

ODYSSEY 1671

Chapter 1671: That Symbol Again

Lu Yin suddenly had a thought that the tree bark felt quite similar to the sourcebox array that contained Void Rip. He retrieved the sourcebox array and noticed that the two items had the exact same texture.

Had the Void Rip sourcebox array been made from this tree bark?

The Void Rip array contained an attack of the Void Rip battle technique and was able to perfectly release the technique.

The sourcebox array itself was very important, but a material capable of accommodating the Void Rip battle technique was actually even more important.

Accommodate, tree bark... Lu Yin suddenly connected some dots; could this be bark from the Mother Tree?

The Mother Tree was even able to store stellar liquid, so it definitely had the ability to store something like the Void Rip battle technique. Even though Lu Yin was just guessing, he felt that his conclusions were highly probable.

"Alliance Leader, there's nothing else here, so let's go," Bai Shui said.

Lu Yin stored the Void Rip sourcebox array and the tree bark away before turning to Bai Shui. "I have a question for you."

Bai Shui felt confused.

Lu Yin asked, "If you had come in here all alone, and the Second Nightking was waiting outside, what would you have done?"

Bai Shui dropped her head. "The things here--"

"Don't try to say that you would have used the things here to protect yourself. I already know just how powerful these items are, and you probably also know how strong the Second Nightking is. Nothing here would have been able to help you," Lu Yin cut her off.

Bai Shui's eyes flitted about. "There's another exit to this place."

"Where?" Lu Yin demanded.

Bai Shui clenched her fists and looked around the treasury.

Lu Yin continued to calmly stare at the woman.

Sweat dripped from Bai Shui's forehead as she wracked her brain for an answer.

Lu Yin just waited patiently.

After a while, Bai Shui let out a sigh. "What are you trying to say, Alliance Leader Lu?"

"I've already said what I wanted to. Don't try telling me that you would've come in here for these inheritances no matter what. If the Second Nightking were waiting outside, then everything here would

have ultimately belonged to him. So, what gave you the assurance that you could leave with anything at all?" Lu Yin questioned.

Bai Shui bit her lips and met Lu Yin's eyes with a pleading gaze. "Alliance Leader Lu, this matter is a secret between the Bai family and the Daynight clan. Could you please let me keep this to myself?"

Lu Yin's eyes grew sharp. "The Daynight clan no longer exists. The Great Eastern Alliance has taken control of the Daynight clan, which means that this secret now belongs to the Bai family and the Great Eastern Alliance."

Bai Shui trembled as she thought about this change.

The more the woman hesitated to answer, the more Lu Yin wanted to learn about this secret. Nothing in the treasury would have been able to protect her from the Second Nightking, which meant that the item she had taken upon first entering the treasury was the secret that she was trying to keep. That secret was the most valuable thing that had been in the room.

Fortunately, Lu Yin had made a point of asking this particular question; otherwise, he would have forever remained ignorant.

"Have you ever heard of the Sealed Cage Technique, Alliance Leader Lu?" Bai Shui finally asked helplessly.

Lu Yin's eyes went wide. "The same Sealed Cage Technique that the Nightkings used to control the Daykings?"

Bai Shui sneered. "To be precise, it's the Sealed Cage Technique that the Bai family used to control the Daynight clan. The Daynight clan was once the Bai family's slaves."

Lu Yin was shocked. "The Daynight clan was the Bai family's slaves?"

Bai Shui nodded. "Back when the Daosource Sect was still in the Fifth Mainland, the Celestial Frost Sect was a major force within the Inniverse, and the Bai family stood at the top of the Celestial Frost Sect. The Daynight clan was the Bai family's slaves, and one of our Semi-Progenitor elders created the Sealed Cage Technique in order to have better control over the Daynight clan.

"However, after the Celestial Frost Sect left, the Daynight clan started harboring rebellious thoughts, especially after the appearance of the First Nightking and the Dayking. Eventually, they killed the members of the Bai family who had stayed behind with only a few survivors. After that, the Sealed Cage Technique was lost. Despite everything, the First Nightking was extremely talented and managed to modify the Bai family's Sealed Cage Technique so that the Nightkings could use it to control the Daykings.

"This is the Sealed Cage Technique." She took out a jade.

Lu Yin had certainly not expected to learn that the Sealed Cage Technique had been created by one of the Bai family's Semi-Progenitors in order to reinforce the Daynight clan's status as slaves.

He took the jade. "This is what you stored away when I first got in here?"

Bai Shui nodded. "The Daynight clan killed my family, so I wanted to learn the Sealed Cage Technique in order to get revenge."

Lu Yin stared at her. "Are you actually confident in being able to control the Second Nightking after learning the Sealed Cage Technique?"

Bai Shui explained, "The Sealed Cage Technique affects the bloodline, and there is absolutely no way to resist it. The First Nightking altered the technique to control the Daykings, but the Sealed Cage Technique still exists within the Nightkings as well. According to my family's records, when the Daynight clan was enslaved to the Bai family, even a child was able to control an Enlighter from the Daynight clan. Thus, I'm fully confident in being able to control the Second Nightking."

Lu Yin gasped. This technique was too overbearing if even a child could control an Enlighter. It was no wonder why the Daynight clan had rebelled against the Bai family!

Nobody would be willing to be enslaved, and the Bai family was at fault for leaving behind members of their family who had been useless enough to be killed by the First Nightking. If not for that mistake, Daynight Flowzone would have stayed as Celestial Frost Flowzone, and the Daynight clan would never have risen to power.

Lu Yin looked at the piece of jade with blazing eyes. "Could I control the Daynight clan if I mastered the Sealed Cage Technique?"

Bai Shui hesitated a moment before nodding. "That's right. Anyone who learns the Sealed Cage Technique can control the Daynight clan. On top of that, the Sealed Cage Technique is actually very easy to learn, to the point where even someone who just started cultivating can learn it."

This was the precise reason why a child from the Bai family could control Enlighters from the Daynight clan. Lu Yin was more than qualified to learn this technique.

Lu Yin instantly regretted Nightking Dijiang's death, as well as the Second Nightking's soon-to-be imprisonment within Gaia's Swamp. If he had known that such a technique was within reach, he would have never allowed either event to occur, as the two men could have become his bodyguards.

What a waste. If he had known about this sooner, the powerhouses of the Daynight clan would have all ended up working for Lu Yin! The Great Eastern Alliance would have become far more powerful than before and would have been able to easily dominate the Innerverse.

Why had he not learned about this matter earlier?

Bai Shui felt increasingly uncomfortable despite not knowing what was running through Lu Yin's mind. She felt sad about losing the Sealed Cage Technique, as she had intended to use it to take control of the Daynight clan. However, as Lu Yin had said, the Daynight clan had already been captured by the Great Eastern Alliance, which made the technique useless to her, as she could not control the clan anyways.

If she tried to take control of the Daynight clan, she would end up as the Great Eastern Alliance's enemy.

Lu Yin sighed as he put the jade away. There was nothing that he could change since everything had already occurred.

"Let's go," Lu Yin said.

Bai Shui nodded.

Although entering the treasury required blood from the Bai family's main bloodline, leaving was easy as anyone could just walk through the copper door.

Lu Yin walked out of the room and almost ran into the Chief Justice's shadow.

Bai Shui bowed as soon as she saw the Chief Justice.

The Chief Justice said nothing to Lu Yin about what he had gained from the treasury, but instead only asked, "Child of the Bai family, what is sealed underground?"

Lu Yin looked over at Bai Shui with curiosity; there was an underground seal?

Bai Shui was lost. "Seal? What seal?"

The Chief Justice coldly pressed, "You don't know about it?"

Bai Shui shook her head and bowed yet again. "Please believe me, Sir Chief Justice. I know nothing about any seal."

The Chief Justice walked away, and Lu Yin and Bai Shui both followed.

The two younger people soon felt a suppressed aura, but they could not determine where the aura was coming from.

Lu Yin tried looking for runes, but he could not see anything.

The Chief Justice suddenly stopped walking, and Lu Yin and Bai Shui stepped forward to stare off into the distance.

They saw dust flying across the ground, and a symbol of a broken root eventually appeared.

Lu Yin's expression grew sharp as he blurted, "Progenitor Hui's symbol?"

"Yes, that's Progenitor Hui's symbol," the Chief Justice affirmed.

Bai Shui's mouth fell open. Progenitor Hui was a legend to her. She had heard about the invincible Progenitor Chen, the Rune Progenitor, Progenitor Hui, and others, but such people existed only in historical records, as nobody alive had ever seen them before. Even though she was a descendant of the Bai family, her knowledge of the universe was actually at a similar level as an average cultivator's. The concept of a Progenitor was so distant that she could not even imagine it.

Despite all of that, she was currently staring at something that came from a real Progenitor; this was Progenitor Hui's symbol.

Lu Yin carefully observed the symbol. "Sir Chief Justice, you mentioned that there was an underground seal; was it put in place by Progenitor Hui?"

"If Progenitor Hui left his symbol behind, then it should mean that he sealed this place," the Chief Justice agreed.

Lu Yin thought back to the Royal Frost Continent which had actually been established on top of a massive seal. Nobody knew what was beneath the seal, but it had also been sealed by Progenitor Hui.

It seemed like Progenitor Hui had sealed multiple locations, including the Celestial Frost Sect's ruins. Just what was under these seals?

The Celestial Frost Sect had their own Progenitor, so why would they have allowed Progenitor Hui to seal this place? Had this place been sealed when the Celestial Frost Sect was still in the Fifth Mainland, or had it been sealed after they left?

"Sir Chief Justice, do you know what's under the seal?" Lu Yin asked.

The Chief Justice did not answer.

Lu Yin then remembered that the man had just asked Bai Shui the same question, so he clearly did not know what was under the seal.

No matter how powerful the Chief Justice was, Lu Yin felt that the man was not capable of discovering anything at all when it came to something that was related to Progenitor Hui.

Even if the Sixth Mainland's three Progenitors were present, Lu Yin still would not expect them to understand anything that Progenitor Hui had left behind.

Progenitor Hui had been one of the most intelligent people in all of history, and he had even altered its flow. Even though Lu Yin did not know how powerful the Progenitor had been, the fact that he had managed to outsmart both the Sixth Mainland and Aeternus proved how much power he had wielded.

If Progenitor Chen represented the apex of physical strength, Progenitor Hui represented the apex of wisdom.

"You don't know anything about this seal?" Lu Yin asked Bai Shui.

She grew completely solemn. "I swear that I know nothing at all about this."

Lu Yin believed Bai Shui, as there was no way she could know about Progenitor Hui's seal. In fact, it was possible that not even her ancestors who had left the items behind had known about this seal. The Celestial Frost Sect only had a single Progenitor, and that Progenitor would have been the only person with the right to know about such a seal. The Progenitor would not have bothered to leave an inheritance behind for descendants like Bai Shui, which meant that the inheritances had to have been left by somebody else.

"Let's go. This place cannot be seen by anyone else," the Chief Justice coldly stated.

Lu Yin agreed. Since Progenitor Hui had sealed the place, there had to be a reason behind it. This place had to be kept completely hidden in order to avoid it being discovered by Aeternus.

They soon returned to the bottom of the Celestial Frost Pond. Lu Yin threw Bai Shui out of the pond and turned to the Chief Justice with a smile. "Brother, I brought you something good from the treasury."

He pulled out the bottle of stellar liquid.

Chapter 1672: Disappear

The Chief Justice was surprised. "Stellar liquid? It would seem that the Celestial Frost Sect was extracting it before they even left the Fifth Mainland."

Lu Yin gave the bottle over to the Chief Justice. "Would this be useful to you?"

The Chief Justice coldly asked, "What is it that you want in exchange?"

Lu Yin answered seriously, "It's just a gift. How could you treat it as an exchange? Senior Brother, you're treating me like an outsider."

The Chief Justice did not answer. Since he merely had the form of a shadow, Lu Yin could not see any expressions or determine what the man was thinking.

Lu Yin cleared his throat and carefully passed the stellar liquid to the older man.

The Chief Justice calmly stated, "A single bottle is too little, so it isn't very useful to me."

Lu Yin's face twitched. He gritted his teeth and took out another bottle.

"Two bottles is still too little. They aren't very useful," the Chief Justice said again.

Lu Yin felt cornered. "Senior Brother, I only have three bottles, and I want to keep one just in case. There really aren't any more bottles. The Celestial Frost Sect wouldn't have left that much behind for their descendants."

The two bottles were absorbed into the dark shadow. "Let's go."

The black shadow jumped up into the Celestial Frost Pond.

Lu Yin immediately chased after the Chief Justice. He could not allow the Chief Justice to simply leave without saying anything, as that would result in Lu Yin suffering a huge loss. Stellar liquid was far too valuable, and he would not feel good about losing two bottles without gaining anything at all in return.

Upon exiting the pond, Lu Yin looked around and found Bai Shui sitting on the ground. As for the Chief Justice, he had simply disappeared.

Lu Yin's heart sank; the man would not have simply left, right?

Lu Yin made the decision to chase after the Chief Justice even if it meant going back to the Neoverse.

Lu Yin glanced over at some buildings in the distance, wondering if he should go take a look at them.

"The remnant spiritual force is gone," the Chief Justice stated.

Lu Yin spun around in shock. "The remnant spiritual force is gone?"

"All of it has disappeared."

How was that even possible? Lu Yin used his domain to scan a wide area, only to see that all of the gray figures formed from remnant spiritual force were indeed gone.

He saw Unseen Light and various other cultivators looking quite confused, but Lu Yin could not find even a single gray figure.

Could their disappearance possibly be connected to what they had just done? But they really had not done anything at all.

The cultivators in the mountains searching for the gray figures also seemed to know nothing about what had happened.

“Miss Bai Shui, do you know why those figures disappeared?” Lu Yin asked.

Bai Shui opened her eyes and blew out a gust of cold air. “I don’t actually even know why there was remnant spiritual force here to begin with. This is my first time encountering such things.”

Lu Yin took a guess. “Is there something even more valuable here? Think carefully—the appearance and disappearance of remnant spiritual force should be connected to something. Don’t end up losing your inheritance to someone else.”

Bai Shui glanced at Lu Yin in a helpless manner; he had already taken away most of her inheritance, but she did not dare to say that out loud. “There’s really nothing else. Our records only mentioned the treasury beneath the Celestial Frost Pond.”

Lu Yin turned around to talk to the Chief Justice, only to realize the man had already headed out towards Mount Punishment.

Lu Yin immediately chased after the Chief Justice, but before leaving, he told Bai Shui, “Go to Blazing Mist Flowzone. The Great Eastern Alliance will protect you.”

He had initially wanted to take the Celestial Frost Pond away, but he was worried that something bad might happen if he did that since Progenitor Hui had sealed something underneath it. He had therefore given up on that idea with the new idea of returning and using the Celestial Frost Pond when he became an Envoy.

Even though the Chief Justice had said that the ruins belonged to the Human Domain and that everybody was welcome to explore it, Lu Yin had no intention of sharing the Celestial Frost Pond with anyone, not even the Hall of Honor.

Bai Shui sighed as she watched Lu Yin leave. “The Great Eastern Alliance?”

The Chief Justice was quietly standing at the bottom of Mount Punishment.

Lu Yin ran over. “Sir Chief Justice, since the remnant spiritual force has disappeared, we can go up now, right?”

The Chief Justice asked, “What else do you want?”

Lu Yin bit his lip. He really did not know how to address this topic.

The Chief Justice continued, “Fine, then I’ll leave.”

Lu Yin cleared his throat. “Um, alright. See you later.”

Although the Chief Justice was hidden within his shadows, Lu Yin was able to sense that the man was looking at him curiously.

“Do you really have nothing to say?”

“No, I just came to remind you to be careful, Sir Chief Justice,” Lu Yin said sincerely.

The Chief Justice hesitated before heading up Mount Punishment.

Lu Yin sighed. He had wanted to ask the Chief Justice if it would be possible for him to release the Second Nightking. The Sealed Cage Technique would make the man into Lu Yin’s bodyguard.

The two bottles of stellar liquid had been offered in exchange for the Second Nightking’s freedom.

However, before saying anything at all, Lu Yin had suddenly remembered that he was dealing with the Interstellar Supreme Court’s Chief Justice. This person was the representation of fairness, and no matter how cruel he might be, the man still had his own principles. During their first meeting, the Chief Justice had said that he would have killed Lu Yin if he had been corrupted by the Neohuman Alliance, and at that moment, Lu Yin had realized that there were certain lines that he could not cross with the Chief Justice.

Lu Yin felt that there would be an extremely low chance of getting the Chief Justice to release the Second Nightking, so he had simply not bothered asking about it.

However, Lu Yin had also decided not to address the matter because he had remembered another detail: someone was planning a prison break in Gaia’s Swamp. Lu Yin had learned this when Possessing Liu Huang.

Someone inside Gaia’s Swamp was planning a prison break, and if they succeeded, all of the prisoners would escape. However, only key prisoners were aware of the plan, and nobody from the Interstellar Supreme Court was aware of anything.

The prison break from Gaia’s Swamp would be Lu Yin’s best opportunity to capture the Second Nightking. This also meant that he could not ask the Chief Justice to simply release the Second Nightking, as doing so would definitely make the Chief Justice form a connection between Lu Yin and the prison break after it occurred.

...

Crash!

A deafening sound rang out as the ground shattered.

Wen Sansi helplessly looked off into the distance to see a group of giants arrive at a palace atop a mountain.

These giants were 7,000 meters tall, and they were destroying everything that they stepped on.

“The Great Eastern Alliance became much more powerful with the addition of these giants. Even though they don’t have any battle techniques, they are still able to cultivate battle force.” Unseen Light was standing close to Wen Sansi with his eyes closed.

Wen Sansi frowned. “These giants and the Lu Elite Troops are the Great Eastern Alliance’s greatest weapons. The Sixth Mainland’s invasion and the separation of the Innerverse and the Outerverse really helped Lu Yin soar to success.”

“It was a rare opportunity, but even if we had been in the Outerverse back then, we still wouldn’t have been able to achieve the same results as him,” Unseen Light commented.

Wen Sansi had a different viewpoint than Unseen Light. Wen Sansi was part of the Wen family, and they were currently being targeted by the Great Eastern Alliance. Anyone could tell that Lu Yin was not merely aiming at Blazing Mist and Daynight Flowzones, as his ultimate goal was to unite the entire Innerverse.

Despite everything, there was nothing that the Wen family could do about the situation. They had already paid a steep price to acquire Wen Diyi, and they would need to pay even more in the future.

“Hahahaha, Brother Wei’s here! Kids, clear the area for me—I want to have a meeting in the Celestial Frost Sect’s great hall!” Ku Wei shouted arrogantly from where he stood on Chen Huang’s shoulder.

The colossal giants in the area all charged straight for the Celestial Frost Sect’s great hall.

Everyone else in the area fled while cursing. Still, regardless of their frustrations, there was nothing that they could do. These giants were simply too terrifying, especially Chen Huang, who was 9,000 meters tall. He could easily crush dozens of people with a casual slap.

The people who had entered the Celestial Frost Sect’s ruins were all quite powerful, and there were even quite a few hidden powerhouses from the Innerverse who had made their way into the ruins with multiple experts with power levels between 300,000 and 400,000, but not one of them dared try to fight against the giants.

This was not only because of the strength of the giants themselves, but also because of the presence of the Lu Elite Troops, Chen Huang, and Long Yi, the sylvan dragon master, who were stationed outside the ruins.

Lu Yin roamed the ruins alone after parting ways with the Chief Justice. He left several days later, and after that, he ordered the colossal giants and the Lu Elite Troops to enter the ruins and explore them in batches. He also summoned Long Yi from Blazing Mist Flowzone and ordered the sylvan dragon to act as the guardian of Daynight Flowzone.

At this moment, Lu Yin was in a meeting with Liu Qianjue, Mountain God, Ling Qiu, and Wen Zizai.

These old people had all made the trip after the Celestial Frost Sect’s ruins appeared. However, none of them had entered, instead allowing their juniors to go exploring.

The older powerhouses had only entered the ruins after all of the remnant spiritual force had disappeared.

They found nothing after exploring the ruins, and this was also why they had approached Lu Yin.

“Alliance Leader Lu, you’ve entered these ruins twice already, so I’m certain that you’ve developed a good understanding of the Celestial Frost Sect’s ruins,” Mountain God said in a rumbling voice. He

usually had the appearance of Bai Wanshan, which was typically enormous, but he had shrunk down for his meeting with Lu Yin.

Lu Yin looked up. "No."

"Alliance Leader Lu, we'll be straightforward. The disappearance of the remnant spiritual force most likely has some connection to you. Sir Chief Justice already declared that these ruins belong to the entire Human Domain. The remnant spiritual force in these ruins can help inspire many people, but you caused all of the figures to disappear. Isn't that a bit much?" Ling Qiu said.

Lu Yin remained calm. "Who said that I did it?"

"I believe that you're the only person who could have done such a thing, Alliance Leader Lu," Liu Qianjue said.

Lu Yin looked around at the various elders. "Are you trying to blame me for this? You've got the wrong person. I was exploring the ruins with the Chief Justice when the gray figures all disappeared, and I have got nothing to do with their disappearance. If you don't believe me, you can just ask Sir Chief Justice."

The older people all looked at each other. Ling Qiu spoke back up, "Did you really have nothing to do with this?"

Lu Yin turned to face the matriarch. "Do I have any reason to lie to you? Or do you think Sir Chief Justice would help me deceive you?"

Wen Zizai spoke up, "I don't believe that this was Alliance Leader Lu's fault."

Liu Qianjue glared at the patriarch. "Brother Wen, the Wen family has been very close to the Alliance Leader recently, and Alliance Leader Lu even went to visit your Wen family. It looks like the Wen family has a special relationship with Alliance Leader Lu. Why is that?"

Mountain God chimed in, "I'm also curious about that."

Ling Qiu interrupted, "I'm more curious about what happened at Chaosgod Mountain. Cang Zhou died in the Cosmic Sea, and then Chaosgod Mountain immediately sealed itself off."

She turned towards Lu Yin. "Did you have something to do with that, Alliance Leader Lu?"

Chapter 1673: Bathing Pool

Lu Yin calmly stared at the people around him. "The biggest difference between the old and the young people is that young people are impatient. You guys enjoy your chat; I'm going to head out first."

"Alliance Leader Lu, you've already taken control of Blazing Mist and Daynight Flowzones, so what's your next target?" Mountain God bellowed.

Lu Yin glared at the man. "Guess."

Mountain God was furious, and he even wanted to attack, but the presence of Liu Ye and Fei Hua forced him towards discretion. On top of that, both Chen Huang and Long Yi were also very powerful.

Lu Yin had almost the same number of Envoys as all of the gathered Innerverse forces, and he still had Emperor Luo back in Blazing Mist Flowzone. On top of that, there were also some people from the Sea King's Dome who were still in the Outerverse.

Lu Yin's foundation was truly very impressive.

"Seniors, if you have nothing else to say, then I'll take my leave." With that, Lu Yin left immediately. He had no time to talk to these people, as he was eager to learn the Sealed Cage Technique and take total control of the Daynight clan.

After Lu Yin left, Liu Qianjue turned to confront Wen Zizai. "What's your Wen family trying to do?"

Wen Zizai remained calm. "I have no idea what you're talking about, Brother Liu."

Liu Qianjue coldly demanded, "Is this related to Wen Diyi?"

Wen Zizai met Liu Qianjue's glare. "If Lu Yin was in possession of the Fourteenth Sword, what would you do?"

Liu Qianjue was stunned.

Wen Zizai just shook his head and left. He was well aware of his current situation. There was nobody in the Innerverse capable of stopping Lu Yin, so why should the Wen family bother with even attempting? Unless, of course, the Neoverse was willing to help.

For the Wen family, the most important person in existence was Wen Diyi and the complete version of Literary Prison. As long as they obtained the full technique, the Wen family would be able to regain all their glory and respect, and they would not even need to stay in the Innerverse. They would have a chance of entering the Neoverse, and Wen Zizai refused to believe that Lu Yin was daring enough to go against the Neoverse powers.

Mountain God turned towards Ling Qiu. "What about your Lingling Clan? Why aren't you doing anything?"

Ling Qiu snorted. "I don't have to explain myself."

She left in a huff.

Mountain God was furious. "What are you idiots thinking? Do you really intend to let Lu Yin rule the entire Innerverse?"

Liu Qianjue just watched as Ling Qiu left. There was something wrong; the Wen family was being threatened by Lu Yin because of some Wen Diyi, but why would the Lingling clan also be acting strangely?

Ling Qiu was anxious as she left, as she was hoping to meet with Elder Jiu Shen. She had been looking forward to meeting with him for several days, but her efforts had proven fruitless.

During these days, she kept remembering the scene of Elder Jiu Shen sending Lu Yin out of the Celestial Frost Sect's ruins. Why would Elder Jiu Shen have done that when they were confronted with such grave

danger? She had been told that the Cosmic Sect was working against Lu Yin, so why would the elder risk himself to save the youth?

She had considered many possibilities, and she had even come up with a possible answer, though she refused to accept it. In the end, she had to speak with Elder Jiu Shen to uncover the truth.

However, she never managed to find the man, and Ling Qiu was also unaware that Elder Jiu Shen had already left.

Ling Qiu called Elder Yuan Shou, as he was the person who had promised the Lingling clan that the Cosmic Sect would help the clan deal with Lu Yin.

Elder Yuan Shou answered the call.

“Elder Yuan Shou, Lu Yin has seized control of Daynight Flowzone. Why hasn’t the Cosmic Sect done anything?” Ling Qiu asked rudely.

Elder Yuan Shou became annoyed. “Does the Cosmic Sect answer to you?”

Ling Qiu’s voice grew cold. “I saw your Cosmic Sect’s Elder Jiu Shen rescue Lu Yin from the Celestial Frost Sect’s ruins.”

Elder Yuan Shou hesitated. He had known about the ruins and that there were various Neoverse forces currently negotiating with Leon’s Armada for them to take their youths to the Innerverse. However, Yuan Shou had been ignorant of the fact that Jiu Shen had rescued Lu Yin and that Ling Qiu had seen it happen.

“Are you sure it was Elder Jiu Shen? Have you ever met the elder before?” Elder Yuan Shou retorted.

“I went to the Neoverse when I first became an Envoy, and I visited the Cosmic Sect during my trip. I met Elder Jiu Shen once before.”

“You must have seen someone else. Elder Jiu Shen has remained within our sect this entire time and has not left,” Elder Yuan Shou stated confidently.

Ling Qiu frowned. “Elder Jiu Shen hasn’t left?”

“No. I don’t know who you saw, but get your facts straight before confronting me.” Elder Yuan Shou hung up.

Ling Qiu fell deep into thought; could that person have not been Elder Jiu Shen? That was impossible. She had met the man when visiting the Cosmic Sect, and she was absolutely certain that he had rescued Lu Yin.

Ling Qiu was no fool. No matter how vehemently Elder Yuan Shou denied her accusation, she needed to start preparing for the worst case scenario.

If Lu Yin managed to convince the Cosmic Sect to play along with him, then the situation would be incredibly serious. Lu Yin had exposed his various connections during the war in the Cosmic Sea, and this also indicated that there was a very low chance of any of the Neoverse powers sending experts to stop Lu Yin’s efforts. Ling Qiu needed to keep brainstorming and thinking for a way to resolve this matter.

Elsewhere, Lu Yin had already started learning the Sealed Cage Technique.

Bai Shui had said that the technique was easy to learn, so Lu Yin had ordered his army to stand and watch over the members of the Daynight clan while he started training nearby.

The Sealed Cage Technique had been recorded in a piece of jade, just like the battle technique Extremes Must Be Reversed. All Lu Yin needed to do was crush the jade.

He sat on the ground.

Off in the distance, Nightqueen Yanqing and the other members of the Daynight clan had been forced onto the ground. Their pleas for Lu Yin's death when the Second Nightking had appeared had angered the colossal giants and the Lu Elite Troops, which had caused them to suffer harsh treatments in response. Each of them was beaten until their bodies hurt if they even twitched. Nightking Yuanjing was in the worst condition, as all four of his limbs had been shattered. He was laying on the ground with blood streaming down his back.

Only the Nightkings were suffering from such torture, as the normal members of the Daynight clan had been merely captured. Their treatment was actually slightly better than what the Daykings had suffered through.

Zhuo Daynight watched all of them from a ways away. The Nightkings were finally feeling the same desperation that had once plagued her. For her, the only pity was that Nightking Zhenwu had already died and was not alive to experience this.

"You're really happy, aren't you?" Nightqueen Yanqing spat when Zhuo Daynight was just about to leave.

Nightqueen Yanqing glared at Zhuo Daynight. The Nightqueen's face was pale, her lips were cracked, and there was even blood dripping from her lips.

A Hunter from the Lu Elite Troops glared at Nightqueen Yanqing before white smoke smashed into her back. Nightqueen Yanqing collapsed to the ground and spat out a mouthful of blood.

"Stop," Zhuo Daynight commanded.

The Hunter looked over at Zhuo Daynight and slowly stepped back.

At this moment, there was still no true commander of the Lu Elite Troops. Lu Yin commanded the army at the moment, and he had appointed Zhuo Daynight as the deputy commander. This gave Zhuo Daynight the right to order anyone in the Lu Elite Troops.

Nightqueen Yanqing struggled to raise her head to meet Zhuo Daynight's eyes. "You're really happy, right?"

Zhuo Daynight calmly approached the other woman. "Why would I be happy?"

"You've managed to get revenge, and the Nightkings have been forced into such a pathetic situation. Aren't you happy?" Nightqueen Yanqing screamed.

Zhuo Daynight's voice was cold. "Were you happy when Nightking Zhenwu killed my parents and the rest of my family?"

Nightqueen Yanqing was stunned, and she stared at Zhuo Daynight in a daze.

Zhuo Daynight watched Nightqueen Yanqing. "I want to get revenge on Nightking Zhenwu, but he's already dead, and I wasn't even the one to kill him. I don't care about the rest of you. The person who controls your fate now is Lu Yin, not me."

Nightqueen Yanqing closed her eyes. She felt both grief and helplessness; there was literally nothing that she could do.

The mighty Daynight clan had been reduced to such a pathetic state. She should have killed Lu Yin back when they had both been in the Astral Combat Academy. In her anger, she turned to glare at Nightking Yuanjing; all of this was his fault. The idiot had believed Lu Yin's lies, and that had caused the destruction of the entire Daynight clan.

Zhuo Daynight left.

The Nightkings silently awaited their fate.

There were some buildings that stood deep in the Celestial Frost Sect's ruins. Although some of them were extremely fragile, others remained well maintained, such as the great hall.

At this moment, there were many people gathered in the great hall, and Ku Wei was seated at the head of the table.

Ku Wei had his legs propped up on the table and a smug smirk on his face.

Wen Sansi, Unseen Light, Lei Nü, Ling Gong, and many others were also present, including two Enlighteners whose power levels were more than 300,000.

"Have you thought it through? Speak up!" Ling Gong shouted, startling Ku Wei.

Ku Wei rolled his eyes. "Woman, it's no wonder why Master said that you have a bad temper. Just wait and let me think about it."

Ling Gong threw her spear at Ku Wei, but he just grinned and used Finger Tap. Ripples spread through the air, and there was a bang. Wen Sansi instantly used Literary Prison to block the shockwaves from the impact. "Don't be rash. Do you want to destroy this place?"

Ling Gong snorted and put her spear away before glaring at Ku Wei with cold eyes.

She had met him in the past, and she already knew that this person always followed Lu Yin around and acted as his lackey. However, she had never expected Ku Wei to possess a level of strength that was comparable to her own. How had he accomplished such a feat?

Apart from Ling Gong, Wen Sansi, Unseen Light, and the others gathered had also been astonished by what they had seen. Ku Wei had improved far too quickly, and he now stood on the same level as them. Despite being from the Seven Courts' Ku family, the Ku family's inheritor was Ku Lei, not Ku Wei.

Ku Wei smugly raised his head up high. He had always wanted to fight against the former Arbiters, and even though he was a bit late, he had finally caught up to them.

Fortunately, he had obtained Progenitor Chen's blood, which had greatly improved his strength. Without it, he would have never been able to stand up to these people before him.

"Brother Ku, you heard what the Chief Justice said: the Celestial Frost Sect's ruins belong to the entire Human Domain, and they should not be monopolized. It's not good for you to post a giant at that pond and forbid people from approaching it," Wen Sansi said politely. Everyone from the Wen family was very polite to members of the Great Eastern Alliance.

Ku Wei sneered. "The Celestial Frost Sect's ruins are not to be monopolized, and we haven't done so in the least. After all, aren't you here right now? As for that pond..."

Everyone looked at Ku Wei with increasing intensity.

Ku Wei laughed. "That's the bathwater of the future wife of my master, so why would any of you want to check it out?"

"Bullshit!" an Enlighter exclaimed angrily.

Ku Wei glared at the man and flicked a finger. Given his new level of strength, even a gentle finger flick was extremely powerful, and the cultivator was blasted out of the great hall.

Chapter 1674: Destroying Their Arrogance

Ku Wei was Lu Yin's lockbreaking disciple, and he also held a high rank within the Great Eastern Alliance. On top of all that, he led the colossal giants. This meant that the Enlighters and even the Envoys present did not dare to oppose him.

"Brother Ku, that's not a nice thing to say. We are all aware that the alliance leader wants to keep the pond for himself, but what is he going to tell the Chief Justice?" Wen Sansi asked.

Ling Gong cut in, "Cut the nonsense! Let us use that pond too."

Ku Wei smiled. "You can go."

Ling Gong was stunned, and everyone else present was taken aback as well. What did this mean?

"I heard that you're involved with Master, so he won't stop you if you want to go. You're also going to be one of his future wives," Ku Wei said in a completely serious manner.

Ling Gong blushed, but she was also furious. In her anger, she threw her spear at Ku Wei. "You're shameless!"

"Why are you attacking me? You're one of my future mistresses! I won't fight you."

"Who told you to say that? I'm going to kill you!"

"Your temper is horrible. My master truly has unique tastes. Chen Jian, protect the pond and don't let anyone dirty my master's future wives' bathwater."

...

No one could do anything with Chen Jian sitting next to the Celestial Frost Pond. The giant watched the skirmish between Ku Wei and Ling Gong with clear interest. There were a few cultivators who tried to sneak into the Celestial Frost Pond, but they were easily smacked away by the giant. One such person even had a power level that exceeded 400,000, but they were still batted away by Chen Jian without issue.

There were also a few other giants near the pond, and their presence intimidated everyone.

Although the Celestial Frost Sect's ruins encompassed a huge area, it took only a short amount of time for the cultivators to fully explore it.

Over the course of just a few days, the Celestial Frost Sect's ruins were fully explored, with the exception being the Celestial Frost Pond. Aside from some plants that had reached the point of detecting danger, there was nothing of much value left in the ruins.

Everyone tried to access the Celestial Frost Pond, and an increasing number of cultivators gathered in the great hall in an attempt to force the giants to pull back and give access to the Celestial Frost Pond. There were even some people who threatened to complain to the Interstellar Supreme Court about the Great Eastern Alliance.

Despite everything, Ku Wei refused to move, and the giant sitting guard over the Celestial Frost Pond changed to Chen Huang.

From Ku Wei's words, the pond was reserved for his future mistress, and thus could not be contaminated.

His account quickly spread out into the rest of the universe, and countless people cursed Ku Wei.

In the end, Liu Qianjue and a few others were unable to endure such behavior, and they went to the Celestial Frost Pond.

By this time, tens of thousands of cultivators had gathered around the Celestial Frost Pond. However, those who had gathered were all quite powerful, and they also treated everyone else as their enemy.

Close to the Celestial Frost Pond, Ku Wei was standing on Chen Huang's shoulder and quarreling with Liu Qianjue and a few other people.

"Boy, get lost!" Mountain God had returned to his normal size as Bai Wanshan, which made him as large as Chen Huang.

Chen Huang glared back. "Leave. Nobody can approach the bath pond."

Mountain God bellowed, "Bullshit! Get lost!"

"Fight me, stupid mountain."

"You're just a giant that's already been eliminated by time."

"How dare you? I'll destroy you!" Chen Huang shouted as he raised his right fist. The colossal giants had been suppressed by mountains in the past, and he hated all mountains.

Mountain God sneered. "Ridiculous."

The two collided in the sky, and the impact of their collision pushed all the nearby people away.

Ku Wei tightly grabbed Chen Huang, which allowed him to manage to avoid being flung off.

At the same time, Ling Qiu and Liu Qianjue appeared right next to the Celestial Frost Pond, but before they could take another step, Liu Ye and Fei Hua appeared to block their path.

Liu Qianjue frowned. These two would not be easy to deal with.

Ling Qiu coldly said, "It seems that this pond is quite special, seeing as how Lu Yin has assigned three Envoys to guard it."

Liu Ye calmly stated, "Leave. There's nothing much here."

"Do you really think that I'll believe that?" Ling Qiu taunted.

Fei Hua's brows rose. "You don't have any choice."

"You!" Ling Qiu shouted.

A shadow appeared above all of them, and Liu Qianjue and Ling Qiu looked up to see Chen Huang, who was covered in nine lined battle force.

Liu Qianjue and Ling Qiu glanced at each other before immediately retreating.

Mountain God also left after the other two pulled back.

The more effort that was put into preventing them from approaching the Celestial Frost Pond, the more they wanted to investigate it.

The ancestral tablet in the Daynight clan had been destroyed, but Lu Yin was practicing the Sealed Cage Technique close to where it had once stood. After several days, he suddenly opened his eyes; he could feel the members of the Daynight clan. Most of them were already close to him.

He could see clouds of blood when he closed his eyes, and each cloud represented a person from the Daynight clan. He could even kill them at any moment if he so wished.

This was the Sealed Cage Technique that had been used on a bloodline; what a tyrannical battle technique.

At this exact moment, Nightqueen Yanqing and the other members of the Daynight clan felt chills run down their spines. They had a strange sensation, as though an extra line had connected to them that was linked to their life force itself. If that line broke, they would die.

"Sealed Cage Technique? It's the Sealed Cage Technique!" Nightking Leng shouted in terror.

Someone from the Lu Elite Troops flung smoke at the man. Although Nightking Leng's power level had surpassed 400,000, just a Hunter from the Lu Elite Troops was able to easily injure the Nightking given his current wounded state.

However, the Nightking did not have any time to even think about the pain, as the Sealed Cage Technique had been activated.

Nightqueen Yanqing was in shock. “The Sealed Cage Technique? Elder Leng, what are you talking about?”

“Shut up! Who said that you could talk?” The nearby soldiers tried to stop them, but the Nightkings seemed to have gone crazy.

“You’re right! It’s the Sealed Cage Technique. We controlled the Daykings with this and were able to control their very life force, but this is the reverse. Who is controlling us? Who activated the Sealed Cage Technique?” Nightking Silo screamed.

“Who? Who is controlling us?”

“Who is it?”

The Nightkings screamed in desperation. This was their first time ever experiencing the sensation of having their very lives being held in someone else’s hand, so the despair filling their hearts was terrible.

Zhuo Daynight arrived, and she stopped the Lu Elite Troops from attacking the Nightkings. She also wanted to find out what was happening.

When Lu Yin had killed Nightking Zhenwu and taken the Daykings away from the rest of the Daynight clan, the Sealed Cage Technique had been removed from the Daykings, and they had been freed from the Nightkings’ control.

However, the Sealed Cage Technique had just been reactivated. The Daykings were being controlled once again, and Zhuo Daynight had rushed over, thinking that one of the Nightkings was behind this change.

However, the scene that she saw left her confused. Were the Nightkings also being controlled by the Sealed Cage Technique? How was that even possible?

“Zhuo Daynight, is this your work? Did you manage to reverse the Sealed Cage Technique to control us?” Nightqueen Yanqing glared at Zhuo Daynight.

The Nightkings all glared at Zhuo Daynight in absolute fury.

At this same time, Ying Daynight and Ganggu Daynight arrived as well. They had followed the Lu Elite Troops here for the attack on the Daynight clan, and they had also sensed the activation of the Sealed Cage Technique. They had also believed that it was due to one of the Nightkings, so they had rushed over in shock.

“Did one of you Nightkings take control of us with the Sealed Cage Technique again? Even if we die, we’ll die with you!” Ganggu Daynight shrieked.

Nightking Leng bellowed back, “This must be the Daykings’ fault!”

“Hmph, the Sealed Cage Technique was created by the Nightkings, so how is this our fault?”

...

“Shut up!” Zhuo Daynight shouted, and everyone turned to look at her.

She said quietly, “Even the normal members of the clan are being controlled by the Sealed Cage Technique.”

Everyone suddenly fell silent. The Nightkings had been able to control the Daykings with the Sealed Cage Technique, but even if the Daykings had managed to find the means to reverse the technique and control the Nightkings, it should not have affected the normal members of the Daynight clan. Those people should have never been affected by the Sealed Cage Technique at all, and yet they were also being controlled at this moment.

Could it be the Second Nightking? Zhuo Daynight suddenly thought of the man, as he was the only ancient powerhouse who could have done such a thing. However, he had already been taken away by the Chief Justice and imprisoned at Gaia’s Swamp. It was impossible for him to affect the Daynight clan from Gaia’s Swamp.

Lu Yin appeared in the sky.

The Lu Elite Troops bowed. “Alliance Leader.”

“Alliance Leader.”

...

Zhuo Daynight turned towards Lu Yin but did not bow. After all, she was not his subordinate. Lu Yin had asked for her to help him out by temporarily filling the position of the Lu Elite Troops’ deputy commander, as he had been unable to find anyone else who both had the ability and was trustworthy.

Nightqueen Yanqing and the other Nightkings kept a wary eye on Lu Yin. Their gazes were filled with fear, helplessness, and hatred.

“Lu Yin, release me! I helped you before and even rescued you. If not for me, you would have never been able to safely leave the Northline Flowzone. If not for me, you would have been killed by the Daynight clan,” Nightking Yuanjing begged.

Lu Yin glanced over. “You’re right, Nightking Yuanjing. You helped me quite a few times, but that was also due to my own efforts. Have you found the Third Nightking yet?”

Nightking Yuanjing’s voice was hoarse. “Please, let me go. I won’t be your enemy.”

Lu Yin smirked. “My enemy? You’re overthinking it. The Sealed Cage Technique is quite interesting, isn’t it?”

Everyone stared at Lu Yin in astonishment, including Zhuo Daynight.

“You activated the Sealed Cage Technique?” Zhuo Daynight asked in disbelief.

Lu Yin’s gaze swept over Zhuo Daynight and the rest of the Daynight clan. “I’m not sure if any of you know what sort of status the Daynight clan used to have. Let me tell you...”

In addition to physically defeating the Daynight clan, Lu Yin wanted to destroy their will as well.

They believed themselves to be one of the strongest powers in the entire Inniverse, and the members of the clan had always been extremely arrogant. Even when they had lost one of their inheritance stones, they had actually bragged that nobody would dare to touch such a thing and that it would be quickly returned to them. Nightking Zhenwu had tortured the members of the Fireplume Tribe and bullied everyone he saw, and it all steemed from his overweening arrogance.

At this moment, Lu Yin wanted the clan to understand their true status: slaves. They had been slaves to the Bai family, the masters of the Celestial Frost Sect.

“That’s impossible! You’re lying!” Nightking Leng screamed. He tried to get up to attack Lu Yin, but a spear skewered his leg, and he collapsed to the ground.

Lu Yin calmly answered, “I don’t need to lie. If not for the First Nightking who killed the members of the Bai family, this place would have never been called Daynight Flowzone, and it would still be Celestial Frost Flowzone. The family ruling this place would also be the Bai family instead of the Nightkings.

“Even the Sealed Cage Technique wasn’t created by the First Nightking—he merely altered it a bit.”

Chapter 1675: A Bloody Sky

“You’re lying!” Nightking Silo shouted in disbelief.

Nightqueen Yanqing, Nightking Gu, and all the other Nightkings glared at Lu Yin with blazing hatred, and even Zhuo Daynight looked at him with mixed emotions.

Lu Yin had just revealed the truth of the Nightkings to them. No matter how arrogant they might be, they were still slaves controlled by others.

“The First Nightking eliminated the truth about the Daynight clan, but I’ve revealed who you truly are. You should all feel thankful, as forgetting your own history is no different from betraying yourselves. The Sealed Cage Technique is in your very bloodline,” Lu Yin stated coldly. He did not care about how his words might affect the members of the Daynight clan at all.

Lu Yin sighed and glanced over at Zhuo Daynight in an apologetic manner. “Are you unable to accept this?”

Zhuo Daynight laughed bitterly. “So what? No matter if it was the Bai family or the Nightkings, we’ve always been under someone’s control! We are already familiar with the Sealed Cage Technique, so we just have a new person controlling us now.”

Lu Yin answered, “I will remove the Sealed Cage Technique for you and the Daykings.”

Zhuo Daynight turned towards Lu Yin. “Isn’t the foundation of this technique our bloodline itself? Is it even possible to remove it?”

Lu Yin fell silent. There was no use removing the technique from the Dayking clan, as it was something passed down within their very bloodlines. The only way to remove it was if Lu Yin had the strength of a Semi-Progenitor.

“Can you promise me something?” Zhuo Daynight looked at Lu Yin hopefully.

Lu Yin grew serious. "Tell me."

Zhuo Daynight solemnly said, "The Sealed Cage Technique will cease to exist after you, and there will be no Nightkings after you either."

Lu Yin's eyes flashed. "Alright, I promise."

The most pathetic thing for a clan was for them to be controlled by someone else. The only means to remove the control of the Sealed Cage Technique from the Daynight clan was to have the Sealed Cage Technique disappear forever. So while Lu Yin would use the Sealed Cage Technique to control the Daynight clan because they were his enemies, what about his descendants?

Zhuo Daynight did not want the Daynight clan to remain slaves forever and to be nothing but puppets to the Sealed Cage Technique. The Daykings had experienced that pain for too long already.

She would rather have the Nightkings and even the entire Daynight clan disappear rather than allow them to live under someone else's control forever.

Lu Yin also did not like the Sealed Cage Technique, but he needed the Daynight clan's assistance for the time being.

He had been thinking about this while practicing the Sealed Cage Technique.

It was possible that his Lu Elite Troops would not be sufficient for the upcoming war. He needed at least three armies. One would be the Lu Elite Troops, the colossal giants would be the second, and the third army would consist of his former enemies, such as the Daynight clan and the sylvan dragons. This third army would be known as the Redemption Army.

The Redemption Army would be formed from Lu Yin's former enemies, which meant that they would be people he could not trust. However, things would change if the Daynight clan was incorporated into this army, as they would never be able to oppose Lu Yin. His control over them made them the most trustworthy people for the Redemption Army, and they would form the army's core.

Once the three armies finished training, Lu Yin would have enough power to challenge the Perennial World. However, that did not guarantee victory, as it merely meant that he was qualified to challenge that place.

No matter whether or not the Daynight clan accepted the truth, their lives were in Lu Yin's hands.

Nightking Yuanjing was the happiest person in the clan at this moment, as this meant that he would live.

Lu Yin had not planned to kill the man anyways, as he still had a use for Nightking Yuanjing.

Most of the Nightkings could not accept the fact that their lives were under the control of the Sealed Cage Technique, and they committed suicide. Still, there were a few who accepted the truth.

Only Lu Yin and Zhuo Daynight knew that he controlled the Daynight clan. Nobody else knew about this, not even Ku Wei, Liu Ye, or Fei Hua, as they had all been sent to act as guards within the Celestial Frost Sect's ruins.

The Innerverse had been alerted to Lu Yin's scheming methods after he attacked the Daynight clan instead of the Sword Sect. Elder Yuan Shou had also told Lu Yin that Ling Qiu had witnessed Elder Jiu Shen rescuing him, which meant that Lu Yin was aware that it would be difficult to maintain the lie about his relationship with the Cosmic Sect to Ling Qiu.

This meant he would have to face a united opposition from half of the Innerverse.

Fortunately, the grudges and conflicts that he had created during the war in Blazing Mist Flowzone were not things that could be erased quickly. Lu Yin needed to quickly seize control of Daynight Flowzone, though doing so would only further intimidate the other Innerverse flowzones.

Lu Yin was in the middle of discussing something with Wang Wen when he heard a wail ring out in the distance as blood filled the sky.

Lu Yin immediately looked over, only to see Long Yi's runes decreasing rapidly. Worried, Lu Yin moved out and quickly headed over.

The huge sylvan dragon was hanging in the sky and bleeding profusely.

By the time Lu Yin arrived, Long Yi was already half dead. His head had been ripped open, and his wings had cruelly been sliced off.

Lu Yin looked around and saw a massive number of rune lines leaving the area. He was about to give chase when Liu Ye and Fei Hua appeared. "That person is very powerful."

Lu Yin hesitated and carefully observed the rune lines. They belonged to Liu Qianjue. The man had not even tried to hide himself at all.

In addition to Liu Qianjue, Lu Yin also saw some runes that belonged to Ling Qiu and Mountain God in another direction. The three of them had worked together to instantly deal with Long Yi.

This was a warning to Lu Yin, and it also served to reduce the strength of the Great Eastern Alliance.

Lu Yin had been too careless, as everything had been going too well for him recently, and he had felt as though all of his plans were on the path to success. The leaders of the major flowzones would never allow Lu Yin to take control of the Innerverse, especially not after he had already taken over Blazing Mist and Daynight Flowzones. The major Innerverse powers had initially been shocked by Lu Yin's actions, but they had started working together.

After putting down Long Yi, who was one of the Great Eastern Alliance's Envoys, the three would definitely target another of the alliance's Envoys.

Long Yi had merely been the first victim.

Lu Yin looked at poor Long Yi, who had been cut down so cruelly. The three were not only reducing the Great Eastern Alliance's power, but they were also warning the alliance's powerhouses.

After conquering Daynight Flowzone, Lu Yin was facing the worst case scenario: the Innerverse had united to work together and oppose him.

“By my name, I appoint a champion.” Lu Yin sent Liu Ye and Fei Hua away as he imprinted Long Yi onto his Champions’ Stage alone.

Even though Lu Yin had never fully trusted Long Yi, the dragon had still surrendered to him. Liu Qianjue had successfully managed to get to Lu Yin.

Lu Yin had Long Yi’s body delivered to Wang Wen.

Wang Wen merely said one sentence: leave Daynight Flowzone.

Only a handful of people were aware that Lu Yin had taken complete control over Daynight Flowzone. Wang Wen was one of the few people whom Lu Yin trusted wholeheartedly, which meant that the man naturally was aware of this fact.

With Lu Yin in control of the Daynight clan, there was no need to announce anything at all. Instead, by leaving Daynight Flowzone, he could successfully confuse Liu Qianjue and the other leaders of the great flowzones.

As an excuse for Lu Yin’s sudden departure, they used the Third Nightking.

A few days later, another group of people arrived at the Celestial Frost Sect’s ruins. These people were from the Cosmic Sect and the Court of Seven Names.

Lu Yin ordered the Great Eastern Alliance to leave Daynight Flowzone.

And like that, the Daynight clan seemingly returned to normal.

These orders astonished Liu Qianjue and the others. They were completely confused; why would Lu Yin leave after finally conquering Daynight Flowzone?

Everyone in the universe was confused by this news.

However, another bit of information quickly cleared any doubts: the Third Nightking was returning.

Liu Qianjue, Mountain God, Ling Qiu, and Wen Zizai gathered near the Celestial Frost Sect’s ruins as they watched the colossal giants and the Lu Elite Troops leave. They watched as the Daynight clan regained their freedom.

“They’re truly free. The powerhouses from the Great Eastern Alliance have all left Daynight Flowzone,” Mountain God warily observed.

Liu Qianjue frowned. “That’s impossible. Given Lu Yin’s personality, how could he possibly give up on the Daynight clan?”

“I also believe that it’s impossible,” Ling Qiu agreed.

Wen Zizai shook his head. “If the Third Nightking is really returning, then there’s no reason for Lu Yin to remain in Daynight Flowzone. We have all experienced the Second Nightking’s power, and rumour has it that the Third Nightking is even more talented than the Second Nightking.”

“I don’t know how the Second Nightking managed to survive all these years, but I don’t believe that the Third Nightking has also managed to survive while becoming even stronger than before. They’re both people from ancient times, and while they might have been powerful back then, they should be much weaker than before even if they did manage to stay alive with cryostasis. At most, the Third Nightking should only be comparable to us,” Ling Qiu said.

“Everyone, do you remember the incident that happened a few years ago when the Great Eastern Alliance defeated the Blaze Realm and then left?” Liu Qianjue asked.

Wen Zizai’s eyes lit up. “So you think that Lu Yin’s doing this intentionally?”

Liu Qianjue looked up. “We’ll know after seeing what he does next. If he leaves Daynight Flowzone but stays nearby, it indicates that he’s doing this deliberately. He already knows what our goal is after we killed Long Yi. We are after the Envoys working with him. We can remove Emperor Luo from the equation for now, but we absolutely have to eliminate Liu Ye and Fei Hua, who are his guardians. There’s also the people from the Sea King’s Dome who are hiding in the Outerverse, not to mention the giants’ chieftain. It’s possible that Lu Yin pulled back to protect himself.”

“So what if he retreats? We’ll still push on,” Ling Qiu sneered.

Liu Qianjue turned to Ling Qiu. “I hope that you will remember those words. I don’t know why you suddenly backed out from cooperating with us before, but you should know that this is our only option now. We can either wait for Lu Yin to gain control of the Innerverse, or we can defeat the Great Eastern Alliance and completely remove Lu Yin’s chances of ever entering the Innerverse.”

Ling Qiu snorted. She had said nothing to anyone about what had happened in the past, as it was simply too humiliating. She had been deceived by the Cosmic Sect, which meant that she was even more enthusiastic about dealing with Lu Yin than Liu Qianjue.

“There’s only one problem: there are always a few powerhouses who appear around Lu Yin,” Mountain God said.

Liu Qianjue coldly replied, “Everything’ll be fine as long as we don’t attack him personally. It’s time for us to visit the Divine Venom Dynasty and have a talk with Qing Shaohuang. He really thinks that he’ll be fine if he stays in the Venom Flowzone.”

The colossal giants and the Lu Elite Troops all made their way straight towards Blazing Mist Flowzone, though they only traveled at an average speed.

Lu Yin looked back. This was an impressive line up. If there were no Envoys present, the colossal giants working together with the Lu Elite Troops would be enough to sweep through the entire Innerverse.

However, their speed was too slow when it came to traveling, and Lu Yin lacked efficient means of transportation.

Liu Qianjue and the others were definitely keeping an eye on Lu Yin, but he did nothing at all. He had actually released the Daynight clan, though he had also made sure that nobody would ever learn about the Sealed Cage Technique.

To any outsider, apart from Nightking Dijiang's death, nothing much had changed for the Daynight clan. However, there would be a change in the future, as the Third Nightking was returning.

Lu Yin had put a great deal of effort into finding an excuse that would make the Daynight clan a threat to him.

Beep beep!

Lu Yin turned to look at his gadget and was surprised to see that it was an internal call from Astral-10. Only teachers and pupils from Astral-10 were able to call Lu Yin using this internal method. When he took a closer look, he saw that it was a call from Old Cai.

Chapter 1676: I Want It All

"Old Cai, I didn't expect a call from you," Lu Yin said in a friendly tone.

Old Cai replied, "Um, I heard that you went to the Daynight clan, right?"

Lu Yin answered, "Yes. Are the juniors from Astral-10 interested in exploring the Celestial Frost Sect's ruins?"

Old Cai hesitated. "We'll talk about that later. There's something else I wanted to ask you."

Lu Yin was curious. He had always had an impression of Old Cai as a very cunning, shameless, and petty old man. The mentor from Astral-10 never seemed to mind scamming anybody, including his own students. Since when had the man become so shy?

"Please tell me."

Old Cai cleared his throat. "How is Nightqueen Qiuyu?"

Lu Yin was perplexed. "Nightqueen Qiuyu? Why are you asking about her?"

"Is she still alive?" Old Cai asked hesitantly.

Lu Yin nodded. "Yes, she's fine."

Old Cai fell silent.

Lu Yin did not press the matter, but he did remember something. Back when the Daynight clan had hosted a Daynight Feast and invited him, Old Cai had cautioned Lu Yin not to use any of his Money Bombs near the Daynight clan members. Money Bombs were Old Cai's signature weapon, and Lu Yin had felt as though he had been scammed after being told not to use them against the Daynight clan. Sandmaster had also mentioned that Old Cai's Money Bombs had a bad reputation, so it was possible that there was a connection to Nightqueen Qiuyu.

"Mentor, what's your connection to Nightqueen Qiuyu?" Lu Yin asked.

Old Cai sighed. "You might not believe me, but she's actually my fiancée."

Lu Yin was stunned. "Fiancée?"

"Fiancée."

“I heard you, but why?”

“Why what?”

Lu Yin was about to ask how Old Cai managed to become engaged to Nightqueen Qiuyu given his looks, but the youth suppressed the urge to ask such a question, as he felt that it would be too insulting. Instead, he asked, “I thought that the Daynight clan never allowed their members to marry outside of their own clan. How can she be your fiancée?”

Old Cai helplessly told Lu Yin of his past.

Old Cai’s history was a pretty typical story. He had met Nightqueen Qiuyu when exploring the universe, and the two had fallen in love. However, they had been torn apart when the Daynight clan had learned of their relationship. It was a sad yet common experience for couples.

“How is this related to your Money Bombs?” Lu Yin felt terribly confused. If their history was nothing more than a failed romance, then Old Cai would have never asked Lu Yin to hide the fact that he was from Astral-10.

Old Cai cleared his throat. “I was quite young at that time, and rash too. I made some Money Bombs and destroyed a few of the Daynight clan’s buildings.”

“A few?” Lu Yin grew increasingly curious.

Old Cai cleared his throat again. “I accidentally bombed the Daynight clan’s ancestral tablet.”

Lu Yin was stunned. “You bombed their ancestral tablet?”

“Sigh. Because of that, the Daynight clan started treating me like an enemy, and even Nightqueen Qiuyu refuses to forgive me. That tablet is sacred to them, and I was too impulsive,” Old Cai explained. However, he did not sound at all regretful, and he actually sounded more like he was boasting.

Before Lu Yin had shown up, who had dared to touch anything that belonged to the Daynight clan, let alone their ancestral tablet?

“But there are always experts standing guard over that tablet. Given your strength back then, how did you succeed?” Lu Yin mused.

Old Cai grinned. “I wasn’t that young when that happened. The two of us were separated when we were young, but I grew more and more annoyed as time passed. When I became an Enlighter, I snuck into a Daynight Feast, and I accidentally bombed the tablet. Actually, I didn’t really bomb it—I just messed up the dust around it because of all those old farts guarding it. The Daynight clan is too touchy about such things, and Nightqueen Qiuyu came after me like she’d gone nuts. Sigh, I really was too rash.”

Lu Yin was left speechless. “She let you go instead of chasing after you, didn’t she?”

Old Cai stayed quiet.

“Your Money Bombs were the explosives you used?”

“Yes.”

“And that’s why you forbade me from using those near the Daynight clan?”

“That’s right.”

“So what now? Nightqueen Qiuyu is back with the Daynight clan, so are you going to go see her?” Lu Yin asked.

Old Cai was surprised. “Didn’t you take control of the Daynight clan?”

Lu Yin answered with evident frustration, “The Third Nightking is coming back, so I left.”

“The Third Nightking? He’s still alive?” Old Cai was astonished.

Lu Yin replied, “If you still have feelings for Nightqueen Qiuyu, then you should go look for her. There probably isn’t anyone in the Daynight clan who can stop you now. Good luck.”

Lu Yin then hung up.

All of the teachers from Astral-10 were quite powerful, especially Old Cai with his cunning nature. Since he had been able to escape from the Daynight clan in the past, returning should be a breeze for the old man. Lu Yin was not at all worried, as the old man had probably already prepared a massive number of Money Bombs.

That old man definitely had even more powerful versions of his Money Bombs, or else he would have never had the confidence to target the stone tablet. Old Cai had sold Lu Yin weaker versions of his Money Bombs in the past, as Lu Yin had only bought bombs that were effective against Hunters. If not for his Enhance, he would have never been able to use any of them against Enlighters.

Hold on. Lu Yin thought of something else and called Old Cai back.

“What now?”

Lu Yin asked, “Mentor, are you still selling your Money Bombs?”

Old Cai paused. “Do you need some?”

“Of course. They’re very useful.”

“You’re able to fight against Envoys now, so why would you still need those bombs?” Old Cai became curious.

Lu Yin answered, “I just need them. How many do you have? I want all of them.”

Old Cai felt that something was off. Back when Lu Yin had bought his first Money Bomb, he had acted upset, and Old Cai had actually needed to coerce the youth into buying more. He never expected Lu Yin to actually offer to buy more at this time.

“How many do you want?”

“How many do you have?”

“I have as many as you want. I’ve made quite a few over the years.”

“I want as many as you have. Same price as before, right? Fifty star crystals for one and a hundred star crystals for three?”

“The price is the same, so how many do you want?”

Lu Yin was taken aback. “I already told you—I want everything you’ve got. Money’s not an issue.”

Old Cai arched a brow. “Are you arming your army?”

“That’s right.”

Old Cai laughed. “That’s smart. Student Lu, since you’re equipping your army with them, we should return to talking about the price.”

Lu Yin bit his lips. He had already known that this old bastard would try to take advantage of him again. “I can already handle the Daynight clan at any time.”

Old Cai rolled his eyes. “Alright, same price as before. I have a bit more than 4,000 of them.”

Lu Yin frowned. “Only 4,000?”

Old Cai felt insulted. “What do you mean by ‘only 4,000?’ Do you think that I can make these at any time? This is already a good number that’s taken me years to accumulate. I have limited time and materials, so just take what I have. It’s only 143,333 star crystals for 4,300 Money Bombs.”

140,000 star crystals was nothing but pocket change to Lu Yin, as he currently needed to spend millions of star essence every time he Enhanced an item.

“I’ll have the money transferred to your Mavis Bank account. I’ll also send someone to Astral-10 to pick them up,” Lu Yin said.

Old Cai agreed, “Sounds good.”

“Hang on, Old Cai. Don’t you have more powerful Money Bombs?” Lu Yin asked.

Old Cai answered, “I know what you want, but I don’t have any. I really wasn’t planning to cause any serious damage to the Daynight clan’s ancestral tablet, as I wouldn’t be alive right now if I had—I just wanted to vent some frustrations. You can go ahead and try to check just how many people in the entire universe are able to make bombs that can affect Hunters.”

Lu Yin agreed. Although the Ross Empire’s battleships were able to fire attacks that had the strength of Hunters, those vessels were incredibly expensive, and they were also not very agile. It really was not bad at all for something as small as the Money Bombs to have so much power.

Besides, Lu Yin could just use Enhance to upgrade the Money Bombs to have the strength of an Enlighter. He would need about 15 million star crystals, which was not a terrible cost.

He imagined the member of his Lu Elite Troops each possessing two Enlighter-level Money Bombs and the white smoke; just how impressive would that be?

He did not expect his Lu Elite Troops to be able to defeat Envoys; he just wanted them to be able to deal with any cultivators beneath the Envoy realm.

As Lu Yin was dreaming about improving his army's equipment, Man Li was still barricading the Neo-Vestige Sect's entrance.

The Sixth Mainland's Arrow Sect had their own giants.

Man Li stood ten meters tall, and he was sitting at the entrance to the Neo-Vestige Sect. He could single handedly threaten all of the members of the Neo-Vestige Sect given his power level of over 700,000. If not for the Great Eastern Alliance and the Hall of Honor, Man Li would have already crushed the Neo-Vestige Sect and captured everybody in it.

The leader of the Neo-Vestige Sect, Gong Ling watched Man Li with evident fear.

The members of the Neo-Vestige Sect were in no mood to cultivate, as they were all waiting for Man Li to attack. A powerhouse with this giant's strength was capable of easily wiping them all out.

"Still no news from the Great Eastern Alliance," an elder from the Neo-Vestige Sect said.

Someone nearby replied, "The Great Eastern Alliance can't deal with that giant either. He has a power level that exceeds 700,000 as well as an imprint. Add in the natural suppression that we suffer from Sixth Mainland cultivators, and there aren't many people even from the Inniverse who can defeat that man, let alone the Great Eastern Alliance."

"Hmph, the Great Eastern Alliance is still eager to attack the Inniverse, but they don't even care about our Neo-Vestige Sect. I think that we should just join the Arrow Sect," Shao Zisong complained.

Sect Leader Gong Ling glared at that elder with cold eyes.

Shao Zisong immediately shut up.

He had been Master Bei's disciple, which meant that he was Lu Yin's enemy. After Master Bei's death, Shao Zisong had been sent to Arrow Mountain to act as a servant. However, given the fact that the Neo-Vestige Sect had been rapidly losing their most talented members, he had been released from his punishment. Still, Shao Zisong absolutely hated Lu Yin.

"The Arrow Mountain Elder was killed by the Sixth Mainland, so how could you even suggest such a thing? Are you still even loyal to the Neo-Vestige Sect?" another elder bellowed.

A few elders joined in on scolding Shao Zisong, and he clenched his fists.

"Enough," Gong Ling ordered. He continued in a cold tone, "Shao Zisong, go to Arrow Mountain and work as a servant."

Shao Zisong was startled by this order, and he immediately knelt. "Sect Leader, I am indeed at fault and said the wrong thing. Please give me another chance, Sect Leader. I have no intention of betraying the Fifth Mainland, and I simply pity the disciples of our sect who are being pressured by that giant. Please give me another chance, Sect Leader."

“Enough, just leave. Serve as a servant on Arrow Mountain for a hundred years.” Gong Ling tossed Shao Zisong away.

Chapter 1677: Missing

After Shao Zisong was thrown out of the meeting, one elder said, “We should have never released him. Master Bei may have taken him off the mountain, but he’s still a slave. He truly hasn’t changed his ways.”

The others agreed.

Gong Ling frowned. He had not had any particular concerns regarding Shao Zisong since Master Bei had already died. The sect master looked out of the Neo-Vestige Sect, wondering whether or not Lu Yin would be able to help them.

On Arrow Mountain, Shao Zisong gritted his teeth and cursed the elders.

One disciple shouted at Shao Zisong, “Shut up! You’re just a slave, so stay silent. Don’t you know how important it is to pick an arrow?”

Another disciple chimed in, “Get lost and don’t disturb us.”

Everyone was in a bad mood given the giant sitting outside of their sect.

Shao Zisong left with his head bowed. He had been Master Bei’s disciple, and those disciples had not even had the right to meet with him in the past. However, they acted rude to him once he had been sentenced to be a slave for 100 years. His future was ruined, given that he was a slave that anyone in the Neo-Vestige Sect could insult or order about.

No, he could not continue to live in this manner. He refused to accept such a fate. Since he no longer had a future within the Neo-Vestige Sect, he needed to look elsewhere. Gong Ling, since you didn’t believe in me, there’s no need for me to be loyal to you anymore.

Darkness shrouded the Neo-Vestige Sect at night, but Gong Ling continued to solemnly stare out of the sect.

Suddenly, a flash of light shot up into the sky above Arrow Mountain.

When Gong Ling noticed the light, his expression instantly changed.

He immediately headed to Arrow Mountain, and there he found Shao Zisong glaring at him viciously.

Gong Ling bellowed, “What have you done, Shao Zisong?”

Shao Zisong sneered, “Sect Master, you condemned me to act as a slave for a hundred years, but did you ever consider my feelings? You would have never done such a thing if my master were still alive!”

Gong Ling became furious, and he smashed Shao Zisong into the ground. “I asked you—what have you done?”

The commotion on Arrow Mountain quickly attracted the attention of others in the Neo-Vestige Sect, and elders appeared one after another. “Sect Master, what’s happening?”

“Father?” Gong Chou asked.

Suddenly, the entire Neo-Vestige Sect trembled as a terrifying laugh rang out, “Hahahaha, so there’s still some smart people here. You’re Shao Zisong, right? From now on, you belong to the Arrow Sect. We’ll see who dares to touch you now.”

A powerful gale swept through the area, and a huge arrow shot past Gong Ling to pierce through Arrow Mountain.

When Arrow Mountain, which had existed since the founding of the Neo-Vestige Sect, was pierced by the arrow, Gong Ling vomited blood and collapsed. He had been injured by the arrow’s impact.

The disciples of the Neo-Vestige Sect were all forced to the ground, their faces pale.

The giant, Man Li, emerged from the true universe and looked down at everyone on the ground.

Shao Zisong was elated, and he immediately kneeled down. “I’m Shao Zisong, sir.”

Man Li grinned. “You aren’t bad, hahahaha.”

Gong Ling’s face was deathly pale from the attack that he had just suffered.

The Neo-Vestige Sect was ruined. The sect master immediately ordered Gong Chou to find a way to escape.

Anyone but Gong Chou could die.

“Sir, that’s Gong Ling, the sect leader of the Neo-Vestige Sect. He has access to the Neo-Vestige Sect’s full inheritance.” Shao Zisong pointed at Gong Ling.

Man Li glared at Gong Ling. “You, follow me.”

Gong Chou bellowed, “We are a part of the Great Eastern Alliance!”

Man Li frowned and stared at Gong Chou. “So what? Who’ll say anything even if I destroyed your Neo-Vestige Sect?”

He then lifted a hand and moved to crush Gong Chou.

Gong Chou’s mind went blank; he had absolutely no means of fighting back.

Gong Ling screamed, “Stop!”

Man Li sneered and slapped a hand towards Gong Ling. Suddenly, he hesitated. A disheveled old man in a sloppy green robe had appeared beneath his palm and was smiling up at the giant.

Man Li immediately stepped back and descended to the ground. His tone grew incredibly respectful, “I didn’t know you were here. I am at fault, but please forgive me.”

Everyone from the Neo-Vestige turned to look at the old man. He was Master Qing Hua.

He had appeared to uphold his promise to Lu Yin. The man had only recently left Blazing Mist Flowzone, and he had specifically traveled to the Neo-Vestige Sect in order to take Man Li away.

“You’re Man Li, right?” Master Qing Hua asked.

Man Li quickly replied, “Yes, I’m Man Li from the Arrow Sect. It’s a pleasure to meet you, Master Qing Hua.”

Master Qing Hua? Gong Ling had heard of this person before. When the Sixth Mainland had moved to the Outerverse, people from the Fifth Mainland had started slowly getting more acquainted with the Sixth Mainland’s powerhouses, and Master Qing Hua was one such powerhouses: he was an Emphyrean Imprinter.

How powerful was an Emphyrean Imprinter? Gong Ling could not even imagine the strength of such a person. The most powerful person that the Neo-Vestige Sect had ever had was the Arrow Mountain Elder, but he had only been an Envoy, which meant that he had been comparable to an Imprinter from the Sixth Mainland. Beyond that, there were still World Imprinters and Cosmic Imprinters before one reached the realm of Emphyrean Imprinters.

There were rumors that Emphyrean Imprinters were second only to Progenitors. In that case, would such a person visit the Neo-Vestige Sect? There was no reason for the Neo-Vestige Sect to have caught this expert’s attention.

“Why are you here?” Master Qing Hua calmly asked Man Li.

Although the Emphyrean Imprinter’s tone sounded very friendly, Man Li still acted very politely. Even though Man Huang, the leader of the Arrow Sect, was also an Emphyrean Imprinter, he was still Master Qing Hua’s junior. There were even rumors that Master Qing Hua might replace the dead Toolwielder Ancestor as one of the Daosource Sect’s Four Emphyreans. This was a key reason why Man Li was so respectful to Qing Hua.

“Elder, I’m following my master’s orders to take him to the Neo-Vestige Sect,” Man Li answered.

Master Qing Hua looked around. “Forcefully?”

Man Li replied, “There are disciples in this Neo-Vestige Sect who have already joined the Arrow Sect, so I’m not actually taking anyone away by force.”

Master Qing Hua smiled. “Then just take those who have joined your sect with you. Are you trying to start a war between the Sixth and Fifth Mainlands? Is that your plan? Or rather, is that Man Huang’s plan?”

Man Li explained anxiously, “I was too rash, forgive me.”

Master Qing Hua continued, saying, “We have only just arrived at the Fifth Mainland, and even though the Outerverse belongs to us, we should not wantonly kill people as that will only intensify the Fifth Mainland’s hatred for us and make it harder for us to truly rule the Outerverse. Leave. I’ll go speak to Man Huang about this.”

Man Li hesitated. “Elder, my sect leader tasked me with guarding the Neo-Vestige Sect. If I suddenly return...”

Master Qing Hua's eyes flashed, and Man Li was suddenly forced to the ground as a huge rod pressed down on him. Man Li screamed in pain from being pinned to the ground as a terrible wound had already appeared on his back, and he spat out a mouthful of blood.

Additionally, he found that he was unable to control his own stellar energy, and some of it was even being forcefully removed by the true universe.

Man Li started begging, "Please let me off, Elder! Please let me off."

Master Qing Hua asked in a calm manner, "Did you hear what I just said?"

"Yes, yes!" Man Li was terrified. This was the first time he had felt this helpless after becoming an Envoy. Even when Lu Yin had rung the Chief Justice's bell, he had not suppressed that badly, as even that had only momentarily dazed Man Li. But at the moment, he was being tortured.

Master Qing Hua always had a sloppy appearance no matter who he met, and he very rarely lost his temper. However, he was still an Empyrean Imprinter, and the very skies changed when he raised his hand.

The people of the Neo-Vestige Sect all stayed silent as they watched on in horror.

Man Li left with Shao Zisong. Since Shao Zisong was someone from the Neo-Vestige Sect, Man Li had managed to complete a portion of his mission.

Master Qing Hua left as well. He did not speak even a single word to anyone from the Neo-Vestige Sect. He had only stopped by to take Man Li away as he had promised Lu Yin.

In the Outerverse's Suna Weave, a serving girl bowed low within Flying Horse Manor. "Madam, there is someone from the Tong family here to see you."

Nobody answered.

The girl repeated, "Madam, an elder from the Tong family has brought Tong Chou here to meet with you."

There was still no reply.

After a long time, the elder from the Tong family impatiently entered to look for Madam Hong.

There was a Cosmic Imprinter within the Tong family, which gave them a higher status than Flying Horse Manor. Thus, the elder was unafraid of Madam Hong punishing him despite his extraordinary rudeness.

The elder pushed the door open but did not see anyone inside. This was supposedly Madam Hong's training room, but there was no trace of her.

The elder glared at the serving girl. "Where's Madam Hong?"

The girl was confused. "She should be inside."

"Contact Madam Hong now," the elder ordered. Tong Chou observed the room with curiosity. The Tong family had a close relationship with Flying Horse Manor, and there should not be any reason for Madam

Hong to avoid them. Besides, the serving girl would have never dared to lie about the Madam leaving the training room to the Tong family elder. So, where was the woman?

News of Madam Hong's disappearance soon spread, as nobody from Flying Horse Manor was able to get in contact with Madam Hong.

In a dark place in Southside Weave, a faint light shone on Madam Hong, who had been held captive for about ten days.

Ten days ago, she had been worrying about her failed plot against Master Qing Hua. She had been thinking of ways to deal with Lu Yin when disaster had suddenly struck. She had been kidnapped, but she was clueless about her kidnapper's identity. Despite being a World Imprinter, she had not even been able to fight back, which meant that her kidnapper was an extremely powerful Cosmic or Emphyrean Imprinter.

"Who are you?" Madam Hong screamed in an exhausted voice. It would have been fine if she had just been held captive during these ten days, but she had actually been tortured excessively as well. Her stellar energy had been forcefully retrieved by the true universe, and all of her limbs had been broken. She had never expected to endure such torture.

"Give me Progenitor Wushang's hide. You have no right to possess a Progenitor's item," a voice rang out.

Madam Hong could not determine who was speaking. She weakly muttered, "Who are you? I don't have Progenitor Wushang's hide. Who are you?"

"I will kill you if you don't give it to me. Nobody can save you."

"I really, truly, don't have Progenitor Wushang's hide," Madam Hong weakly protested.

Chapter 1678: Progress

Bluedome Elder frowned. Ten days had already passed, and this woman was very stubborn. However, he was certain that she possessed Progenitor Wushang's hide. She had offered five weaves to Lu Yin in exchange for Progenitor Wushang's hide, and she had been smart enough to even come up with using Master Qing Hua as an excuse. If not for Qing Tan, Bluedome Elder would have never learned about this exchange.

"I repeat: give me Progenitor Wushang's hide, or else you will be tortured forever!" Bluedome Elder shouted.

Madam Hong screamed in despair, "Let me out! I- I really don't have Progenitor Wush- Progenitor Wushang's hide!"

"Hmph," Bluedome Elder turned and left. The woman would not be able to last for long.

Gaia's Swamp was connected to both the Inniverse and the Cosmic Sea. It only occupied a small area, but it was the Fifth Mainland's most closely guarded prison, and it held their most violent criminals.

On one particular day, a thousand meter long and hundred meter tall pig was running frantically while panting.

“Trouble! There’s trouble...” He screamed as he ran. Suddenly, he slammed into a giant toe, and the pig looked up just in time to see a drop of water crash down onto him like a waterfall.

The pig choked and coughed. “This wine is too strong! Lord Piggy can’t drink this! I can’t drink this!”

“Blah blah blah, stop talking, pig. Do you want me to roast you? Hahahaha!” Loud laughter rang throughout Gaia’s Swamp, and many of the chains started clanging as the prisoners were being tortured by the laughter.

Lord Piggy immediately spoke up, “Shh! Shh! Sir Warden, the prisoners can’t handle it! Laugh quietly, quietly.”

“They should all just die. Those who should be alive are dead, but those who should be dead still live. They can all just die, hahahaha.”

“Master Cha’s father won’t be able to take it.”

“Cough, go take a look and make sure he’s still alive.”

“Alright.” Lord Piggy was just about to leave when his ears perked up. “No, no. Sir Warden, there’s trouble.”

Another drop of wine landed on Lord Piggy. “What now?”

Lord Piggy gulped. “Sir Chief Justice just sent another prisoner, and it’s someone famous.”

The Warden asked, “Famous? How famous? Tell me.”

Lord Piggy gulped again. “He’s the- the Second Nightking.”

Lord Piggy was waiting for the Warden to respond when a head suddenly appeared in front of him, and a pupil glared at the pig. “The Second Nightking? Isn’t he dead?”

“He’s still alive. He was in the Celestial Frost Sect’s ruins and only recently reappeared, but he was sent here right after that,” Lord Piggy explained.

The Warden was surprised. “He was caught right after he reappeared? Hahahah, how unlucky! He’s an important person who’s lived for a long time, and yet he was still caught as soon as he reappeared! Go and lock him up. I don’t care who he is, but since he’s in Gaia’s Swamp, he’ll have to listen to me, hahahaha.”

“Shh, Sir Warden, Master Cha’s father won’t be able to take it!”

“Cough, go take a look and make sure he’s still alive.”

“Alright.”

Chains were connected to the ground that also wrapped around the prisoners.

Lord Piggy frantically ran back and forth to lock the Second Nightking up. Then, the pig spread word about the Second Nightking to everyone in Gaia's Swamp.

Liu Huang opened his eyes. "The Second Nightking? What an ancient person. The prison break will be even easier with him here. Still, we'll have to wait a bit longer to let him recover. Defeating the Warden won't be easy, but it'll happen soon. Soon."

Lu Yin looked to the west with regret in his eyes.

Nightking Dijiang had died, and the Second Nightking had been imprisoned. The battle against the Daynight clan would have been nearly perfect, if not for the fact that Lu Yin had learned the Sealed Cage Technique. Instead, he kept feeling like he had suffered a huge loss because of the Sealed Cage Technique's sheer value.

Lu Yin was not particularly concerned about Nightking Dijiang's death, but the Second Nightking was extremely powerful, even stronger than Yuan Shi. If Lu Yin could control that person with the Sealed Cage Technique, he would be capable of doing whatever he wanted wherever. In the entire Fifth Mainland, only the Semi-Progenitors and the Chief Justice would be able to stop Lu Yin. He would not even be scared if he went to the Sixth Mainland.

There was no possibility of Lu Yin allowing the Second Nightking to remain in prison. He intended to make good use of this potential minion.

Thus, he needed to visit Gaia's Swamp before the prison break happened.

"Alliance Leader Lu, should we speak about the promise that was made?" Liu Ye and Fei Hua asked Lu Yin.

Lu Yin turned to face them. "What promise?"

Fei Hua arched a brow. "Have you already forgotten, Alliance Leader? You promised that you would return our freedom after we killed Nightking Dijiang."

Lu Yin frowned. "Did you kill Nightking Dijiang?"

Fei Hua's voice grew cold, "While we might not have killed him, he still died because of us. He would have never been in the ruin's great hall if not for us, and he was killed by the gray figures in that room."

Liu Ye calmly explained, "Alliance Leader Lu, we have come to know you well after following you during this time. This is why we were willing to take such a risk and enter the Celestial Frost Sect's ruins. Even though the people from this Fifth Mainland may not know just how dangerous the Celestial Frost Sect is, we are well aware. Alliance Leader Lu, you should know how difficult the choice to enter that place was for us to make. If not for the Chief Justice's bell, both of us would have suffered the same fate as Nightking Dijiang."

"We almost died, Alliance Leader Lu. You'll keep your promise, right?" Fei Hua glared at Lu Yin.

Lu Yin hesitated.

Liu Ye and Fei Hua looked at each other happily.

“Yes, but I need you two to do one last thing with me,” Lu Yin said.

Fei Hua grew furious. “Alliance Leader Lu, are you trying to go back on your word?”

Lu Yin remained calm. “You can claim that Nightking Dijiang died because of you, but I feel that his death was because of me. If not for me and Elder Jiu Shen disturbing the remnant spiritual force throughout the ruins, Nightking Dijiang would have never died. Thus, you only accomplished half of the mission that you were given. On top of that, you two are only alive because of the item that I allowed you to use. I will permit you to regain your freedom because you’ve helped me before, just not because of this incident alone.”

Fei Hua was just about to say something when Liu Ye stopped her. “What is it that you want us to do, Alliance Leader Lu?”

Lu Yin turned towards the west. “Come with me to Gaia’s Swamp.”

“Gaia’s Swamp?” they asked. It was clear that they had not heard of this place before.

Lu Yin did not bother elaborating, and he instead immediately contacted Arch-Elder Zen. Arch-Elder Zen had already given Lu Yin his contact information after Lu Yin returned from the Perennial World.

Liu Ye and Fei Hua were both from the Perennial World, and they were only following Lu Yin because sourcebox arrays had been planted within their bodies as a means of preventing them from causing any problems while in the Fifth Mainland. Thus, Lu Yin needed to speak with Arch-Elder Zen before the two Envoys could be freed.

Some time later, Lu Yin informed Liu Ye and Fei Hua, “I’ve spoken to Arch-Elder Zen, and he’s willing to allow you two to be free. However, you will have to remain under observation after leaving me. You will need to stay at Mt. Microcosms, and you will only be allowed to freely roam the Fifth Mainland after Arch-Elder Zen has agreed to it. He will even remove the sourcebox arrays inside you at that time.”

Liu Ye and Fei Hua were thrilled. “The sourcebox arrays will be removed?”

Lu Yin smiled. “You’ve both been a great help to me, and I have also gotten to know you better during this time. I have promised him that you won’t cause any problems, so I hope that you won’t disappoint me.”

Liu Ye immediately replied, “Thank you, Alliance Leader Lu.”

Fei Hua glanced at Lu Yin. She had not expected Lu Yin to actually be the one to eventually help them. “Thank you, Alliance Leader Lu.”

Lu Yin continued, saying, “Gaia’s Swamp is the Fifth Mainland’s most secure prison. The Second Nightking has been locked up there, and there’s something I need to deal with there as well. I’ll need your help during this visit, but after we leave Gaia’s Swamp, both of you can make your way straight to Mt. Microcosms.”

Liu Ye and Fei Hua had been protecting Lu Yin ever since he had returned from the Perennial World. Lu Yin had already become accustomed to their presence and protection, and he felt saddened that he was about to lose two bodyguards.

Oh right, there was another thing that he needed to do. He quickly got in touch with San Liang and asked about Wan Gong's progress.

San Liang took three days to respond. "Wan Gong just got back to me, and he said that they're making good progress. However, there is one final obstacle, which is that there's no material that can withstand what they require."

Lu Yin's eyes flickered. "What else did he say?"

"Just that. It looks like it's becoming more and more difficult for him to call me," San Liang answered in a respectful manner. Ever since he had been warned by Lu Yin, San Liang had grown far more respectful in the way he spoke towards Lu Yin.

Lu Yin was not at all surprised by Wan Gong's situation. Microarray technology was Aurora Enterprises' most classified project, and since the research project was close to a breakthrough and Wan Gong was a senior engineer, he would naturally be under stricter monitoring at this time.

It would most likely be very difficult for San Liang to get in touch with Wan Gong from this point forward. Lu Yin would have to go to Aurora Fortress himself.

They needed a special material? The bark from the Mother Tree would likely fit their needs. Was that their final obstacle? Lu Yin started to get excited.

However, where would he acquire bark from the Mother Tree?

That was a massive problem.

Seven days later, when Lu Yin arrived in Blazing Mist Flowzone, the Money Bombs from Astral-10 also arrived.

Lu Yin became excited as soon as he saw 4,000 Money Bombs, and he immediately announced that he was going into seclusion.

Lu Yin was already aware of Liu Qianjue's plans, and it was clear that the Sword Sect's master and the others wanted to get rid of Lu Yin's Envoys. Emperor Luo, Liu Ye, and Fei Hua were all within the Ross Empire, so Liu Qianjue and the others were unable to touch them even if they tried.

The Great Eastern Alliance's forces had returned to Blazing Mist Flowzone after withdrawing from Daynight Flowzone, which shocked Liu Qianjue and the others. They had expected Lu Yin to stay in a nearby minor flowzone after pulling out of Daynight Flowzone, so they had not expected Lu Yin's forces to actually fully return to Blazing Mist Flowzone.

Was the Third Nightking really going to return?

Lu Yin found a quiet place in the Ross Empire and took out his die. Apart from the Money Bombs, he also needed to Enhance the cube-shaped power vessel and the stellar energy pills.

He had more than three billion star essence on him at the moment, so he was able to spend money quite freely.

His finger touched the die, and the die landed on Pilfer. A piece of a useless material fell out, and it was crushed into dust the moment he exerted any bit of force. It was probably able to withstand a Hunter's attack, but such things were useless to Lu Yin.

He continued rolling his die, and it next landed on Timestop. This was a common result, and Lu Yin appeared in the Timestop Space.

Once he was in this place, he was guaranteed to eventually roll Enhance.

Chapter 1679: Life Force

Lu Yin rolled Possession on his third attempt, and Gift Copy on the fourth. Finally, he got Enhance on his fifth try.

The two light screens appeared, and Lu Yin started to Enhance the Money Bombs.

The Money Bombs that he had bought from Old Cai had the attack strength of a Hunter, and Lu Yin needed to spend around 3,300 star essence per bomb to raise their power until it was comparable to a new Enlighter's. If he spent 16,000 star essence, the Money Bombs would become capable of unleashing an attack comparable to that of an Enlighter with a power level of nearly 300,000.

Given the average strength of the members of the Lu Elite Troops, Money Bombs with the strength of new Enlighters were better for them to use. If the Money Bombs were comparable to Enlighters with a power level of 300,000, the soldiers might not be able to control them.

Lu Yin spent quite a bit of time upgrading all 4,300 Money Bombs one at a time, but the amount of star essence that he ended up using was actually negligible.

After quite a while, Lu Yin finally finished Enhancing all of his Money Bombs, and he stored them all away in his cosmic ring. Next, he took out the cube-shaped power vessel that he had picked up in the Celestial Frost Sect's ruins. This power vessel could be used to trap his enemies, and he could tell that its power level already compared to an Envoy's just by observing its rune lines.

A power vessel that could deal with an Envoy was probably sufficient in the Fifth Mainland, but Lu Yin still felt that it was not powerful enough.

He started to upgrade the power vessel.

This particular power vessel was comparable to the one that he had taken from Xia Taili, and it managed to reach a power level of 700,000 after just five upgrades, which meant that it would barely be able to trap powerhouses at Cang Zhou's level. However, it would not endure if someone with Cang Zhou's strength used any battle techniques.

He continued upgrading the power vessel.

The aquatic plant-shaped power vessel had only been able to be upgraded five times, but the cubic power vessel could withstand more Enhancements as it was made from different materials.

The sixth upgrade cost him nearly fifteen million star essence, and after that, the cubic power vessel no longer dropped down any more, as the materials had reached their limit.

At this point, the power vessel might be able to keep Cang Zhou trapped even if he used a battle technique. However, Lu Yin was not absolutely confident in that estimate, as power vessels were inanimate while humans were alive.

With that done, Lu Yin checked the rest of his various items. He saw quite a few different things that he could upgrade, such as the Skyblaze Stone, but Lu Yin did not dare to upgrade that any further as he was worried that it would suddenly gain a new life. He did not want to lose his cultivation shortcut.

He also had a bit of white smoke, but Lu Yin had no idea how to use it after Enhancing it. He also had no interest in using the smoke.

The bone that he had taken from Crown Prince Gui Qian had probably come from a Semi-Progenitor, but Lu Yin had only used it for the death energy within the bone, and he had already almost completely absorbed it, so there was no point in upgrading it at all.

Oh, there was also the stellar energy pill.

Lu Yin took out the stellar energy pill. He had no idea how the Shamrock Enterprise had developed such a thing, but since it was a pill, he would definitely be able to Enhance it.

Lu Yin tossed the pill onto the light screen and started throwing star essence at it.

Sure enough, the stellar energy pill could be Enhanced, as it started falling down. As it did so, it looked shinier. Lu Yin felt encouraged, and he continued to throw out more star essence.

The stellar energy pill needed nearly the same amount of star essence to be Enhanced as the cubic power vessel. This made sense, as the stellar energy pill was able to break into the true universe, which meant that its power level had to be greater than 500,000.

Even after upgrading the pill five times, it still was able to be further Enhanced. Lu Yin studied the stellar energy pill closely.

The feeling he got from it had changed. Shockingly, there were strands of vitality on the pill. He started to grow curious about what would happen if he continued upgrading the pill. With that in mind, he continued.

After the sixth upgrade, the vitality on the stellar energy pill had become much more noticeable. By this point, Lu Yin had used 300 million star essence, but he still continued upgrading the pill. He wanted to see just how many times the pill could be Enhanced.

The power vessel from the Celestial Frost Sect had had an upgrade limit of six times. Did this mean that the material used in constructing the stellar energy pills was of comparable value to what had been used for the power vessel?

Lu Yin used nearly 600 million star essence for the seventh upgrade, but he gritted his teeth and continued. Eight upgrades altogether had cost him around one billion star essence, and the stellar energy pill had become very strange. Lu Yin actually felt like there was something watching him. It was very uncomfortable, and he felt like he was holding a life in his hand rather than a pill.

He looked at the stellar energy pill and then the light screens. Should he continue Enhancing it or not?

He found it unbelievable that the pill could still be upgraded even further. Not even the power vessel that he had taken from Xia Shenfei had been able to undergo so many upgrades. This thing was just a pill that had been mass produced; how could Shamrock Enterprise have made a large number of these pills?

Lu Yin suddenly felt that he might have underestimated Shamrock Enterprise.

He stored the stellar energy pill away, as he had already spent almost two billion star essence Enhancing it. It was an astronomical amount, and Lu Yin actually regretted his decision. He should not have upgraded that pill at all. He had been too rash, but he still really wanted to find out just how far the pill could be upgraded.

His funds had suddenly decreased by more than half, and he gasped at that realization.

He had only upgraded one stellar energy pill, and he had no idea what it was now capable of after being Enhanced. Could it only help him travel about within the true universe more efficiently? That would be a terrible loss. He absolutely needed to find a way to get his money back. The resources that he had taken from the Ross Empire and the sylvan dragons had not been tallied up yet, and there were also the resources that he had taken from the Daynight clan; all of that belonged to Lu Yin.

He looked up and saw that he still had a bit of time left within the Timestop Space. After thinking about it, he had not seen Long Xi and the others in a long time, so it was time to pay them a visit.

Lu Yin hesitated as he took out Zenith Mountain, but then he finally entered. The first person he went to speak with was Wen Diyi.

Hope flashed in Wen Diyi's eyes as soon as Lu Yin appeared. "Are you satisfied by the price that the Wen family paid?"

Lu Yin asked, "How many layers of Literary Prison did you teach Wen Sansi?"

"Three."

Lu Yin nodded. "Wait a bit longer. Things are good right now."

Wen Diyi asked, "Then why are you here?"

"There's something I keep forgetting to ask." Lu Yin looked at Wen Diyi. "What does Virtue Archives have that's able to encourage major powers to send their disciples?"

Wen Diyi answered calmly, "You shouldn't ask me this question. Aren't there other people here?"

"Have you heard of Guo Hai before?" Lu Yin asked.

Wen Diyi's eyes flashed. "He graduated from Virtue Archives and joined the All-Dao family. He's currently part of the Star Alliance."

Lu Yin nodded and asked nothing more. Although this question seemed random, Wen Diyi's answer had actually changed Lu Yin's impression of Virtue Archives. The academy was involved in the outside world; otherwise, Wen Diyi would not have known that Guo Hai was a part of Star Alliance.

The people in Star Alliance were considered criminals or enemies of the four ruling powers, and as such, the four ruling powers had concealed that group's existence from the public. When Lu Yin had been traveling to the Sword Monument with Long Kui, they had seen someone being captured to be sent to Star Alliance, but Long Kui had said almost nothing to Lu Yin about the group. Even Long Kui was reluctant to speak about such things, and yet Wen Diyi, a student from Virtue Archives, was aware of the group. Thus, Virtue Archives clearly had a solid understanding of the outside world.

Lu Yin's impression of Virtue Archives was that it was a place that the four ruling powers were interested in having their youths join. He believed that they had a clear understanding of the outside world, as well as multiple powerhouses among them.

Wen Diyi frowned. He regretted answering that Guo Hai was part of Star Alliance, though he wondered what Lu Yin had been able to glean from that answer.

After speaking with Wen Diyi, Lu Yin went to go see Liu Hao. The Liu family heir was very calm, and Lu Yin did not say much to him. Lu Yin already knew about the Liu family's stance, and he had only gone to see Liu Hao in order to not forget about him.

After Liu Hao, Lu Yin visited Yun Tingting. She became very anxious as soon as she saw Lu Yin, and she even promised to give him the Smokecloud Sect's inheritance to buy her freedom. She was desperate to return to the Perennial World, but Lu Yin would not let her leave at the moment even though he wanted the inheritance that she was offering.

Even if he let her go, she still would not be able to return home.

"Just wait a while more. The Perennial World will probably send someone over soon," Lu Yin said. He actually expected the Perennial World to have already sent someone after him, as there was no way that the four ruling powers would allow Lu Yin to enjoy a peaceful life. He was confused about the lack of pursuit, and he was constantly on guard against assassination attempts from the Perennial World.

Lu Yin was ignorant of the fact that the four ruling powers had indeed sent someone to the Fifth Mainland, but Hui Kong had chased that person back to the Perennial World.

"Why would the Perennial World send someone here?" Yun Tingting asked.

Lu Yin replied casually, "To start a war."

Yun Tingting was shocked. "To start a war?"

Lu Yin left without explaining anything. He was simply preparing his captives for the future, as he knew that the people on Zenith Mountain still spoke to each other.

Crown Prince Gui Qian was shrouded in darkness like before when Lu Yin went to meet him. Lu Yin simply stated, "The God of Death's Domain."

Crown Prince Gui Qian was startled. "How do you know about that?"

"So you've heard of it before." Lu Yin was actually surprised. He had not expected Crown Prince Gui Qian to know about it.

Crown Prince Gui Qian solemnly replied, "There's no need for you to test me. I will tell you anything you want to know."

Crown Prince Gui Qian continued trying to convince Lu Yin while the latter looked at him with evident distrust. "Our people need to cultivate with death energy, so death energy is equivalent to stellar energy for us. Since you are the creator of death energy, we are bound together."

"So death energy can replace stellar energy for you?" Lu Yin was stunned.

"Yes. Both stellar energy and death energy are higher forms of the universe's energies. I remember my ancestor saying that after a power reaches the utmost limit, it is able to change the universe. This is why not everyone needs to cultivate with stellar energy, as death energy can replace it."

Lu Yin suddenly thought of the Rune Technology that the Rune Progenitor had created. Had runes also replaced stellar energy?

"My ancestor also said that stellar energy is a power that was created by an extremely powerful individual. However, the energy was so powerful that it eventually spread throughout the entire universe. If the God of Death had been as powerful as that person, then he might have been able to spread death energy across the universe or even replace stellar energy. Still, that's nothing more than my ancestor's conjectures. I personally believe that stellar energy is something natural to the universe and that nobody can create something that is more powerful than stellar energy," Crown Prince Gui Qian said.

This was the first time that Lu Yin had ever heard of such things. Even though everything sounded ridiculous, it also made sense.

The Rune Progenitor had created Rune Technology, and everyone from that civilization had followed the Rune Progenitor and cultivated Truesight. Even though they also cultivated with stellar energy, their method of fighting was completely different, and they were a completely different kind of cultivator. Thus, it would not be totally out of the question if death energy could also open up another path that cultivators could take.

Chapter 1680: I Punched Him

"Death energy is as important to us as stellar energy is to normal cultivators. We would never betray the source of death energy, as doing so would harm us as well," Crown Prince Gui Qian explained.

Lu Yin smiled. "You've been planning this speech for a long time, huh? Did you think that I'll let you off after hearing this?"

Crown Prince Gui Qian shook his head. "I don't care if I am able to leave. I simply wish to explain that Specter Abyss will never betray you. You are the only person capable of creating death energy, and nobody can take that away from you. Even my ancestor would need to bow to you if he saw you."

Crown Prince Gui Qian was obviously exaggerating, and only an idiot would take his words at face value. However, Lu Yin did believe that there were some people within Specter Abyss who would gladly join him. One such person had been the cultivator from the Specter Abyss who had rescued Lu Yin during his escape.

“Tell me about the God of Death’s Domain.” Lu Yin had no desire to hear Crown Prince Gui Qian babble on about his loyalty any longer.

Crown Prince Gui Qian thought for a moment before saying, “The God of Death’s Domain is a myth. There are rumors claiming that the God of Death left a sect behind, but others claim that the domain was a result of a battle between the God of Death and his enemy and that it is merely the place with the highest concentration of death energy. We only know some rumors about the God of Death’s Domain, as we have not been able to uncover any concrete evidence of its existence.”

In Xiao Shi’s book, it had only been written, The God of Death’s Domain brings darkness. It rises like a black wolf of smoke to rouse the world. When the smoke wolf rises, war will begin.

“Are those the only rumors?” Lu Yin asked.

Crown Prince Gui Qian answered, “That’s it. Specter Abyss gathers all rumors related to the God of Death, but that’s the only information that we have about the God of Death’s Domain.”

“What about a location?” Lu Yin pressed.

Crown Prince Gui Qian shook his head. “We haven’t found anything. Rumors are just rumors, and we haven’t been able to find anything.”

Lu Yin left. Crown Prince Gui Qian did not even ask to leave, as he knew that Lu Yin would not keep him imprisoned forever.

The last person Lu Yin needed to see was Long Xi. He always felt restless when he was about to meet her.

Long Xi opened her eyes and quietly stared at Lu Yin when he appeared before her.

Lu Yin cleared his throat. “Are you doing alright here?”

Long Xi answered, “Yun Tingting and Wen Diyi told me that we’re in the Forsaken Land.”

“It’s the Fifth Mainland,” Lu Yin corrected her.

“What happened on Dragon Mountain?” Long Xi asked.

Lu Yin told her about what had happened between him and the four ruling powers, though he kept the fact that his real name was Lu Xiaoxuan hidden.

Long Xi was astonished. “I never expected you to actually be able to return to the Forsaken Land.”

Lu Yin felt relieved. “I was lucky. If not for the fact that those monsters from Aeternus attacked the Higher Realm, as well as the Seven Skygods showing up and Semi-Progenitor Kui Luo stirring up some chaos, I would have never been able to escape.”

Long Xi carefully observed Lu Yin. “Why would the four ruling powers all target you? Even if they learned that you were behind Bai Shaohong’s death, only the Celestial Frost Sect should have gone after you. Actually, who even exposed that you killed Bai Shaohong on Dragon Mountain? Did people from the Celestial Frost Sect actually dare to attack Dragon Mountain?”

“Wang Yun. She’s a woman who’s been to the Fifth Mainland before, and we even fought each other here. She recognized me,” Lu Yin explained.

Long Xi’s eyes narrowed. “She’s Wang Si’s granddaughter, no wonder.”

She turned back to Lu Yin. “So, why did you come to me? I shouldn’t be of any use to you now that we aren’t in the Perennial World.”

“I just wanted to see you.”

“Yun Tingting and Wen Diyi have battle techniques that are similar to some of the sects in this Forsaken Land, so they are still of use to you. However, there shouldn’t be any inheritances from Dragon Mountain here,” Long Xi continued to say.

Lu Yin nodded. “That’s right, there isn’t. I’ll leave now.”

Long Xi closed her eyes and returned to silently cultivating.

“Oh, let me ask you a question.” Lu Yin turned back to Long Xi. “Have you heard of the Seven Heroes?”

Long Xi’s eyes opened back up. “Why would you ask that?”

Lu Yin shrugged. “I was just curious. I met a group of people on the rear battlefront, and one of them was called Tu Qiming. He kept saying that I resembled Old Seven of the Seven Heroes.”

Long Xi shot close to Lu Yin. “Tu Qiming? Are you sure that his name was Tu Qiming?”

Lu Yin nodded. “People referred to him as Young Master Tu. He’s a complete thug.”

Long Xi smiled happily. “He’s alive! Brother Tu’s still alive! That’s good, that’s good.”

Lu Yin started to get annoyed. “You know him?”

Long Xi grabbed Lu Yin’s arm and suddenly looked anxious. “How is he? Is he alright?”

Lu Yin pouted. “Not really.”

“Why?” Long Xi asked worriedly.

“I punched him,” Lu Yin answered casually.

Long Xi was stunned. “What?”

Lu Yin answered, “That guy likes being hit by me.”

Long Xi was rendered speechless, and she just stared at Lu Yin. “What else did he tell you?”

Lu Yin carefully watched Long Xi. “Why are you so concerned about him?”

He looked down at his arm.

Long Xi immediately let go and softly replied, “We knew each other long ago. He always took good care of me.”

Lu Yin rolled his eyes. “He’s just a thug. Why would he take care of you?”

"I was very young back then." Long Xi had already regained her composure.

Lu Yin turned to leave.

Long Xi asked again, "So, how is Brother Tu?"

Lu Yin hesitated before answering, "His innate gift was removed,¹ and he's staying with the Forsaken Soldiers."

Long Xi clenched her fists and her arms started to tremble.

"In addition to Tu Qiming, there were a few other people from the Qiming family there, as well as the All-Dao family's Wan Sen," Lu Yin continued.

Long Xi was shocked. "All of those people are with the Forsaken Soldiers?"

Lu Yin nodded. "Yes. We went through some hard times together, and I have no idea when they might be killed by those monsters from Aeternus."

Long Xi closed her eyes sadly.

Lu Yin left. The people from the White Dragon Clan had a different life cycle from normal humans. Thus, even though Long Xi looked like she was the same age as Lu Yin, she had been alive during the Seven Heroes' era, which was not too long ago. It appeared that she had been very close to the Seven Heroes and Tu Qiming.

This meant that she was also one of Lu Yin's old friends! She was someone who had supported the Seven Heroes and the Lu family.

After leaving Zenith Mountain, Lu Yin used his remaining time to practice the Cosmic Art and recite the Stonewall Scriptures. Once his time expired, he returned to the real world, where only a second had passed.

The Ross Empire was more technologically advanced than The Great Yu Empire, so after taking over the Ross Empire, Lu Yin had transferred Ban Jiu over so that he could review and study the new technologies available.

One day, Lu Yin went to meet with the Lu Elite Troops.

Lu Yin calmly looked out at 6,432 soldiers.

Out of these 6,432 soldiers, 4,000 were androids with the strength of an Explorer. These androids would eventually be replaced, as Lu Yin wanted to have his army be composed of living cultivators.

Of the living Explorers, Zhanlong Daynight was one of the soldiers, as he had volunteered to join the army. In addition to him, there were also some Enlighters who had volunteered, such as Ganggu Daynight, Ying Daynight, and Ye Gui. Zhuo Daynight had opted to not join.

Instead, the army's deputy commander at the moment was Ying Daynight.

Lu Yin felt most secure with the members of the Daynight clan.

“I don’t have much to say, and I only want to tell you all one thing.” Lu Yin’s gaze swept across the army and he raised his voice. “Your future enemy is far more powerful than you imagine. I simply want all of you to become stronger.”

He looked over at Wang Wen.

Wang Wen reluctantly stepped forward. “The Lu Elite Troops have been personally chosen by Alliance Leader Lu of the Great Eastern Alliance...”

Lu Yin listened quietly as Wang Wen raised the army’s morale. This was not something that Wang Wen enjoyed doing, as he was better suited to encouraging soldiers right before a battle. However, since they were about to distribute the Money Bombs, they needed to give a bit of a speech as well.

After half an hour, Wang Wen finally finished talking.

There were a total of 4,300 Money Bombs, which was not enough for all of the soldiers. This was also why Lu Yin had no plans of distributing the weapons to the androids, but rather only to the cultivators. As for the leftovers, he intended to use them as rewards for those who showed loyalty to the Great Eastern Alliance. Anyone who contributed to the alliance would gain a chance to obtain a Money Bomb, regardless of the person’s strength.

After the army was dismissed, Wang Wen asked, “Are you really going to have Ying Daynight be in charge of the army? Do you trust him?”

Lu Yin answered, “Don’t worry. I know what I’m doing.”

“Ying Daynight isn’t strong enough to lead this army,” Wang Wen continued.

Lu Yin shrugged. “We don’t have enough Envoys with Liu Ye and Fei Hua about to leave.”

Wang Wen smiled. “What about the Sea King?”

Lu Yin was caught off guard. “The Sea King? Why would you consider him?”

Wang Wen explained, “The Sea King is very suited for leading the Lu Elite Troops. Even though his strength is inferior to Yuan Shi’s, he is still a very courageous and responsible person. He’s the most suitable for this position.”

Lu Yin answered, “I also would love to get the Sea King to join us, but he’s not willing to do so. Besides, now isn’t a good time for him to show himself.”

“I don’t mean for you to use him right now. You can come up with something for the time being. The Lu Elite Troops is a sword while the commander is the edge of the blade. If the blade isn’t sharp, then no matter how shiny the sword might be, it’ll still be useless. Are you really banking on using these Explorers and Enlighters to defeat Envoys? That’s unrealistic. The Lu Elite Troops is an army, and not all of them are powerhouses,” Wang Wen said.

“Oh right, didn’t the Sea King want you to be his son-in-law? You should give that a shot. Hai Qiqi isn’t bad.”

Lu Yin rolled his eyes. “You should give that a shot instead. You’re just as annoying as her.”

Wang Wen grinned. "Why not? No regrets if I'm the one who ends up with her."

Lu Yin laughed heartily. "Then let me be the first to congratulate you."

Wang Wen was left speechless.

"Aside from the Lu Elite Troops, the colossal giants can also be considered an army. And lastly, I want to form a third army as well. One that consists of former enemies that can compare to the Lu Elite Troops," Lu Yin suddenly said.

Wang Wen was astounded. "Another army?"

Lu Yin nodded. "Even my enemies are valuable. You can't possibly expect me to just kill the sylvan dragons or the Nightkings, so we should have them work for us instead."

Wang Wen nodded. "Many people have done such things before, but we will need to make sure that we can control these soldiers."

Lu Yin answered, "We'll call this army the Redemption Army."

...

Ever since Liu Qianjue and the others had killed Long Zhu, Lu Yin had been wary of the three powerhouses. He was ignorant of when they might attack; they had already set aside their pride as the leaders of their respective forces in order to act as assassins.

Lu Yin needed more elite guards since Liu Ye and Fei Hua would soon be leaving him.

A few moments later, Lu Yin headed out towards Gaia's Swamp with Liu Ye and Fei Hua. They were traveling there to imprison Emperor Luo.