

Chapter 611 - 606: Eclipsing Conventions

Creating a world. The aura of this incident could only be sensed during three different occasions, normally. Firstly, the creation of the fixed space at the beginning of a Starfield's life cycle, forming its central, external, and internal parameters. Secondly, the artificial creation of a World Realm by cultivators at the Realm World Phase, the Seventh Stage of the Astral Core Realm, or higher.

Thirdly, and lastly, the formation of a Domain Seed shortly after ascending the Realm World Phase. The essential requirement to establish a World Realm.

But in Immortal Yin, the first was impossible, the second was ill-advised and extremely difficult, and the third was also impossible. The third required the prelude event of an Astral Tribulation, yet no such thing was sensed prior to it.

The first, for obvious reasons, was impossible.

The only option left was the second, but Jun Baiyin would never allow something to begin. The formation of a World Realm directly within the folds of Immortal Yin was severely ill-advised, and could even devastate the planet if performed incorrectly. Furthermore, due to the Mystic Radiance Belt, the fixed space in this starfield was abnormally stable. Unless one was extremely adept at Spatial Arts or a true Ascended, it would be as difficult as climbing a burning mountain as a mortal.

Just a few minutes prior to Wu Yu and Ma Sujiang's conversation, Na Xinyi was in her secluded cultivation room designed to be private and sealed for Core Disciples. She was excited that her treatment in the Dark Yin Palace was good, becoming a Core Disciple. While this was heavily attributed to her physique, she was happy that her physique wasn't just good for others to benefit.

She sat in a lotus position and held the Neo-Dawn Eclipse Pill in her hand. It was within a sealed bottle, its aura and smell was restrained, yet visually it was quite gorgeous. The silver pill's radiance reminded her of Wei Wuyin's eyes. As she brought it to her, she couldn't help but remember the last time his eyes were close to hers.

Over two decades had passed since then, and it was the day she was turned into a woman. Her face blushed heavily as she touched her lower abdomen, almost as if she could still feel him inside her. She had to give herself a bit of time to recover from the memory, her breathing a little too fast.

Who would've thought that she would become engaged to the man who saved her life, discovered her special physique, and had wanted to kill in the most gruesome way before. The world was odd sometimes.

Whenever she thought about his demeanor, his personality, and his actions, the more she realized how rare and in love with it she was. He was truly different from other cultivators, he had a sturdy and stable heart.

She slowly pushed away these thoughts, getting in a cultivation state, and slowly undid the seals on the bottle. Carefully, she opened the bottle and a faint aura that reminded her of the moment Tuo Bihan announced his ascension as a Realm Lord radiated from it. When he unleashed his Worldly Domain that day.

Her heart started to race. "Can this pill truly form a Domain Seed?" If so, this pill's value, she couldn't even begin to estimate it. But she didn't think Wei Wuyin was a liar. If there was anything she knew about him, he wasn't someone who would lie casually.

With a deep inhale, she used her spiritual force to control the pill until she directly put it into her mouth. With a sharp swallow, the pill traveled down her esophagus and into her stomach. It started to throb and throb until it found its way into her Dantian, directly before her Astral Soul.

The silver radiance started to rapidly expand, until it covered her entire body in its color. From her skin, to her blood, her bones, even her cells such as her hair was changed into a silver color. It was literally eclipsing her entirety with its radiance!

She felt her breath be taken away, the air from her body was seized and even the moisture was no longer hers! Then, her Yin Astral Soul roared in defiance for a moment, wishing to fight against the silver radiance by instinct, yet it was unable to put up any decent struggle.

It was seized by the silver radiance, becoming entirely silver. Yet after it was taken over by the domineering color, it swiftly settled down. There were faint screeches of joy from it. Na Xinyi had never felt her Astral Soul experience any form of sentience, and this was the first time in her entire life that she felt it have any type of emotion!

While it would react violently like any organ, it was just instinctual defense mechanisms, but it had never howled in joy before. But even though she was doing something similar, her hands touched her body as she felt the euphoria overwhelm her.

Na Xinyu felt as if she was brought back to the moment that Wei Wuyin laid her down, kissing her softly, gently caressing her skin, giving her the utmost care. She recalled never feeling like that before. She felt noticed, loved, and desired. At that moment, all of Wei Wuyin's attention was on her and only her.

Not even her parents showed her such care, dismissing her due to her lack of talent. Her sect mates dismissed her because of her ordinary looks. Even her enemies dismissed her because of her weakness. She was nothing to them, and the first time she had ever felt wanted, desired, and cherished was on that makeshift bed.

"Uughn!" The euphoria spiked as she remembered that moment of penetration. Her voice cried out softly in a heavy moan. What type of sensation was this?! She found herself enthralled by her experience!

Her memories of before evokes her emotions, and her deepest feelings. All of them. All the times when she was given no respect, not even a glance, and dismissed by her peers, instructors, and family, yet culminating in a man finding her and revealing that she was special.

It was the beginning of a fairytale for her! She would be his, and they would venture against the world together! But Wei Wuyin let her go.

She was lost.

Angry.

Afraid.

She felt used and discarded, dismissed by even him despite the way he made her feel on that day. While she later realized that he had his own difficulties, and that others wouldn't have given her that fairytale ending, at the time, she was enraged at being used and thrown away like garbage.

Her vengeful hatred stemmed from this, and she hated people, but mostly men. Yet she later found Long Chen, and that fairytale was rekindled. She thought she wanted him, but as she basked in her current euphoria, she knew she just wanted what she got from Wei Wuyin: to feel wanted, desired, and cherished.

But this evolved after she journeyed with Long Chen. She realized a fairytale was a fairytale. She was turned into a foil for someone, and she didn't get any respect. It reached the point where if Long Chen was removed from the equation, what was she?

She didn't want herself.

She didn't desire her life.

She wasn't cherishing what she was.

This all changed when Wei Wuyin made that promise. He said he would take responsibility, make her his wife, but he would support her in her dreams and desires, not be her sky, but her pillar. This led to her understanding her own individuality, and what she wanted the most in this world.

To be known, to be respected, to not be dismissed for being herself!

"Ahn!" She felt a bursting surge of sensual pleasure again, feeling the cascade of pleasure bombard her every cell in her body.

After that day, she knew Long Chen wasn't what she wanted. He was merely a tool to satisfy her pathetic insecurities, a suppressor to face the world herself and claim what she most desired. He was just a proxy for that, nothing more. She was blinded by her own self, but no longer!

Her entire body was completely silver, matching the shade of Wei Wuyin's eyes, and the soul fluctuations emitting from her were abnormally pure. She hadn't realized it, but the essence of her soul was currently being grafted onto the pill, replicating her Soul Aura. This was why her truest self was being brought out to the forefront, including her most defining memories.

The euphoria was just a side-effect of reliving that moment with Wei Wuyin, coursing through her entire sense of self.

When Wei Wuyin devised the pill, he noted the issue with the Soul Aura inconsistent with Lin Ming's. As an alchemist, he immediately deduced that this would lead to extremely devastating consequences. He was familiar with how the change of self can cause cultivation problems. When he lost his memories, his mind sealed, his physical body utterly devastated, he was unable to manipulate his two Spirits of Cultivation, King and Ori.

He could imagine the severe consequences of conflicting Soul Auras. So he devised a way to graft a cultivator's Soul Aura using Spiritual Mana and Soul Ash of Divine Jade, inspired by Qingye Ying's Meridian Grafting Method concept. With this, infusing it into the Domain Seed would imply perfect control!

After all, there would be no resistance when interacting with it!

Na Xinyi was too enveloped in her memories, unaware that her body was surrounded by elemental energies, multi-colored Primary Light, swirling gravitational forces, and refined spatial energies infused with Spiritual Mana, creating a unique substance similar to Spatial Force. They kept manifesting around her body, and these energies exuded the unique aura of a world's creation!!!

They were all drawn to a silver pill that was within her dantian, slowly but surely funneling themselves into it. The Domain Seed's essential framework wasn't just formed out of nothing, but was the Neo-Dawn Eclipse Pill itself!!!

In a way, the pill was the Domain Seed!

The entire process took only a few minutes before the radiance receded, vanishing into the Neo-Dawn Eclipse Pill, no, Na Xinyi's Domain Seed!

As she heavily breathed out, her breath was hot and her eyes were teary. Even her facial complexion was outrageously flushed, as if she had just been thoroughly ravaged by her lover. She touched her lower abdomen, this time feeling her Dantian.

She was entirely distracted by the Domain Seed within her, forged with her Soul Aura, and she felt its stable and firm connection to the utmost. It was linked to her Astral Soul, and it cuddled the Domain Seed with joy and excitement, releasing faint sounds of pounding throbs. This wasn't a verified sign of its sentience, but that it was instinctively happy to have this companion beside it.

All the profundities for the cultivation stages were within this Domain Seed, and it seemed ready to suck it like a newborn baby to its mother's tit. It wanted to slowly obtain its nourishment!

Na Xinyi was unable to notice that a few meters before her, within her sealed cultivation room, were three tall figures, the space around them sealed and concealed from her every perception.

All three figures had intense expressions on their faces, especially the dark-grey haired figure.

But while they were observing Na Xinyi without her notice, she interacted with her Domain Seed, and her Soul Idol manifested behind her vaguely, showing the signs of a grey-colored crystal with nine-rings. Her body lifted slightly from the ground as her Worldly Domain unfurled!

It encapsulated the entire room.

"Ah!" Na Xinyi's head snapped forwards and noticed three vague figures in front of her. She shouted in panic!

Chapter 612 - 607: Prelude To A Shaken World

Na Xinyi had the fright of a lifetime! The three figures were vague, and she had only sensed them because of her newly formed Worldly Domain! She leapt upwards, her astral ward was erected, her palms out before her, and her stance was defensive!

If this was a group of assassins, she would fight with her life on the line! She was not some pretty flower, and had her fair share of deadly battles. While her achievements in battle paled in comparison to Long Chen, she was not to be underestimated.

If they sought her life, they should be ready to lose theirs! Her eyes were fiercely sharp, and her aura was absolutely tyrannical and chilled. With her rosy cheeks, she gave off a unique charm.

Wu Yu was briefly shocked by the aura unleashed by Na Xinyi, even more intensely when he discovered her Worldly Domain, but then he recalled Wu Baozhai's question before. His heart pounded after realizing why she asked this question.

'Did he create an alchemical product that can manifest a Domain Seed?! BEFORE the Realm World Phase?!' His thoughts were severely explosive, the revelation shattering his beliefs about cultivation. While his reaction wasn't too intense, being exposed to the absolutely terrifying brilliance of alchemists in the form of the King of Everlore, he had never seen such a blatant disregard for convention!

At most, the King of Everlore or other alchemists could retroactively change a cultivator's talent, not have them skip four full levels!! The Everlore Ascension Pill was one of the most highlighting pills of retroactively changing a cultivator's talent.

The unique Everlore Essence formed in the pill can change the Mortal State level of an Astral Soul. Essentially, no other pill has been able to rival its effects in his knowledge. At its greatest form, it can retroactively give a cultivator the Zenith Mortal State, one of the requirements to reach the Second Stage of the Mystic Ascendant, the Soul of Mysticism Phase!

Those at the 9th Mortal State were unable to transform their Astral Soul to a Mystic Soul. It just wasn't able to perform the deed, yet that only gave the qualifications to ascend beyond Mortal Limits. If lacking, the most a cultivator could reach was the Mystic Star Phase.

That ninth-grade alchemical product, albeit low-tier, was capable of giving one the qualifications to ascend! But that wasn't even close to what he just saw...

Na Xinyi, at the Soul Idol Phase, had formed a Domain Seed! Furthermore, it wasn't haphazardly formed, filled with instability! It was no different than a genuine Worldly Domain! Even False Realm Lords lacked qualities of this Worldly Domain!

Wu Yu abruptly vanished.

Ma Sujiang and Jun Baiyin left their concealment, revealing themselves before Na Xinyi. Jun Baiyin was shocked by Wu Yu's vanishing act, but Ma Sujiang wasn't. She stepped forward, holding a dignified expression that carried traces of severity. She couldn't even maintain her business-friendly smile.

Her eyes fixed on Na Xinyi, inspecting her thoroughly with her senses. She was about to move forward when her eyes widened slightly. Wu Yu had just sent her a vicious warning to not act carelessly. This woman before he wasn't just a normal mortal, his Young Lord's fiancé. Furthermore, reminding her that they were to act in the shadows.

Ma Sujiang was a little embarrassed at her thoughts, almost about to forcefully extract the Domain Seed from Na Xinyi, and swiftly regained her composure. She regained an amicable smile, taking a step back, sending a message to Jun Baiyin.

Jun Baiyin was astonished by Ma Sujiang's restrained actions. It seemed Na Xinyi's backing was a little special, especially since she left the questioning to her. She had a bitter smile. Clearly from that

unknown Venerable to vanish and Ma Sujiang to delegate her desires to another, this gorgeous woman with a natural Yin Physique wasn't to be offended.

Two Ascended acting in such a strange manner to a mere mortal, and a Soul Idol nonetheless!

"There's no need for you to be alarmed. I'm Jun Baiyin, Palace Master of the Dark Yin Palace. You're Na Xinyi, the new arrival from the Everlore Starfield, correct?" Jun Baiyin decided to not approach this with an aloft like normally does with the other members of the sect. This woman was clearly not of a normal status.

While Ma Sujiang had said that all those from the Everlore Starfield were being watched by a faction in the Everlore Association, and she shouldn't do anything untoward against them without expecting swift consequences, she never thought it was only fueled by one existence.

Na Xinyi was startled by Jun Baiyin. The Palace Master herself?! Considering the aura of Jun Baiyin was beyond her senses, it made sense that she was an Ascended. At least, she exceeded the Astral Core Realm.

She still remained vigilant, looking towards Ma Sujiang who seemed to have ill-intent earlier. While she exuded nothing now, it still made her weary. But in her mind, that woman had restrained herself due to the presence of the Palace Master.

Jun Baiyin realized Na Xinyi's concerns. She comforted, "This is the Assistant Manager of the Golden Life Pavilion's Third Branch, Venerable Ma Sujiang. She's here for business."

"I am Na Xinyi. Disciple greets Palace Master Purewhite," Na Xinyi relaxed and respectfully bowed. There was no reason for Ascended to be amicable to her without cause, so it had to be genuine. Still, she remained vigilant.

"This junior greets Venerable Ma Sujiang," Na Xinyi bowed to Ma Sujiang as well. She didn't want to be neglectful for these beings whose cultivation exceeded Mortal Limits. She didn't even ask about the third figure. Clearly, that person didn't feel the need to stay after being discovered.

Jun Baiyin gave off a soft smile, giving her an enchanting appearance. Even Na Xinyi was shocked by how beautiful Jun Baiyin was, feeling slightly inferior. But when she thought about their sizes, Na Xinyi realized she was slightly better, a little more firm up top and rounder beneath. It was merely that charm produced by pure yin that elevated her beyond her, not appearance.

"Little Xinyi, how about showing me your Worldly Domain again? I'm quite curious how you formed it." When Na Xinyi was startled, her Worldly Domain receded likely because of her unfamiliarity with it, so they couldn't perceive all its traits.

Na Xinyi frowned, thinking about if she should. After all, her Domain Seed was formed by Wei Wuyin's Alchemical Product. She wasn't certain if it'll cause troubles for him. The concept having a Worldly Domain at the Soul Idol Phase was likely inestimable in value. She could feel that from how her Astral Soul reacted.

Even now, she felt that many questions she had towards Spatial Resonance were finally solved. For example, the essence of fixed space and its innate energies. She felt impossibly close to it. Wasn't this a

straight path to the Realm World Phase? Furthermore, the most important aspect was that one could face the purely lethal astral tribulation of the Seventh Stage with a Worldly Domain!

In the end, she decided to not keep it a secret. She feared her reluctance would cost her, and there was no way Wei Wuyin wouldn't think of this problem when giving them this product.

And she was correct.

Wu Yu was currently watching her. And he also realized why Wei Wuyin was so serious when he told him to watch over them all. This development was too insane! But will he be able to resist the possible fallout?

But then he thought that most would definitely seek out how this pill was made, and likely wouldn't harm those who have already taken the pill. The fear of a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist or that imaginary background might be enough. He was likely just back-up.

Moreover, the Golden Life Pavilion's intentions were quite certain at this point. They wanted to have a firm connection with Wei Wuyin or the force behind him. They definitely wouldn't allow any ounce of harm to them, and if I did, they would be swift in retaliation. Did he calculate this too?

This man wasn't even here, yet the world was moving along his will. That was absolutely terrifying. He started to grow fearful that one of the alchemical products he took could strip him of everything...

Na Xinyi released her Worldly Domain! It extended until it reached fifty meters in diameter, then the distinct World Pressure was emitted.

The two were enveloped within it, but this World Pressure was insignificant to them.

"What?!" Jun Baiyin was terrified! Not because of the Worldly Domain's strength, but its degree of influence!

"How is this impossible?" Ma Sujiang had a heavy frown, her smile fading.

Na Xinyi was confused, and her heart was seized by various emotions.

A False Worldly Domain, those of the False Realmlord level, had the ability to exude World Pressure. This pressure was two-fold in purpose, and one of those functions was the aspect control, well more 'convert'. The World Pressure can convert ambient mana, energies, and astronomical forces into one's own power. It acted in a similar yet different manner as Intent. It didn't infuse, but grasped control over.

It was far more forceful.

But False Worldly Domains can only convert energies into their power, a single aspect, but this Worldly Domain wasn't just energies, but astronomical forces! This meant heat, gravity, fixed space, and other forces could be converted to their strength!

While it lacked the aspect of ambient mana, the concept of converting astronomical forces into one's own was the principle for establishing a World Realm, flat continental earths, and creating planets! This

meant this Worldly Domain between false and real was capable of performing feats of astronomical level!

Ma Sujiang and Jun Baiyin glanced at each other. They had to learn more!

Jun Baiyin hurriedly asked, "How did you create this Worldly Domain?"

Ma Sujiang corrected, "Domain Seed."

Jun Baiyin realized what she asked wrongly and nodded, looking towards Na Xinyi.

Na Xinyi didn't hesitate to answer, "I refined a pill called the Neo-Dawn Eclipse Pill. It helped me manifest my Domain Seed."

Jun Baiyin's eyes shined. She had so many follow-up questions!

But Ma Sujiang's eyes explosively widened! It was a product of the silver-eyed alchemist?!?! She was well aware of Wei Wuyin's moniker, the Ascendant Emperor of Neo-Dawn!

She abruptly vanished.

Wu Yu and her floated at the edge of the Sky Layer, their eyes locked onto each other.

Ma Sujiang spoke plainly, "Do you know the importance of this?"

Wu Yu nodded, yet was entirely indifferent on the surface. But in his heart, his heart was like a war drum! This was truly a little too much.

"You should kill her," Ma Sujiang said.

Wu Yu glanced at the Dark Yin Palace, piercing into the room that housed the excited Jun Baiyin and Na Xinyi. He knew that Ma Sujiang was talking about Jun Baiyin, not Na Xinyi.

But he shook his head, Wei Wuyin would've given them orders if he wanted it to remain a secret. There was no need to slaughter for secrets. Furthermore, he wasn't aware of how many pills were out there and who had them. It would be stupid to slaughter everyone who found out, and that would certainly be noticed.

Ma Sujiang frowned, "He wants the pill to be known? Does he know how this will shake the very foundation of the world? Those in this world aren't that generous if they can monopolize such an advantage."

But Wu Yu smiled, unconcerned. "I think you should be worried about yourself."

Ma Sujiang's heart shook. "Why?"

"If I know my Young Lord, the Golden Life Pavilion is about to receive some instructions. Have fun shaking the foundation of the world. Do survive, and prove you're worthy for his partnership." Wu Yu smirked. With a faint step, he departed. He had already left his protective means on Na Xinyi earlier. Even if Ma Sujiang wanted to harm her, she would find it extremely difficult.

Ma Sujiang was stunned. Instructions?

Just at this moment, an old man entered the Third Branch's territory of the Endless Prosperity Domain, ruled by the Golden Life Pavilion, via a Void Gate. He had a weary expression, seemingly exhausted as he arrived.

"Ma Zheng, right?" With his loose grey robes, he trekked forward to his predetermined destination.

Chapter 613 - 608: Dark Void Of Aeternal Sky

The trip to the Elementus Domain from the edge of the Nine Worlds Domain was a long, arduous journey through the Dark Void. While the option to use a Void Gate to travel was there, the price was disgustingly obscene. Due to the Mystic Radiance Belt, the fixed space was infused with a mystic power, strengthening it in every aspect.

The function of Void Gates was to establish a tunnel between the folds of fixed space, exiting out at a certain set coordinates, establishing a stable connection between two points in space. This was why Void Gates were affixed to certain locations as well, requiring an extremely powerful and stable foundation to pierce through fixed space, creating the tunnel and connection.

It was this very characteristic that allowed the various forces to establish preventive measures even in the Everlore Starfield. By strengthening the fixed space around the planet via a planetary formation, it would prevent others from tunneling through unannounced. Yet certain Void Disks and Void Gates would allow permissible travel, freely passing through ever-shifting purposefully weakening areas of the formation.

Others would find it a difficult venture, but not impossible if enough power was used.

However, with the entire Aeternal Sky Starfield's fixed space being strengthened by thousands of times, traveling using Void Gates needed thousands of times more power, which translated to requiring thousands of times more resources/wealth. But the distance between Domains were utterly vast, even some Domains exceeded the entire length of the Everlore Starfield, and for every kilometer of distance traveled via a Void Gate, a certain amount of spatial resources or spatial energies were needed to be consumed to facilitate.

The solution to this problem was the construction and utilization of Voidships to sail across the Dark Void in a cheap, yet time-consuming manner. While practical and affordable, the journeys were oftentimes perilous and long.

Voidships functioned on essence stones, some spatial materials, but primarily can also be used with one's own innately cultivated energies. The last detail solidified its requirement in vast starfields, reducing the needed price considerably, allowing all cultivators in the Astral Core Realm to safely travel.

They became the main means of travel and transportation throughout the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region, constantly improved upon in form, function, and fuel efficiency. The various forces even created entire military fleets, a navy of sorts, with weaponized versions of Voidships.

The greatest manufacturer and the pioneers of new versions of Voidships was the Yu Clan, one of the eight Noble Clans. They established themselves off this earned title, obtaining an incredible amount of wealth and stability from it. But what solidified their status further was their connections with the Golden Life Pavilion and Godforge Association.

With the absurdly high price tag to journey across Domains, Lin Ming, Lin Xianxei, and Bai Yuxi were forced to proceed their journey using the several thousand year old, greatly outdated, Voidship. The Voidship's top-speed was rather lacking in comparison to the new ones, but it was still sufficient for long distance travel.

Because of this, it took them three full months before they reached the edges of the Nine Worlds Domain to the edge of the Elementus Domain. Throughout their travels, they had an escort—Exalted Yu.

At first, the trio was displeased and annoyed by the tail, but after encountering interception a few times by unsavory characters seeking to fatten their wallets, and shorten other's lives, they were reminded of the dangers that the Dark Void had besides astronomical phenomena and disaster—Void Pirates. Those characters turned tail quickly after seeing 'Spiritwalker' at the hull of their escort.

In the Dark Void, just like any civilization with a vast territory that was impossible to oversee at all times, even for cultivators, those with the intentions to earn off the misery of others were present. They sailed, hid, and waited in unregulated areas awaiting their next mark.

It was a dangerous profession, but most travelers in the Dark Void using Voidships were in the Astral Core Realm. Furthermore, they were oftentimes not even Realmlords, being at the middle-phases of lower-phases of the Astral Core Realm. Why? Because they were simply the majority, and Voidships were as common as beast mounts.

It was even said that there were certain Corsair Companies, which were organized pirates for the Imperial Clan's various factions or other Domain leaders. They raided other pirates and foreigners of Domains, yet it was an accepted reality. It was similar to raising spiders to kill flies.

Lin Ming was completely new to this type of complex civilization, while Lin Xianxei and Bai Yuxi had never made the trek across the starfield before. They were awed after seeing entire fleets of Voidships filled with passengers travel through the Dark Void. Some of those passenger fleets carried Qi Condensation cultivators! There were also patrolling fleets of various territories, circling certain planets or lunar satellites.

Even Bronze-rank forces protected their airspace, or voidspace, the area directly above their territory in the Dark Void. Unable to monopolize a planet, they could only share it alongside other forces and stabilize their territory, including that above. There were a few times when combat-type Voidships had launched long distance beams of concentrated power and devastated cities or sects from the Dark Void. The art of warfare had more dimensions than the non-cultivator world.

Despite Lin Xianxei and Bai Yuxi having special statuses, capable of using their backings to pay the high price for Void Gate travel, neither of them chose to. For them, as privileged cultivators, every second of cultivation was afforded to them, so how could their backers allow them to waste time like this in the Dark Void, an environment with very little cultivation opportunities?

They didn't usually have to waste time navigating the depths of the Dark Void, finding out these exotic dangers, or experiencing the various disasters such as Stellar Rain or Vanishing Points. The former was like condensed, crystallized sunlight that traveled at such a light speed with a high density. You might not even realize you're dead before it hits you. The latter being strange locations where space was chaotic, twisting and turning and collapsing all forms of matter that entered it.

They call those areas Vanishing Points because anything that enters them vanishes, and there's no sign of its existence after. These two phenomena were relatively rare, yet not even in the top three of the greatest dangers within the Dark Void. Those dangers required true Ascended to have even a remote chance of surviving.

About a month in, the trio saw a Voidship riddled with tiny, very tiny holes that added it until the entire structure looked like it was chewed by a monster with many teeth. It seemed they had gotten caught by Stellar Rain. It was relatively old, likely decades. There were even corpses infected and degraded by the Chill of the Dark Void.

Lin Ming marveled at the sight, thinking about traveling there to loot the corpses that were visible, still wearing their spatial rings, and even Bai Yuxi wanted to, hopeful of finding a solution to her soul state, but Lin Xianxei threw an astral weapon towards the ship.

When it reached roughly a hundred miles from the, strange droplets of light lit up on the ship and explosively flew out, riddling the astral weapon with holes. There were hundreds of thousands of lights. It was just a heap of destroyed metal almost immediately. And the lights then returned to the devastated ship, becoming entirely unnoticeable.

The duo were appalled!

They both screamed with curiosity and horror, and the answer turned their hearts cold.

"Stellar Rain isn't produced by Solar Stars, but are unique lifeforms birthed in the Dark Void, feeding off the solar energies they give off. You can't call them demons, but they're also like demons, more parasitic than anything. They exist as entire swarms. They lack a certain level of intelligence, and they automatically attack targets that enter their territory. If you're not prepared, sensing them out beforehand, then you'll be pierced through and through."

Lin Xianxei calmly explained, causing them to feel horror. While Lin Xianxei hadn't traveled the Dark Void, she was extremely well read regarding aspects of the Dark Void.

"These little creatures also move locations. While in transit, they truly take the form of sunlight-like rain. According to what I read, its extremely beautiful, but their relocation takes place at least once a century. It's like flowers that are blown, but much more dangerous.

"But they are not without their benefits. The experts of the starfield capture Stellar Rain to extract their uniquely refined solar energies to produce certain alchemical products that can help fortify a cultivator's Star Core or to help create Solar Stars. But even Ascended would find it difficult to capture them. They're really fast."

Lin Xianxei's explanation left the two in even more awe as they looked at the destroyed ship. The dangers of the Dark Void also had its miraculousness. These life forms could reap life away, but also create Solar Stars that could allow life to flourish.

The trio didn't see any vanishing points on their three-month long journey, but they saw planets of all types of sizes and colors. There were small-sized medium-sized, large-sized, and even gigantic-sized

planets. According to Lin Xianxei, these planets weren't fixed in size. The experts that live there periodically infuse the planet with energies to enlarge them.

A planet's size directly correlated to the size of their Star Core, which translated to the strength of its essence refinement ability, thus creating a healthier and richer environment. Furthermore, the added space allowed these locations to become dedicated fields of herbs, ores, produce, or other materials to be cultivated via methods.

The Elementus Domain and the Nine Worlds Domain was divided by the Everlore Domain. This was why travel was relatively easier, faster, and less chaotic for them.

"We're finally here," Lin Xianxei said as their ship bypassed the Elementus Domain's Border. There was a slight frown on her face as she observed the various planets and lunar satellites within the expanse that was the Elementus Domain. There was a tinge of conflict within her eyes.

Lin Ming felt his heart racing rapidly after arriving here, his eyes were bright, his fists were clenched, and his mind were filled with explosive activity. This was the first step of the rest of his life!

Bai Yuxi's spatial ring started to flare with a faint blue glow. Her hand fiercely trembled as she grasped it, her expression paling somewhat. These past three months of traveling with Lin Xianxei and Lin Ming were filled with happy memories that made her relaxed and at ease, yet the ring broke her out of her fantastical dream. Her expression paled even further.

Lin Xianxei noticed this. Swiftly, she touched Bai Yuxi's shoulder and used her spiritual force to stabilize her bodily situation. Due to her damaged soul, not only was her mind hectic and fragile, but any stimulation from her body can invoke all sorts of physiological reactions. At the moment, she was at the precipice of a heart attack.

Bai Yuxi's eyelids slowly closed. With a faint, waning voice, she said: "Li-Lin Ming...you can..." However, she was unable to finish her words before she fell unconscious. Her delicate body was light, falling into Lin Xianxei's arms.

Lin Ming snapped out of his thoughts as he turned to her. "Is she going to be okay?" He asked Lin Xianxei.

Lin Xianxei sighed, but nodded. A damaged soul was not an easy thing to recover from, but with her status, she will. The issue wasn't if she could recover, it was the trouble that would result from her situation being made known, especially the reason for it. She never feared Bai Yuxi's dying, she feared the result of not solving her predicament themselves.

Yet Wei Wuyin wasn't even in the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region! So they couldn't exactly search the entire world for him, right?

Exalted Yu sent them a spiritual message: "The Tang Clan is here."

The both of them lifted their eyes towards a certain area outside of the Elementus Domain, and the stars in the distance were distorting! Their eyes widened as, like an abrupt blip, a Voidship simply appeared a few hundred miles from them. At its hull was a unique symbol of a Vermillion Bird of mythical legend! It was animated, flying around the hull freely, releasing artistically designed flames that made it look like a painting every moment.

Yet the beauty did little to calm the hearts of the two.

Before they could even react, a figure appeared directly above their Voidship. The figure floated within the Dark Void, standing on space as if it was flat ground, looking at them with a sharp light in their eyes.

Lin Xianxei's expression grew unfathomably dark after recognizing that figure. She gulped heavily, "Lord Guardian, I..."

Lin Ming's heart grew icy-cold. This was the first time seeing his Senior Sister Lin filled with fear and dread! This figure that existed in the Dark Void without a Worldly Domain unleashed, he had to be an Ascended!

Chapter 614 - 609: Mounting Troubles

"Well, this will be interesting," Exalted Yu commented. He wasn't actually present, using an incarnation art to manifest himself here, but his spiritual senses reached his true body. Avidly aware of everything occurring, he felt excited at what would unfold.

This was especially after noticing the arrival of that oppressive figure. While he wore a hood that concealed his facial expressions, his attire spoke volumes. The nine-colored design with perfect proportions and symmetry was accompanied by a large, white embroidered character at his heart.

It said: Guardian.

There was only one individual in the entire Elementus Domain, in the entire True Element Sect, allowed to wear that character, to wear that design. The Guardian of the Elements, Han Yahui!

Even Exalted Yu felt an unfathomable pressure just observing this figure! And he wasn't even really here. Feeling his real body quiver slightly, he decided to just act as an observer for now.

The Tang Clan that seemed to be moving domineeringly forward halted instantly after that figure appeared, clearly the screeching of space relieved their urgency. This figure was someone even the Tang Clan was cautious of!

Lin Xianxei's bit her lower lip in stress, her beating heart was unable to calm down. She expected this to occur, but she couldn't fathom the end result. She feared for Lin Ming, yet if Lin Ming didn't come with her, he would have certainly been branded as a fugitive, and his identity as a Chosen wouldn't protect him. He absolutely couldn't forgo that identity!

Just Venerable Spiritwalker wasn't a figure Lin Min could face, let alone the Tang Clan or the Guardian of Elements, Han Yuhei!

Han Yuhei's eyes glinted from beneath the hood. His spiritually overwhelming eyes focused on Lin Xianxei's body for a long moment, instigating a minute long silence, before he moved slightly. Lin Xianxei nearly jumped out of her skin when Han Yuhei appeared beside her. She hadn't even sensed the slightest hint of his arrival. It was as if a deadly tsunami appeared out of nowhere, yet all she could do was be frozen in fear.

Lin Ming tightly clenched his fists. Who was this guy? Why was Lin Xianxei so terrified?

Han Yuhei's steps were completely soundless, as if floating. He reached out and took Bai Yuxi from Lin Xianxue's arms. As he did, his oppressive presence dwindled into a gentle gust. The soft body of Bai Yuxi was taken, and Lin Xianxue offered no resistance.

Han Yuhei carried her softly in his arms in a bridal carry, her neck nestled between his shoulder and neck. Bai Yuxi's pale complexion instantly grew healthier, rosy and flushed with blood. Even her soft, pitiable breathing grew strong. She moved on her own, getting closer to Han Yuhei's body.

Han Yuhei's features were still hidden, but his gaze lifted, turning towards Lin Ming.

At that moment, Lin Ming felt his entire body descend into the depths of an unknown world. All his secrets, all his thoughts, and even his emotions and past was as if it was completely seen through by that gaze. Exposed, he didn't back down. He felt as if his entire soul was being searched, stripped completely bare.

His grey eyes radiated a fiercely retaliatory light, utterly fearless. With a throat-filled roar, Lin Ming's astral force erupted in fury! He was not one to bow before anyone, to be examined freely, to be humiliated in such a manner! He had his own pride!

Yet shortly after his eruption, a strange force abolished his powers and he felt himself floating from the deck. In that moment, all of the things he relied on to be strong were seemingly gone. For that moment, he felt like a mortal without a single bit of cultivation.

He felt powerless.

Completely and utterly powerless.

Thud!

He fell down on one knee without knowing, his eyes widened with unthinkable levels of shock!

Han Yuhei didn't speak to Lin Ming. He merely moved his gaze away towards Lin Xianxue. Her entire body stilled as well, but she clearly didn't feel the same probing oppression as Lin Ming.

"Where's the other?" Han Yuhei spoke out, his voice was forceful, filled with boundless pride, and unwavering power. There was a charm of absolute authority within, forcing most to feel compelled to answer truthfully. Lin Xianxue felt her legs become jelly.

This was what she dreaded. She had to use a full minute to regather herself, replying respectfully, her head slightly bowed: "The Second Chosen, Wei Wuyin, was absent from the World-Shifting Net. According to the Golden Gate Pavilion's Grand Seer, he's not in the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region."

Han Yuhei's eyes momentarily flickered, the light emitting from it still disguised his features. After a long moment, he asked: "She lost portions of her cultivation, damaged her soul. Willingly?" While he didn't look towards Lin Ming, there was a dark, fatal grip that seized his heart. A single thought, and Lin Ming knew that his death was certain.

He had never felt such fear before! Was this an Ascended?! Was this Lord Guardian a normal Ascended?!

Lin Xianxei was prepared for this, "She proposed it." She retrieved a crystal that recorded Bai Yuxi's own statement, handing it to Han Yuhei. Without the slightest movement, the crystal vanished and reappeared before Han Yuhei. Then, it almost instantly shattered into glorious bits.

The glittering specks of crystal were beautiful, yet it made Lin Xianxei feel utterly helpless. If Han Yuhei wanted to act against them, she might be able to remain unscathed, but Lin Ming certainly wouldn't.

Han Yuhei vanished, and Lin Ming felt his heart lighten. He was spared!

Exalted Yu was quietly observing when Han Yuhei arrived on-board without any indication. The various protections of the Spiritwalker Voidship were utterly useless before such a character, but he didn't panic. He wasn't even here.

"That bitch still dares to make requests?" Han Yuhei's voice was violently fierce, the entire Voidship rumbled, creaks and cracks emerged everywhere.

Exalted Yu's expression was completely unaffected, but his incarnation dispersed a little, losing its legs. He merely gave a bright smile, "An oath was established. Here," he was here for a task, and that was to retrieve the Elementus Cache or items of similar value. A crystal appeared in his palm and floated towards Han Yuhei.

Han Yuhei stared at Exalted Yu's figure for a long while, only shifting to the crystal after a while. After a moment, he released a soft snort, "Utterly impossible."

Exalted Yu was unsurprised by this reaction, "Those were products concocted by the King of Everlore himself. This list has been vetted and verified by the Everlore Association. If you believe they're incorrect in their assessment, please seek out the San Clan for reappraising, but this price is ten percent less than what they suggested."

"..." Han Yuhei remained silent. The breathing of the crew all halted simultaneously, absolutely fearful. If this man raged, they would all die.

"One favor," Han Yuhei countered.

Exalted Yu's entire expression brightened considerably at those words. With a brilliant smile, he nodded. "Venerable Spiritwalker agrees. She'll contact you within a few years, please be ready."

With that, his incarnation couldn't sustain itself any longer and vanished.

Han Yuhei's aura seethed a little, the Voidship's formations started to shatter, suffering damage. With a soft snort, he vanished with Bai Yuxi. He knew that he was schemed against, and Bai Yuxi was the target of this, but what could he do? The financial situation of the True Element Sect couldn't afford this.

There were several minutes of silence, and the Spiritwalker Voidship was decommissioned. It'll likely take them months to perform repairs. Fortunately, the life support and shielding remained alive, but motor functions, fueling ports, and steering formations were completely damaged. They couldn't move even if they wanted to.

Lin Xianxei and Lin Ming soon recovered their composure. Lin Ming took a long, steady breath, staring at the far off distance into the depths of the Elementus Domain. He couldn't help but ask, "Who the hell was that?"

Lin Xianxei softly replied, "Bai Yuxi's grandfather, the Guardian of the Elements. He protects the entire Elementus Domain, the strongest expert of our True Element Sect."

Grandfather?!

STRONG EXPERT?!

"How strong is he?" Lin Ming didn't expect Bai Yuxi's background to be so terrifying. Why was she serving as an Overseer for a Chosen Trial?

"...He's an Earthly Saint. Don't set your eyes too far, focus on your own path. A single step at a time." Lin Xianxei cautiously warned.

Lin Ming felt his heart throb. An Earthly Saint? How powerful were they?! Wait...

"What about Master?" If Han Yuhei was the strongest expert of the Elementus Domain, then what about the Divine King Han Xei? After all, he was a Chosen of Divine King Han Xei's faction, and Senior Sister Lin promised that becoming a Chosen enabled him to be his disciple. Together, they would be junior and senior disciples under the same master.

Lin Xianxei's expression slightly changed, but before she could answer, spiritual waves battered their Voidship! It violently rocked in the Dark Void like a boat smashing against raging tidal waves!

"The Tang Clan has come to collect!"

The troubles kept mounting.

Chapter 615 - 610: San Yongli

The last few months had been very life-changing, eye-opening, and wish-fulfilling for quite a few who came from the Everlore Starfield to the Aeternal Sky Starfield. The richer environment, developed civilization, and given opportunities were seized with a gusto by those with ambition. The new world was filled with new life.

But for a single figure amongst those inhabitants weren't unfamiliar with this new world. In fact, they spent the majority of their lives here, and even later died in its ensuing chaos.

This person's story was one of tragedy, but also of happiness. The origin of which began in the past of two timelines. Yet to diverge, they started the same.

It all started at the San Clan, in the still named Tri-Vision Starfield exactly thirty-four years ago from the present. The exalted figure, praised and worshipped as the second strongest expert of the starfield, the female San Clan False Realmlord, San Yuwen had just learned she was pregnant. Despite her age that exceeded a thousand, her body experiencing menopause, she was still pregnant.

The discovery left medicinal sages and alchemists baffled. Yet her body seemingly reversed in age, renewed in its ability to give birth. The father was a closely guarded secret, yet rumors abound.

The prevailing theory was that the San Emperor had beseeched the greatest alchemical minds to concoct a pill to revitalize his sister's body, impregnating her with a pure-blooded heir for the San Clan's legacy.

In the end, it mattered little as the San Clan was the ruling family of the Tri-Vision Starfield, and incestuous relationships weren't uncommon amongst certain beastmen lineages and elven lineages. While it was less common in humans, it wasn't unheard of. A spicy bit of gossip was all it was.

But that pregnancy led to the eventual birth of a baby. But this baby was said to have died during childbirth, suffering complications that led to their demise. The False Realmlord, San Yuwen, was utterly devastated. She went into secluded cultivation, leaving the managing of everything to the San Emperor.

A decade later, the news that the San Empress had adopted a child, roughly the same age as the deceased child would have been, began to spread. Her name was San Yongli, and she was heralded as the little princess of the San Clan. She was absolutely gorgeous, considered the top beauty of the entire starfield.

But despite that, she was rarely seen by those outside of the San Clan. Yet her reputation kept growing, with many details of her habits of playing around and not focusing on cultivation spreading wildly. She was considered talented, yet had no patience for cultivation. She dilly-dallied on the laurels of her family's dominance.

This continued for three decades. At that point, the Everlore Association's San Clan arrived after a certain event. The San Clan was forced by the hegemonic forces into a decline, especially after the San Emperor was killed by a young man named Long Chen. Their ruling rights were challenged, and they had no means to resist.

At the precipice of their destruction, they were saved by their Main Branch. It seemed the San Ancestor was extremely mindful, ensuring he had many descendants that left with the King of Everlore during his venture while he remained. They established the San Clan of the Everlore Association, and the former servants of the King of Everlore, became one of the four ruling factions of the Everlore Association.

San Yuwen, however, refused to leave. She stayed in the Tri-Vision Starfield, but her daughter, San Yongli, was energetically excited, utterly electric in her desire to follow this prestigious clan.

Her story continued, her beauty stellar, and her life kept being supported by external powers. She relied on their reputation, her beauty, and their power as she ventured throughout the world and caused all sorts of trouble. But the Aeternal Sky Starfield had to accept it.

The San Clan was not a force any organization could casually afford to offend, especially after this mischievous young woman had the support of San Luoyang, a Prime Alchemic Mortal Sovereign. It was a nightmare, yet it came to an end after a meeting.

A fairytale began, with love and delight between the Imperial Clan and the Everlore Association, yet filled with bitter struggle and complex machinations.

Breaking off from the Everlore Association, she became the concubine of a Royal Prince of the Tian Clan, the Imperial Clan of the Aeternal Sky Starfield. But after severing her backing, with her low cultivation base and already defiled body by the Royal Prince, her relevance dwindled. Her promised position of a wife had been relegated to a concubine.

But San Yongli's thoughts were simple: she dared to love, so she dared to risk it.

But the whirlwind didn't stop. The fight for the throne of the Aeternal Sky's Imperial Leadership had begun. The Princesses and Princes fought fiercely for the throne, leaving the starfield in hectic chaos as bloody wars were launched, planets left in ruin, and World Realm's destroyed. The death toll reached billions with ease.

San Yongli was a mere concubine, hidden away in a World Realm hoping for the eventual end of this bloody battle to be with her beloved, yet the World Realm's Core was destroyed by a sinister scheme, and she...she along with it.

At the age of 99, she died...

On the planet Third Sky, ruled by the San Clan, San Yongli sat on a rock, a freshwater lake before her. With pebbles in her hand, she tossed them, skidding them across the water's surface.

She no longer wore her hood, her face revealed before the world. She was gorgeous, enchanting like the morning sunrise. Her long, white hair was like a cascading waterfall of heavenly water. Each strand glistened with a healthy glow, its whiteness didn't seem remotely plain.

Her irises were radiantly crimson in color, as beautiful as treasured rubies, and as brilliant as the solar stars within the night sky. Her eyebrows were slightly thick but not too much. They were as dark as night and seemingly painted to perfection by a heavenly architect. Her pale-pink lips were full, as soft as water itself. There wasn't a single feature that lacked symmetrical perfection, from her slender fingers, to her long legs.

Most notably amongst her exceptional features were her chest, they were tightly upheld by a firm brasserie, and her size exceeded even Qing Qiumu and Na Xinyi! Yet it was held by a slender waist, firm and toned.

Dressed in black, short-sleeves, and form-fitting pants, she carried a wistful expression. Between her brows was not a lick of ignorance, but valiant might, giving her a heroic yet intelligent demeanor. There wasn't an ounce of laziness in her bones, completely eradicated by her tragic past.

"I won't make the same mistake again," she tossed another rock. It skidded eighty-nine times before plopping. Her skill with stone skipping was legendary.

"And what mistake is that?" A warm voice sounded out.

San Yongli closed her eyes for a moment, taking a deep breath before fixing her expression. She faintly smiled, turning to face San Luoyang with bright eyes. "I'll never allow my starfield to be destroyed by a Star-Devourer," she answered.

San Luoyang walked over, standing beside the boulder. "I know it's unexpected, but life is filled with the unexpected. What matters is that you're alive, you and your mother. As long as you have light in your eyes, you-

"You can achieve anything. Your destiny is still yours to decide." San Yongli finished San Luoyang's words. This was a famous saying that San Luoyang had always told her before, whenever he berated her for slacking in her cultivation efforts. This distant granduncle of hers was caring, and even now, they still shared that familiar affinity.

Even though things change, some people don't.

She genuinely smiled, her bright white teeth on perfect display. That arc was heart-snatching.

San Luoyang grew dazed by this sight for a moment, he coughed slightly. "You should smile more," he commented. It's been nearly four months yet San Yongli had never smiled genuinely, and this was the first time he felt her smile was earnest and real. It caused even his old heart to be moved.

San Yongli noticed her actions, which caused her smile to fade. She touched her face, that gorgeous face that attracted the love of her life, and allowed her to experience true love. Yet it wasn't enough. She lacked strength, foresight, and intelligence before, but not again.

This time...things will be different...just like everything else.

Chapter 616 - 611: Endless Prosperity Domain

The territory of the Golden Life Pavilion was named the Endless Prosperity Domain, a domineeringly ambitious name to say the least. However, very few would ever call into question the likelihood of this name.

After all, the Golden Life Pavilion was renowned as the greatest merchant organization, selling and buying goods, services, and integrated in almost every territory in the Aeternal Sky Starfield.

Their reputation was exceptional, neutral without any antagonistic conflicts. Their upright and fair manner of conducting business, from refunds to quality guarantees, over the tens of thousands of years since their establishment left them trusted by the vast majority. From the humble Qi Condensation farmers to the lofty Ascended of Mystic-tier forces.

The Golden Life Pavilion wasn't simply a business, but they acted as a secondary banking option for the cultivators of the starfield. The first and primary bank was the Skylight Bank, directly ruled and managed by the Imperial Clan. The Golden Life Bank gave out fair-in-interest loans, which have allowed many financially struggling forces to remain above water and survive certain desperate years, and secured deposits with annual interests.

However, the Skylight Bank was renowned for refusing loans to low-tier forces that might collapse. A few Gold-tier forces existed solely because, during their Bronze-tier years, the Golden Life Bank helped support their geniuses, establish cultivation grounds, or trade their resources at a fair, stable price even if the value of that resource was lowered at that time.

These types of investments and kind actions made many forces absolutely adore the Golden Life Pavilion, later allowing them to establish well-developed branches in the depths of their territory, functioning as their main merchants for all their needs. This was why they were given the 'Golden' title, establishing themselves in over 90% of the Aeternal Sky Starfield's territory.

Despite their bank being referred to as the secondary option, they were highly preferred, with many only using the Skylight Bank due to the prestige and respect for the Imperial Clan. It was hard for the Imperial Clan to shut down the Golden Life Bank as it had existed long before the Skylight Bank, before the Imperial Clan became the Imperial Clan. Furthermore, it was too well-received.

Still, many understood that to the Imperial Clan, be it the Golden Life Pavilion or Golden Gate Pavilion, they both were like thorns. If they could remove them, the Imperial Clan surely would.

In the Endless Prosperity Domain, there were only three planets. These planets were absolutely massive, large-sized, enough to house tens of trillions comfortably, with sufficient resources, food, and a healthy environment to match. Surrounding these three large-sized planets were two rings that interconnected, forming an 'X'. These rings moved at fast speeds, releasing faint glimmers of brilliant light.

However, they weren't the only celestial bodies that existed in the Endless Prosperity Domain. Orbiting these planets were various lunar satellites that were called Prosperous Moons. They numbered forty-five, with the slightly larger planet having seventeen, the smallest of the three planets had thirteen, and the middle planet was surrounded by fifteen.

Each of these Prosperous Moons weren't like normal lunar satellites. They were all terraformed to be like pseudo-planets, housing cultivators, miners, farmers, herbalists, and other workers. These Prosperous Moons were used to cultivate materials, provide jobs, and raise geniuses.

If one looked closely, there were faint bridges of light exuding from the 'X' rings to the Prosperous Moons, slowly feeding them highly refined astral essence. This made the environment even richer than some legitimate planets. This exquisite design allowed the Golden Life Pavilion to not just be merchants that facilitated sales, but had materials to sell or trade with others.

They weren't considered as one of the wealthiest forces in the entire starfield due to their business practices, but also their cultivation of resources, essence stones, astral stones, and even the legendary mystic stones.

The planets themselves, however, were not inhabited by trillions despite their size. They contained roughly a few billion cultivators each, all used to maintain the various formations and arrays, using the planet's refinement power to their benefit.

Because of this, there were very few on the planet as its energies, essence, and environment wasn't nearly as great as those forty-five Prosperous Moons. By funneling the essence and energies to those Prosperous Moons, controlling the flow and ratio, the Golden Life Pavilion can control the environment they wished to manifest, manipulate the growth of certain resources, not needing to rely on the planet's whims or innate restrictions.

For example, a heat-filled planet couldn't properly nurture ice-attributed resources, but it still had ice energies, various ice-attributed essences dispersed throughout the planet. By extracting these forces individually, carefully, they could send all these ice-attributed energies and essences into a single area of a Prosperous Moons, likely even nurturing mystic-rank materials as a result!

It was utter genius!

The Golden Life Pavilion didn't lack ideas, and even foresight towards the future, but it didn't stop there. Their Domain didn't lack World Realms. They had 81 World Realms established in the Endless Prosperity Domain, each having their own series of Gateway Doors.

These World Realms were the main housing areas for the hundreds of trillions of inhabitants of the Endless Prosperity Domain, and almost all of them were interconnected via Void Gates, allowing

instantaneous travel to each World Realm at minimum cost. Even some Qi Condensation Cultivators could travel freely between World Realms.

It was a well-connected civilization, almost entirely different from the other domains. But it wasn't all bright and gorgeous, as Bronze, Silver, and Gold-tier forces were unable to establish themselves in these World Realms. While they could create branches in these World Realms, to recruit or acquire resources, they had to use one of the near the border planets in the Endless Prosperity Domain to set up their headquarters.

That being said, conflicts were extremely minimal. Almost entirely restricted. If a force tried to stir up any issues, they and all those connected to them were expelled without question. After being banned for a hundred or even a thousand years, they would be allowed to return. It was both fair and ruthless.

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It's been six months since the Everlore Domain's trillions were brought over, dispersed amongst the three Domains of the Everlore Domain, Nine Worlds Domain, and Skyrend Domain, and others were integrated into the various Silver and Gold-tier forces.

There were some who chose the second option, yet wanted to explore or were given a mission to locate others. For the former, quite a few made their way to the Endless Prosperity Domain to find prospects with the greatest merchant organization, and some wanted to find a stable environment to work and avoid wars.

As long as intelligent beings existed, so did conflict. This included death and pain. For cultivators, this was amplified even greater. It was unavoidable as they cultivated for life and power, most for the sake of pursuing personal freedom to act upon their innermost desires. These desires could be to find love, to obtain a harem of a thousand beauties, or have their name etched upon history, or to explore the world's gorgeous scenes. It mattered not why, each of them would soon find conflict on their path.

The latter wasn't many, and there was one in particular that was given an extremely important task. An old man in grey robes was currently in the 34th World Realm named after the creator, the Grand Horse Realm.

With a black sack roughly the size of a wash bin hung over his shoulder, Tuo Bihan wiped off the faint sweat on his forehead. He had arrived at the Endless Prosperity Domain nearly three months ago, yet he had to travel a great distance to arrive here. While the World Realms were all interconnected, due to the cheap nature, there were some restrictions.

One such restriction made it so that to travel to certain World Realms from other World Realms directly was impossible. Most World Realms only allowed easy travel to three other World Realms. It formed a network where, if one navigated and planned properly, they could reach all the World Realms for a similar price as going from nearby planet to planet in the Aeternal Sky Starfield's normal Void Gates.

Fortunately cheap, while also a little time-consuming, this wasn't the most glaring restriction. There were certain alignment requirements for Void Gates to reach other World Realms, which meant only on certain specific times can one actually use the Void Gates. It was such a hassle. But the alternative was exiting the World Realms, and traveling to a specific Gateway Door in the Endless Prosperity Domain, which were all on the Prosperous Moons.

But it was absolutely massive! Going from the border to the center of the Domain was roughly a tens of thousand times more costly using a Void Gate, and even using a Voidship might take years, if not decades if your Voidship was just a little too slow. After all, not every Voidship had an expert like Lin Xianxei to provide it with spatial energies to function at maximum speed for months.

Still, he made it here safely.

"The Grand Horse Realm...the homeworld of the Ma Clan," Tuo Bihan had tried to find Ma Zheng, the Third Manager of the Golden Life Pavilion, but that was seemingly an impossible feat. Despite being called the 'third' Manager, it reflected not his rank, but his station of authority. He oversaw the entire Third Branch of the Golden Life Pavilion.

There were four branches: the First Branch, Second Branch, Third Branch, and Main Life Branch. They each oversaw a quadrant of the Aeternal Sky Starfield! An entire QUADRANT! Which encompassed three to four Domains!

It was extremely difficult to pinpoint Ma Zheng's exact location at any point of time. He was too busy tending to various needs and matters and even if you did, he might not be there for longer than a few days. Even if Tuo Bihan sought out a meeting with him, he'd be casually dismissed. After all, he was just a Realmlord. If he mentioned Wei Wuyin's name, while it might provoke a response, who knows how long that'll take to reach Ma Zheng, especially if he wasn't taken seriously.

His only option was to go to the source: their homeworld!

With a heft of his bag, he reminded himself of his duty and pushed onwards... His job wasn't done yet. He had to find out where their headquarters were in this vast World Realm!

Chapter 617 - 612: Xue Yifei's Treatment

In the Grand Horse Realm, the 34th World Realm of the Endless Prosperity Domain, there was an idyllic valley filled with lush vegetation, freshwater springs, and astral essence-rich environment. There was a waterfall that cascaded downwards from a hundred meters high, and it released faint vapor that sparkled with a mystical light.

This water settled, flowing downwards onto a set of rocky formations that resembled steps, each floor having a flood of clear, fresh water that led further below.

At the base of this waterfall was a spring that accumulated this water, sprinkling with an aquamarine beauty that seemed as if it was designed by Immortals. Beneath this spring's waters were several shadows, swimming about freely.

A series of footsteps echoed out, followed by a figure arriving at the edge of the spring. It belonged to a human woman of medium height, petite build, eyes like green gems, and a fair complexion accompanied by neck-length brunette hair. She wasn't outstanding in terms of her looks, but she wasn't an individual that would be ignored in a crowd. Especially since she had a uniquely refined and dignified aura, her every step careful and steady.

"Miss Yifei," she called out. Her voice was official, stately. Clearly, she was trained to speak in a manner that everyone could understand her every word.

The spring waters bubbled slightly as the shadows beneath it grew larger and larger, clearly about to break through the surface.

SPLASH!

An exquisite figure broke free, a slender, supple, and curvaceous body drenched in water revealed itself. Xue Yifei's signature black hair was wet, and her hair flipped back to splash the air with its excess. With a swift movement of her hands, she removed the water from her face and observed the woman at the edge of the spring.

Those hazel eyes of hers with navy-blue flecks were astonishing to behold, even causing the stately and serious young woman to grow absentminded. Furthermore, Xue Yifei was completely naked. Without a strand of clothes on her, those perky, shapely, bouncy breasts of hers were free to be observed and admired.

Her curves were not accentuated by any tightly hugging clothing, but after seeing her without any, it would provoke thoughts that it was a true pity that clothes hid such perfection.

A soft gulp resounded.

Xue Yifei brushed her hair back again, ensuring no excess water remained. Her eyes directed at the young woman, a faint frown on her face. She didn't have any awkwardness being observed in the nude by another woman. As a princess, she was helped into her dress and bathed by female attendants most of her life.

She walked out of the spring, each step leaving a trail of glistening water, and she grabbed her clothes. "What is it, Ma Ru?" She questioned, using fire energies within her body to begin drying herself. The mist wrapped around her, shielding her body from sight.

Ma Ru snapped out of her daze. She had to clear her throat a little, continuing: "I've brought over the materials you asked for, Miss Yifei." She brought out a spatial ring on a silver platter, and let it float slowly to Xue Yifei. "If you need anything else, please don't be afraid to ask."

"Need anything?" Xue Yifei's tone was mocking. She slowly left the mist, fully clothed in a form-fitting, black-colored cheongsam with long sleeves. It had a five-clawed dragon embroidered on it in violet, and oddly, a pair of black shorts that touched her knees.

Even with her clothes on, Ma Ru couldn't help but be shocked at how beautiful Xue Yifei was.

"Your people brought me here six months ago, told me that I'm just to stay and wait, providing me with these sub-par resources to cultivate, and you tell me if I need anything? I need to go home. I need to see my husband. Can I get that?" Xue Yifei asked, her eyes staring at Ma Ru. Despite being Wei Wuyin's concubine, she referred to him as husband.

Without warning, she was sucked into some strange world, and then brought here. While she was told that her starfield was destroyed by some Star-Devourer, she still didn't believe it fully. But after learning that every beast was taken, and that every human, elf, and demon was taken by another force to prevent their destruction by this Star-Devourer, she started to believe it.

She met Zuhei, the dragons, the beastmen Ascendants. Even Zen, the former Grand Imperial Sage of the Extreme Imperial Mountain, was present. They were all in this World Realm, kept here until someone returned for them. This was the explanation, at least.

She knew that someone was definitely Wei Wuyin, especially after she was given special privileges. For example, this spring was an extremely rare and precious Astral Star Spring. Just swimming within it could refine the body, had miraculous healing and purification properties, and had water energies that exceeded Mortal Limits.

Just drinking it caused her cultivation foundation to grow by a bit each time. Just being here for six months, her Astral Core had grown by a few dozen millimeters. The others weren't given such extraordinary treatment, clearly singling her out. Even still, the resources she was given wasn't remotely close to what Wei Wuyin provided her with.

Many of their alchemical products were low-quality or high-quality, but Wei Wuyin never allowed anything but peak-quality to touch her lips. While low-quality still was a 100% effectiveness with no impurities, there was the concept of diminishing impact.

For example, if an Astral Sea Pill taken ten times would then be 50% less effective, then even if one took a ten low-quality Astral Sea Pill and then a ten peak-quality Astral Sea Pills, those peak-quality products would still be 50% less effective, for the secondary and tertiary effects. The concept of diminishing impact made the quality of repeatable products important.

Ma Ru sighed, shaking her head. "I can't, Miss Yifei." Her job was to aid Xue Yifei, ensuring no discomfort in her stay, but she couldn't do anything else. She didn't even know why Xue Yifei was being kept here, besides knowing she came from the recently destroyed Everlore Starfield.

Xue Yifei clenched her teeth, but later released the tension with a sigh. There was nothing she could do. It's not like she didn't try to escape, but there were a dozen female guards hidden in the surroundings. They were all Realm Lords, with the leader being a Timelord. She couldn't fight against that.

Xue Yifei took the spatial ring, inspected it, and frowned. "Where's the Astral Ocean Pills? Why are these High-Blood Refinement Elixirs low-quality? Some of them barely reach that. What is this?"

The Astral Ocean Pill was an high-tier, eighth-grade pill that was exceedingly precious in strengthening one's Astral Core, expanding one's World Sea, and refining the meridians to better handle the circulation of powerful, copious amounts of astral force. As for the High-Blood Refinement Elixirs, they were suitable for refining one's physical energies. It was crucial for beastmen or beasts, but it was also a high-tier, eighth-grade elixir.

Shortly after entering the Valkyrie, she was given five peak-quality Astral Ocean Pills to refine and five High-Blood Refinement Elixirs. She had never leapt so fast in strength or increased in cultivation foundation before.

Ma Ru pouted her lips slightly, "We ran out. Those Astral Ocean Pills are hot commodities, bought and sent out almost immediately upon being concocted. You refined our last reserves a little too quickly, we need more time."

Xue Yifei's frown deepened. She understood the value of the Astral Ocean Pill, but it couldn't have run out? She had only refined three in six months. "Aren't you guys the Golden Life Pavilion? Some great merchant force?"

When Ma Ru heard this, she felt both ashamed and angered. "You're refining products so recklessly, yet you ask this?! Do you think these things can be produced with a snap of our fingers?! It takes months just for one. You aren't our only responsibility!" But she remained calm despite her thoughts, patiently answering: "Our Alchemic Emperors are among the best, but we have other contracts to fulfill. Moreover, these pills might take a few days to refine, but they take months, sometimes years, to concoct."

Xue Yifei's frown deepened. They had never fallen short before. "Can't you just buy more?"

"..." Ma Ru was fiercely taken aback. What type of spoiled life did this Xue Yifei live? Of course, Xue Yifei wasn't at fault. She was always given resources by Wei Wuyin, and she had plenty to refine as she wished for five years. There was never a day she wasn't leaping in strength or cultivation. She lacked neither quality, quantity, or variety.

Prior to that, she wasn't really given much resources or regarded with any importance. She was only protected thanks to Yuan Longshi's reputation and ruthlessness, not nurtured and cultivated by her family's resources. Her lopsided view was based on the fact that this starfield boasted millions of Alchemic Emperors and dozens of Mortal Sovereign Alchemists, and compared them to Wei Wuyin's standard.

Ma Ru remained patient, "The cost of an Astral Ocean Pill is affordable, but you've asked for peak-quality. They're quite difficult to procure from other sources. When available, they're swiftly bought out. So we'll be delayed in obtaining them."

Xue Yifei found this interesting and slightly contradictory, "Then why did you give me low-quality High-Blood Refinement Elixirs?"

"We won't be able to obtain peak-quality ones for quite a while, because there's no Alchemic Emperor in our branch that is familiar with concocting them. This was the best we could do in short notice. I apologize," Ma Ru sincerely said. The High-Blood Refinement Elixirs were meant for beasts and beastmen, yet that wasn't needed in the Aeternal Sky Starfield.

With the advancements of technology, voidships and other modes of transportation allowed for an easier, cheaper, more reliable alternative. Beast mounts were mostly obsolete, only being useful for certain low-level cultivators who can't afford it or specialized beasts meant for battle. The Liu Clan, one of the Eight Noble Clans, ruled that niche market, selling beasts to those cultivators.

Xue Yifei sighed. The other materials were just things she could casually refine, their quality not mattering much, but not nearly as important or quick-resulted as alchemical products.

She missed Wei Wuyin.

They only briefly met in the Four Extreme Continent, but they were separated once again. Just like the time the Void Gate of the Bloodforge Continent was destroyed. Still, she knew that having her own life

goal was important, and she didn't want to exist as the foil of another, like she was with Yuan Longshi. Yet that didn't mean she wanted to be separated from a man that she accepted in her heart.

"Can I visit the others?" Xue Yifei asked Ma Ru.

"Of course. Follow me," Ma Ru nodded, a faint smile on her face. It was much easier to do this than explain the concept of alchemic scarcity alongside supply and demand to someone.

Chapter 618 - 613: A Unique Dynamic

Xue Yifei, under the open escort of thirteen female cultivators, including Ma Ru, traveled through the Grand Horse Realm, exiting from her isolated living area, and arrived at a seemingly entire new world. There were beasts flying across the sky, be it hawk, falcon, winged-dragons, or other beings of flight.

They formed a delicate and developing ecological system, but were segregated in ways as to prevent an eradication of certain species due to an overabundance of predators. The continued ecological developments were maintained in a perfect, calculated balance.

But these were merely the open fields for wild animals. Their destination was a network of interconnected cities that contained all the beastmen that were taken away, large enough to fill tens of billions. In a way, it was a single city with roads and pathways to lead to other cities.

Just as they were flying towards the area, a titanic shadow loomed over the horizon in the east, opposite of the city.

ROAR!

A ferocious, thunderous roar resounded. The twelve guards conjured their astral wards preemptively, as if expecting an outcome. Ma Ru stood next to Xue Yifei and calmly held out her hand. A thin, nearly invisible film of air formed around Xue Yifei and herself.

The roar was powerful, causing the flying beasts to quiver and land, while those who were dragons to roar in joy. Those on the ground paused their activities and glanced at the sky in reverence and awe. They were soon engulfed by the vast shadow of a being, eclipsing the Solar Star that hung at the top of the Grand Horse Realm.

It stretched for thirty-thousand meters, with wings that extended for over forty-thousand meters! Its azure-scales reflected the light from the Solar Stars, glistening with a mighty beauty.

The roar induced a surge of chaotic wind that rushed towards the flying group, crashing into their wards and the thin film of air. Yet with their preparations, they were untouched. As for the beasts below, many were sent flying for miles helplessly.

Their wails and cries went unanswered as they got forcefully relocated. At least, those who survived the landing.

Woosh! Woosh!

The flaps of those wings were terrifying, creating explosive noise.

Xue Yifei's eyes lit. "Anu!" She looked towards Ma Ru, who helplessly smiled, but nodded. Xue Yifei flew forward, Ma Ru directly behind her, and the escorts stayed behind. Anu's physical presence was stifling, and Realm Lords were incapable of resisting it if he unleashed it towards them. They've suffered before, so they were unwilling to do so again.

Seeing Xue Yifei, Anu's gigantic form slowed down, his feet landing on the ground in a crushing thud.

BOOSH!

There were minor earthquakes throughout the area. Its eyes that were a sea of gold with vertical pupils like night, Anu stared at the incoming Xue Yifei with a soft snort. Using its massive claws, it scratched its chin to rid itself of an itch.

Xue Yifei was unafraid of the gargantuan beast that could shatter a continent with a mere swipe of its claw. After arriving here, she met the other dragons, the leader of which was Anu, an Azure-Scaled Horned-Firmament Dragon! She had never seen real dragons before, but she had the Demonic Dragon's Soul inside her own.

This Demonic Dragon wasn't always a Demonic Dragon, but a normal dragon that was a Horned-Firmament Dragon! When it died, its corpse laid alone for a long time until the Soul Impartation of the Heavens enacted its grace, transforming the corpse into a demon.

Revitalized, the dragon retained some of its original self, and had been a part of the Dragon Lineage during their glory times. Its re-acceptance was only because it was the strongest dragon at the time, and it wasn't rejected by the other dragons due to its devastating might. As a beast beyond the Star-level, it rivaled true Ascended.

She had regained its memories, even used it during her early years to help Yuan Longshi, and could even control the Demonic Dragon Soul a little. When she combined the Yin and Yang Soul together, resetting her cultivation, it became her Spirit of Cultivation. While she hadn't told anyone yet, not even Wei Wuyin, her Spirit of Cultivation was the Demonic Dragon itself, which transformed her heart.

This was why she could be considered as pure of a hybrid as Wei Wuyin himself.

Anu immediately sensed that, and was familiar with the Demonic Dragon of the same race. According to Anu, she had his great grandmother within her. The Horned-Firmament Dragon even saw Xue Yifei as a reincarnation of his grandmother's soul.

This was even more shocking when she learned that Anu wasn't a descendant of the dead Horned Firmament Dragon, but the Demonic Dragon that came after. He was partially a demon!

Xue Yifei arrived at Anu's snout, landing there and sitting down. She was like a tiny fly in comparison to a mountain when next to Anu. Anu lowered his head, closing his eyes as they started to spiritually communicate.

"Are you okay?" Anu asked, concerned. Since they were taken, he was capable of restoring the rescued dragons back to a healthy state, but they were still trapped in this World Realm. He had tried to resist initially, but three Mystic Star Phase experts instantly arrived and beat him down until he couldn't move for a month.

They left, telling him not to act recklessly and this situation was temporary. However, his race had been imprisoned and subjected the torture for thousands of years. How could he casually trust these humans?! So he waited, built up his strength to one day break free.

But he met Xue Yifei one day, and he realized she contained the soul of his great grandmother. He also noticed her aura was familiar. When she learned about the silver-eyed cultivator she called her husband, he was stunned. It was the same little boy that he met decades ago! The one who gave him lifeforce!

Her aura was filled with his because she consumed his alchemical products religiously, not refining out his aura as she did as normal. In a way, this was her act of proclaiming herself as fully his. She would never turn away from her choice.

Xue Yifei smiled, rubbing Anu's pretty scales. A single scale was bigger than five of her. "I'm fine. They lack resources, but its acceptable." If anyone in the Aeternal Sky Starfield heard this about the Golden Life Pavilion, they'd spew out massive buckets of blood, likely died on the spot from sheer ignorance!

Shockingly though, they would be the ignorant ones!

Anu sensed Ma Ru nearby, quietly watching. This petite girl was not to be underestimated. She was one of the Mystic Star Phase experts that beat him down before. He had a healthy dose of caution towards her.

"What about you? You're not doing anything reckless, are you?" Xue Yifei asked, her tone caring and concerned. The memories of the Demonic Dragon and the residual emotions were still present within her, and while she could've expelled them, she didn't. Therefore, she felt maternal care for Anu in much the same way as Anu felt a filial affection towards her.

"Reckless? No." Anu was still waiting for a prime moment to sweep up his fellow dragons in his Internal World and burst out of this cage. Even if he had to destroy the World Realm's Core!

"You're not to do anything until Wei Wuyin arrives! You understand me?" Xue Yifei knew of his habits, hurriedly saying with a fierce, unyielding tone.

Anu lowered its head further, snorting softly, but didn't refuse or accept her demand. This Wei Wuyin fellow can't be all that? And so what if he arrives, can he do anything to that Ascended in just a few decades?

Xue Yifei sighed with a wry smile, rubbing Anu a little more softly. "Please, just wait..." She didn't want Anu to act, and they dealt with him to avoid any problems. Her worries were, of course, not needed. The Golden Life Pavilion had innumerable ways to handle Anu without lethal actions.

Anu's eyes opened, and he faintly nodded his gargantuan head. "I will, alright?" His voice had relented. Their dynamic was different from what anyone could expect from a human and a dragon, especially with such a vast power gap.

Xue Yifei beautifully smiled, "Perfect. When he comes back, I'll be sure to ask him to concoct some products for you. He's good at making things for beasts, very good."

Ma Ru couldn't fathom how this unruly dragon became so tame, but she didn't mind. Considering how protective and careful the dragon was with Xue Yifei, she just remained as a silent observer.

The two kept talking about various things, such as the treatment of the dragons. After learning of what they experienced before, Xue Yifei had a distinct hatred towards those who would be so despicable. Similar to Wei Wuyin, she saw herself as much as a dragon as she did as a human.

She would never wish for that on humans or dragons, not even demons or elves. Actually, anyone! It was incredibly cruel and vicious, and their struggle had brought enraged tears to her eyes when she first heard it. She even decided to help Anu get revenge if possible.

The entire dragon lineage of the Desolate Dragnet Stellar Region deserved that.

While their conversation continued, a figure arrived beside Ma Ru. Ma Ru immediately noticed this dark-grey haired figure, and hurriedly bowed: "Ma Ru greets Assistant Manager Sujiang."

Ma Sujiang wore her standard issue black toaist robes with silver embroidery. Her youthful appearance was unchanged, but as she observed Xue Yifei, there was a particular glint in her eyes. But she quickly concealed that, making her presence known:

"Xue Yifei, you have a visitor."

Xue Yifei's eyes opened, looking at Ma Sujiang with a little shock. That shock turned into joy, then hope, and then happiness!

Chapter 619 - 614: Choices Begets Fortune

'A visitor!' Xue Yifei's excitement brightened her expression to the zenith, giving her a unique charm unlike anything before. If there was a visitor, then it could only be Wei Wuyin or one of Wei Wuyin's subordinates, such as Su Mei. She wished it was Wei Wuyin, but a faint fluctuation in her heart told her that it wasn't. Furthermore, it wouldn't be a good thing if it was.

She wasn't certain about this Golden Life Pavilion's objective, but she realized that they valued Wei Wuyin. It was best to not interact directly with these people until he could reliably protect himself. She didn't want him to be relegated to a pill dispenser, enslaved, or forced to compromise unfavorably for her.

Ma Sujiang turned to Ma Ru, "Find these two: Nyla Shur and Zuhei. They are respectively a beastwoman of the Havana Feline Lineage and a beastman of the Sirius Canine Lineage. Go."

Ma Ru diligently nodded. She vanished from sight.

Xue Yifei was startled out of her thoughts. Nyla Shur and Zuhei? Was Wei Wuyin actually here? Did he ask for them or were they bringing members close to Wei Wuyin? Unsure, she wore a neutral expression and took a firm, stable breath. It seems that her thoughts and their situation might not be so simple.

Anu eyed Ma Sujiang. There was a cautious light in his eyes. This woman might seem harmless, but she gave off a feeling of danger to him that caused his instincts to roar. She reminded him of that vile man in terms of strength, but not remotely close to that old man that snatched them.

Ma Sujiang looked at the giant dragon before her. Its azure-scaled firm, body of powerful muscle, bipedaled form, and thick and fleshy wings gave her a distinct feeling. When she was born, dragons were already a rumored extinct existence.

Seeing one that was thirty-thousand meters tall, left her feeling all sorts of fascinated emotions. It was just a little unfortunate that this dragon, that was the strongest amongst his lineage, was so weak. She could kill him with little effort, causing her to rethink those legends of their prowess and abilities.

"You too," she said. With a last look, she turned around and gestured to them to follow her. Anu was taken aback. Him too?

Xue Yifei was even more confused by this, but she didn't ask any questions. "Let's go." Whatever was awaiting them shouldn't be horrible or dangerous. After all, they had sufficient strength to wipe them all out, yet they were keeping them here to remain as strange prisoners/guests.

Anu was about to resist, but after hearing Xue Yifei, his curiosity got the better of him. With a low roar, his wings moved and lifted his body off the ground. The surging winds shifted the environment.

Woosh!

With a powerful flap, he followed along the small and seemingly fragile figure of Ma Sujiang. The majestic flight was startling to most, but the dragon lineage that had happily integrated with the other beasts roared with joy and pride.

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A few hours earlier.

Tuo Bihan had made his way towards the 34th World Realm, Grand Horse Realm a few days ago, and it took him tireless nights to find and locate the headquarters of the Ma Clan. They were the leaders of this World Realm, and they had incredible authority over the Third Branch of the Golden Life Pavilion. It was much easier to find them, and he soon made his way there.

When he arrived, he was welcomed by an incredible sight. There was an entire island from the World Realm's main landmass, and it was roughly thirty percent of the landmass' size. It was surrounded by still water, and no matter what external influence tried to affect it, not even a single ripple would be produced.

He tested this out at the shore, dropping a manifested ball of astral force, but it was as if the water was utterly resistant to all motion. It sank in oddly, creating an incredibly jarring picture that dissociated one's mental image of water. The curiosity led him to wanting to drink it, but he was warned by a native to not do that unless he didn't want his life.

The water wasn't poisonous, but if it entered your body, it could infect it and bring your natural bodily functions to a halt, even your blood would stop flowing. This terrified him. It was called Stillwater Blood, and it was a mystic-grade material, while the body of water was called the Endless Stagnation Sea.

It was fascinating. This was the first time he came across a mystic-grade material since arriving in this starfield. Even his spiritual sense couldn't sense anything, not even the water energies within.

'It must've been refined by this mystic quality, so I can't even sense it. That's terrifying. Is it possible that mystic-grade things are outside mortal's perception? Is those beyond the Astral Core Realm truly beyond Mortal Limits like the little boss says?' His thoughts and horizons were expanded by this discovery.

Tuo Bihan felt fortunate that he hadn't drunk it. He made a mental note to be absolutely careful from now on, not wanting to die without knowing why.

There were various energy signs floating at the edge of the coast warning to not fly across the lake or use spatial arts to do so. He had to wait for a ferry to cross the lake, which was by no means a small price. Fortunately, he could afford it.

The Ma Clan didn't turn away visitors. They even welcomed them with open arms, establishing a ferry service to ensure these visitors can cross the Endless Stagnation Lake. It was quite generous of them. They were, after all, a clan that established themselves on business.

When he arrived on the island, there were individuals from the Ma Clan that were waiting, and they were quite amicable as they asked for their purpose on the island. Most of those on the ferry seemed to be visiting members of the Ma Clan, trying to integrate into the Ma Clan, or deliver taxes and discuss business contracts.

He found it interesting that there were individuals coming to deliver taxes, and they all had bright smiles and happiness in their eyes. When have taxes ever been a joyful thing? As a Grand Imperial Sage, he knew how ungrateful other forces were, and they would make up any type of excuse to pay less or delay it.

Tuo Bihan was shocked to realize that one of these figures had an aura that resembled a mighty celestial body, clearly a Starlord. While it was subtle, his strength was by no means concealed. Even that expert had a bright smile, laughing and joking with the attendants that greeted him. The respect he gave the Ma Clan people was praise-worthy.

Yet those individuals weren't even Realmlords, there was even a Soul Idol Phase amongst them.

"..." Tuo Bihan felt that the Golden Life Pavilion and the Ma Clan were by no means simple. Would he face any unexpected troubles in his delivery? He could only hope not.

"Sir, your purpose for visiting our little clan?" The female attendant had a warm smile, her pretty face and youthful vigor was quite attractive. Her life aura was roughly two hundred yet she was at the Spatial Resonance Phase. This was outstanding!

In the Neo-Dawn Starfield, if one excluded irregularities such as Wei Wuyin and certain others, like Long Chen, then being two hundred and at the Soul Idol Phase was sufficient to be considered an absolute genius, titled Heavenly Kings in the Myriad Monarch Sect. Yet this was a mere attendant at the Spatial Resonance Phase.

While her foundation wasn't stellar, only four-ripples to reach that level at her age was incredible. Of course, with her foundation, it's unlikely she'll successfully become a Realmlord, so it made sense she was a mere attendant. Even in this great environment, be it ambient energies or resource-rich, yet she still only reached the four-ripple Spatial Resonance.

It just goes to show...

"Cultivation is difficult," Tuo Bihan wistfully said. His words caused the pretty young attendant's expression to distort, her eyes glinted with a depressive light for a moment. But it was only momentary, "Sir?"

Tuo Bihan regained himself, once more appreciating his identity as an alchemist and Wei Wuyin's value. As an Emperor Alchemist, he helped establish Qin Rui and Yao Zhen's outstanding cultivation bases, yet his best efforts still caused both of them to fall short of the requirements to become a Realmlord.

"I'm here to meet Ma Zheng, Third Manager of the Golden Life Pavilion; I have a message for him from Ascendant Emperor Wei Wuyin." He decided not to just use Wei Wuyin's full name, resorting to his title. If the name reached Ma Zheng, he should understand it. After all, it was Wei Wuyin's most prestigious title, and there might be other Wei Wuyin's in this starfield.

It was a good name.

"Patriarch Ma? Ascendant Emperor Wei Wuyin?" The attendant was gobsmacked. She gave Tuo Bihan an once-over, finding his clothes shabby in comparison to other high-ranking envoys and his cultivation severely lacking. And she had never heard of this Ascendant Emperor before? Such a domineering name!

Furthermore, anyone with the qualifications to meet Ma Zheng wouldn't do so via this way. She couldn't help but heavily frown. The crowd also halted, turning to Tuo Bihan who seemed like a bum Realmlord out of the sticks.

Tuo Bihan understood her concerns, but he had a mission. He added politely, "Can you at least tell someone important about this? If they're connected to Ma Zheng, they'll certainly understand who I represent. I can assure you, you'll be rewarded heavily for your efforts and diligence."

He knew that most attendants might dismiss him, mostly to avoid trouble, so he humbled himself and enticed this pretty attendant. Yet this only seemed desperate in the eyes of the crowd, and the attendant's expression became dissatisfied as she shook her head.

"It's impossible, I can-" Her words were about to reject his request, send him on his way, but she felt her throat seize up. She felt an oppressive power engulf her, her eyes widened in terror.

"Bring him to the 2nd Region's Concentration Field," a voice resounded to the surroundings, shocking the crowd. A new attendant seemed to have received a message, placing on a genial smile and stepped forward towards Tuo Bihan.

"Sir, please follow me." His words were as polite as possible, and Tuo Bihan looked at the pretty attendant for a moment. A trace of pity in his eyes. If only she was a little more diligent in her job, not dismissive, perhaps her fate might've changed today. Clearly whoever spoke waited to hear her reply before abruptly shutting her off.

It was judging a book by its cover, and lacking an instinct to grasp fortune... Not every fortune was the product of the heavens, but of people, based on their individual choices.

Chapter 620 - 615: Predestined Owners

"Holy!" Tuo Bihan's eyes widened as he saw Anu, his gigantic and imposing form that seemed capable of casually shattering planets in the distance. After the events at the attendant's station, he was brought to a wide-open grassland. This area was filled with dense, pure astral essence.

Every breath invigorated his body, giving him a comfortable feeling that made him absolutely satisfied. It was denser, purer, and easier to refine than the highest-level of the Extreme Mountains. If he had to estimate, perhaps three to four times.

This meant cultivating here could turn three days there to one day here, or three hundred years into a hundred years. The effects would be world-defying!

"This is the 2nd Region's Concentration Field. It is reserved for certain geniuses of our Ma Clan, and its currently undergoing repairs." The attendant explained.

Repairs?

"Is it fully functioning?" His heart quaked as he asked, anxious about the answer.

The attendant knowingly smiled, shaking his head slightly with a glint of pride in his eyes. "It's currently functioning at twenty percent."

Tuo Bihan felt his world be overturned. 20%? Didn't that mean the astral essence was fifteen to twenty times greater than the Myriad Monarch Sect's greatest cultivation grounds?! Holy sh-

This starfield truly was further advanced than the Imperial Dawn Starfield. They were like country bumpkins. After all, the Golden Life Pavilion was one of the sixteen hegemonic forces in the Aeternal Sky Starfield while the Myriad Monarch Sect was one of five, yet the differences between their respective forces was utterly massive.

Moreover, this might not be the best cultivation condition available!

"What's that?" Tuo Bihan asked, pointing at Anu's distant shadow. When he had arrived, he had relayed to the attendant the individuals he wanted to speak to, excluding Ma Zheng, as they had asked as if expecting his purpose to ensure their safety and current status. He mentioned four additional names, as according to Wei Wuyin's note for the rings: Xue Yifei, Zuhei, Nyla Shur, and Anu.

The attendant didn't know, so he only gave him a faint smile. He stopped his flight, and gestured forward. "Assistant Manager Sujiang will be with you in a moment," after saying this, he patiently waited for Tuo Bihan to fly forwards.

Tuo Bihan clasped his hands in thanks, and then flew onwards with his eyes focused on Anu's gigantic form.

It took him a while before he fully entered the incredibly expansive Concentration Field. There, he sat several figures standing beneath the gigantic azure dragon that was observing his approach. His heart raced as the dragon's eyed him.

'What terrifying physical presence!' Anu's draconic pressure was extremely terrifying, and just observing its existence felt oppressive to one's bodily functions. He had to circulate his innate energies to ease this discomfort. Fortunately, it didn't seem to be hostile, and its aura was just passive.

He recognized three of these five figures.

A feisty, petite beastwoman with sharply-shaped brown eyes and short-styled brown hair. She had a puffy pout, her expression incredibly cute despite her clear dissatisfaction. Her cat-like ears twitched a little, and those eyes stared at Tuo Bihan. For a moment, they revealed a trace of disappointment.

Clearly, she was expecting someone else.

This was Nyla Shur, one of Wei Wuyin's lovers in the Myriad Monarch Sect and a member of Valkyrie. Her physical presence was fiery, shocking Tuo Bihan. If one looked closely, her veins and arteries had flowing light within. She was at the Light Reflection Phase!

With her flesh and blood heart acting as her Dantian, her light energies were continuously pumped into her body, producing an incredibly powerful presence. When he noted the white-color of that light, he couldn't help but marvel once more at Wei Wuyin's talent in nurturing others.

After all, Nyla Shur's talent was quite low. In fact, most beastmen had difficulties cultivating. They needed both bloodline-enhancing and normal cultivation resources. This was because they were heavily flawed. Unlike beasts that can devour other beasts or cultivators to enhance their bloodline powers, beastmen lacked this ability.

Furthermore, with their heart, a vital organ, acting as their dantian, this further the dangers of cultivation deviation, even a minor one was fatal. An vital aspect that added to their cultivation difficulties was strength of innate energies versus Dantian. If their meridians, veins, and arteries weren't strong enough to resist the circulation of their power, or if their heart wasn't strong enough to store their power, they'll just explode, or at least be unable to exert their fullest strength.

This limited the beastmen greatly. Even Ji Changkong, the strongest beastman in the Imperial Dawn Starfield, Grand Imperial Sage, only reached his level because of his two Intents, Saber and Sword, that could regulate his energies. As for Zen, she spent the most time cultivating her heart and foundation, living for over three thousand years as a member of the tortoise lineage.

Yet to Wei Wuyin, this was minor. The light energies within Nyla Shur's body was stable, and her veins, arteries, or heart had no trouble containing her innate energies.

However, amongst beastmen, the most terrifying was the figure that stood beside Nyla Shur.

Zuhei!

When Tuo Bihan saw him, his heart chilled. His scarlet eyes weren't as vibrant as before, but contained void black flecks. Those sharp eyes of his were calm, eerily so, as if staring into the depths of death itself. Yet the bloody and viciously heart-pulsing feral sensation was still present. It felt like his existence radiated unfettered carnage.

His slender yet incredibly toned figure was loosely wrapped in a robe, showing off his chest to the world. Glaringly, there was a large scar of distorted flesh at the center of his chest. The wound was horrible, as if someone had pierced through him entirely, affecting his entire heart, lungs, and spine.

'The blow he suffered from Lin Ming!' Tuo Bihan immediately recalled that impressive fight that resulted in both of their bodies being utterly devastated. He had thought Zuhei had died, until Wei Wuyin took

action. After all, his entire heart was completely eviscerated by Lin Ming's attack. For a beastman, that was their most vital organ, even greater than their brain.

Tuo Bihan frowned. He couldn't sense Zuhei's cultivation, yet the sensation he gave him was utterly dreadful.

The last recognizable figure was Xue Yifei. She was still as gorgeous as before, and he faintly smiled. Wei Wuyin truly had taste, and no one could say otherwise.

The other two he didn't know, but they were Ma Ru and Ma Sujiang.

When he finally arrived, the shadow of Anu over them, he clasped his hands in greeting after realizing the cultivation of those two figures exceeded his understanding.

Ma Sujiang stepped forward, "You're Tuo Bihan?"

Tuo Bihan nodded, "I am."

"Here's the four you asked for. As for Patriarch Ma, I've sent him a message. He should be here soon." Ma Sujiang calmly stated, referring to Ma Zheng as Patriarch Ma. If it was in an official setting, she would've referred to him as Manager Ma Zheng.

Four?

Tuo Bihan was surprised. "Anu?" He asked.

"The dragon above," Ma Sujiang frowned, lifting her finger to point at the golden-eyed dragon. She didn't expect Tuo Bihan to be unaware who Anu was.

And Tuo Bihan's expression betrayed his surprise. A dragon?! Holy! He had never seen a real dragon before! They had gone extinct before his birth, and even the depictions of their form had too many variations. Some were said to be slender, long, with short legs while others were bulky, muscular, with powerful legs and large claws.

Anu fits the latter! His bipedaled form seemed like a beast of the Lizard Lineage, yet those wings were like eagles. That powerful, wide body was huge, yet it lacked any semblance of slender.

Anu eyed Tuo Bihan closely, causing wind currents to surge with his movements. This little thing was so weak. If he wanted, he could annihilate this old man with a casual swipe of its claw. It briefly snorted, dissatisfied that it wasn't that silver-eyed boy.

Tuo Bihan took several breaths in awe to calm his breath. He turned to Ma Sujiang and became serious, "I'm here on a mission to deliver letters to these four. Can I have some privacy?"

Ma Sujiang frowned, but she didn't reject his request, "We'll give you space." She and Ma Ru vanished, leaving the four alone.

But Tuo Bihan wasn't a fool. It was likely they were observing using means beyond his perception, and there was nothing he could do if that was the case.

"A message from Wei Wuyin?" Nyla Shur's eyes brightened. She leapt forward in jubilant excitement. It's been nearly four years since she last saw him in the flesh, and she was always beset with worry about his status. While she felt that nothing would happen to him, the cultivation world was full of unknowns.

One day, you could be bathing while thinking of your lover with animated fingers frustratingly failing to reach the depths they could, the next you were brought to another world. It wasn't something that one could predict, so she was justified in her fear.

Unlike Xue Yifei, she didn't receive special treatment and was placed alongside the other beastmen of her lineage, forced to live in cohabitation in a limited area. Unable to leave with very little explanation, they could only cultivate and strive to survive in this unfamiliar environment.

Tuo Bihan smiled with a nod, "For all of you. Don't resist the spiritual force when it happens, it contains the message."

Tuo Bihan had seven rings left, and four were now about to reach their predestined owners.