occur frequently. Lu Yin estimated that each interval between communications had to be at least more than ten years. For people who had the time, this was already quite frequent, and the people controlling these powers were all Envoys who could frequently go into secluded training for years at a time.

What worried Lu Yin the most was that such a deadline was almost due, which would be infuriating.

Over the next few days, Lu Yin went to see Cang Zhou every single day. Each time, he tried to get Cang Zhou to speak, but all efforts were useless.

"I've already made my move against Chaosgod Mountain. Even if I fall back now, the Sword Sect and the others will still become much more vigilant, so there's no reason for me to back down. What you need to think about is how to leave unscathed, not the stability of the Innerverse. What does that have to do with you? People live their own lives, and they also determine their own lives," Lu Yin advised.

Cang Zhou sneered, "Alliance Leader Lu, cut the bullshit; it's useless. I will never say anything, so do your worst."

Lu Yin clenched his fists tightly. The man was an Envoy, so Lu Yin really had no place to even start.

One day, an unexpected person reached out to Lu Yin: God Taiyi.

Lu Yin and God Taiyi could only be regarded as almost friends, and Lu Yin had never considered receiving a call from God Taiyi.

"Brother Lu, is it that surprising for me to call you?" God Taiyi asked with a smile.

Lu Yin replied, "It's quite the surprise. Is something wrong?"

"Brother Lu, do you still remember those people from the Ignition Crew that you handed over to my Gods' Origin back in the Neoverse?" God Taiyi asked.

"Them? That wasn't a big deal."

"Brother Lu's hard work not only helped my Gods' Origin, but also ended up helping you, Brother Lu," God Taiyi stated. He quickly continued, "Some time ago, Arbiter Jin He used the excuse of people having the Lu surname to condemn Big Sis and various others. Her mercenary crew was targeted and 72 people with your surname were killed. I know that Brother Lu will always remember this matter, and even if Jin He is already dead, Brother Lu will continue to seek revenge from the Ignition Crew. What I wanted to tell you, Brother Lu, is that there were other people involved in that matter in addition to the Ignition Crew."

Lu Yin's expression changed a bit. "It wasn't just the Ignition Crew?"

"In the group that you sent to Gods' Origin, there were some who had heard about Chaosgod Mountain's involvement as well," God Taiyi solemnly declared.

Lu Yin's expression instantly changed drastically. "Where are you?"

God Taiyi grew confused. "Where am I?"

Lu Yin pressed, "Where are you right now?"

"Gods' Origin. Does Brother Lu want to come visit?" God Taiyi wondered.

Lu Yin frowned. This was just too much of a coincidence. Briefly, Lu Yin considered that God Taiyi might be trying to toy with him. After all, Lu Yin was still on Chaosgod Mountain and had only just taken control of the place when God Taiyi contacted him. There was no way for him to not be suspicious.

"Are you sure they mentioned Chaosgod Mountain?" Lu Yin asked.

"I'll have the person tell you himself."

Right after that, Lu Yin heard a trembling voice speak, "Yes, it's Chaosgod Mountain. When Jin He returned to the Ignition Crew, I personally heard it mentioned that Chaosgod Mountain had cooperated. I swear it's true! I'm not lying! Don't kill me! Don't kill me!"

Lu Yin's expression turned dark. Chaosgod Mountain stood in Chaos Flowzone, which was far from the Ignition Crew or where they had been attacked; how could they be involved in such a matter?

"Brother Lu, I'm just passing you some information. This person's terrified of death, so he's just throwing things out. You'll have to be the one to determine the truth of this matter. Later." God Taiyi then ended the call.

Lu Yin lowered his head. The entire situation had once again become confusing. He had originally thought that the Ignition Crew had targeted Big Sis and her mercenaries because of their connection to Leon's Armada, and that the Ignition Crew had wanted to cut away at the strength of Leon's forces, but seemed to not be the case.

Big Sis just led a small mercenary crew, so why had there been any need for Chaosgod Mountain to get involved. Also, just what was the connection between Chaosgod Mountain and the Ignition Crew?

Lu Yin stood in place and ran through the various details that he could remember about when people with the Lu surname had been targeted and killed. Lu Yin wanted to track down Chaosgod Mountain's possible involvement. In the end, the only possibility that he could come up with was that there was some sort of connection between the Leo family and Chaosgod Mountain.

When Big Sis and the others had reached the Outerverse, they had been attacked by the Leo family. Later, Lu Yin had taken Zhuo Daynight to a pirate port and had run into Da Chong. At that time, the man had been investigating the Leo family, but unfortunately, the Leo family had ended up being wiped out along with Driftcharge Planet, and all leads had been destroyed.

Everyone had assumed that the Leo family had received their orders from Jin He or someone else who held enmity towards Leon's Armada, and no one had ever cared enough to look into the matter.

As he thought through the matter, Lu Yin summoned Cang Yi.

"Darkmist Weave?" Cang Yi asked.

Lu Yin's voice was low as he continued, "Gather any and all information on Chaosgod Mountain that's related to Darkmist Weave going back more than ten years."

Cang Yi nodded and left.

Half a day later, Cang Yi returned to Lu Yin and respectfully informed him, "Chaosgod Mountain is far away from Darkmist Weave, and there's almost no connection at all. The only thing that I found was an minor incident more than ten years ago when we supported a small family that once wandered about in Chaos Flowzone. We helped them strengthen a pirate port."

Lu Yin's eyes snapped wide open. "What was the name of the family?"

"Leo. The Leo family."

Lu Yin's fingers trembled. The Leo family! It really was the Leo family. At this moment, Lu Yin knew that the Leo family's assault on Big Sis and her mercenary crew was connected to Chaosgod Mountain.

"Why support the Leo family? What's their connection with Chaosgod Mountain?" Lu Yin asked.

Cang Yi shook his head. "There's no information about that. All that's recorded about the Leo family is that they were sent things to reinforce a port and some supplies. Everything else related to that matter has disappeared."

"Someone from the Leo family also stayed here in Chaos Flowzone and ended up developing a relationship with an elder from my Chaosgod Mountain, so no one really cared about a little bit of support."

"Did you meet that person?" Lu Yin asked.

"That elder's already dead. They were killed by the Sixth Mainland."

Lu Yin blew out a long breath. He took a step and disappeared. He went to speak to Cang Zhou.

Cang Zhou coldly greeted Lu Yin, "You can either give up and destroy my cultivation."

Lu Yin stared at Cang Zhou. "I wonder if you've ever heard of the Leo family."

Cang Zhou's eyes twitched, though only for an instant. The man's face immediately returned to normal. "What's the Leo family? Never heard of them."

"There are records of the Leo family in Chaosgod Mountain. The only thing that was ever reported was a unilateral support via supplies and strengthening a port they controlled. There was nothing gained from this matter. Your Chaosgod Mountain is not a charity, so tell me why you help this particular family?" Lu Yin asked. When he had visited the pirate port he had found a lot of advanced medical equipment. He had been puzzled by the presence of such equipment at the time, but now it looked like it had been sent there through Chaosgod Mountain.

Cang Zhou just closed his eyes. "I have no idea what you're talking about. A small family like that could just have a connection to one of my Chaosgod Mountain's disciples. There's nothing wrong with providing a small bit of material support."

"Things that can strengthen a pirate port are not simple supplies, though they probably aren't seen as much to your Chaosgod Mountain. However, after thinking about it, I wonder if this is related to Leon's Armada?" Lu Yin somberly suggested.

Cang Zhou's eye twitched, and he fell silent.

"What sort of conflict does your Chaosgod Mountain have with Leon's Armada? Why would you work with the Ignition Crew to go against them?" Lu Yin pressed.

Cang Zhou still said nothing.

Lu Yin really wanted to kill the man, but doing so would cause the truth to disappear forever.

Lu Yin walked away.

After Lu Yin left, Cang Zhou opened his eyes. They flickered, as he had been discovered. What had gone wrong? He had believed that this matter would never be exposed, and even if the Ignition Crew was annihilated by Leon's Armada, there was still no way for his Chaosgod Mountain to be exposed, as no one would say anything. This confidence was why Cang Zhou had forgotten about the matter.

In order to remain undiscovered, he had to actually think and act as though he had done nothing. This was Cang Zhou's personality. When speaking with Lu Yin before, Cang Zhou had assumed the youth to be ignorant of the matter. The Envoy had not expected to be exposed like this.

It looks like he could not keep things under wraps for too much longer.

"Is this all the information that Chaosgod Mountain has on the matter?" Lu Yin asked.

From behind, Cang Yi respectfully replied, "It's all here."

Lu Yin began to seriously study the information. He intended to find the connection between Chaosgod Mountain and the Ignition Crew.

It was supposed to be impossible to find any such connection through the records that had been left untouched, but Lu Yin still found some.

Chaosgod Mountain was different from other forces that controlled the eight great flowzones. One of the mountain's defining features was that the sect was not inherited, but was gained through competition.

Cang Zhou was the master of Chaosgod Mountain, but he had not inherited it. Every single member of Chaosgod Mountain was eligible to compete for the position of the mountain's master.

Considering this detail, Lu Yin started to think.

Chaosgod Mountain did not have an environment that was suitable for ordinary humans; it was too cold. The entire mountain was filled with a dry sort of cold that pierced to the bone.

The giants were sleeping soundly atop the black dome. Their huge bodies were thousands of meters tall and looked like mountains. Ku Wei was among them, as he had no other choice. He wanted to find a better place to sleep and relax, but Lu Yin had ordered Ku Wei to stay with the colossal giants, which gave Ku Wei a headache.

Chaosgod Mountain disciples were very diligent with their training. No matter if it was day or night, there were always people cultivating.

Even though a group of the elite disciples and many elders had been captured, their disappearance had not affected Chaosgod Mountain for the time being. Cang Yi had seized control of Chaosgod Mountain as fast as possible.

No one noticed when the two figures rushed into the mountain at an impressive speed. The two did not tear through the void, and they simply used pure speed.

After entering Chaosgod Mountain, they separated.

It was not long before a brilliant light erupted from the void and a terrifying burst of stellar energy swept over Chaosgod Mountain and caused the void to tremble.

Lu Yin instantly emerged and looked over to where Cang Zhou was being held captive.

Chapter 1617: Assailant

Cang Zhou was still being held captive by Liu Ye and Fei Hua, left unable to move. Sister Fei Hua stood in front of their captive with a solemn expression on her face. Suddenly, a black shadow attacked, catching the couple off guard. Even more shocking was the attacker's strength; even though the person did not use any battle techniques and their strength could not compare to either Liu Ye or Fei Hua, Liu Ye was being pushed back.

Liu Ye spread out his arms, and dozens of willow leaves spread through the void. The shadowy figure raised a hand and pointed an index finger forward. The finger briefly pointed at each leaf, instantly shattering each one. Liu Ye's pupils shrank; this was impossible!

The attacker leaped back and entered the true universe. Liu Ye copied the attacker at the same time, but did not see the shadowy figure within the true universe. There was no one to be seen at all.

This was a terrifying battle technique. Liu Ye felt that he was powerful for his cultivation even within the Perennial World, and yet he was being toyed with by this attacker as though he were a child facing an adult. Though Liu Ye used his battle techniques and innate gift, everything was useless.

A black shadow appeared behind Liu Ye and attacked the Envoy with a palm. This was still not a battle technique, though the attack did use stellar energy in some manner that sent chills down Liu Ye's spine. He spun around, and willow leaves flew out from his palm technique.

There was a bang, and both people exited the true universe at the same time. The shadowy figure shot towards Cang Zhou and Sister Fei Hua by using the force of Liu Ye's palm attack.

Sister Fei Hua gritted her teeth.

"You're seeking death!" she said as she raised a hand. Beautiful flowers flew out and danced about while blossoming within the void. Each petal tore through space around Chaosgod Mountain. "You dare move any closer, and I will completely release my stellar energy."

The shadowy black figure hesitated, and the person stared at Sister Fei Hua in amazement; the woman was nuts!

If an Envoy fully released their stellar energy, it meant that the energy would be detected by the true universe, and any and all exposed stellar energy would be ripped back into the true universe.

Envoys typically held themselves back when fighting, unless then entered a true life or death battle. If their stellar energy was detected by the true universe, it would be ripped away from them in a manner similar to a stellar tribulation.

"Let's go again." Liu Ye approached the attacker.

However, at this time, another shadowy figure appeared, and the person stared at Sister Fei Hua. Her eyes flashed, as she suddenly felt as though her entire being had just been greatly weakened. Even the flowers in her hand began to wither. Fei Hua was startled; just what was going on?

"Truesight! They're from the Ignition Crew!" someone shouted. Lu Yin emerged from the void. He was wearing his micro-armor, and he raised a hand to attack the second shadowy figure who had appeared with a Vacuum Palm.

The black figure's eyes narrowed, and the person released a shield of light into the void. The Vacuum Palm slammed into the shield, and the force of Lu Yin's attack was greatly reduced. Even though it continued through the void, it was no longer an invisible Vacuum Palm, but instead looked like a palm attack from an average Enlightener.

Lu Yin was startled; this person's mastery of Truesight defied Lu Yin's imagination. This person clearly had the greatest mastery of the technique of anyone Lu Yin had ever encountered. "Who are you?"

The man looked up at the sky.

Lu Yin's heart sank; this was not good. "Stop him!"

Sister Fei Hua unable to make heads or tails of the situation. While Liu Ye knew that he was fighting against at least one opponent who could use Truesight, he was still being held back by the first shadowy figure who had appeared.

Cracks appeared on the willow leaves and flowers that trapped Cang Zhou, and the strength of the restrictions on the master of Chaosgod Mountain was weakened by Truesight. Cang Zhou roared and broke free of the willow leaves and flowers. He then coughed and spat out blood. "Junior, you're looking to die!"

"Liu Ye, Fei Hua, retreat!" Lu Yin was decisive. With Cang Zhou working with the two shadowy figures, Lu Yin and his two Envoys stood no chance.

"You'll stay here even if you want to leave!" Cang Zhou's hatred for Lu Yin ran deep, and he shot forward and unleashed a punch at the youth. The attack was accompanied by a burst of battle force, making it an incredibly powerful attack.

No matter how impressive the defensive abilities of Lu Yin's micro-armor, it was still only a means of protection. It did not give Lu Yin the ability to go up against experts with power levels of more than 700,000. Even though Cang Zhou had been seriously injured and Lu Yin had killed multiple corpse kings in the New World with similar power levels, those victories had been won through the use of items and equipment. Lu Yin would have to rely on his items just to escape from these three people.

As Cang Zhou's punch flew forward, willow leaves appeared in front of Lu Yin. There was a loud bang, and the willow leaves were scattered.

Liu Ye became distracted, and he ended up being caught by the shadowy figure he had been fighting. A palm struck the Envoy's right shoulder, and he was knocked back 100 meters. Sister Fei Hua raced over to him. "Join hands!"

Right after that, Liu Ye and Fei Hua became entangled.

The battle quickly drew attention from others. After all, it was so violent that all of Chaosgod Mountain had started trembling.

Ku Wei showed up, but he was so scared the moment that he saw the battle that he instantly fled back to the black dome. Cang Yi also saw what was happening, and he immediately grew pale and also ran away at top speed.

Liu Ye and Fei Hua worked together and tried to block Cang Zhou and the other two, but they were simply dreaming. At the same time, Lu Yin took advantage of the instance when his two protectors made their move, as star energy was not suppressed for a moment. An astral chessboard appeared beneath his feet, and he moved himself over to the black dome. He looked back at the battle. "Liu Ye, come here."

Liu Ye and Fei Hua united to launch an attack, but it was completely nullified by the Truesight expert. When working together, Liu Ye and Fei Hua were supposedly able to stand up to experts with power levels of 900,000, and yet their attack was completely useless.

The couple was stunned, so the moment they heard Lu Yin yell at them, they pulled back to the black dome.

Cang Zhou and the other two immediately gave chase.

Lu Yin pulled out the small, blood-red bell and rang it under the shocked eyes of his three opponents. For a moment, everyone felt as though they saw a massive hand pressing down upon their heads from above. The hand replaced the sky and the universe. It was beyond anything they could imagine. That was the Chief Justice's power.

By the time Lu Yin's three opponents were able to react, Lu Yin and all of his companions had disappeared from above the black dome. They had already left Chaosgod Mountain.

Cang Zhou coughed up more blood as he stared at the empty black dome. He commented with evident frustration, "We can't let them escape without chasing them down!"

Neither of the two shadowy figures moved at all.

Cang Zhou looked at them.

One of the two said, "That child has the Chief Justice's emblem, so there's no point in chasing after them. If not for the fact that the emblem's suppression being untargeted, both of us would have been in danger."

"That child's backing is beyond complicated. We cannot move against him for the moment," the other person said.

"Is that how it must be? I have never before suffered such humiliation!" Cang Zhou growled.

"Did you say anything at all about us?" one of the figures asked.

Cang Zhou angrily retorted, "Of course not! Some kid wants to control me? How could that be possible?"

The Envoy's eyes flashed as he spoke. "However, he did discover something, though I have no idea how he managed it."

"What?"

Cang Zhou frowned. "He discovered our connection to the Leo family. He knows that I had some sort of connection to the people who attacked Big Sis's mercenaries back then. Also, you were just recognized

by Truesight, which means that he knows there's a connection between Chaosgod Mountain and the Ignition Crew."

"How did he learn about the Leo family?" one of the shadowy figures wondered.

Cang Zhou shook his head. "I have no idea. All of the people involved in that matter should already be dead, except for you and I. Lu Yin already even killed your Ignition Crew's Jin He, so I have no idea how he learned anything at all. However, he now knows beyond any shadow of a doubt that there's a connection between my Chaosgod Mountain and the Ignition Crew. Sooner or later, he'll learn the truth about that incident."

"Then we can't wait. Contact the Daynight Clan and the Sword Sect to start making plans," a black figure said. This was the same person who had been suppressing Liu Ye throughout the fight.

"Don't worry, he can't find out anything about you," Cang Zhou reassured the person.

The shadow's gaze hardened. "It's just a matter of time."

Out in space, Liu Ye and Fei Hua carried along a group of colossal giants and made their way to the east. They were returning to Giant Consortium.

Lu Yin sat on a giant's shoulder, his expression dark. He had failed! Failed! He had never expected that Chaosgod Mountain's connections would be so deep. They actually had a relationship with the Ignition Crew! One of those two people who had attacked had to have been from the Ignition Crew, though not necessarily both of them. Gods' Origin also made use of Truesight, and the use of the technique left most people helpless. Both Liu Ye and Fei Hua had been weakened to the point that they had been helpless.

Who else could have been involved?

Liu Ye and Fei Hua were both feeling quite frustrated, as they had been overwhelmed and defeated.

Liu Ye looked over at Lu Yin. "That person who was fighting against me is by no means as simple as they looked from the outside. He knew precisely where my stellar energy vortex is located, and the only reason that he didn't attack it was as a warning. Even in the Perennial World, there is no three tribulation Envoy capable of doing that, and not even a five tribulation expert is guaranteed to instantly discover the location of my stellar energy vortex."

Lu Yin's eyes flickered. "Are you saying that he was hiding his strength?"

"Absolutely," Liu Ye stated.

Sister Fei Hua stared at Lu Yin. "What was that technique that my opponent used? Not only was it useless for the two of us to work together, my own personal strength was also weakened greatly."

"That was the Truesight I mentioned before," Lu Yin replied indifferently. He then simply ignored Liu Ye and Fei Hua. He felt that the entire situation was growing increasingly complicated, and it had to have something to do with Big Sis's mercenary crew being chased down and people trying to kill them.

Who all had been involved in that incident? What was the reason for it? If it had only been to deal with Big Sis and her mercenaries, then any Chaosgod Mountain elder could have dealt with the situation. What was the reason to go through the Leo family? Why not just kill everyone in the mercenary crew? Chaosgod Mountain and the Ignition Crew... It seemed to Lu Yin like his attack on Chaosgod Mountain might have touched something further that he was ignorant of.

If not for God Taiyi informing Lu Yin about the connection the Leo family had with Chaosgod Mountain, Lu Yin would have remained completely ignorant of the further depths of the matter.

Big Sis's mercenaries were not particularly important. What was important was Leon's Armada that stood behind them. Could the Ignition Crew have teamed up with Chaosgod Mountain to attack Leon's Armada?

Lu Yin could not let this matter go, and he immediately called Highsage Leon.

The call went through, and Lu Yin heard a deafening shout, "Boy, you wait this long to contact me? Do you not take me seriously? Watch out, or else I'll string you up and beat your ass!"

Lu Yin scratched at his ears. "Captain, I got into a tight spot."

"That's got nothing to do with me! Just die if you can't handle it yourself!" Highsage Leon instantly cursed at Lu Yin.

Another voice came through the call, "Please be nice. You'll scare Little Seven."

"Frighten him my ass! He even tore his way into that place; what could possibly scare him."

"Little Seven is still young."

"Fine. Get out. Your appearance is changing every day; can't you go without doing that for even a single day?"

Lu Yin felt quite helpless as he heard the conversation taking place on the other end of the call. He was unable to get a word in even if he wanted to. All he could do was wait.

"Alright kid, why did you call me?" Highsage Leon asked.

Lu Yin solemnly replied, "I poked a hornet's nest."

"Who'd you poke?" Highsage Leon instantly became interested.

"Chaosgod Mountain."

Highsage Leon fell silent for a moment, and then started raging, "Are you fucking with me? Just Chaosgod Mountain? What's the big deal?"

Lu Yin shared what had happened, and after he finished, Highsage Leon's tone changed yet again. "Two powerhouses? And one of them had to have been the captain of the Ignition Crew, that bastard Jin Mie. He's the only person from the Ignition Crew who can stand up to someone with a power level of 700,000. I don't know who the other person could be. The Leo family acted on Chaosgod Mountain's orders? Alright, I'll go and stomp on Chaosgod Mountain."

Chapter 1618: Incredible Pill

"Captain, that's actually not the point. What I'm trying to point out is that there's no grievances between Chaosgod Mountain and Big Sis: why did they target her? Why did they go through the Leo family? Was it really because of orders from the Ignition Crew? Why didn't the Ignition Crew just handle it themselves? The way that Jin He mentioned this matter, there were details that have remained hidden, and there were no records of it even on Chaosgod Mountain. The whole thing's really weird," Lu Yin said.

Higsage Leon seemed to think of something. "There were once rumors that the current master of Chaosgod Mountain originally came from the Longevity Brigade."

Lu Yin's eyes widened, and his mind started to race. Something occurred to him in an instant, only to flee from his mind just as quickly. He continued to consider what he had been told.

"No one believed that rumor, and only a few people ever mentioned it even when the rumor first appeared. What's their connection to the Ignition Crew now? I'll have to go to Chaosgod Mountain and personally ask Cang Zhou about this," Higsage Leon declared.

Lu Yin suddenly remembered the thought he had been chasing, and he quickly said, "It's the Longevity Brigade! Boss, it's the Longevity Brigade!"

"What about the Longevity Brigade?" Higsage Leon was left confused.

Lu Yin gritted his teeth. "People from the Longevity Brigade visited Chaosgod Mountain a few days ago. They were wanting to pick up some criminals from Chaosgod Mountain to help with exploring the Cosmic Sea. I didn't think much of it at the time, so I just told Cang Yi to send them off with a batch of criminals, but now it's clear that everything that happened at Chaosgod Mountain after that was triggered by that incident."

Higsage Leon snorted coldly. "If it really is the Longevity Brigade, then I'll have to kill that Ji bastard! He's had a good relationship with your daddy, so he better not have stabbed me in the back."

"Boss, wait for news from me. I'll get to the bottom of this, and then we'll get our revenge," Lu Yin said.

Higsage Leon grunted. "I feel better with that. Alright, I'll wait to hear from you."

The call then ended.

Lu Yin felt that the call had ended rather oddly. Had he just unknowingly agreed to settle the feud that Higsage Leon had with the Longevity Brigade?

In the Outerverse, Wang Wen was again meeting with a representative from the Autumnfrost family on Zenyu Star. His counterpart was a beautiful middle-aged woman. Though the woman looked soft, her eyes were sharp, and every word she spoke was a threat.

"Where's your alliance leader? Have him see me immediately. A mere junior like him will be killed by our ancestor with a single breath; is that why he doesn't dare show himself?" The beautiful woman mocked.

Wang Wen had a headache. The Sixth Mainland's three Progenitors were currently occupied blocking the passage to the Sixth Mainland, and even though the rest of the Sixth Mainland still completely outclassed the Fifth Mainland when it came to pure power, the Sixth Mainland was still quite cautious.

At this moment, Wang Wen was thinking about Lu Yin's orders to start a conflict with the Autumnfrost family in order to divert attention away from Chaosgod Mountain. Was that even possible? It was just too dangerous.

No matter how cautious the Sixth Mainland might be towards the Fifth Mainland, the moment a war started, both the Outerverse and Inverse would be crushed.

This whole thing was so confusing! Wang Wen could not help himself from scratching his head.

"Boy, I'm talking to you!" The woman glared at Wang Wen. "Hurry up and release our Autumnfrost family's young master, Uncle Hua, and Di Fa. Do that, apologize to my Autumnfrost family, and leave the Outerverse and we'll drop this matter."

"You just keep saying the same thing, but your Autumnfrost family's people have nothing to do with my Great Eastern Alliance," Wang Wen said.

The beautiful woman grew furious, and her eyes exuded a terrible pressure. "It looks like the Great Eastern Alliance actually wants to start a war with my Autumnfrost family. I hope you have powerhouses who can stop my ancestor. At least that will allow the ancestor to have some fun."

With that, she turned and left.

There was an Envoy on Zenyu Star, which made the woman hesitant to take action. Otherwise, the planet would have been destroyed long ago.

At this moment, Wang Wen received a message on his gadget. When he saw it, he quickly called out to the woman, "Senior! Wait a moment."

The middle-aged woman turned just her head to glare at Wang Wen.

Wang Wen smiled, and it looked quite sincere. "Senior, your family's people have been found."

The beautiful woman glared at the young man. "How can you dare claim that they weren't caught by the Great Eastern Alliance?"

Wang Wen answered in an earnest and honest voice, "They were discovered by the Hall of Honor. It's nothing to do with our Great Eastern Alliance."

...

A long time later, Wang Wen let out a sigh of relief and collapsed in exhaustion. The woman had finally left.

Autumnfrost Qing, Uncle Hua, Di Fa, and all of the others had been returned to the Autumnfrost family. No matter how the Autumnfrost family reacted to the matter, he was determined to claim that they had been found by the Hall of Honor.

Uncle Hua was absolutely furious that Wang Wen insisted that the Great Eastern Alliance had absolutely nothing to do with the matter. Even when Autumnfrost Qing insisted that he had been injured by Lu Yin, Wang Wen simply replied that it must have been an illusion. The Great Eastern Alliance had had nothing to do with the matter, and there was no evidence to the contrary.

As for how the Autumnfrost family might respond in the future, it was a matter for the future. War could not be allowed for the moment.

At this thought, Wang Wen immediately called Lu Yin. "What's going on? How was Chaosgod Mountain lost?"

Lu Yin shrugged. "Some experts showed up and saved Cang Zhou. There was no way for me to stop them."

"Where were Liu Ye and Fei Hua? They're both peak masters with power levels of more than 700,000. Couldn't they have stopped them?"

"They couldn't do it."

"What's the current situation?" Wang Wen instantly grew much more serious. If not even Liu Ye and Fei Hua had been able to stop the attackers, then the matter was more serious than he had thought.

Lu Yin hid nothing at all from Wang Wen.

Wang Wen listened to Lu Yin's story, and then solemnly replied, "If all of that was just done to deal with Leon's Armada, why would they have tried so hard to keep everything hidden? If the Longevity Brigade's also involved, then things are even more bizarre. The Ignition Crew and the Longevity Brigade combined are more than capable of dealing with Leon's Armada. On top of that, why would they have pulled Chaosgod Mountain into the mix and then secretly sent orders to the Leo family? Nothing about this makes any sense."

"That's why I want to investigate this," Lu Yin said.

Wang Wen cautioned Lu Yin, "It's possible that there's a larger conspiracy behind this and some other hand controlling things. Be careful; this matter isn't simple."

"I know, and that's why I've decided to head to Little Millennium Flowzone to visit the Starsibyl Sect," Lu Yin said.

Wang Wen frowned. "Everyone's a suspect until the truth is revealed. Not even the Starsibyl Sect is an exception."

"I'm going to investigate first. I've got Liu Ye and Fei Hua with me, as well as a bunch of equipment. It won't be a problem for me to stay safe. Also, it's not a big deal whether or not I go. Actually, help me find Xuan Jiu," Lu Yin suddenly asked when he remembered the old man.

Wang Wen's brows rose high. "The old scammer?"

"He isn't a liar. If you can find him, you might learn that for yourself."

Lu Yin did not know if Cang Zhou would expose Lu Yin's attack on Chaosgod Mountain after Lu Yin had been driven out.

Logically speaking, such a thing should not happen, as the master of Chaosgod Mountain would not be able to explain how he had been rescued. After all, Lu Yin had moved with Liu Ye and Fei Hua, each of whom was an expert with a power level exceeding 700,000. Cang Zhou could not have fought off such people, and receiving hidden help would make Cang Zhou look suspicious, and all of the other Inniverse forces would grow wary of the mountain.

It was unlikely for the matter to be exposed, but Cang Zhou would definitely manage to find a way to secretly stir up trouble in the Inniverse and have the various powers unite against Lu Yin, which would not be good for the Great Eastern Alliance.

Lu Yin considered the matter the entire way to Giant Consortium. However, even after arriving, he had still not managed to come up with any sort of solution. The only answer was to secretly eliminate Cang Zhou, but the older man would never allow Lu Yin another opportunity to do so.

Qing Kong proved to be very, very annoying. When Lu Yin had first hatched his plot to take control of Chaosgod Mountain, the giant had disapproved, but Lu Yin had actually failed. This meant that Giant Consortium would no longer receive any protection from Chaosgod Mountain, and it was even possible that Chaosgod Mountain would use this matter to reveal the existence and location of the giants, and that would trigger the Expeditionary Force to likely take action before anyone else.

Qing Kong's expression was quite bad as he looked at Lu Yin, but the giant did not dare say a single thing. Chaosgod Mountain would no longer help the giants, and they could not rely on any of the other Inniverse powers, which meant that their only option was to rely on the protection of Lu Yin and the Great Eastern Alliance.

Qing Kong had already known that Lu Yin had intended to attack Chaosgod Mountain and take control of the place. With that, Giant Consortium would no longer be under the umbrella of Chaosgod Mountain, but would instead need to rely on Lu Yin. Even though he had failed, Giant Consortium was still left with no choice but to stay with Lu Yin. The moment Lu Yin had taken action, Giant Consortium had become permanently bound to him.

Qing Kong maliciously believed that Lu Yin's goal all along had been Giant Consortium.

Lu Yin had no time to bother considering Qing Kong's thoughts. He had only returned to Giant Consortium to drop off the colossal giants from Chaosgod Mountain. There was no reason for him to even think about whether or not the giants were still with him, as they had no choice. Qing Kong was in a position that left him with no room to maneuver at all.

"Lord Lu, someone from Shamrock Enterprise is asking to meet with you." Leng Yan had been given the task of hosting Lu Yin, and during his stay, she was treated as his subordinate.

"Who is it?" Lu Yin asked.

"The secretary of the company's Inniverse president," Leng Yan replied.

"Let him in."

Yan soon appeared, following behind Leng Yan. When the man saw Lu Yin, he gave a respectful bow.

"Yan greets Alliance Leader Lu."

Lu Yin looked at the man. "What did you bring me?"

Yan glanced over at Leng Yan, she quickly left the two men alone.

After Leng Yan left, Yan took out a delicate bottle that gave off a cold feeling. Lu Yin had no idea what the bottle was made from, but he was able to see that the cold it gave off had the power of an Enlighter, and yet the bottle still did not freeze.

Lu Yin took the bottle, and his hand started to grow cold. While the coldness was enough to freeze most Enlighters, it was merely cold for Lu Yin.

After Lu Yin opened the bottle, he saw a round bead covered with spikes. He was truly surprised, "This is a stellar energy pill?"

"Yes. The stellar energy pill is not swallowed like a pill, but instead used like a power vessel that can let someone briefly enter the true universe."

"Why is there only one?"

Yan pulled out two more of the cold bottles and handed them over to Lu Yin.

Lu Yin studied the stellar energy pill. Each pill possessed a staggering number of runes, and they surpassed those of a cultivator with a power level of 500,000. No wonder these things could allow a person to enter the true universe. Still, even though they were so powerful, they were still nothing more than mere items.

Lu Yin could not begin to imagine how such a thing had been made.

"Your Shamrock Enterprise is quite impressive for you to be able to make something like this," Lu Yin calmly praised as his eyes narrowed.

Yan said nothing. He knew that he had made many mistakes in his dealings with Lu Yin.

Lu Yin felt disappointed by the lack of reaction. "Alright, you've delivered the pills, so you can leave."

Yan respectfully dismissed himself. He did not care about the agreement Lu Yin had reached with Balsam; Yan had just made the trip to make a delivery.

"Wait," Lu Yin suddenly spoke up to stop Yan from leaving.

"Is there something else that you need, Alliance Leader Lu?"

"How come Yu Mu had a stellar energy pill? Actually, he had more than one," Lu Yin asked with curiosity. Given Yu Mu's position and status, he should never have qualified to even know about the stellar energy pill. After all, the woman who had been sent after him had not known about it.

"Yu Mu was part of my Shamrock Enterprise for many years. All you need to know is that I never hid anything from him."

"You guys trusted him so much, and yet still killed him?" Lu Yin mocked.

Yan fell silent.

Lu Yin waved a hand and Yan walked out.

Lu Yin's mood improved slightly as he stared at the stellar energy pill he was holding. He grabbed one and carefully studied it, but was unable to understand how such a little thing could be so powerful. These pills could open the true universe up to a person. Was it possible that they contained pyrolyte?

Chapter 1619: War Preparations

The discovery of pyrolyte had caused all of the top powers in the Outer and Innerverses to compete for it, and even the Neoverse had sent people for it. If not for the Sea King stealing all of the pyrolyte, it would still have a hidden presence and influence in both the Innerverse and Outerverse.

Given its ability to release an unlimited force based on the amount used in an explosion, pyrolyte was truly quite useful. Still, for those old monsters who had power levels of hundreds of thousands, it was quite worthless.

It would actually make quite a bit of sense for every stellar energy pill to have pyrolyte among the ingredients.

As for who had the most pyrolyte, it was actually Lu Yin. After the Outerverse had been cut off from the Innerverse, Lu Yin had gained control of all of the teams mining pyrolyte in the Astral Wilderness. After the Outerverse had reconnected to the Innerverse, all of the pyrolyte gathered had been stored on Zenyu Star. While it was not much, it was still better than nothing, as more mines had never been found in the Astral Wilderness.

Lu Yin flicked a finger as he held a stellar energy pill in a hand. The pill shot away from his finger and pierced the void, where it erupted with a mysterious power that tore open the true universe. Lu Yin leaped through the crack, and it quickly recovered after he passed through. Even though everything returned to normal quickly, the brief moment that Lu Yin had disappeared had allowed him to travel a great distance. He had actually crossed almost the entire territory controlled by Giant Consortium.

This was what had allowed Yu Mu to escape death when he had first been targeted by Shamrock Enterprise.

Though Lu Yin was still unable to see why the stellar energy pill managed to open the true universe, but he just shook his head and stopped studying the things for the moment. Since he was unable to see it himself, he would simply need to cooperate with the people who researched it in the first place. The greatest use of the stellar energy pill was not escape, but to interfere with stellar energy.

The Wen family once again reached out to Lu Yin, and it was still Patriarch Wen Zizai himself. The man was quite persistent.

"Senior, this junior's conditions will not change," Lu Yin said bluntly.

Wen Zizai felt helpless. "I have already obtained that painting you demanded. You can come to my Wen family's home to see it, but you can't take it with you. This is the best my Wen family can offer you."

Lu Yin indifferently replied, "It looks like Senior has no intention of cooperating with me, so this junior can only sell Wen Diyi to another, such as the Sword Sect."

Wen Zizai's expression froze. He clearly wanted to say something, but he restrained himself. Lu Yin was no longer someone the patriarch could threaten. Forget the current Lu Yin, even before ZENITH Lu Yin had managed to trash Daynight Flowzone, and the Daynight clan was a power that stood at the same level as the Wen family.

"Alliance Leader Lu, you need to know that the painting actually belongs to the Han family, not my Wen family. We have merely borrowed it for the time being," Wen Zizai had no choice but to explain the situation.

Lu Yin shrugged. "That has nothing to do with this junior. In short, my conditions remain the same as ever."

He then hung up.

Right after his call with Wen Zizai, Lu Yin led Liu Ye and Fei Hua straight to Little Millennium Flowzone. He wanted to see if divination could be used to find any clues.

He had not originally believed in divination, but the results of what someone had divined about him had been proven accurate when he had been in the Perennial World, which had slightly changed his views.

"Master, your disciple will go, too! Take your disciple with you! Your disciple doesn't want to leave you!" Ku Wei wailed his desire to remain with Lu Yin.

Lu Yin laughed. "Alright, you can tag along."

Ku Wei was stunned for a moment, as he had not expected Lu Yin to agree. Ku Wei actually grew embarrassed, as he did not actually want to leave! Giant Consortium was like no other place Ku Wei had ever been. In this place, those colossal giants all treated him like he was their ancestor. It felt amazing, especially after being yelled at by Lu Yin and acting like a loyal dog. After seeing the difference, only an idiot would leave to tag along with Lu Yin.

Lu Yin simply ignored Ku Wei, as he had instantly seen through the man's intentions. "Stay here at Giant Consortium and keep an eye on the giants. Let me know the moment anything happens. Chaosgod Mountain won't dare do anything to the consortium for the time being, but there's no way that Cang Zhou will be able to hold himself back for too long, so be on alert."

Ku Wei hastily agreed.

Liu Ye and Fei Hua led Lu Yin to the east. Little Millennium Flowzone lay between Venom Flowzone and First Flowzone. In comparison to Giant Consortium's location, Little Millennium Flowzone was closer to both the Cosmic Sea and the Outerverse.

While Lu Yin was at Giant Consortium, Cang Zhou reached out to Liu Qianjue, the sect master of the Sword Sect.

No one knew what they spoke of, but after the call ended, Liu Qianjue ordered the entire Sword Sect to prepare for battle.

Waves swept through the Sword Sect. Aside from when the Sixth Mainland had invaded, it had been an exceptionally long time since the sect master had personally given orders for the sect to prepare for war.

Every member of the Sword Sect tried to guess who their target might be.

Li Zimo's sword was placed horizontally. There was a huge waterfall behind him, and birds and insects chirped in the nearby forest. There was the occasional disciple training with a sword, but there was nothing that could affect Li Zimo at all. He was training in the Inner Peace Sword Arts.

After he had returned from ZENITH, Li Zimo had become one of the most prized disciples in the entire Sword Sect. His position had risen to be below only Liu Tianmu and Liu Shaoqiu. His status had completely transformed.

The moment Liu Qianjue sent down orders for the sect to prepare for war, Elder Lianxin appeared in front of Li Zimo. "The Sword Sect is preparing for war, and you must do the same. This war will not be some minor battle; it won't be much worse than when the Sixth Mainland invaded."

Li Zimo opened his eyes and stood to bow to Lianxin, "Master, who will we face in this war?"

While others still did not know, Lianxin was a powerhouse who was second only to Liu Qianjue in the Sword Sect, and so she naturally had been told. "The Cosmic Sea."

She only spoke three words, but there was no need to say anything further.

After Elder Lianxin left, Li Zimo accessed his gadget and, for the first time since joining the Sword Sect, he sent a message to Lu Yin.

Lu Yin's gadget beeped, and he glanced down. He was surprised to see a message from Li Zimo. Even though Lu Yin had sent the other man into the Sword Sect, it had not been time to make use of Li Zimo, and so Lu Yin had never initiated contact. Despite that, Li Zimo had taken the initiative to send a message to Lu Yin.

'The Sword Sect prepares for war. Target: Cosmic Sea.' The message was just a short nine words, but they sent Lu Yin's mind racing. A thought suddenly occurred to him, but the possibility was terrifying.

When Chaosgod Mountain had encountered a mishap, the Ignition Crew and a mysterious master had moved to rescue the mountain. This was not merely because of the connection regarding the Leo family, but because of Big Sis's mercenary crew and Leon's Armada that stood behind the crew.

Lu Yin was eager to uncover the truth of the matter from the past, but Cang Zhou was at least as eager to make sure that the truth remained buried. If that was impossible, if Lu Yin were in Cang Zhou's position, he would immediately move to have a full confrontation. Sure enough, their goal was Leon's Armada.

On Chaosgod Mountain, someone from the Ignition Crew had appeared to rescue Cang Zhou, as had a mysterious expert. It seemed like Lu Yin might have guessed correctly and that there was some connection to the Longevity Brigade.

After all of that, Lu Yin had just received word that the Sword Sect was preparing for war, and their target was also the Cosmic Sea.

Despite everything being mere speculation, Lu Yin still immediately called Highsage Leon to ask if there was any connection to the Sword Sect. However, Lu Yin was disappointed in the answer. He had been hoping that the Sword Sect would cooperate with Leon's Armada, not target them. This was unfortunate. Since the Sword Sect would not be moving to reinforce Leon's Armada, they had to be moving out to attack the most powerful of the Four Pirate Crews.

Chaosgod Mountain, the Ignition Crew, and the Sword Sect were all very dangerous. Lu Yin's eyes grew focused as he started thinking. After a moment, he accessed his gadget and called Wen Zizai.

Wen Zizai was speaking with Dean Han, and was suffering from quite a headache. When he saw Lu Yin's call request, the old man's eyes lit up and he answered. "Mr. Lu, have you changed your mind?"

Lu Yin knew that by taking the initiative to call the Wen patriarch that he had lost the initiative in the negotiations, but there was no other option, as time was running out and Cang Zhou was forcing Lu Yin's hand.

"Senior, this junior really wants that painting quite badly," Lu Yin said.

Wen Zizai's expression twisted. "I can't give you that. You can see it at my Wen family's home, as I told you."

"You don't want Wen Diyi anymore? Liu Tianmu returned with this junior, and she already knows that I have Wen Diyi. In fact, someone from the Sword Sect has already made contact," Lu Yin said.

Wen Zizai's expression changed yet again, and his voice grew much more stern. "What conditions did they offer you, Alliance Leader Lu?"

"It would have made problems to tell them that this junior has been speaking to Senior. I called you not only as a reminder, but also for Wen Diyi's sake. In that place, Wen Diyi helped this junior somewhat, and he hopes to join the Wen family. This junior is also willing to see that happen for him," Lu Yin said.

Wen Zizai let out a sigh of relief. "That would truly be for the best, but that painting really can't be given to you, Alliance Leader Lu."

Lu Yin fell silent for a bit, and Wen Zizai did the same. After living for so long, how could he not hear the words that Lu Yin had left unspoken? The old man could tell that Lu Yin's conditions had changed, as there was no other way for Lu Yin's tone to change so drastically. The old man intended to simply wait. If it was a matter of patience, the old man was more than confident that his patience was greater than a youth like Lu Yin, or else his many years would have been lived in vain.

"It seems that Senior really can't give this junior that painting. Since that's the case, I can agree to your suggestion and visit your home to see the painting," Lu Yin said.

As Wen Zizai had expected after Lu Yin had taken the initiative to reach out, Lu Yin had agreed to Wen Zizai's proposal. At this moment, Wen Zizai was simply waiting to hear Lu Yin's other conditions.

"However, this junior is not making a concession. After all, this painting was a prerequisite for our negotiations to make a deal. This junior's plans have recently changed," Lu Yin stated.

"Please tell me, Alliance Leader Lu."

Lu Yin's expression grew more somber. "The Sword Sect is preparing for war. This junior believes that they will be targeting my Great Eastern Alliance, so I hope the Wen family will put some pressure on the Sword Sect so that they are unable to do so."

Wen Zizai was taken aback. "The Sword Sect is preparing for war? When did this happen?"

It was almost as soon as the Sword Sect had received orders to prepare for war that Li Zimo had sent Lu Yin a message. Naturally, the Wen family had their own people in the Sword Sect as well, and the Wen family had also received a report. However, the report had not yet reached Wen Zizai, as the patriarch was at the Lost Radiance Academy rather than the family's home planet.

"They just started making preparations. This junior refused to give them Wen Diyi, and that might have offended them, which is why this junior suspects that their target is my Great Eastern Alliance and Fennel Flowzone," Lu Yin said.

Wen Zizai was truly speechless, and he wanted to curse. This was the most fake excuse ever! How could the Sword Sect possibly start a war with the Great Eastern Alliance over such a matter? There had to be something else behind this war, and this nasty little bastard intended to push the Wen family into the mix while also gaining favor.

"Alliance Leader Lu has been overthinking; how could the Sword Sect start a war with the Great Eastern Alliance? That's impossible," Wen Zizai said. He had no desire to get involved in this matter. He was already looking over reports regarding the Sword Sect's war preparations, and Wen Zizai saw that Liu Qianjue had personally given the orders this time. This proved that the war was not being waged over some trivial matter, and the Wen family could not rashly get involved.

"Life is precious, and it's good to be cautious. I am asking the Wen family to help by putting some pressure on the Sword Sect. This replaces the painting as my prerequisite to negotiations," Lu Yin said.

Wen Zizai frowned. "Alliance Leader Lu, my Wen family can guarantee that the Sword Sect will not instigate a war with the Great Eastern Alliance."

"How? Since when has your Wen family become master of the Sword Sect?"

"The Wen family and Sword Sect are both part of the Inniverse. How could my Wen family not know about a war being launched against the Great Eastern Alliance? There's no need for you to worry, Alliance Leader Lu."

"This junior hopes that the Wen family will put some pressure on the Sword Sect, though I don't know if Senior will agree or not." Lu Yin's tone became much more forceful.

Chapter 1620: Borrowing The Strength Of Others

"Alliance Leader Lu, who the Sword Sect is planning to fight against has absolutely nothing to do with Alliance Leader Lu if it doesn't affect the Great Eastern Alliance."

Lu Yin's tone grew harsher, "What does Senior mean by this? You've told this junior that the painting can't be given to me, and yet now when Senior was asked for a favor from your Wen family, you've pushed back on almost every point that this junior has asked for. It really does look like the Wen family

isn't interested in Wen Diyi. To put things plainly, here are my conditions: the Wen family has promised that I, Lu Yin, am allowed to visit the Wen family's home planet to see the painting, but cannot take the painting away. This has been agreed upon, as if your Wen family did not agree to this, you can forget about ever getting Wen Diyi to your Wen family."

Wen Zizai grew increasingly upset, as he was being blatantly threatened by a child, given Lu Yin's tone of voice. "I, Wen Zizai, cannot make unilateral decisions for my Wen family, and moving against the Sword Sect is an important decision for my Wen family. This is no different from declaring war, as it could lead to an all-out war with the Sword Sect. Not to mention, this is merely a condition for Alliance Leader Lu to give us Wen Diyi."

"I'm merely asking you to put some pressure on the Sword Sect, not go all-out and fight them. How about this: if the Wen family really does end up going to war with the Sword Sect, I will take responsibility for compensating you for any losses. In addition, I, Lu Yin, am able to have two experts with power levels of more than 700,000 to reinforce your Wen family. How about this? Can we not deal with the Sword Sect together?" Lu Yin said sharply.

Hearing Lu Yin's words and tone, Wen Zizai knew that Lu Yin would not back down any further. "Let me consider this matter and discuss it with the rest of my Wen family."

"Once the Sword Sect launches a war against anyone, my conditions will expire, and at that time, you can forget ever getting Wen Diyi to join your family. I, Lu Yin, will follow through on my words."

Lu Yin then ended the call.

He had been left with no choice but to threaten the Wen family into stepping into the mix to act as an obstacle to the Sword Sect.

Naturally, the Wen family was not as strong as the Sword Sect, but they still had the power to stall the Sword Sect. All that Lu Yin wanted was to disrupt Cang Zhou's plans. Even if Cang Zhou and his allies intended to fight against Leon's Armada, Lu Yin still needed to gain enough time to allow the Great Eastern Alliance to prepare.

As he considered the situation and the various developments, Lu Yin quickly called Wang Wen and had him recall the military and have them prepare to deploy to the Cosmic Sea. This would likely be the first action that this particular military would have seen since their inception. They had been named the Lu Elite Troops.

Wen Zizai lowered his own gadget and then immediately convened a meeting with all of the senior members of the Wen family to discuss the matter. In the end, they mobilized the entire Wen family as fast as possible and ordered everyone to prepare for war. Their target: the Sword Sect.

Countless members of the Wen family were stunned by the orders. An unexpected and unexplained attack on the Sword Sect? What did this mean? What could have triggered this? Could an illegitimate child of their patriarch have been killed by the Sword Sect?

The members of the Wen family were not the only ones confused by their orders, as the same confusion spread to Beast Tamers Flowzone that bordered Erudite Flowzone. They actually wondered if Wen Zizai's mental state was stable and if he had given the wrong order and that Beast Tamers Flowzone's

Divine Grade Hall was the true target of the Wen family. However, after repeatedly confirming the information, they became confident that Wen Zizai was really aiming the Wen family at the Sword Sect.

This was incredibly odd.

It did not take long for the Sword Sect to receive the news, and Liu Qianjue felt that he must have heard things wrong. "The Wen family wants to fight with my Sword Sect? Where did you hear this?"

Elder Li's expression contorted. "People we sneaked into the Wen family are all saying that Wen Zizai personally sent down orders for the entire family to mobilize themselves and prepare for war. Their target is our Sword Sect."

Liu Qianjue was temporarily speechless. Beast Tamers Flowzone lay between the Wen family's Erudite Flowzone and First Flowzone. What kind of war were they intending to fight with another force separating them? On top of that, Wen Zizai had given the orders himself, which just seemed wrong.

After thinking about the news, Liu Qianjue quickly called Wen Zizai.

Wen Zizai had no intention of speaking with Liu Qianjue, as the patriarch had nothing to say to the sect master. The Wen family had been forced to put pressure on the Sword Sect, and Liu Qianjue would likely start a fight immediately after hearing such a thing.

Wen Zizai refused to answer the call, but Liu Qianjue kept calling. The Sword Sect had already spent a good deal of time preparing for their assault on the Cosmic Sea, and their efforts could not be stopped just because of an inexplicable attack from the Wen family.

Finally, after two days, Wen Zizai finally answered one of Liu Qianjue's calls. The patriarch really had no choice; Liu Qianjue had been incessantly trying to speak to the patriarch for two entire days.

"Wen Zizai, why have you declared war on my Sword Sect?" Liu Qianjue asked sharply as he stared straight at Wen Zizai.

Wen Zizai's eyes snapped wide open. "Liu Qianjue, are you not embarrassed to say such a thing? Do you want to tell me about the situation with Wen Diyi?"

"What Wen Diyi?" Liu Qianjue was confused, as he had no idea what Wen Zizai was talking about.

Wen Zizai sneered. "You can stop the act! Your Sword Sect wants to get Wen Diyi from Lu Yin. Did you think I wouldn't find out?"

Liu Qianjue was absolutely confused, as he knew nothing at all about Wen Diyi. Liu Tianmu was someone who focused solely on her own cultivation, and she never paid any attention to other matters. Even when she had been made one of the Ten Arbiters, she had not had any interest in overseeing the Fifth Mainland's young generation, or what happened to other youths. She had never even considered how Wen Diyi's presence could affect the Wen family and the rest of the Innerverse.

"Still pretending? Lu Yin's already told me what happened. My Wen family is destined to be the ones to win Wen Diyi, and if your Sword Sect dares try to interfere, my Wen family will not hesitate to go to war." Wen Zizai hung up as soon as he finished speaking.

Throughout the entire conversation, Liu Qianjue not once understood what Wen Zizai had been talking about. Wen Diyi? Who's that? Someone from the Wen family? Why haven't I heard about such a person?

"Go and find out who this Wen Diyi is immediately!" Liu Qianjue ordered.

The confusing conversation had left Liu Qianjue completely lost as to Wen Zizai's actions and motivations, but the Wen patriarchs actions and attitude did not look to have been faced. Could the Wen family really want to fight against the Sword Sect? Could the family afford the consequences?

Cang Zhou was waiting for the Sword Sect. Chaosgod Mountain, the Sword Sect, and the Ignition Crew all planned to enter the Cosmic Sea at the same time in order to launch a joint attack on Leon's Armada.

The time they had all agreed upon was fast approaching, but Cang Zhou suddenly received a new report. "The Wen family has declared war on the Sword Sect?"

"Yes. We just received news that the Wen family has declared war on the Sword Sect," Cang Song solemnly reported.

Cang Zhou felt like he was falling to hell. What sort of enmity did the Wen family have against the Sword Sect? For the family to suddenly declare war, it seemed as though an entire group of their most talented youths had been wiped out. Cang Zhou considered how serious this matter was. If the Wen family launched a war on the Sword Sect at this time, how could the Sword Sect participate in a war in the Cosmic Sea? There was no way that the Sword Sect would be willing to send their forces away in such a situation.

Cang Zhou also quickly tried to contact Wen Zizai, but the patriarch was no longer answering any calls. In fact, Cang Zhou was not the only one to reach out to the Wen family's patriarch. The Lingling clan, the Beast Tamers Sect, and even the Divine Venom Dynasty that always ignored the outside universe tried to speak with the Wen family. As for Wen Zizai, he did not answer a single call.

Lu Yin had told the patriarch that the Sword Sect was competing with taking Wen Diyi, and Lu Yin had been quite clear. Wen Zizai was not dumb, so how could he mention Wen Diyi's existence to any outsider? He could not allow anyone to interfere with Wen Diyi joining the Wen family.

However, Wen Zizai had no idea how to justify his declaration of war without mentioning Wen Diyi. This was why he decided to simply ignore any and all calls.

At this moment, Cang Zhou became the most frustrated. Lu Yin's schemes had repeatedly caused problems for Cang Zhou, and now there was an issue with the Sword Sect sending out their forces, and Wen Zizai would not accept any calls. Cang Zhou was left with no choice but to call Liu Qianjue.

Liu Qianjue had still not learned anything at all about Wen Diyi's identity, and so his mood was quite bad when he accepted Cang Zhou's call. "The Wen family has moved against us, and they have already started to send experts against my First Flowzone, and yet you still want to talk to me about us joining your attack on the Cosmic Sea? Should I not care about my own Sword Sect?"

Cang Zhou had to ask, "Why did Wen Zizai declare war on you?"

Liu Qianjue's mood grew even worse when he heard this question. "I don't know what a Wen Diyi is, but could they be someone from the Wen family? Look into this."

Cang Zhou instantly ordered an investigation, but neither Sword Sect nor Chaosgod Mountain could uncover any information at all. In fact, not a single one of the powers that controlled the Inverse's eight great flowzones could learn a single thing. This was odd, as most of the powers had spies in the other forces, except for the Divine Venom Dynasty. That was a place that was not easy to infiltrate.

"There is no Wen Diyi in the Wen family. How could we not know about such an important person? What else did Wen Zizai say to you?" Cang Zhou asked.

Liu Qianjue gritted his teeth. "He said that he was told this by Lu Yin."

Cang Zhou's eyes narrowed. This told him that Lu Yin had already guessed that the Sword Sect was preparing for war with Leon's Armada, which meant that the youth was trying to use the Wen family to block the Sword Sect from participating. Just how had the youth pulled this off? How was he directing the entire Wen family? Cang Zhou could not understand anything at all about this matter or how Lu Yin had pulled it off. What could be so important about this Wen Diyi?

"There are no records of any such person in any of the Wen family's genealogies no matter how far back we go. Talk to Wen Zizai again and get them to wait. Just have them wait until after everything in the Cosmic Sea has been settled," Cang Zhou suggested.

Liu Qianjue shook his head. "That old fart Wen Zizai is no longer responding and can't be reached."

Cang Zhou grew angry. "It's Lu Yin! He did all of this! He pushed the Wen family against the Sword Sect! While Lu Yin's had complicated and powerful backing, the only ones who can really help his Great Eastern Alliance is Leon's Armada. It's impossible for the Chief Justice or Arch-Elder Zen to step in, so we have to destroy Leon's Armada before we breaking Lu Yin's forces."

Liu Qianjue shrugged. "I truly understand, which is also why I agreed to join you. My Sword Sect actually has no grudge against Leon's Armada, and I don't want to offend someone without just cause. Highsage Leon has Eversky Island behind him, but Lu Yin is dangerously ambitious. We can't move against him personally without suffering unacceptable repercussions, which means we can only remove his claws. However, do not forget that my Sword Sect has our own conditions."

"Don't worry, when it comes to Highsage Leon himself, we won't do anything. All we will do is destroy his forces," Cang Zhou said. However, he also felt that something was off from this; the Sword Sect was currently unable to participate in the war efforts, so what were these conditions Liu Qianjue was mentioning? "Your Sword Sect will not be able to join the war efforts?"

Liu Qianjue's voice dropped low. "I will personally visit Wen Zizai in order to determine just what is going on with the Wen family. How has Lu Yin managed to get the entire Wen family to move for him? Also, why does Wen Zizai trust his words?"

"I'll wait another half a month for you, but if the Sword Sect is still unable to participate in the war after that time, we'll go alone. No matter if we succeed or not, we must try," Cang Zhou said before ending the call.

Liu Qianjue frowned. Leon's Armada was not an easy opponent, so he could not quite understand why Chaosgod Mountain was working so hard to launch a war to eliminate them. Liu Qianjue's motivation was entirely Lu Yin.

Also, the Cosmic Sea's Ignition Crew would be joining the efforts.

All three parties' interests aligned, which was why they were able to launch all of their forces against Leon's Armada.

This war was incredibly important. If they could not completely destroy Leon's Armada, all of them would subsequently suffer the Pirate King's revenge. That was not all. In fact, the sect master was most worried about Lu Yin.

Once Leon's Armada was destroyed, Lu Yin's Great Eastern Alliance would no longer be anything to worry about.

Liu Qianjue wanted to join the war if at all possible, for he did not have confidence in the war's success if only Chaosgod Mountain and the Ignition Crew participated.

The situation in the Inniverse had become quite strange. The war between the Ross Empire and the sylvan dragons in Blazing Mist Flowzone had still not stopped, and many other forces hid in the background of that war. At the moment, both the Sword Sect and the Wen family were preparing for war, and Chaosgod Mountain had also suffered some sort of mishap and was shockingly preparing for war as well. Chaos was about to fall upon the entire Inniverse.

Half a month was as long as Cang Zhou could afford to wait. Lu Yin had already noticed their scheme, and so Leon's Armada had to be preparing themselves as well. Cang Zhou truly could not give the Sword Sect any more than half a month to settle things.

Lu Yin looked out at the 108 tributary Astral Rivers ahead of him. He had finally arrived at the Starsibyl Sect.

The moment that they arrived at the Starsibyl Sect, Liu Ye and Fei Hua both noticed something unusual. "It feels like something is watching us."

Sister Fei Hua's expression showed that she was not happy about this, and she spread out her stellar energy to find who was observing them, but she could not find a thing.

Lu Yin suddenly asked, "Seniors, what do the two of you think about divination?"