

ODYSSEY 1691

Chapter 1691: Tail

The overseers immediately held an emergency council meeting. All of the overseers were present, though there had been some recent changes in the faces.

Cong Ying had already been replaced after delaying the Expeditionary Forces from joining the war in the Cosmic Sea. He had been replaced by Yang Ji, the leader of the Light World, which was one of the 3,000 hidden worlds in the Honor Zone. The other overseer who had been replaced was Nightking Zheng.

Nightking Zheng had been fired when Lu Yin arrived at Gaia's Swamp, and he had been replaced by Zi Jing.

"Fourteen prisoners escaped due to the riot in Gaia's Swamp. Here's the list," Xin Jiao stated solemnly. There was something hidden in her eyes.

Zi Jing felt shocked when she saw the list. "Why is one of the prisoners nameless?"

Xin Jiao answered, "That person wasn't locked up by the council of overseers and was instead directly sent there by the Interstellar Supreme Court. Due to the confidential nature of this matter, that person's name has been redacted."

"Can't we know about it?" Yang Ji asked. As leader of the Light World, he had a power level of more than 700,000, which made him one of the powerhouses on the council.

Old Man San Shang shook his head. "This is actually quite normal, so just get used to it."

"The Second Nightking also escaped!" Liu Ran exclaimed.

With Nightking Zheng removed from the council, Liu Ran had become the only overseer representing the Innerverse. The Second Nightking's escape affected the Innerverse the most, and Liu Ran's first thought was about whether or not the Daynight clan would be able to recover. However, that was actually impossible, as the Second Nightking could not openly return to the Daynight clan after escaping from Gaia's Swamp. That would just induce the Chief Justice to move out once again.

Liu Ran also realized that the Second Nightking's escape was a huge problem for Lu Yin. Lu Yin had destroyed the Daynight clan, so the Second Nightking would definitely seek out the youth to get revenge.

Liu Ran reflexively smiled after considering this. He wanted to send a message to his sect master right away so that Liu Qianjue would know that he no longer needed to worry about Lu Yin. In fact, Lu Yin was probably terrified for his own safety at this moment!

Overseer Si Hong glanced at Liu Ran. "The Second Nightking is extremely powerful, and we must capture him soon, as nobody will be able to defeat him once he regains his full power. We can't simply ask the Chief Justice to run around the universe trying to capture the man."

"It's Lu Yin again!" Mr. You exclaimed. "Why do things happen wherever Lu Yin goes? Is this riot in Gaia's Swamp connected to him? He must be behind it."

San Liang instantly retorted, "Mr. You, be careful with your words. As an overseer, how could you accuse people without evidence?"

Mr. You wanted to retaliate, but bit his tongue instead. The Longevity Brigade had been destroyed, which meant that he no longer had anyone supporting him. Nightking Zheng had also just been removed from the council, and Mr. You knew that he would not retain his position for much longer, so he did not argue with San Liang.

Mr. You glanced over at Nan Yuan. The relationship between the Longevity Brigade and the Xia family had been exposed, so Mr. You was basically a servant to the Xia family at this time.

Nan Yuan smacked the table. "Overseer San Liang, don't blow things out of proportion. Mr. You is simply voicing a guess. It's true that things happen wherever Lu Yin goes, so it's perfectly reasonable to suspect him."

"You are wrong about this one. Here is the report from Gaia's Swamp's Warden," Xin Jiao said as he shared the report.

Yang Ji was surprised by what he saw. "Lu Yin knew about the riot beforehand? And Shui Chuanxiao was the one who told him about it?"

"The Warden was informed that a riot would occur, but he still allowed more than ten prisoners to escape. This is the Warden's fault."

"That's true. Lu Yin also helped out. If not for him and the people with him, all of the prisoners would have escaped."

"But how did Shui Chuanxiao escape? Since he was the one who told Lu Yin about the riot, shouldn't he have not wanted to escape?" Liu Ran asked.

Bu Laoweng interjected, "No matter what, this incident is over. We have to send someone to investigate the prison, and we also need to post wanted pictures across the universe."

The council's decision was soon delivered to the Interstellar Supreme Court. The final decision was to send Judicial Commissioner Mu En to investigate what had happened in Gaia's Swamp.

As for the overseers, they treated the matter like a normal prison escape, as they were ignorant about Gaia's Swamp's defenses. However, the reaction to this incident was very different within the Interstellar Supreme Court.

Not even an expert with a power level of more than a million could break into Gaia's Swamp, let alone some of the escaped prisoners. Thus, everyone, including the Chief Justice, was shocked to learn that a riot had resulted in multiple prisoners escaping.

Mu En had been on a different mission, but he was quickly redirected to Gaia's Swamp because of the emergency.

After Mu En's visit, the other Judicial Commissioners, the Shadow of Death and the Calm of Despair, also made their way to Gaia's Swamp.

The most pressing issue at this time was to recapture the Second Nightking

How were they supposed to find and capture someone so powerful in the vast universe?

After the overseers ended their meeting, Liu Ran immediately reported the Second Nightking's escape to Liu Qianjue. Liu Qianjue felt relieved, as he had initially been concerned about finding a way to stop Lu Yin. But with the Second Nightking's escape, Lu Yin would likely be too busy to find trouble for the Innerverse.

Liu Qianjue immediately sent someone to secretly congratulate the Daynight clan, and he also tried to find further information about the Third Nightking.

Liu Qianjue was hoping for the Third Nightking to return so that the man would cooperate with the Second Nightking to restore the Daynight clan's former glory. This would allow the Sword Sect to work with the Daynight clan to oppose the Great Eastern Alliance.

Lu Yin was too ambitious, so Liu Huang would rather have the Daynight clan as an opponent than the Great Eastern Alliance.

The Innerverse's other great flowzones felt a similar wave of relief. They were all delighted that someone else was causing trouble for Lu Yin, as it meant that they could focus on isolating Blazing Mist Flowzone.

Ever since Lu Yin had entered Blazing Mist Flowzone, he had become the Innerverse's universal enemy.

Lu Yin, who was still in Gaia's Swamp, received a message from Mu En, asking him to remain in Gaia's Swamp and help with the investigation.

Lu Yin did not mind, as Mu En's arrival meant that the Judicial Commissioner could then take Liu Ye and Fei Hua with him when he left.

Lu Yin felt sad at the thought of Liu Ye and Fei Hua leaving. They had been wonderful bodyguards, but they did not belong to him.

Lù Cha visited Lu Yin. "My father wants to speak with you."

Lu Yin followed Lù Cha to see Lù Yan.

Lù Yan looked far more haggard compared to when Lu Yin had first met the man. "Xiao Cha, you can leave us alone."

Lù Cha silently left.

Lu Yin turned to face Lù Yan. "Why did you ask to see me?"

Lù Yan was serious as he looked at Lu Yin. "I have finally understood your background, Lu Yin, Alliance Leader of the Great Eastern Alliance."

Lu Yin nodded. "It's not a secret."

"How much do you know about me, Alliance Leader Lu?" Lù Yan asked.

Lu Yin answered, "You were once a Judicial Commissioner, and you should be from about the same generation as Judicial Commissioner Shadow of Death. This is all I know about you, as I didn't investigate you and have only seen what Gaia's Swamp has on you."

Lù Yan laughed bitterly. "I was once a Judicial Commissioner, but now people only know of me as a prisoner! How ironic."

Lu Yin said nothing. He had no idea why Lù Yan had wanted to meet him. They had not had many interactions, and Lu Yin was not particularly keen on coercing Lù Yan into joining him. Lù Yan had already betrayed humanity, and although he had not done anything evil and had even turned himself in, nobody would dare to accept him because of his grave mistake in the past.

"Alliance Leader Lu, who do you believe is humanity's real enemy?" Lù Yan asked.

Lu Yin frowned. "What do you mean?"

Lù Yan answered, "Just what I asked you. To you, is your real enemy the Sword Sect? The Daynight clan? The major powers of the Innderverse? Or maybe the people from the Neoverse like the Seven Courts?"

Lu Yin confidently answered, "The Neohuman Alliance."

Lù Yan's eyes flashed. "That's right, the Neohuman Alliance. The Hall of Honor has always followed a specific principle: whoever works with the Neohuman Alliance must be killed. This is because the Neohuman Alliance is our true enemy. They want to transform humans into zombies in order to achieve their supposed Aeterna.

Lu Yin laughed. "It appears that there's something you aren't aware of, Senior. The Sixth Mainland has already been overtaken by monsters from the Neohuman Alliance, and they have been forced to relocate to the Outerverse. I already know the Neohuman Alliance is our enemy."

"I know about what happened to the Sixth Mainland. Gaia's Swamp could only hide itself when the Sixth Mainland invaded, but I also know what happened after that. I simply wanted to confirm who you believe to be our true enemy in your deepest heart. That is very important to me. Now, I feel free to tell you something. Alliance Leader Lu, I want you to find out something about this place. This place is the Neohuman Alliance's headquarters for the Innderverse and Outerverse..." Lù Yan explained solemnly.

Lu Yin was astonished at the information he was receiving from Lù Yan. "Is this true?"

Lù Yan nodded. "I discovered this when I was in Aeternus Nation. Mr. Feng thought that I didn't know, but I was once a Judicial Commissioner."

Lu Yin had always wanted to target Aeternus, and not just because they were humanity's greatest enemy.

Shaman God wanted to use Lu Yin to incite war among humans. Lu Yin could not avert that plan, but after discussing things with Wang Wen and Wei Rong, Lu Yin had decided to instead involve Aeternus in their own plan as well. It would be better to exhaust Aeternus, as they were the greatest enemy of the Fifth Mainland, as well as the Sixth Mainland and the Perennial World.

Even on a battlefield, everyone's first priority was always to destroy a corpse king if one appeared.

Lu Yin could fight against the four ruling powers of the Perennial World, but he wanted to destroy Aeternus first. At the very least, humans could not suffer greater casualties than Aeternus did.

In order to unite the Inniverse, Lu Yin would need to wage a war on other humans. This was not something that he actually wanted to do, as he would much rather fight against Aeternus alongside his fellow humans.

And yet, despite everything, Lu Yin had not been able to find any trace of Aeternus. Finally, he had grasped something.

“Since you know the location of the Neohuman Alliance’s headquarters for the Outerverse and Inniverse, why didn’t you tell the Hall of Honor about it?” Lu Yin asked.

Lù Yan solemnly answered, “There’s a spy within the Hall of Honor.”

Lu Yin’s eyes flickered. That spy was Bu Laoweng. He had been the one to reveal the location of a certain location to the Neohuman Alliance, which would have allowed Aeternus to invade through the stellar storm. If not for Progenitor Hui’s plan, the Fifth Mainland would have been destroyed.

Not many people knew that Bu Laoweng was the greatest spy that the Neohuman Alliance had planted within the Hall of Honor.

“How did you find out that the Neohuman Alliance has a mole inside the Hall of Honor?” Lu Yin asked.

Lù Yan answered, “Mr. Feng told me that. He trusted me a great deal since I sent my daughter to them to undergo a transformation. However, he never imagined that I had only joined the Neohuman Alliance for my daughter to be cured with death energy. As soon as Xiao Cha was cured, I received a mission from Mr. Feng, ordering me to find out the Chief Justice’s weakness. He never expected me to turn myself in.”

“Hahahaha, the Neohuman Alliance is very powerful since the corpse kings that they’ve created can live forever. However, they have no emotions, so they will never understand loyalty. I, Lù Yan, was able to betray humanity for my daughter, but I would never do anything to harm humanity! Hahahaha!”

“So why do you trust me? Aren’t you worried that I could also be someone from the Neohuman Alliance?” Lu Yin was curious about this.

Chapter 1692: Take A Beating

Lù Yan laughed bitterly after hearing Lu Yin’s question. “If you’re a part of the Neohuman Alliance, then our universe is doomed! Who could stop your God of Death’s powers if you were a corpse king? We might as well just surrender.”

Lu Yin then left, though Lù Yan gave him a warning that there were certainly corpse kings with power levels exceeding a million at the Neohuman Alliance’s headquarters for the Inniverse and Outerverse, so he should not touch the place without making ample preparations.

Each person had their own story, and the prisoners in Gaia’s Swamp had all lived exciting lives. No matter if they were good or bad, normal people would never be imprisoned in Gaia’s Swamp.

Lu Yin was curious about the various prisoners' backgrounds, so he ordered Lù Cha to bring him information regarding the prisoners. Shortly after, he started reading.

A few days later, Lu Yin approached a prisoner. To be precise, he was approaching a brain. This brain was the same one that Lord Piggy had shown him when Lu Yin had taken a tour of Gaia's Swamp.

The owner of this particular brain had killed numerous people in order to obtain eternal life. The last person that he had killed was Overseer Xin Jiao's son, and it was also why the brain had been imprisoned and sentenced to eternal torture. Everything that entered the thoughts of this brain was a nightmare, so the mind that it once contained had probably gone crazy by now.

This was just the information that Gaia's Swamp had recorded, but Lu Yin had learned more from San Liang, as some facts had been intentionally hidden by Xin Jiao.

This brain had actually belonged to a normal cultivator. The reason why this person had been able to carry out those crimes was actually all because of Xin Jiao's son. Xin Jiao's son had financially backed this cultivator, and he had not been the only person chasing after immortality; Xin Jiao's son had also been interested.

However, the experiments had failed, and Xin Jiao's son had been killed. That was why Xin Jiao had come to hate this cultivator and had imprisoned his brain.

Lu Yin could not communicate with a mere brain, but he felt like he was looking at Xin Jiao as he stared at the brain. Beneath her mild appearance, Xin Jiao was an extremely cruel person. The woman was far from being as nice as she seemed.

There were still ten days left before Mu En arrived at Gaia's Swamp, so Lu Yin asked the Warden about aurelian force due to his boredom.

Lu Yin had wanted to learn about aurelian force for a long time, and he had asked Zhou Tang about it in the past. Now, he was continuing by asking the Warden about it.

"Aurelian force? Oh, you've cultivated battle force too, right? What level have you reached?" The Warden asked curiously. He had to bend his head down low to look at Lu Yin, as the giant was far too massive.

Golden battle force appeared around Lu Yin's body, and it shook the sky.

The Warden was surprised. "That's not bad. Almost nobody in this whole universe can reach ten lined battle force."

"Are you complimenting yourself, Senior? You've already achieved aurelian force." Lu Yin smiled.

The Warden shook his head. "I only managed to reach the realm of aurelian force by using Progenitor Chen's blood. If not for his blood, my limit would have been nine lined battle force. One's spirit is the most important factor when cultivating battle force, but this universe's values restrict everyone's spirit.

"Everyone in this place believes that the peak of battle force is nine lined battle force, and with that belief, how could anyone achieve a further breakthrough unless they truly felt like they had conquered the universe? How did you manage to break through?"

Lu Yin looked up. "When I became the champion of ZENITH."

The Warden laughed. "No wonder! You defeated all your peers and proved that you are invincible among your generation. That's why you were able to break through. Think about it: how many people in this universe could achieve the same thing? And even then, those who could be capable of doing so may not have cultivated battle force. Those conditions aren't easy to fulfill."

Lu Yin nodded. "You're right, it's tough. Senior, I really want to learn aurelian force. Do I need to reach yet another peak to do that?"

The Warden hesitated and took another sip of his wine. "Spirit is the most important thing, but the second most important is accumulation. Without a strong enough body and a sturdy enough foundation, it's impossible to achieve aurelian force even if you are the master of the Hall of Honor. So, you should take a beating."

Lu Yin choked. "What?"

The Warden grinned. "Take a beating. Spirit is improved through beatings. If you want to become stronger, then you'll need to take beatings, and only then will your battle force become stronger. That's my opinion, but you can ignore it if you want."

The Warden then continued drinking.

Lu Yin laughed bitterly. Fighting was indeed a great method to improving one's battle force. There was no shortcut when it came to cultivating battle force, as each person had to get there on their own.

Lu Yin had not become the champion of ZENITH through an accident. He had put in a great deal of effort in order to accomplish that feat and that included cultivating battle force.

"Senior, can you help me? I would like to experience aurelian force," Lu Yin spoke with confidence.

The Warden smashed his flask onto the ground. "I don't mind beating you up. Here's some aurelian force for you."

A finger appeared right in front of Lu Yin, and the Warden flicked his finger at Lu Yin. The young man crossed his arms before his chest, but he still felt like both of his arms were about to fall off. He was blasted backwards, and the golden battle force covering his body was instantly shredded apart as a stabbing pain wracked his body, forcing him to spit out blood.

Liu Ye and Fei Hua were both shocked, and they instantly appeared next to the Warden and almost attacked him.

The Warden said, "He asked me to beat him up."

Off in the distance, Lu Yin felt like his body was falling apart. He had crashed into a distant portion of the swamp, and he was surrounded by death energy. Only after taking a few deep breaths did he start to feel a bit better.

Pain assaulted his entire body, and he was unable to even stand. This was the effect of a gentle finger flick from the Warden; Lu Yin's body was completely unable to withstand the power of such an attack without the protection of his armor.

Lord Piggy anxiously rushed over as soon as he saw Lu Yin.

“Alliance Leader! Alliance Leader Lu, are you alright?” the pig shouted.

Lu Yin slowly sat up as he looked down at his hands and his stomach. His body had been torn apart, and he had suffered quite serious injuries. Fortunately, he had opened through all three of his meridian points, which allowed him to recover very quickly.

A snout suddenly appeared right before Lu Yin. Lord Piggy was carefully looking at Lu Yin. “Alliance- Alliance Leader Lu, how are you feeling?”

Lu Yin answered, “I’m fine. I’m not dead yet.”

Lord Piggy felt disappointed, but said, “That’s great, Alliance Leader Lu. Why did Sir Warden attack you? Did you say something that he reacted poorly to?”

“No.” Lu Yin was about to continue, but instead he suddenly said, “Is he sensitive about anything?”

Lord Piggy moved much closer to Lu Yin and whispered, “Sir Warden has been single for years! He’s liked a few women in the past, but he’s never had any success. So, he drinks to alleviate his loneliness.”

“Female giants?” Lu Yin was shocked; were pure blooded giants not extinct? He had heard that the Warden was the only one left!

Lord Piggy shook his head. “No, human women.”

Lu Yin was speechless. Of course that would never have worked! One was 30,000 meters tall, while the other was just over 1 meter tall!

“While the Warden seems brash, he’s actually very emotional. Let me tell you a secret.” Lord Piggy whispered, “Sir Warden’s even written a love poem before!”

Lu Yin blinked in shock. A- a love poem?

“How do you know about this?” Lu Yin asked.

Lord Piggy blinked. “I always see Sir Warden reciting his poems.”

Lu Yin shook his head. He did not want to continue this conversation. “You can leave. I’ll stay here for a bit longer to recover.”

“Do you want me to take you to the castle?”

“No thanks.”

Back in the castle, the Warden had sat down and continued his drinking. He had actually not held back very much in his attack against Lu Yin, but he had controlled the attack very precisely, so he felt that it should have been at just the right level for Lu Yin to be able to withstand. While the youth would certainly be badly injured, he should be fine after recuperating for a few days since the injuries should all be superficial.

The Warden continued drinking.

Half a day later, Lu Yin returned, looking quite disheveled. His clothes were tattered, and wounds could still be seen all over his body, though most of his injuries had already recovered.

Liu Ye and Fei Hua were both shocked. They had seen the extent of Lu Yin's injuries, so how had he managed to recover so quickly?

However, they were unaware of the changes that had occurred to Lu Yin's body after he opened his three meridian points. As long as he was not instantly killed, he could recover from basically any injury. As for wounds that were inflicted by a Semi-Progenitor and were unable to recover on their own, he could use *Extremes Must Be Reversed* and *Timestop* to recover. If he told anyone about these abilities, including powerhouses like Liu Ye and Fei Hua, they would be shocked.

"Huh? You're already fine?" The Warden was completely astonished.

Lu Yin answered, "Senior, let's continue."

The Warden grew intrigued. "Alright, then I'll keep going."

His aurelian force once again lit up the sky.

Lu Yin's eyes flickered. Ever since the Outerverse had been separated from the Innerverse, Lu Yin had started down a unique cultivation path, especially after he had killed Enlighters as an Explorer by using Enhanced weapons. Lu Yin's upgraded items had since become an integral part of his attacking methods. Even when he fought against people like Nightking Zhenwu and Shang Qing, Lu Yin had never felt the pressure of a life or death situation.

He had always been thinking about the long-term pressure rather than anything in the heat of the moment where he could be killed.

Lu Yin was about to feel that kind of pressure in a battle, and he truly felt as though he could be crushed at any moment.

The Warden's finger appeared again, but this time Lu Yin was prepared. An astral chessboard appeared under his feet, and he moved. However, the Warden's aurelian force had already warped space, which meant that Lu Yin could not move himself anywhere, not even into the true universe. Lu Yin raised a hand and set up a Channeling Diagram even as golden battle force covered his body. Once again, he was shot backwards with a bang.

Despite being better prepared than before, Lu Yin was still heavily injured, as the Warden had used more strength in this attack.

Not everyone would be able to face the pressure of an attack that utilized aurelian force, and Lu Yin was confident that he would be able to break through if he kept experiencing aurelian force.

Bang.

He was thrown to the southern region of Gaia's Swamp.

Bang.

He was shot to the northern section of Gaia's Swamp.

Gaia's Swamp's guards would occasionally look up to see Lu Yin being blasted all across the swamp. Lord Piggy secretly hoped that the Warden would accidentally kill Lu Yin, as the pig would no longer be under Lu Yin's control in that case.

Lù Cha was also watching, but her thoughts were different from Lord Piggy's. She did not hope for Lu Yin's death, as he was the only person who could potentially set her father free. The prison riot had been the first prison break to succeed even after countless years. Without Lu Yin, there would never be another chance in her entire life to rescue her father.

Ze Cu was astounded by Lu Yin's talent. Only a short amount of time had passed since ZENITH had finished, but Lu Yin was already able to withstand the Warden's attacks.

Lu Yin used multiple methods, but he simply could not find any way to avoid the Warden's attack as the gap between them was too large. The Warden's power level was comparable to Cang Zhou, Liu Ye, and Fei Hua's. However, with the boost provided by aurelian force, not even Cang Zhou could have been the Warden's opponent. Liu Ye and Fei Hua would also never be able to trap the Warden, just like how they had not been able to trap Nightking Dijiang.

Nightking Dijiang had possessed a powerful spiritual force, but the Warden controlled a powerful battle force.

Chapter 1693: Return

Ten days quickly went by, and Mu En soon arrived at Gaia's Swamp. The first thing that he saw upon arriving was Lu Yin flying past him. The Judicial Commissioner was shocked by this sight, and he immediately went to see the Warden. "Warden of the Gaia's Swamp, what are you doing?"

Lu Yin crashed into the swamp, feeling as though his body was about to collapse. He had experienced the same feeling multiple times now, and he had already become accustomed to it. At the same time, his golden battle force had become more robust, and he felt as though it had sunk into his very bones.

Within the castle, Mu En exclaimed, "Lu Yin's training with you?"

The Warden nodded. "He requested this himself. Judicial Commissioner Mu En, you're here to investigate the prison break, right? Please carry on."

Mu En nodded even as he looked off into the distance. He did not ask any more questions, as he had noticed that Liu Ye and Fei Hua had not intervened. Additionally, Lu Yin himself had requested the training, so there was nothing that Mu En could say.

He did nothing to interfere, and instead, he went to interrogate the guards and prisoners with Lord Piggy.

After just two days, Mu En finished his investigation. He had spoken to everyone within Gaia's Swamp, and he had also examined the available video recordings. However, the recordings were not very useful, as they had all stopped the moment the Warden used his aurelian force.

Lord Piggy provided most of the information that Mu En gathered, as the pig had recounted the incident in great detail, with a particular emphasis on Lu Yin's contributions. From Lord Piggy's account, the pig sounded more like someone from the Great Eastern Alliance rather than an assistant warden.

Lu Yin observed his golden battle force that had become more solid due to his recent training. Still, it was clear that it would take a long time before he reached the level of aurelian force.

"It's certainly not easy, or else somebody else in this universe would have achieved it long ago," the Warden commented while gulping down more wine.

Lu Yin asked, "Senior, why isn't anyone aware that you have aurelian force?"

The Warden smiled. "I reached that level with Progenitor Chen's blood, so what does it matter if others know about it? Since I didn't accomplish it on my own, I'll never be able to teach others how to cultivate battle force. Additionally, it isn't easy for people to even start cultivating battle force."

Lu Yin understood this, as few people in the Astral Combat Academy had managed to successfully comprehend battle force. Even in the Perennial World, how many had managed to reach the level of aurelian force? It was a truly difficult path, and it was not even intended for humans, as battle force was a cultivation method that originated from the giants.

"There is something I'm curious about: how do you recover so quickly, Alliance Leader Lu? Did you use a secret technique? Or some sort of recovery technique?" the Warden asked. He had become a bit closer to Lu Yin over the recent few days, so he did not feel awkward asking such a question.

Lu Yin replied, "It's a skill from the Ku family."

The Warden grew intrigued. "The Seven Courts' Ku family? I heard that their Ku Secret Art allows a person to instantly recover. Did you manage to learn that?"

Lu Yin shrugged. "No, it's not that easy to learn the Ku Secret Art."

Lord Piggy rushed in with Mu En on his back.

Mu En greeted the Warden and then turned to Lu Yin. "Alliance Leader Lu, let's talk for a moment."

Lu Yin nodded. "Sure."

Mu En and Lu Yin stood across from each other outside the castle.

"Thank you, Alliance Leader Lu, for helping to stop the riot that broke out here in Gaia's Swamp. It would have been chaos if all the prisoners had escaped," Mu En said.

Lu Yin replied, "It wasn't a problem."

Mu En continued, "The Warden must bear most of the responsibility for this riot. He was already aware that someone was planning a prison break, but he still assumed that he would be able to take care of everything by himself. His mistake led to a terrible situation, and he may very well be judged for this matter. As for you, Alliance Leader Lu, you will be rewarded for reporting the planned prison break."

Lu Yin laughed and turned to look out at the swamp. "All of the prisoners and guards here are stuck in this prison, so what's the difference? Even if the Warden is punished, the worst thing that could happen

is that he'll have to stay here and be the Warden for longer than expected. You should be more concerned about the escaped prisoners."

Lu Yin grew solemn as he looked at Mu En. "I would like to request that the Chief Justice himself go out to capture the Second Nightking. I don't feel safe with him free."

Mu En shook his head. "The Chief Justice has his own way of handling matters, and we aren't able to interfere. However, I will still deliver your request to the Chief Justice."

"Thank you."

Mu En then asked, "Aren't you able to reach out to the Chief Justice yourself, Alliance Leader Lu?"

While no one knew precisely what kind of relationship existed between Lu Yin and the Chief Justice, it remained a fact that Lu Yin held the Chief Justice's bell, which showed that the two were quite close.

Lu Yin awkwardly answered, "Just like you said, nobody can interfere with the Chief Justice's way of handling things, and that includes me. This is why I can only ask for your help, Judicial Commissioner."

Mu En nodded. "I have something to ask you, Alliance Leader."

"Please, go ahead."

"Why didn't you help out at the beginning of the riot, Alliance Leader?" Mu En carefully watched Lu Yin's reaction.

Lu Yin turned to face the Judicial Commissioner. "I was about to help, but I was stunned by the Warden's attack."

"What do you mean?" Mu En asked.

Lu Yin sighed. "The Warden used his aurelian force on all of Gaia's Swamp..."

Mu En had already gained quite a thorough understanding of the incident, but he still asked Lu Yin about the matter, as he wanted to see if he could detect anything from Lu Yin's expressions or words.

"Judicial Commissioner, are you suspecting me?" Lu Yin asked.

Mu En smiled. "Of course not, Alliance Leader Lu. You warned the Warden of the riot before it happened, and you also helped out during the chaos. On top of that, your most dangerous enemy, the Second Nightking, was one of the prisoners who escaped."

"I'm glad to hear you acknowledge that, Judicial Commissioner," Lu Yin said.

"I have another question, Alliance Leader Lu: do you know who the old swordsman is?" Mu En asked Lu Yin curiously.

Lu Yin's eyes flickered. "No."

Mu En studied Lu Yin's face for a while before nodding. "It's fine if you don't know, Alliance Leader Lu. As the master of the Outerverse and someone who is trying to enter the Innerverse, you should know that sometimes, you have to resort to unsavory means in order to accomplish your goals."

“I can leave Gaia’s Swamp now, correct?” Lu Yin interrupted.

Mu En nodded. “Of course.”

Mu En frowned as he watched Lu Yin leave. If Lu Yin had any other identity, he would not have been allowed to leave Gaia’s Swamp, regardless of whether or not he was aware of Liu Huang’s identity, as the Hall of Honor could not take any risks related to this matter. However, Lu Yin was unique, and he was supported by powerful people like the Interstellar Supreme Court’s Chief Justice, the Hall of Honor’s overseers, and even Arch-Elder Zen and Highsage Grandmaster.

Lu Yin practically had the support of half of the Fifth Mainland. Nobody had been able to stop him from taking the Great Eastern Alliance into the Inniverse, let alone something as small as leaving Gaia’s Swamp.

Mu En remembered his first time meeting Lu Yin, as well as the time that he had taken Lu Yin from Progenitor Chen’s Mausoleum to Mt. Microcosms. This boy had grown exponentially more powerful since then, and it was possible that the youth would change once again before their next meeting!

After Emperor Luo was chained up in Can’s former location, Lu Yin officially bade farewell to Liu Ye and Fei Hua.

Liu Ye and Fei Hua had both gotten to know Lu Yin quite well after being with him for so long. Fei Hua even spoke nicely to him before separating. “Alliance Leader Lu, don’t worry. We won’t reveal your identity.”

She was referring to his identity as Lu Xiaoxuan.

Lu Yin smiled. “Thank you.”

He looked at Liu Ye and Fei Hua with great reluctance. He rarely released anything after obtaining it, but Liu Ye and Fei Hua were bound to leave him. Even now, he felt sad at the thought of losing his two excellent bodyguards.

However, their replacements were going to be the Second Nightking and Liu Huang.

Those two were even more powerful, but they would not be able to reveal themselves, which was more of a hassle.

Lu Yin had arrived with four people, but he left alone.

Lu Yin left Gaia’s Swamp and boarded his spacecraft to make his way back to Blazing Mist Flowzone.

Mu En continued to investigate things in Gaia’s Swamp, as he needed to uncover how the sourcebox array that connected the three thousand chains had been bypassed, as well as why some of the guards had helped prisoners escape.

One day after leaving Gaia’s Swamp, three more people could be found within Lu Yin’s spacecraft. Namely, they were the Second Nightking, Liu Huang, and Shui Chuanxiao.

All three had started to regain their strength, but it was difficult for Shui Chuanxiao and Liu Huang, as they had been poisoned by the death energy. As for the Second Nightking, he had not been overly affected by the death energy due to his short stay, but his injuries from the Chief Justice still made it difficult for him to recover.

Lu Yin kept a close eye on the Second Nightking, and he continuously checked the Sealed Cage Technique to ensure that the Second Nightking could not escape after recuperating.

If any sign of the man no longer being under his control appeared, Lu Yin would kill the Second Nightking without any hesitation.

Lu Yin also regretted not asking Bai Shui to stay with him. It had been difficult for Lu Yin to gain control of the Second Nightking in Gaia's Swamp with the Sealed Cage Technique, and he had only succeeded after heavily injuring the man. In that case, why had Bai Shui been so confident that she would be able to control the Second Nightking with the Sealed Cage Technique?

She would have never jumped into the Celestial Frost Pond without being fully confident. Thus, there had to be some reason behind it. Lu Yin's guess was that the Sealed Cage Technique was far more effective with the Bai family's bloodline.

If that was true, then would the Daynight clan still remain under his control once the Celestial Frost Sect entered the Fifth Mainland? That could be a huge problem!

After leaving Gaia's Swamp, Lu Yin received some news regarding the tactics that the Inniverse's eight great flowzones had employed against the Great Eastern Alliance, such as isolating the regions surrounding Blazing Mist Flowzone and Venom Flowzone, stopping the tributary arks, setting up trade sanctions, and more. Lu Yin was not concerned about any of these details, as he had already dealt with most of the Inniverse's key decision makers. Additionally, the minor flowzones would not be able to stop the Great Eastern Alliance's military in any way.

The thing that Lu Yin was concerned about was the personnel changes among the Hall of Honor's overseers.

Nightking Zheng had been removed, which was not within Lu Yin's expectations.

"This is my fault—I should have paid more attention! There are nine overseer positions: two each for the Inniverse and Cosmic Sea, and the rest for the Neoverse. Nightking Zheng gained his position as an overseer because of the Daynight clan, but after their defeat, they no longer qualified to make decisions for the Inniverse. That's why Nightking Zheng lost his qualification as an overseer," Wang Wen said apologetically. This was not something that he had considered.

Lu Yin answered, "I don't blame you. Nobody can anticipate everything. Besides, it doesn't matter. Even if you had considered it, we wouldn't have been able to change anything. However, I didn't expect Zi Jing to replace Nightking Zheng."

"CyNet built up the network for the entire Fifth Mainland. Even though the company maintains a low profile, they are just as powerful as Shamrock Enterprise, Aurora Enterprises, and the Mavis Bank," Wang Wen solemnly stated.

Lu Yin said, "I know. I was only able to contact you from Mt. Microcosms because I was able to use Zi Jing's gadget."

"What's her personality like?" Wang Wen asked. The Fifth Mainland was too large, and Wang Wen had always focused his attention on the Outerverse, so he did not have a great understanding of the people from the Neoverse, especially since he rarely interacted with any of them.

Chapter 1694: Caught All Of Them

Lu Yin did not know how to answer Wang Wen's question. "I'll find some time to take you to Mt. Microcosms so that you can get to know her. She's always been quite nice to me."

"Zi Jing replaced Nightking Zheng while the leader of the Light World, Yang Ji, replaced Cong Ying. They're both from Mt. Microcosms," Wang Wen commented.

Lu Yin understood the implications behind this. While it looked like the council of overseers were the decision makers for the Hall of Honor, the true decision maker was actually Arch-Elder Zen. From this, it looked like Arch-Elder Zen was trying to shift the power balance within the overseers to Mt. Microcosms.

It was possible that this was a warning to Lu Yin, but Arch-Elder Zen was not specifically targeting him. If that were the case, then both Bu Laoweng and San Liang would have been removed from their positions at the same time as Nightking Zeng. Lu Yin was certain that someone at Arch-Elder Zen's level was not worried about him.

"Yang Ji represents the Light World, which is one of the Honor Zone's 3,000 hidden worlds. He was probably chosen to become an overseer in order to maintain balance. As for Zi Jing, she controls the entire network, which is vital to the Human Domain," Wang Wen mused.

Lu Yin fell deep into thought. When he had met Zi Jing in CyNet World, he had asked her why she had used Shui Chuanxiao to connect the various pieces of the network together. However, Zi Jing had not answered, as they had run out of time. He had forgotten about his question since then, but he had suddenly remembered it now. Maybe he could get his answer from Shui Chuanxiao.

After hanging up on Wang Wen, Lu Yin went to Shui Chuanxiao to ask the man about Zi Jing.

"Zi Jing? CyNet's boss? She was the one who asked me to help with the network," Shui Chuanxiao said.

Lu Yin remained curious. "You agreed to her request?"

Shui Chuanxiao answered, "Why not? No one else was ever as desperate as me for a universal network. Instantaneous communication is crucial in war. When the network connected Ironblood Weave to the border, we gained a huge massive advantage in our war efforts against the Astral Beast Domain."

"Why didn't she propose the request to the overseers herself?" Lu Yin asked.

Shui Chuanxiao shook his head. "That's not something that I know, but maybe she submitted the proposal before. I had also made such a request in the past."

At this time, the man's eyes grew cold. "However, I failed. In fact, there was no chance at all for the proposal to succeed. Otherwise, I would have never sacrificed half of Endless Weave."

Lu Yin left. Shui Chuanxiao did not actually know Zi Jing all that well either, but the former grand marshal was a determined person who would do whatever it took to accomplish his goals. Shui Chuanxiao was just like the Sea King in this matter. The latter had single-handedly destroyed the Sixth Mainland's false sky, even at the risk of becoming the entire Fifth Mainland's enemy.

Liu Ye and Fei Hua had brought Lu Yin from Blazing Mist Flowzone to Gaia's Swamp in a short amount of time. However, returning to Blazing Mist Flowzone was much slower, as neither the Second Nightking nor Liu Huang had fully recovered. Thus, the four men were only able to travel at the speed of a Lu Yin's spacecraft.

Ten days later, the spacecraft arrived at the border between the Venom and Northseal Flowzones.

Northseal Flowzone lay to the north of Venom Flowzone, and it also bordered the Astral River. By passing through the Northseal Flowzone, it was possible to enter either Fennel Flowzone or Venom Flowzone.

Lu Yin's vessel quickly passed through Fennel Flowzone and continued on towards Blazing Mist Flowzone.

There were multiple Astral River tributaries throughout the Innaverse, and since Northseal Flowzone was connected to both Venom and Fennel Flowzones, there was actually a three-way split in the Astral River, and there was also a tributary ark there.

It was possible for Lu Yin's vessel to use the tributary ark to enter Fennel Flowzone, but the tributary ark had been shut down, meaning that nobody was able to enter or leave Fennel Flowzone.

The major forces of the Innaverse were using this and other similar tactics to suppress the Great Eastern Alliance. They intended to isolate both Blazing Mist and Fennel Flowzones so that the Great Eastern Alliance would be cut off from all the nearby flowzones.

Lu Yin calmly watched on as various ships traveled back and forth.

Shui Chuanxiao appeared behind him. "It would seem that you're not in a good position. It's not good for you to become the entire Innaverse's enemy."

Lu Yin sighed. "I've already done the best I can with this."

He turned to face Shui Chuanxiao. "So, what's your decision? Are you willing to act as the Great Eastern Alliance's Commander?"

Shui Chuanxiao observed Lu Yin with visible interest. "Are you asking me because of En Ya?"

"Of course not. En Ya can't make decisions for the Great Eastern Alliance. She asked me to save you, and I've already done that. Asking you to become my commander is my decision alone," Lu Yin replied.

"Aren't you worried that you'll be in deep trouble if my presence is exposed?"

Lu Yin turned back around and stared off into space. "I'm already in a lot of trouble. Compared to the help that I can get with you, dealing with the fallout is not a big deal."

Shui Chuanxiao nodded. "Alright, I don't have anything else to do anyways. Besides, I could never leave the military."

Lu Yin smiled at Shui Chuanxiao. "Welcome aboard, Commander."

"I should call you Alliance Leader Lu now. So, can I get the real situation in the Innerverses from you now?"

Lu Yin explained, "Of the eight great flowzones, Blazing Mist Flowzone, Chaos Flowzone, and Daynight Flowzone all belong to me. On the other side, First Flowzone, Beast Tamers Flowzone, and Soulseal Flowzone are my most obvious enemies. As for Erudite Flowzone, they're secretly helping First Flowzone work against me. Venom Flowzone is neutral for the moment, but they might change their position in the future."

Shui Chuanxiao was caught off guard. "You also control Chaos Flowzone?"

Since Lu Yin had taken the Second Nightking out of Gaia's Swamp, Shui Chuanxiao had already figured out that Lu Yin had gained control of Daynight Flowzone. However, the man had not expected to learn that Lu Yin also held Chaos Flowzone in his hands. In that case, Lu Yin had already gained control over nearly half of the Innerverses, as the minor flowzones could be disregarded.

Lu Yin smiled. "How would I dare to go against the entire Innerverses without achieving at least this much?"

Shui Chuanxiao grew solemn. "Liu Huang's existence can act as a threat towards the Sword Sect and even force them to join you, but what of the Wen family?"

"I'm in possession of the Wen family's most valuable inheritance," Lu Yin said.

Shui Chuanxiao exclaimed, "I need to speak with you, Alliance Leader Lu. I need to learn more about your Great Eastern Alliance and you as well, Alliance Leader Lu."

A spacecraft flew towards them, trying to chase Lu Yin's ship away.

Lu Yin's eyes narrowed, and he casually flicked a finger. A crack was torn apart in space that separated the approaching vessel from the space station.

The cultivators aboard the ship from Northseal Flowzone were all stunned, and they watched in a daze as Lu Yin's vessel moved into the tributary astral river and Lu Yin started making his way to Fennel Flowzone.

Nobody was able to stop Lu Yin, and Northseal Flowzone's forces had simply been in the wrong place at the wrong time.

Lu Yin never revealed himself, but most people guessed that he was behind it, and the incident was immediately reported to the Sword Sect.

Liu Qianjue and the others were not overly concerned, as they already knew that nobody could stop Lu Yin from returning to Blazing Mist Flowzone. Rather, they were currently waiting for the Second Nightking to start making trouble for Lu Yin.

Two days later, Lu Yin's spacecraft docked in the Ross Empire. He had returned.

Wang Wen, En Ya, and many others were already present and waiting for Lu Yin.

En Ya was working in the Great Yu Empire, but Lu Yin had asked her to travel to the Ross Empire after rescuing Shui Chuanxiao.

The Second Nightking, Liu Huang, and Shui Chuanxiao had all changed their appearances.

When Lu Yin led the three men off of his ship, En Ya instantly recognized Shui Chuanxiao.

Shui Chuanxiao's entire demeanor was different from the other two men. The Second Nightking gave off a frigid aura, and Liu Huang felt desolate. As for Shui Chuanxiao, anyone could tell that he had a military background from his sharp eyes.

En Ya went straight towards Shui Chuanxiao and was about to bow to him, but the man held her upright. "Let's go back first."

Wang Wen looked at the three men with open curiosity. He already knew who all three were, and he knew that they were all powerful individuals.

En Ya formally greeted Shui Chuanxiao once they were back inside.

Shui Chuanxiao returned to his original appearance, and he grew incredibly emotional as he looked at En Ya. "I never thought that I'd see you again!"

En Ya had tears in her eyes. "Grand Marshal, I never thought that I would be able to see you again either."

She moved to kneel before Lu Yin. "Thank you, Alliance Leader."

Lu Yin's finger twitched, and En Ya involuntarily rose to her feet. "I simply did what I promised you. What are your plans for the future?"

En Ya glanced over at Shui Chuanxiao before firmly stating. "I will continue working for you, Alliance Leader Lu."

Lu Yin smiled and turned to Wang Wen. "Starting today, Shui Chuanxiao will become the Great Eastern Alliance's Allied Forces' Commander. He has the authority to command all of the Allied Forces, and he will also be the deputy commander of the Lu Elite Troops, the Giants' Army, and the Sinners' Army."

Wang Wen turned to look at Shui Chuanxiao. "I've heard of you for a long time, Commander. I'm Wang Wen."

Shui Chuanxiao looked at Wang Wen in surprise. "You're Wang Wen? Wang Wen from Ironblood Weave?"

"Yes, that's me. I didn't expect you to know of me, Commander," Wang Wen said.

Shui Chuanxiao exclaimed, "You entered the Astral Beast Domain's Celestial Vanquisher's List at an incredibly young age, and you are one of the most wanted people in the Astral Beast Domain. The Ten

Arbiters were put on that list because of their strength, but you were put on it because of your wits. Because of you, Ironblood Weave is no longer merely on the defensive. You were even able to anticipate the Astral Beast Domain's movements, no?"

Wang Wen answered humbly, "You're too kind, Commander."

Shui Chuanxiao smiled. "I remember that there are a few other people in the Outerverse who were similarly known for their intelligence."

He then turned to Lu Yin. "What happened to them?"

"They're all working for me."

Shui Chuanxiao nodded. "You've caught all of them."

Wang Wen excelled at an overall strategy while Wei Rong was extremely competent at scheming and manipulation. Qiong Xi'er was focused on economics, and with the addition of Shui Chuanxiao, who was a peerless military commander, all of the Great Eastern Alliance's intelligence bases were now covered.

Wang Wen had always been assisting Lu Yin with military affairs, and he had done well due to his experience in Ironblood Weave, but Wang Wen had been relying solely on his intelligence and limited experience. He could not compare with Shui Chuanxiao in terms of experience regarding military formations and movements.

Shui Chuanxiao officially joined the Great Eastern Alliance as the military commander, but he remained completely behind the scenes. After observing the Great Eastern Alliance's military, he immediately made some adjustments and set up a spiderweb formation that spread across the Outerverse and Blazing Mist Flowzone.

This formation allowed Shui Chuanxiao to mobilize the military as quickly as possible while also protecting the Great Eastern Alliance. He also planned out new military routes and implemented his own military measures...

Lu Yin made no moves to interfere in Shui Chuanxiao's changes, as he did not know much about such matters. Since Shui Chuanxiao had been entrusted with the military, Lu Yin had no intention of meddling.

A few days later, Lu Yin took Shui Chuanxiao to see the Giant's Army and the Lu Elite Forces that had recently returned to the Ross Empire.

"Master, you're finally back!" Ku Wei rushed straight over the moment he saw Lu Yin.

Lu Yin glared at Ku Wei, who immediately said, "Master, you don't know how scared we were with you gone! We were worried that those people from the Sword Sect would attack."

"They couldn't even find you guys," Lu Yin retorted.

Ku Wei smiled. Suddenly, he looked over at the disguised Second Nightking and Liu Huang who were standing beside Lu Yin. "Where are seniors Liu Ye and Fei Hua?"

Chapter 1695: The Shine Of Money

Shui Chuanxia moved away to inspect the Lu Elite Troops and the Giants' Army.

Ku Wei's heart fell. "Master, where are seniors Liu Ye and Fei Hua?"

"They left. They won't be with me any longer," Lu Yin replied calmly.

Ku Wei instantly grew anxious. "Master, how could you let them go? Without them, how will we be able to defend against Liu Qianjue and the others? We're doomed! Master, let's hide with the giants."

"Noisy," the Second Nightking spat out coldly as he shot Ku Wei a vicious glare.

Ku Wei instantly felt threatened, and he reflexively took a step back.

Lu Yin glanced over at the Second Nightking, and the man looked away from Ku Wei.

Ku Wei hesitantly asked, "Master? Who's this senior?"

"That's none of your business. Just know that even without Liu Ye and Fei Hua here, these two are able to keep me safe," Lu Yin answered.

Ku Wei nodded and looked back at the Second Nightking and Liu Huang. He only peeked at the Second Nightking, as the old man had scared him; Ku Wei felt like the old man could end him on a whim. He looked at Liu Huang more openly, as the man appeared friendlier.

"Young man, you mentioned Liu Qianjue just now. Is he the sect master of the Sword Sect?" Liu Huang asked with a smile.

Ku Wei gulped and nodded. "Yes, he is."

"What did he do to scare you so badly?" Liu Huang continued.

Ku Wei glanced at Lu Yin, but Lu Yin revealed nothing.

Ku Wei replied softly, "He killed the leader of the sylvan dragons, Long Yi, who was my master's mount. His goal is to kill all of the Envoys that are a part of the Great Eastern Alliance."

Liu Huang nodded. "The masters of the Sword Sect have grown even more vicious and greedy."

The Second Nightking stated coldly, "It's the same as it was in the past."

"The Sword Sect was established to pass down the Thirteen Swords. We were forced to become ruthless, and the Daynight clan was one of the driving factors behind that change," Liu Huang calmly retorted.

"If not for the Neoverse, the Daynight clan would have long since become the master of the Inneverse. The Sword Sect wouldn't even exist." The Second Nightking's voice remained as cold as ever.

Liu Huang continued the argument, saying, "If not for the Hall of Honor, the Sword Sect would have already entered the Neoverse. The Fourteenth Sword alone is enough to destroy the Daynight clan."

"Really? Why don't you give it a try?" the Second Nightking glared at Liu Huang.

The two men rarely spoke to each other, and Lu Yin had forgotten that one of them came from the Daynight clan and the other from the Sword Sect. If not for the Great Eastern Alliance, the two would be mutual enemies who had both been wronged by the Hall of Honor.

“This isn’t your battlefield,” Lu Yin said icily.

The Second Nightking ignored Lu Yin. While it was impossible for Liu Huang to defeat the Second Nightking, the ancient powerhouse was still interested in seeing the Fourteenth Sword.

Liu Huang did not know just how powerful the Second Nightking truly was. His understanding of the Second Nightking’s strength was still based in the past when the First Nightking had been the Daynight clan’s strongest powerhouse. The First Nightking’s power level had never exceeded a million, even at his peak, while Liu Huang had already surpassed that level.

If the First Nightking returned, he could be Liu Huang’s opponent, but the swordsman felt that it was impossible for the Second Nightking.

One of them was suffering from heavy injuries while the other was suffering from poison. Neither knew of the other’s true strength, and only Lu Yin was aware of that.

Ku Wei did not dare to speak again, as the auras given off by both the Second Nightking and Liu Huang’s auras were too powerful for him.

Ying Daynight, who was a part of the Lu Elite Troops, carefully looked at the Second Nightking. Even though the Second Nightking had changed his appearance, Ying Daynight had still recognized the man from his expression and aura.

The only person from the Daynight clan who qualified to stand next to Lu Yin was the Second Nightking. This was also because Lu Yin had just returned from Gaia’s Swamp, and the Second Nightking was known to be on the loose.

The Second Nightking’s gaze swept over the gathered soldiers, and he focused on Ying Daynight.

Ying Daynight dropped his eyes and did not dare to meet the Second Nightking’s gaze.

The Second Nightking looked away. He felt disgust towards the Daykings, as they had been forced to rely on Lu Yin.

The Lu Elite Troops and the Giants’ Army soon left.

Shui Chuanxiao voiced his admiration. “Even if the most elite cultivators from the border were gathered, it still wouldn’t be able to reach the standard of your Lu Elite Troops or the Giants’ Army. Alliance Leader Lu, you’ve given me quite the pleasant surprise.”

Lu Yin replied, “I’ve spent a great amount of effort to gather these people. Commander, do you want to return to the battlefield once again after being absent for so long?”

Shui Chuanxiao’s eyes blazed. “What’s your target?”

Lu Yin opened his star chart and chased Ku Wei away. Then, he pointed at a small flowzone: Basong Flowzone.

According to Lù Yan, the Neohuman Alliance's headquarters for the Innaverse and Outerverse was located in Basong Flowzone.

"The Neohuman Alliance's headquarters for the Innaverse and Outerverse?" Shui Chuanxiao was shocked.

Throughout history, the Neohuman Alliance had always been the Hall of Honor's greatest enemy. It was considered one of the Three Dark Hands, but that was merely an excuse put forth by the Hall of Honor to rally people within the Fifth Mainland to oppose the Neohuman Alliance. The Neohuman Alliance was actually the enemy of all of humanity.

No matter where a person was, everyone had the shared responsibility of destroying the Neohuman Alliance's corpse kings whenever they were encountered, even on a battlefield.

"The Neohuman Alliance is worse than we believed. We must find their headquarters and destroy it," Lu Yin stated firmly.

Shui Chuanxiao looked at Lu Yin with a meaningful expression. "I thought that you were more interested in conquering the Innaverse."

Lu Yin smiled. "Of course I am, but they are a cancer. I won't feel right if I don't remove it."

After seeing the war in the Perennial World and the spies and Redbacks there, how could Lu Yin remain focused on internal disputes? His primary motivation for uniting the Fifth Mainland was actually to fight back against the four ruling powers of the Perennial World and Aeternus.

A disjointed Fifth Mainland would never be able to defeat Aeternus.

Shaman God had set up a scheme that would allow Lu Yin to unite the Fifth Mainland, but Lu Yin did not intend to follow Shaman God's path. Lu Yin was going to drag the Neohuman Alliance into the mess and destroy them before moving against the four ruling powers.

Investigating Basong Flowzone was the first mission that Lu Yin gave Shui Chuanxiao, and it was also the man's first mission after becoming the commander of the Great Eastern Alliance's military.

Two days later, Shui Chuanxiao delivered a proposal to Lu Yin.

Lu Yin had believed that Shui Chuanxiao only excelled at militaristic warfare, but after seeing the man's proposal, Lu Yin realized that Shui Chuanxiao's foresight was quite similar to Wang Wen's. In this case, the commander's tactics were even better than what Wang Wen had come up with.

"His excuse to send the Allied Forces because of how Fennel Flowzone has been isolated is exactly the same as yours," Lu Yin smiled.

Wang Wen replied, "He's done my job for me."

"Not just yours—he's finished Wei Rong's job, too." Lu Yin glanced back at Shui Chuanxiao's proposal.

Wang Wen frowned. "He could have completely destroyed Basong Flowzone and left no survivors, but he's intentionally left some paths open to Venom Flowzone, Soulseal Flowzone, and First Flowzone. He's setting the board up to unite the Inniverse. He really is very experienced."

"Just wait. He's using his own methods to infiltrate Basong Flowzone, and he'll need at least a month. I'll use this month to cultivate," Lu Yin paused before continuing, saying, "Just keep a low profile for now."

The people who were familiar with Lu Yin knew that he always tried to keep a low profile before taking any big actions.

The quieter the Great Eastern Alliance became, the more likely something major was about to occur.

Lu Yin secluded himself and began cultivating.

He had decided to do this because he had too much money.

After taking control of Blazing Mist Flowzone, the resources of the Ross Empire and the sylvan dragons had all become Lu Yin's.

With the Blaze Realm as an example, Lu Yin had not had any real hopes for the Ross Empire or the sylvan dragons. The more powerful the force was, the greater their expenditures, which meant that they would have fewer liquid assets. The Blaze Realm was a perfect example of this.

However, the Ross Empire had given Lu Yin a small surprise while the sylvan dragons had given Lu Yin a huge surprise.

The Ross Empire had had 700 million star essence, which was not a massive amount, though still better than the Blaze Realm. As for the sylvan dragons, Lu Yin had been shocked.

There were rumors that certain creatures liked to collect shiny objects, and while Lu Yin was not certain those rumors were referring to the sylvan dragons, he knew that he had hit the jackpot when he saw their treasury. The sylvan dragons had a total of 3.5 billion star essence.

How much was that? 3.5 billion was even more than the stores of Chaos Flowzone's Chaosgod Mountain.

Lu Yin had even thought that there had been a miscount when he first received the report, but sure enough, they had confiscated 3.5 billion.

He had asked the elder sylvan dragons about the matter and had then learned that the sylvan dragons had no use for star essence aside from cultivating. On top of that, sylvan dragons cultivated at a much slower speed than humans, which meant that they had accumulated an enormous amount of star essence.

Humans used their money to enjoy life, conduct business, and for gifts. However, the sylvan dragons did none of that, and they merely hoarded their wealth.

Although the sylvan dragons only took up a third of Blazing Mist Flowzone, they had gathered a staggering amount of resources over the years. If not for the Sixth Mainland's invasion that had cost the dragons half of their resources, Lu Yin would have received far more than 3.5 billion star essence.

Lu Yin became upset at that thought. He would never forget that the Sixth Mainland had stolen such a large amount of money from him.

Oh, right; some of the star essence on the transportation continent had definitely come from the sylvan dragons.

Lu Yin took a deep breath to calm himself. Otherwise, he would become more and more agitated the more he thought of the matter.

Although the Daynight clan had not possessed as many resources as the sylvan dragons, Lu Yin had still gained about 1.7 billion star essence from them.

Given the Daynight clan's position in the Innerverse, this could only be considered a small amount, and it was mainly due to Lu Yin's previous assault on Daynight Flowzone, as the clan had to use vast resources to recover from the damage that he had caused back then.

The resources of the Ross Empire, the sylvan dragons, and the Daynight clan amounted to 5.9 billion star essence in total. When added to Lu Yin's previous funds, he had 6.7 billion star essence. He was rich, truly rich.

Lu Yin's breathing started to grow ragged as he looked in the direction of First Flowzone with greedy eyes. He wondered how many resources he would be able to gain if he took over the Sword Sect and Beast Tamers Flowzone. Every time he gained a large amount of money, he could improve his abilities by a tremendous amount.

Lu Yin forced himself to calm down as he lifted a hand. His die appeared, and he rolled it.

Chapter 1696: A Mysterious Place

The die slowly spun around before finally landing on Pilfer. A bag of snacks fell out.

Lu Yin blinked; what a waste of time! He used his die again, but it landed on Pilfer again. This time, a piece of scrap metal dropped out. Lu Yin pouted. He rolled the die a third time, only to roll Pilfer yet again.

Lu Yin was speechless; why was he so unlucky this time? Why did he keep rolling Pilfer?

A leaf dropped out of the sky and landed on the ground.

Lu Yin's face twitched; a leaf? Who would store a leaf in their cosmic ring? Hang on...

Lu Yin's expression suddenly changed as he picked up the leaf. His mouth fell open in shock. This... was this Origin Matter?

The sprout in his upper meridian point trembled and radiated vitality as Lu Yin grabbed the leaf. The leaf in his hand also trembled in unison.

Lu Yin was stunned. He had never even thought that his die could grab someone's Origin Matter.

Was he dreaming? Lu Yin pinched himself, but he was not dreaming. He really had Pilfered Origin Matter!

The leaf's aura slowly spread outwards, and Lu Yin quickly stored it away.

Whose Origin Matter had he stolen with his die? Who even had Origin Matter? He immediately thought of the Fifth Mainland's Semi-Progenitors. Could he have stolen it from one of them? Or was his die actually able to reach the Perennial World? There was definitely more Origin Matter in the Perennial World than the Fifth Mainland.

There was definitely more than one piece of Origin Matter in the Dominion Realm. If not for Aeternus's schemes, the expedition to the Dominion Realm would have taken much longer, and they would have returned with more than just one leaf of Origin Matter.

Each expedition to the Dominion Realm was intended to be a test for the Junior Progenitors, and each one of the four ruling powers naturally kept some Origin Matter reserved in case their Junior Progenitor was unable to find any during their expedition.

Whose Origin Matter had Lu Yin taken? Had it belonged to one of the Fifth Mainland's Semi-Progenitors or to someone in the Perennial World? Lu Yin gulped. Still, he did not care who it had belonged to before, because it had become his. He was going to give it to Ming Yan.

He had already given the two extra tribulation crystal pillars that he had gained to Ming Yan so that she could open her lower and middle meridian points. With this Origin Matter, she would be able to open her upper meridian point as well, which would open up the path for her to potentially become a Progenitor in the future.

Lu Yin was overjoyed, and he wanted to tell Ming Yan about it immediately.

However, Ming Yan was not even a Hunter yet, so it was still too early for her to open her meridian points. He would have to wait for her to become a Hunter before giving her the Origin matter.

Lu Yin felt that this was his lucky day.

He lifted his hand again and brought out his die. This was his fourth roll, and he hoped he would get Timestop.

Lu Yin was delighted when he saw the die land on Timestop. This really was his lucky day.

Lu Yin appeared in the Timestop Space, and he immediately took out the Karmic Flame, which was the catalyst for the Blaze Realm's Karmic Flame Sword. The flame had already been very powerful when Lu Yin had first acquired it, but after upgrading it six times, the Karmic Flame's runes were now comparable to those of an expert with a power level of 700,000.

Still, there was no reason to save the flame. Lu Yin decided to let the Skyblaze Stone absorb it right away so that he could cultivate faster.

...

Extreme heat covered his arms, and the entire Timestop Space was filled with vaporized star energy.

Lu Yin quickly absorbed the star energy by using the Skyblaze Stone in tandem with the Cosmic Art. As he did so, his golden battle force shrouded his body.

Without his golden battle force, Lu Yin would have been unable to endure the high temperature of the Karmic Flame.

He had already reached his thirty second cycle after becoming an Enlighter in the Perennial World, and he was working on completing his thirty third cycle at this moment. He needed to use 100 million star essence per cycle whereas normal cultivators only needed a million star essence. It was a shocking discrepancy.

He was a member of the Lu family, and they simply could not support their Champions' Stage without a correspondingly large amount of star energy.

Lu Yin still did not know what had happened to him back then. When he had still been Lu Xiaoxuan, he must have had quite a few champions in his Champions' Stage, but his current Champions' Stage seemed brand new.

Had he been able to summon Envoys as an Enlighter or maybe even a Hunter before? Lu Yin withstood the high temperature of the flames while considering his forgotten past.

At a glance, the entire Timestop Space looked like a blazing red star as vaporized star energy surged into Lu Yin.

Thirty fourth, thirty fifth. The Skyblaze Stone's flames soon expired, as Lu Yin had not had much of the Karmic Flame. Fortunately, he would still be able to use it one last time.

The Karmic Flame that he had picked up in the Blaze Realm only had three uses, and there was one remaining.

Lu Yin did not have much time left in the Timestop Space, so he left after practicing the Cosmic Art for a bit. After ten days passed, He used his die once again.

He rolled Timestop right away, and he continued cultivating.

He used the Skyblaze Stone again, and the Timestop space once more became burning hot.

Some time later, Lu Yin managed to complete his thirty ninth cycle, and the flames completely disappeared from the Skyblaze Stone.

Lu Yin took a deep breath. He had just completed his thirty ninth cycle, which meant that he was only one cycle away from completing his fortieth. He was drawing closer and closer to becoming an Envoy.

He had used almost a billion star crystals to progress from his thirty second to his thirty ninth cycle.

Lu Yin sometimes wondered if it was even possible to gather such an absurd amount of star essence without the ambition to unite the Fifth Mainland. How would he have cultivated? Would he have been forced to rob people?

Back when the Lu family had ruled the Perennial World, had they been forced into such a position because of the amount of star essence required for their cultivation?

Lu Yin also had not even included the star essence that he had used with his die, as his expenses would be truly terrifying if he had done that.

He had used an astronomical amount of star essence so far, possibly exceeding even the funds of the Inniverse's major forces.

He wondered how he would answer if Ming Yan ever asked him how he used his star essence.

It was a question that could not be answered.

Lu Yin had become much more powerful after completing his thirty ninth cycle; he was able to even challenge Envoys with power levels of 600,000 now. Against a powerhouse like Cang Zhou, Lu Yin would no longer be easily defeated and would actually stand a fighting chance.

Still, he felt sad at the thought that he had just consumed a billion star essence.

He checked the time, and he had already spent a year and a half in the Timestop Space.

Done advancing for now, Lu Yin recited the Stonewall Scriptures as he practiced the Cosmic Art. He left the space after his time expired, but he continued to roll his die. In the outside world, only ten days had passed.

At this same time, Ming Yan opened her eyes and sighed. "Moonstar is very powerful. It's such a shame that I can't teach it to Brother Lu."

She stood up and looked out her window at Black Street.

If she had not taken control of Bu Laoweng, she would have been in a terrible situation.

Ming Yan fell deep into thought. Some time later, she suddenly thought of something, and she happily took out two tribulation crystal pillars. "These were a present from Brother Lu. He said that I should only use them after becoming a Hunter. I wish that I could do that already so that I could give Brother Lu a surprise."

It seemed as though she had found a source of greater motivation, and she continued cultivating after putting the tribulation crystal pillars away once more.

Lu Yin exited the Timestop space and resumed rolling his die. In addition to improving his cultivation, he also wanted to Enhance some items, such as the initiate ore that he had picked up in the Celestial Frost Sect's ruins. He wondered if he could upgrade it, as he planned to integrate it into his armor if it was possible to Enhance it.

The die eventually landed on Possession.

Lu Yin's eyes gleamed. Given his current strength, anyone whom he Possessed should be an Envoy, which meant that they would be a senior in their organization.

He appeared in the same strange place as always, and he saw countless balls of light. He chose the one that was the brightest and closest to merge with it.

When his senses returned, he was confused. What was this feeling? Lu Yin felt very odd. He opened his eyes to find that he was surrounded by darkness. He looked down, he could not see even his own body. Was he Possessing some sort of astral beast?

Lu Yin had indeed Possessed a type of astral beast that he had seen before: a Creeper.¹

Lu Yin was shocked to discover that he was in the Astral Beast Domain. He clenched his fists and tried to get a sense of how strong this Creeper was. These creatures often worked together with Soundseekers,² and their combination was very powerful.

Lu Yin had struggled greatly to deal with a Creeper at Erudite Flowzone's border.

Lu Yin could feel how powerful this Creeper was. It was an Envoy with a power level of about around 600,000, but it was also extremely strong. Its physical strength was comparable to Lu Yin's, and it could easily defeat a powerhouse with a power level around 600,000 with its physical strength alone.

Possessing an astral beast was a strange experience, and Lu Yin saw only darkness in his surroundings. However, as an Envoy, it was easy to observe his surroundings.

The first thing that he found was an enormous statue. As Lu Yin looked up, he could not find the top of the statue. All he could see was one of the statue's four legs, and the head was nowhere to be seen. Lu Yin quickly accessed the Creeper's memories.

He froze for a moment and then stared at the statue in disbelief.

The Creeper didn't know who the statue was of, but it did know that the Celestial Beast Empire's Skymender often and faithfully prayed to it.

Even in the Human Domain, Lu Yin had heard of Skymender. He was able to divine the future like members of the Starsibyl Sect, and he was someone whom even Semi-Progenitors were wary of. Despite all of that, such a powerhouse still prayed to this statue.

Who was this statue of?

Lu Yin browsed through more memories of Skymender praying to the statue, and he quickly found the reason why the Creeper was in this place. It was responsible for moving humanoid sourceboxes.

Lu Yin continued to observe the Creeper's memories after finding one of the Creepers moving a humanoid sourcebox. However, the only memories that Lu Yin could find were those of the Creeper moving humanoid sourceboxes, Skymender praying to the statue, and the creature's childhood.

The Creeper did not know who the statue represented, why it needed to move humanoid sourceboxes, or what the humanoid sourceboxes actually were.

Chapter 1697: Little Tree

There were other astral beasts in this place in addition to the Creeper, but every single one of them was an Envoy. They were all responsible for transporting humanoid sourceboxes, or to be more accurate, they were here to protect the sourceboxes.

At that moment, a voice rang out. "Something's approaching."

Moments later, a Soundseeker walked out.

Creeper and Soundseeker always worked together within the Astral Beast Domain, and this was true even for the beasts that had reached the Envoy level.

Lu Yin continued to browse through the Creeper's memories, and he soon realized that he was in a mysterious place. Still, some living creatures would approach them from time to time, though they were all destroyed as soon as they drew close. Even elders from the Celestial Beast Empire or the Crown Prince Yao Xuan himself would be killed if they approached this region without Skymender's permission.

Lu Yin controlled the Creeper to follow the Soundseeker, and they moved into the sky. They were in a pocket space, similar to where the Celestial Frost Sect's ruins had been.

This was a remote region of the Celestial Beast Empire that was far to the depths of the empire.

The Soundseeker had already attacked some Firesnow Drakes that had accidentally wandered into the area. These Firesnow Drakes were not particularly powerful, and they were not included on the Celestial Beast List. Most likely, they had entered the spatial crack by accident, but they were still slated to be eradicated.

The Soundseeker easily destroyed the entire clan.

"Why didn't you help?" the Soundseeker asked.

"Lu Yin" answered, "I didn't have to."

"Have you forgotten what the Imperial Advisor said? The existence of this place can never be revealed, or else our clans will be destroyed," the Soundseeker solemnly reminded.

Skymender had said this in the past, and those memories appeared in the Creeper's mind. As soon as this place was discovered, both of their species would be destroyed.

Both species were listed on the Celestial Beast List, but Skymender had still threatened to exterminate them. Moreover, the Creepers and Soundseekers absolutely believed the threat, which showed how much influence Skymender wielded throughout the Astral Beast Domain, as well as the importance of this place.

Lu Yin left the Creeper's body and opened his eyes. He immediately tried to make a note of the location of where he had just been, but it proved impossible, as the location did not exist even in the Creeper's memories.

Lu Yin sighed and opened a star chart to study the regions around the Astral Beast Domain.

The Human Domain had been at war with the Astral Beast Domain for countless years, and they had a good understanding of the place. They had formed a rough star chart of the Astral Beast Domain, but Lu Yin could not find the place no matter how hard he studied the star chart.

Ever since Progenitor Hui's plot had successfully tricked the Sixth Mainland and the Neohuman Alliance's forces from outside the Fifth Mainland were being held back by the three Progenitors at the only hole, the war between the Human Domain and the Astral Beast Domain had greatly diminished in scale. Lu Yin had even heard that the war between the two Domains was something that had mostly existed in an attempt to deceive the Neohuman Alliance and the Sixth Mainland.

However, was that actually true? The war between the two domains had lasted for untold years, and countless people had died at the border warfront. Countless species had even gone extinct in the Astral Beast Domain, so how could everything be justified as an attempt to confuse the Sixth Mainland?

Furthermore, the memories that Lu Yin had just obtained also showed that Skymender was gathering humanoid sourceboxes. Lu Yin's greatest impression regarding humanoid sourceboxes was still Xiao Shi's words, which was to never unlock them.

Even though Xiao Shi did not seem to be a reliable source, he had mentioned both the God of Death and his domain, both of which Lu Yin had later confirmed to be real. In that case, could Xiao Shi's warning regarding humanoid sourceboxes also be true?

Even if his words were not true, then if humanoid sourceboxes held humans, why would Skymender collect such things?

Lu Yin mulled over this for a bit before contacting Xiao Shi.

"Brother Lu, it's great that you called us! Have you thought it through? It's great to have a bowl cut, and you should get one, too!" Xiao Shi said with great excitement.

Lu Yin cringed. "Let's talk about that later. Xiao Shi, do you remember mentioning humanoid sourceboxes to me? Why can't I unlock those?"

Xiao Shi immediately grew serious. "No reason is recorded in my book, but it repeatedly stated one thing: do not unlock them."

"But there isn't a reason?"

"Brother Lu, have you found any humanoid sourceboxes?" Xiao Shi exclaimed.

Lu Yin answered, "I think so."

"You mustn't open it! Apart from saying not to unlock humanoid sourceboxes, there was another note in the book: 'opportunity coexists with risk,'" Xiao Shi explained.

Lu Yin became even more confused than before. "Is there anything else?"

"Nothing else, Brother Lu. Get a bowl cut too, as then Xiao Chi and I won't be the Chi Shi Duo anymore."

Lu Yin was left speechless. "Oh right, you also mentioned fatesand before. What do you know about it?"

"Fatesand... Let me take a look." Xiao Shi flipped through his blank book. "That's strange, why is it gone?"

"What's gone?"

"The book used to say that anyone who gathers enough fatesand would be able to receive an inheritance from Destiny, but that line's gone. That's fine. This book's contents are always changing, so I'm already used to it," Xiao Shi said.

Lu Yin's eyes flickered. "Anyone who gathers enough fatesand can receive an inheritance from Destiny? Is that true?"

Xiao Shi answered, "If it's in the book, then it's true. However, since it's gone from the book, I'm no longer certain."

Lu Yin nodded. "Alright, see you later."

“Brother Lu, think about it! A mushroom cut is great!” Xiao Shi tried to convince Lu Yin again, but he immediately hung up. Get a bowl cut? He would rather die.

Lu Yin only made a quick note of what he had learned about the humanoid sourceboxes as there was only one piece of new information. He then checked his star essence, as he had spent a long time Possessing the Creeper, and it had an impressive distance as well.

Lu Yin sighed in relief after checking; he had only used about 300 million star essence.

While it was a terrifying amount to others, it was an acceptable expenditure to Lu Yin, as he had learned of Skymender’s deepest secret.

Lu Yin continued to roll his die, and it next landed on Timestop.

He had already entered his Timestop Space multiple times, but Lu Yin continued rolling his die as soon as he entered the space. He wanted to get Enhance.

He was not worried, as after entering the Timestop Space, he was guaranteed to roll Enhance.

He rolled his die every ten days, and it finally gave him Enhance on the third roll. Lu Yin immediately tossed the Taichu Stone onto the light screen but found that he could not upgrade it because it was a basic material. He disappointedly put it away and then looked through his cosmic ring. He really did not have anything else that he could upgrade.

Out of curiosity, he tossed the leaf onto the light screen, wondering if he could upgrade Origin Matter.

He placed millions of star essence on the screen, and even though everything was consumed, the leaf did not move at all.

This was simply a bottomless pit! Lu Yin sadly put the leaf away, as he had nowhere near enough money to fully upgrade it.

What about the bark of the Mother Tree that he had obtained? Lu Yin tried, but he failed to upgrade that as well. The Chief Justice’s bell? Also impossible to Enhance. He glanced at a stellar energy pill. It was the one that he had Enhanced eight times already, which had cost him 1.9 billion star essence. He had stopped upgrading it after that for two reasons: he had run out of funds, and he had also felt a trace of vitality from the pill.

It was a truly bizarre feeling, as if there was an eye fixed upon him, and the feeling left Lu Yin very uneasy.

He felt the same way when he pulled the pill out again.

Lu Yin gritted his teeth and resumed Enhancing the stellar energy pill.

He had already spent 1.9 billion star essence, and he did not want to waste all that money to stop halfway.

He forced himself to ignore the vitality he sensed and simply continued upgrading the pill, as he was unafraid of anything within the Timestop Space. He could even defeat Leaf King if the powerhouse suddenly appeared.

He tossed the stellar energy pill onto the top lightscreen and started throwing star essence out.

The ninth upgrade cost 1.8 billion, and Lu Yin almost vomited blood. This upgrade caused the color of the stellar energy pill to change, and now, there was something that looked like a shoot on its surface.

Lu Yin stared at the shoot on the stellar energy pill in shock. Would this thing grow into a tree? Suddenly, a strange feeling struck Lu Yin from the pill; he felt a desire to live.

This was an indescribable feeling, and he felt as though he was holding a newborn baby in his arms rather than a pill.

He estimated that he would need about 3.5 billion star essence to upgrade it once more. That was everything that he had left.

Normally, he would not continue upgrading an item. For example, he had stopped upgrading the froststone when he realized that he would not be able to completely upgrade it even though he had heard the rumors claiming that the ultimate froststone could freeze time itself. However, the stellar energy pills were related to Shamrock Enterprise, and he was curious about just what was watching him. Still, he was unwilling to use up all his money just for curiosity.

Lu Yin's eyes flashed. Should he upgrade or not? This was a huge dilemma.

The shoot on the pill glowed faintly within his hand. The light of the glow touched Lu Yin's finger and gave him a warm, comfortable feeling. At the same time, he heard a soft call. This was not an actual sound, but rather the tremor of life. Lu Yin instinctively started upgrading the stellar energy pill when the call resonated within him.

He could not reject the feeling of new life appearing. Even more importantly, the black and white mist inside his chest had calmed down upon feeling the resonance.

Lu Yin did not know what sort of impact the stellar energy pill would have on his death energy, but he did not mind trying it out since his ultimate goal for using money was to help him become more powerful.

He had stumbled upon the God of Death transformation, but he had not truly inherited anything at all.

This was the pill's tenth upgrade, and it was the most expensive Enhancement that Lu Yin had ever made. He spent a total of 3.5 billion star essence to complete it.

As the stellar energy pill dropped through the lower light screen, the shoot started to grow into a small tree.

At the same time, the stellar energy pill completely disappeared the moment the upgrade finished, as the sapling had completely absorbed the pill.

It was a small tree with only two branches and brilliant green leaves that stood half a meter tall. When it landed on the ground, a normal person would think that it was just a normal tree, aside from the fact that it was glowing.

Chapter 1698: Guess

Lu Yin's lips twitched; this would not just be a normal tree, right? That should be impossible after he had spent 7.2 billion star essence Enhancing it. If it was still a normal tree, he would be traumatized forever.

The little tree started to move as Lu Yin stared at it. It suddenly rose up vertically and moved to face Lu Yin.

Its green leaves twitched a bit, and then it stopped moving.

Lu Yin blinked and moved closer to the tree.

The tree moved again, retreating a small distance. It seemed as though it was scared.

Lu Yin took another step forward, and the leaves on the small tree glowed with greater intensity, creating a beautiful green halo behind it.

Lu Yin slowly approached the tree as it continuously retreated. However, it finally stopped retreating after Lu Yin touched his hand to a branch. Upon contact, the tree moved forward and used a branch to rub against Lu Yin's hand while conveying a happy feeling.

Lu Yin smiled when he felt its emotion. This was not the smile that he had shown after taking over Blazing Mist Flowzone, nor the one typically appeared after defeating an enemy. This was a gentle smile that radiated pure happiness.

The branch was hard, but also flexible, and it was brimming with vitality.

At the same time, the sprout of Origin Matter in Lu Yin's upper meridian point also started to radiate vitality, and it even interacted with the little tree.

Lu Yin was astonished; could this tree also be made of Origin Matter? That was impossible. Shamrock Enterprise had produced a great number of stellar energy pills, so how could this tree possibly be Origin Matter? If the pills were made with Origin Matter, then Leaf King would have to be the Mother Tree.

Wait a moment, the Mother Tree?

Lu Yin's expression changed as he suddenly thought of something. He studied the little tree more closely.

It seemed that the little tree was able to sense Lu Yin's emotions, and it suddenly trembled and retreated a bit as soon as Lu Yin grew serious. Its branches also shrunk in onto itself, and it acted scared.

Stellar energy pill, Mother Tree, sprout, Leaf King.

Lu Yin thought of a scary possibility after linking all of those things together. Since plants had seeds, then could the stellar energy pills contain Leaf King's seeds?

That could be the reason why the stellar energy pills allowed one to enter the true universe, as Leaf King had the same ability. This was also how Yu Mu had died; he had not been assassinated by someone from Shamrock Enterprise, but rather killed by his stellar energy pill! This was also why Balsam had given one of the pills to Lu Yin so easily.

Lu Yin had actually believed that he had succeeded in forcing Shamrock Enterprise to give him the stellar energy pills, but in truth, he had fallen into Shamrock Enterprise's scheme; they would be able to kill him at any time through these pills.

Lu Yin was confident in this conclusion.

He had already faced the Nine Clone Secret Technique, as well as Undying Yushan's glowing orbs of spiritual force. It was therefore not overly difficult for Lu Yin to accept that Leaf King could produce seeds, as it would explain why the stellar energy pill had sprouted. Everything made sense if the pills contained Leaf King's seeds, as it was natural for seeds to sprout.

Lu Yin turned to look at the little tree with excitement. This meant that this little thing was the new Leaf King.

The little tree was scared by Lu Yin's emotions, and it retreated from him once again.

Lu Yin smiled and approached the little tree. "Don't be scared. I won't hurt you."

The little tree's leaves shook, and it behaved very affectionately towards Lu Yin; it had imprinted upon Lu Yin in the same manner that baby animals recognized their parents. The tree felt happy when Lu Yin smiled, and it used its branch to caress his face. It then happily leaped into Lu Yin's arms.

Lu Yin had never expected that the first child he held in his arms would be a sapling rather than his own child.

The little tree felt very close to Lu Yin, and he also had a strong urge to protect it. He thought of the little tree as a member of his family, as it had been birthed under his care.

"I'll call you Sapling from now on, ok?" Lu Yin smiled.

Sapling was thrilled, and it happily waved its branches like a child.

Lu Yin soon took Sapling out of the Timestop Space. It was scared when it saw a new place, and it twined a branch around Lu Yin's finger.

Lu Yin smiled, but the corner of his mouth twitched when he glanced down at his cosmic ring. He was out of money again, as he only had 100 million star essence remaining. While this was still a huge amount to a normal cultivator, it was just pocket change to Lu Yin, as it could not support his die at all.

Lu Yin sighed as he walked out with Sapling. The tree twined a branch about Lu Yin's finger, and it happily followed Lu Yin around. Lu Yin was able to sense the tree's fear as it observed the unfamiliar places as its branch would wind more tightly around Lu Yin's finger.

At the same moment that Lu Yin left the Timestop Space with Sapling, Leaf King exited his seclusion in Shamrock Enterprise's hidden world.

Leaf King had always been a very mysterious individual, and very few people had even seen him. Balsam acted as his representative to the outside world.

Still, nobody would expect Leaf King to be a handsome young man who was even better looking than Yao Xuan. He looked very young, and people would assume that he was around Lu Yin's age.

Balsam bowed as soon as she saw Leaf King appear, though she was shocked to see that he had ended his cultivation early.

"Leaf King, why did you come out early?" Balsam asked.

Leaf King stood in place, clearly in deep thought. There was a stellar energy pill in his hand.

Balsam did not dare to disturb the man and merely silently stood behind him.

"Who has been given a stellar energy pill?" Leaf King asked.

Balsam immediately provided a list.

Leaf King fell back into thought as he read through the list.

Leaf King explained, "We've lost control of one of the stellar energy pills."

Balsam was shocked. "Lost control? It's been used?"

As soon as she spoke she regretted her words; how could they lose control of a pill after it had been used?

Leaf King remained calm. "From this list, who is able to cause us to lose control of a stellar energy pill?"

Balsam quickly skimmed through the list. Although Shamrock Enterprise had not publicly revealed the stellar energy pills, they had merely hidden the true function of the pills. They had actually already handed out quite a number of the pills to various forces, such as the Hall of Honor and other various forces in the Neoverse, including the Court of Seven Names.

Multiple organizations were already in possession of a stellar energy pill, and there had not been any issues over the last few years. The stellar energy pills had all been weakened so that none of them could provide access to the true universe, and nobody had paid much attention to them. It was also no surprise that people were seen using them, as the weakened pills were only able to open a small tear in space.

However, losing control of a pill was a big problem, as it meant that someone had discovered the secret behind the stellar energy pills, which would cause huge trouble for Shamrock Enterprise.

"Leaf King, if someone has learned the secret--"

Balsam was interrupted by Leaf King. "Nobody will find that out. It's impossible," Leaf King coldly refuted.

Balsam suddenly thought of Lu Yin.

She had recently given Lu Yin a stellar energy pill, and he also was aware of the true function of the pills. He was the person with the greatest chance of learning the secret behind the pills, as he was exceptionally lucky, possessed a strong background, as well as a powerful master. Nobody truly knew the youth's limits.

"Spread out the stellar energy pills according to plan," Leaf King ordered.

Balsam was startled. "Are we accelerating the plan?"

Leaf King did not reply, and he simply held a stellar energy pill in his hand.

Lu Yin reappeared within the Ross Empire, accompanied by Sapling, which shocked many people.

Lu Yin had no worries that Sapling would be recognized, as there were many unique beings throughout the universe. There were astral beasts who could transform into humans, and there were even plants and even black holes that had successfully managed to cultivate. There were many strange things in the universe, so nobody was overly surprised to see a small tree follow Lu Yin about.

The Second Nightking and Liu Huang showed no surprise at all, as they had already seen everything before given their long lives.

Ku Wei approached Lu Yin, and he stared at Sapling in a daze. "Master, what's that?"

Ku Wei spoke in a very loud voice and scared Sapling. It immediately hid behind Lu Yin and only revealed half a branch to peek at Ku Wei.

Lu Yin asked, "Why're you here?"

Ku Wei grinned. "Everything's good right now, and I missed you."

He resumed studying Sapling with curiosity.

Sapling waved its leaves while conveying its curiosity to Lu Yin. It was very curious about everything nearby.

"If you don't have anything to do, then go find some more strange plants that can move," Lu Yin ordered.

Ku Wei wanted to know why Lu Yin wanted these things, but he already knew that Lu Yin would not answer that question. Thus, Ku Wei left after taking another look at Sapling.

Beep beep!

Lu Yin's gadget rang.

Sapling was scared by the sound, and it immediately wrapped itself tightly around Lu Yin.

Lu Yin patted the tree and calmed it down.

"Alliance Leader Lu, sorry for disturbing you. This is Balsam."

Lu Yin's eyes flashed, and he glanced down at Sapling. "Why are you calling me?"

Balsam smiled. "I wanted to congratulate Alliance Leader Lu for gaining control of Blazing Mist Flowzone and entering the Innerverse. I congratulate you on behalf of Shamrock Enterprise. Also, we would like to send the Great Eastern Alliance a batch of pills as a gift."

"Blazing Mist Flowzone has been isolated from the neighboring flowzones. Can you get here?" Lu Yin asked.

Xiang Zhi smiled. "Shamrock Enterprise has been doing business throughout the Innerverse and the Outerverse for many years, so we are certainly able to do that much."

"Alright, then thank you," Lu Yin said.

Balsam soon ended the call.

Lu Yin smiled. He was more convinced than ever that his guess was correct. Shamrock Enterprise was not on good terms with him, and while they were not enemies, they also could not be considered allies. It was far too suspicious for them to be willing to offend the Innerverse's major forces by entering Blazing Mist Flowzone just to give him a gift. If his guess was correct, then Balsam would personally visit him to ask about the stellar energy pills that he had been given.

Lu Yin immediately called Ku Wei and asked him to quickly start looking for strange plants that could move around. At the same time, Lu Yin also considered the various natural treasures that had reached the level of sensing danger. He wondered what Balsam's expression would be when she saw such things around him.

If nobody had seen Sapling before, then these actions would make Balsam even more suspicious. However, many people had already seen Lu Yin with Sapling, and he believed that Balsam would definitely learn about it from those people. This meant that Lu Yin could only find more mobile plants in order to distract people. As for Sapling, he had become quite attached to it and had decided to hide it.

Chapter 1699: Unlucky

Lu Yin spent a few days wandering around the Ross Empire with Sapling so that it would no longer be so scared by everything. At the same time, due to Ku Wei's advertising, Lu Yin's interest in collecting unique plants had been revealed to the public, and a lot of people sent unique plants over to the Ross Empire as a result.

There were suddenly a great many more plants in the Ross Empire, and the whole region had become much greener.

There were even some unique plants that could occasionally be seen moving about.

Also, half a month had passed since Shui Chuanxiao had started infiltrating Basong Flowzone. Once the Lu Elite Troops successfully infiltrated the area, they would start attacking Basong Flowzone.

Whoosh whoosh!

Sapling kept happily shaking its leaves as a beautiful blue flower gave off a blue glow that enveloped the sapling. The plant hopped about excitedly, and there was also a small shrub nearby that kept producing dew.

Birds flew overhead, creating a picturesque scenery of natural beauty.

“Alliance Leader Lu, the Ordnance Mercenaries sent someone over with a tree that can run,” someone reported.

Lu Yin said, “Send them over.”

Sapling was more comfortable with plants than people. Ku Wei had visited twice recently, but Sapling was still scared of him. However, it was unafraid of all the plants. One of the plants was even very aggressive, but it acted timidly whenever Sapling was around.

The captain of the Ordnance Mercenaries, Qi Jin, soon arrived, followed by a huge tree.

Lu Yin had a strong impression of the Ordnance Mercenaries; Shalosh, the captain of the Eighth Imperial Squadron, was the mercenaries’ vice-captain. Also, Ian, who was a part of the Allied Forces, had spent quite a bit of time as part of the crew. Finally, the Ordnance Mercenaries had worked for Lu Yin in the past.

“I’m Qi Jin. It’s good to see you, Alliance Leader Lu.”

“It’s been a long time, Captain Qi Jin. How are the Ordnance Mercenaries doing?” Lu Yin asked.

Qi Jin answered in a respectful tone, “Thanks for asking, Alliance Leader Lu. Everything is going well.”

He set the tree that he had been carrying down and warily grabbed one of its branches before turning to Lu Yin. “Alliance Leader Lu, I heard that you’re collecting unique plants, and this tree is quite strange. You can see for yourself if you’re interested in it.”

Lu Yin curiously looked at the tree. It looked quite normal and did not seem special at all.

Sapling, who had still been playing with the blue flower, suddenly rushed over and jumped up on top of the tree. The tree instantly started moving, and it raised up all its branches in a show of anger.

Lu Yin was shocked.

Qi Jin had no time to react before two thick branches appeared from between the tree’s roots, and the tree took off running.

Qi Jin anxiously chased after the tree, and Lu Yin grinned. He could see that the tree had a few runes, about the same number as the blue flower or the shrub that produced dew.

However, the tree was clearly much stronger than the other plants as Qi Jin, who was almost a Cruiser, was unable to drag the tree back to Lu Yin. Instead, Qi Jin was dragged along by the tree like a rag.

In the end, Lu Yin was forced to drag the tree back. Sapling happily leaped about, and Lu Yin Lu Yin could sense its delight.

The big tree was scared of Lu Yin, and it was also annoyed that it had been dragged back. So, it turned to escape in another direction but failed again. Regardless, the tree instantly tried to flee in yet another direction.

Qi Jin blushed in an awkward manner, as this was humiliating.

Lu Yin just laughed. They were in a place that had been built for Sapling, and it was already filled with other unique plants. The big tree fit right in.

“Captain Qi Jin, you’ve done well,” Lu Yin praised.

Qi Jin smiled. “I’m sorry for the embarrassing incident.”

Lu Yin rewarded Qi Jin with some items before sending the man away.

There were many strange things in the vast universe, and countless unique plants were sent over with every passing day. Lu Yin also spent some time playing with Sapling, and he even gave it his other stellar energy pill. Sapling was thrilled, and it grew a bit taller after absorbing the pill.

Lu Yin’s eyes gleamed after seeing that Sapling could grow by absorbing other stellar energy pills. How interesting.

Some time had passed since Lu Yin had left Gaia’s Swamp, so both Liu Huang and the Second Nightking had regained a bit of their former strength.

At the moment, the Second Nightking’s power level had returned to around 700,000 while Liu Huang’s had reached around 600,000. If not for the Warden’s attacks, the two would have recovered much more quickly, especially since they had been given Enhanced pills by Lu Yin.

“Alliance Leader Lu, when can I return to the Sword Sect?” Liu Huang asked.

Lu Yin calmly answered, “It’s still too early. We’ll talk after your power level breaks through 900,000. The current sect leader, Liu Qianjue, isn’t someone who’s focused only on swordsmanship but is someone ambitious and quite capable. If you return now, you’ll just end up as a mere elder.”

Liu Huang was not the Second Nightking, and Lu Yin had never planned on permanently keeping the swordsman around as a bodyguard. Rather, he wanted to use Liu Huang to control the Sword Sect and force them to join the Great Eastern Alliance. This was the deal that the two had made in Gaia’s Swamp.

As long as Liu Huang was present, Lu Yin had absolutely no worries regarding the Sword Sect. If Liu Huang tried to renege on their deal, Lu Yin would have a perfectly valid reason to attack the Sword Sect. He might not even need to do so, as Liu Huang had previously been secretly captured by the Hall of Honor, and the man would never dare to publicly reveal himself. This was a crucial secret that Lu Yin could use to threaten the man. However, Lu Yin had no intention of actually exposing Liu Huang, as doing so would stain the Hall of Honor’s reputation, and Lu Yin had no wish to do such a thing to one of his strongest supporters.

Also, all of this made Madam Hong’s excuse of the Sword Sect imprisoning the Sea King seem pointless.

Actually, that was quite strange; why was there still no news at all from Madam Hong?

Lu Yin had expected Madam Hong to cause some trouble for him after Master Qing Hua left. Instead, he had heard basically nothing from the World Imprinter despite so much time passing. He almost wanted to reach out to Xun Jiong.

Lu Yin’s gadget beeped while he was watching Sapling playfully leap about. He glanced down and saw that there was a call request from an unknown contact.

A voice spoke up. "This thing is pretty useful. Why didn't I use it last time? The network isn't bad either. There's actually information about divination that's even quite detailed. I wonder if it's useful. I should try it out one day."

Lu Yin realized who was calling as soon as he heard the voice: Xuan Jiu.

"Xuan Jiu, the position of national advisor is still waiting for you to fill it. Why haven't you come over yet?" Lu Yin asked.

Xuan Jiu seriously answered, "I'm not going."

Lu Yin's brows rose high. "You don't want to be the national advisor anymore?"

"No."

"You were the one who asked me for the position. Why did you change your mind? The Great Eastern Alliance is only becoming more and more powerful as time goes by."

Xuan Jiu hesitated. "You have offended too many people, and—" He hesitated before continuing. "You bring misfortune to people."

Lu Yin felt curious about this. "What do you mean?"

"Literally what I said: whoever follows you will have an unlucky life." The man was clearly annoyed. If he had taken the position of national advisor, then he would have been able to enjoy the rest of his life, especially since Lu Yin's tremendous ambition meant that he would always continue expanding his territory. Given that situation, Xuan Jiu would have become the national advisor for countless people, and everyone would have had to call him Ninth Grandfather. However, he had abandoned this dream after performing a divination.

Lu Yin's eyes flickered. "Xuan Jiu, we're old friends, so tell me. Why would I bring misfortune?"

Xuan Jiu sighed. "I saw an incredible future with Heaven's Enigma. Anyone near you will suffer terrible luck and die miserable deaths. I'm not cursing you, as this is just what I saw with Heaven's Enigma."

"I heard that the opposite of whatever you predict will occur."

"That's because I don't want to perform divination for most people. You're different. Boy, take care of yourself. I'll never see you again—you're too unlucky, and many people will die because of you," Xuan Jiu stated confidently.

Lu Yin's heart sank. "What did you see in your divination?"

Previously, Lu Yin had not believed Xuan Jiu, but that had started to change after the man performed a divination regarding Lu Yin's family. Additionally, the sect leader of the Starsibyl Sect had also acknowledged that Xuan Jiu had learned Heaven's Enigma, which gave Lu Yin even more cause to believe the man.

Xuan Jiu helplessly answered, "Heaven's Enigma doesn't show me a detailed future, and I can only see if it's good or bad. Anyways, you won't have a good time in the future—no, you won't have a good time

now either. Do you know when this happened? Your future changed when you returned from that place. Now it's miserable, just too miserable."

Lu Yin sneered. "My past was also miserable, but I don't believe in a destined future. Ever since I started cultivating, everything that I've done has overthrown other people's beliefs. Divination is nothing more than predicting the future by looking at the current situation, which is actually just another kind of perspective. I, Lu Yin, am the best at changing people's perspectives."

Xuan Jiu laughed. "That makes sense. You can try, but I still won't be there."

The man then hung up, but less than five seconds later, he called Lu Yin back. "There's something else I want to say. Boy, you picked up some items from the Celestial Frost Sect's ruins, right?"

"The Celestial Frost Sect's ruins? Some items?" Lu Yin considered the question. "I got quite a few things from there. What are you referring to?"

"Something related to Destiny," Xuan Jiu said solemnly.

Lu Yin's eyes glittered. "Why do you think I picked up something connected to Destiny?"

Xuan Jiu answered, "Only a few can detect the aura of Destiny, and Destiny's aura is becoming increasingly strong on you. You must have picked up something related to Destiny, so what is it?"

"Fatesand." Lu Yin made no effort to hide it, as he wanted to learn more from Xuan Jiu if possible.

Xuan Jiu exclaimed, "How much fatesand do you have?"

"Thirty nine pieces," Lu Yin answered.

Xuan Jiu took a deep breath. "Seriously? There's only 108 pieces of fatesand, and you have thirty nine? That's impressive. It's been spread all over the universe, and I only managed to find three after a great deal of difficulty. How did you get so much?"

Lu Yin was shocked. "You have fatesand too?"

Fatesand was quite precious, and not even all of the Ten Arbiters had some. Even if they did, they normally received it from their elders, as it was too difficult for youths to obtain any. Hong Ying's fatesand had been given to her by Madam Hong, and Lu Yin had not expected Xuan Jiu to have three pieces.

"Give me your fatesand."

"Give me your fatesand."

They spoke the same thing at the same time, and Xuan Jiu anxiously continued, "Boy, don't be cocky. It's not good to have so much fatesand, as it might cause you even further harm."

"Thanks for the concern, but I still want more." Lu Yin rolled his eyes.

Chapter 1700: An Important Guest

Xuan Jiu grew even more anxious after he heard Lu Yin's response. "I'm not lying! Fatesand is related to Destiny, and you can't afford to offend Destiny. You've already received an inheritance from the God of

Death, and you've experienced his invincible power. Destiny is someone who appears right next to the God of Death in the legends, so you should know how powerful they are. You should give me your fatesand. Otherwise, you'll end up in deep trouble."

"It doesn't seem like anyone has gotten into trouble so far after receiving fatesand."

"That's because they only had a few pieces! Nobody would be able to detect one or two pieces of fatesand, but it's entirely different when you have more. You'll end up alerting Destiny after you get too much, and then Destiny will determine your fate! That's why your future looked so miserable to me—it has to be because of this stuff. Give it to me, and your future will become amazing!"

Lu Yin was left speechless. "Why do you want fatesand so badly? Is Destiny actually real? Are you trying to get Destiny's inheritance?"

"What inheritance? I'm gonna bury them all somewhere so that nobody will be able to find them, and they'll become a sourcebox. I hope that they'll never surface again for all eternity," Xuan Jiu spat viciously.

"Why?" Lu Yin asked.

Xuan Jiu snorted. "Everyone wants to see and change the future, but if you change your future, you also change other people's. Do you want anyone changing your future however they please? If Destiny's real, they have this power. Do you actually want such a person to show up?"

Lu Yin felt sudden chills. Changing his own future could lead to good or bad things, but the worst case scenario was having his future being altered by someone else.

"Do you believe that Destiny really exists?" Lu Yin asked.

Xuan Jiu answered solemnly, "No, but I still can't risk it."

Lu Yin shrugged. "I'm sorry, but I can't give you my fatesand. I have a use for them."

Xuan Jiu grew somber. "Alliance Leader, I'm really not joking here. You can't mess with Destiny. Anybody who gets involved with Destiny will encounter bad things."

"I'm also not joking. It's really useful to me," Lu Yin rebutted.

Xuan Jiu sighed. "If you're not going to give it to me, then at least don't give it to Starsibyl either. Some people are not who you think they are. Remember that."

The old man hung up.

Lu Yin fell deep into thought as he stared at his gadget. Destiny was truly a heavy matter to brood on... did such a person truly exist? Could they change destiny? What was destiny? Was it time? Could Progenitor Destiny alter time? Destinies would change if time was altered.

Did Destiny really exist?

The God of Death, Destiny, and Wu Tian: did these Ancient Progenitors truly exist? Wu Tian had left behind the Sword Monument, and the God of Death had created death energy. As for Destiny, they had created fatesand. These feats made it seem like the Ancient Progenitors had truly existed, but aside

from these few traces, there was nothing else that indicated that they had ever existed. If they were real, where were they? Were they dead or alive?

Lu Yin agreed with what Xuan Jiu had said; he could not allow anyone else to alter his destiny.

If Ancient Progenitor Destiny truly existed, then they could change other people's destiny, which meant that they were everybody's universal enemy.

No matter how evil or kind Destiny was, they were an enemy to everybody as nobody would want their destiny to be under someone else's control.

From a certain perspective, wouldn't such a person be a god if they were truly capable of altering other people's destiny?

Sapling continued to jump about happily, but Lu Yin could easily change its destiny, as it was currently incapable of independent thought. However, once it grew up and was able to go against Lu Yin, would it still be willing to let Lu Yin change its destiny?

Lu Yin suddenly turned to look at the Second Nightking. Xuan Jiu had sensed Destiny's aura on Lu Yin because of his fatesand, so why had there been so much fatesand in the ruins of the Celestial Frost Sect? The fatesand on the copper door had clearly been added on afterwards, and the Second Nightking also clearly believed in the existence of the God of Death's inheritance after Mr. Feng mentioned it.

Why would the Second Nightking have believed such a thing?

"Do you believe in the God of Death's existence?" Lu Yin asked while carefully observing the Second Nightking's reaction.

The Second Nightking frowned. "He's just a rumor."

"I'm going to ask you one more time: do you believe in the God of Death's existence?" Lu Yin was still rather upset, as Xuan Jiu's words had ruined his mood. He glared viciously at the Second Nightking, prepared to do something if the Second Nightking continued ignoring him.

The Second Nightking met Lu Yin's gaze and coldly stated, "I don't believe in him, but the Bai family does."

"The Bai family? The Bai family from the Celestial Frost Sect?" Lu Yin was stunned.

The Second Nightking nodded. "The Daynight clan managed to stay in the Fifth Mainland because we volunteered, but it was also to complete a task for the Celestial Frost Sect. We were ordered to find everything we could regarding Destiny. Destiny and the God of Death are mentioned in the same legends, and the Bai family firmly believed in both of them."

"The Daynight clan helped the Celestial Frost Sect gather items related to Destiny? The fatesand?" Lu Yin asked.

The Second Nightking answered, "That's right. Collecting fatesand was the task that they gave us, but we stopped after the First Nightking successfully rebelled against the Bai family. Even if the God of Death and Destiny are real, their existence is too uncertain, and we would rather believe in our own abilities."

Lu Yin finally understood why there had been fatesand on the treasury door in the Celestial Frost Sect's ruins. Those pieces of fatesand had been gathered by the Daynight clan, though they should have gathered even more over the countless years. However, they had ceased their task after their successful rebellion and had instead stepped onto the path towards ruling over the Inniverse.

The Bai family firmly believed in Destiny and the God of Death, so when Mr. Feng mentioned that Lu Yin had received the God of Death's inheritance, the Second Nightking had believed it because of the Bai family's principles. Also, the Second Nightking might have chosen to believe Mr. Feng's words because he hoped to steal the inheritance from Lu Yin.

The fatesand that had been behind the copper door had been gathered by the Celestial Frost Sect, so why had they not taken it with them?

Lu Yin sighed. Since the Bai family believed in Destiny, the Ancient Progenitor might not be a mere legend. Destiny might have truly existed in the past, and they were supposed to be an Ancient Progenitor who was capable of controlling others' destiny. Could fatesand really be connected to that person?

That would be interesting.

Lu Yin wondered what would happen if he gained inheritances from both the God of Death and Destiny.

Liu Huang observed the conversation with a strange expression. He believed in neither Destiny nor the God of Death. He was obsessed with swords, and he would much rather believe that someone could create the Fifteenth Sword.

His eyes lit up at the mere thought. Would it not be absolutely amazing if someone created a Fifteenth Sword?

A few days later, it was almost time to invade Basong Flowzone. Also, it was about time for Balsam to arrive.

One day, a guest arrived who was personally greeted by Lu Yin.

The bald head was extremely noticeable under the city lights. Lu Yin was thrilled. "Brother Hui Kong?"

The guest who had arrived in the Ross Empire was the bald old man, Hui Kong.

Hui Kong laughed when he saw Lu Yin. "Brother Lu, it's been a long time."

Lu Yin was excited, and he ran up to Hui Kong. "Brother Hui, you escaped?"

Hui Kong laughed. "What are you talking about? Nobody locked me up, so it's perfectly normal for me to leave for a bit."

He patted Lu Yin's shoulder and exclaimed, "You've gotten a lot stronger than during ZENITH! Brother Lu, you've got great luck."

Lu Yin immediately invited Hui Kong to have a seat.

Hui Kong glanced over at the Second Nightking and Liu Huang. "Brother Lu, aren't you going to introduce them to me?"

Lu Yin waved his hand to dismiss the Second Nightking and Liu Huang.

Hui Kong was caught off guard by how casual Lu Yin was towards the two powerhouses. "Brother, I don't even understand what you're doing. Those two are quite powerful. You aren't being tricked, right?"

Lu Yin smiled. "Brother, take a seat, and I'll explain everything to you slowly."

Lu Yin was genuinely grateful to Hui Kong, and he also felt like the old man was family. Hui Kong had saved Lu Yin, and he had also gone through many difficulties with Lu Yin while in the Technocracy. In truth, Hui Kong had taken care of Lu Yin and even provided him with food, resources, and a massive cosmic ring. He had even helped Lu Yin to escape from the Technocracy.

If not for Hui Kong, Lu Yin would have died in the Technocracy.

Lu Yin felt the same way towards Hui Kong as Big Sis. Apart from his die that he would never share with anyone, Lu Yin was willing to share anything else with Hui Kong.

Despite being from the Seven Courts' Hui family, Lu Yin still believed in Hui Kong.

Half a day later, Hui Kong was staring at Lu Yin in shock. "Brother Lu—"

Lu Yin smugly stared at Hui Kong's stunned expression. "What do you think?"

"Go through it again. I didn't hear you clearly."

Lu Yin was speechless.

"The Second Nightking and Liu Huang? Tsk, you've got balls, Brother Lu," Hui Kong exclaimed.

Lu Yin shrugged. "I didn't have any other choice."

Hui Kong smacked Lu Yin on the shoulder. "Good for you! You really are my brother, hahahaha!"

Lu Yin laughed despite the ache in his shoulder. "Brother, why'd you leave the Technocracy?"

Hui Kong's expression changed, and he grew solemn as he looked at Lu Yin. "There were people from that place who came for you."

Lu Yin hesitated a moment before his expression quickly changed. "The Perennial World?"

Hui Kong continued, "He called this place the 'Forsaken Land'."

Lu Yin clenched his hands into fists. "Who was it?"

"Wang Shang, from the four ruling powers."

Lu Yin frowned. He had not heard this name before, but this person had to be a powerhouse from the Wang family.

“He was quite powerful, and if not for my time cultivating in the Technocracy, he would have succeeded. I managed to force him back, but he’ll definitely return.” Hui Kong turned to Lu Yin and said in disbelief, “What did you do? How did you manage to antagonize such a powerful person? I’ve almost never encountered anyone that powerful despite wreaking havoc in the Technocracy for so long.”

Lu Yin flinched; who described themselves as wreaking havoc?

Lu Yin did not want to tell the man his identity as Lu Xiaoxuan. This was not because Lu Yin did not trust Hui Kong, but rather because he did not want to create problems for the older man. “Brother, there are some things that I can’t tell you, at least not for now. Just know that I’m in deep trouble and that I can be regarded as that entire place’s enemy.”

Hui Kong reflexively touched a hand to his head. “Impressive. I’ve spent so long in the Technocracy, and yet even I haven’t been branded a public enemy yet. You’re amazing.”