

### Chapter 671 - 666: Devil's In The Details

Floating silently within the void-blank space between the Treasured Light Starfield and United Source Starfield, a man and a beast sat upon a large earthen sphere that contained unimaginable wealth, sufficient to induce wars and blood rain upon the stellar region.

Wei Wuyin was unconcerned about this fact, his thoughts elsewhere as he regulated his internal circulation of energies. Just a few minutes prior, he had conjured a Void Portal to New Everlore, locking onto the signature of Wu Baozhai's spatial ring, sending Wu Yu through it.

The act was still quite exhausting. Within the void-blank space, there was a distinct lack of ambient essence that could be absorbed and refined, making recovery extremely difficult. This was especially so for a cultivator like him, their foundation consisted of four Astral Souls and deeply refined energies. With the recuperative products within his ring, he slowly regained his astral force consumed for such an arduous task.

"Kree!" Bai Lin softly cried out while her body was engulfed in golden-scarlet nirvanic flames. Her entire body was pulsing with heat, the light from her body was bright and hot. Since eating the Terra-Mystic Ore, Bai Lin's body was undergoing changes as she refined it.

Wei Wuyin was intently staring at her changes, his eyes fixated on every fluctuation, every emission, and every subtle change in aura or color of her flames. He noted her golden-scarlet flames were losing their scarlet colors, becoming predominantly golden.

'The Nirvanic Rebirth Realm that Bai Lin says she's in has nine stages. Will she undergo her next stage?' His thoughts reached this point, because beasts had different cultivation systems than humans, demons, and elves, he was unable to properly determine how her cultivation would develop. He furrowed his brows, 'Will she have to go through another nine years to transform?'

The thought of losing Bai Lin again after obtaining her left his heart aching. It was a horrible feeling. While he was aware that this meant that Bai Lin's strength would elevate, it didn't lessen the taut feeling he felt in his heart at the possibility.

"KREE!" Bai Lin flared, her entire body erupted in flames. Wei Wuyin paid rapt attention, undivided and utmost focused. When she unfurled her wings, her flames started to grow wildly. She flapped her wings harshly, producing a tremendous force that shook space.

Wei Wuyin instantly entered his draconic form after the pseudo-atmospheric environment formed by Wu Yu was destroyed. He resisted the Chill of the Dark Void with ease, his physical aura acting as a natural barrier.

"I'll be back!" Bai Lin howled mentally, causing Wei Wuyin's expression to grow dark, but dignified and serious. He kept his thoughts inside, sending back: "I'll be here."

Bai Lin released one last cry before spreading her wings once more and flapping. She shot into the Dark Void, becoming a flaming comet. She was beautiful. Utterly gorgeous.

As she grew further and further, the flames emitted from her body grew over a hundred times, forming the distinct shape of a large avian bird. With her at the center, it seemed a gigantic flaming shadow of herself had formed! It was ten times Bai Lin's size! With its one hundred and ten meters in height, its wingspan even wider, she became a flying beacon of light and rebirth.

Wei Wuyin watched as she burned. The fixed space was affected, creating distortions and ripples. Her flames were incinerating the surrounding fixed space with just the heat emissions. This was the one-half of the Nirvanic Flames strength, its incinerating flames!

Wei Wuyin remained silently observing throughout, his silver eyes never leaving her form. They were alone. Not a single life within a hundred thousand miles, and not a celestial body for even further.

After three minutes, her flaming form started to burn to the zenith, and her gigantic flaming shadow started to compress. It compressed until only the flaming Bai Lin remained, her figure hidden by a raging movement of flames and light.

"KREE!!!" An explosive cry resounded.

Wei Wuyin's hands were instantly placed before him, encapsulating himself and the earthen sphere. An astral ward formed, thin yet firm. After several moments, an explosive force smashed heavily against the ward.

BAM!

Wei Wuyin held steady, but the force had sent him and the earthen sphere backwards in a forced retreat. The power from that cry didn't just shake space, but exploded the ambient spatial energies and created powerful shockwaves. The shockwave could collapse planets.

Fortunately, Wei Wuyin's cultivation base was terrifying to say the least, sufficient enough to resist with some effort. But his expression was still dark because after the explosive cry, Bai Lin burned heavier and heavier until her form started to rapidly shrink, just like before. She soon started to burn away, and in a split second, she turned to ash that vanished within the Dark Void.

Her aura and exquisite figure...gone.

Wei Wuyin realized that beasts cultivation can be slow and fast. He couldn't fathom how much mystic material she had eaten. However, he was a little confused about the specifics of her principles of cultivation. Was the Nirvanic Rebirths the process to refine the built up energies she had stored or the result of her refining energies that elevated her bloodline quality, drawing it closer to her origin?

If it was the latter, then her refinement speed was even greater than his own. She had taken only a few hours to refine all the mystic-graded material inside her, and if it was the former, then he wondered if nine years was a static requirement or a limit.

He hoped it was the former.

If it was a matter of refinement, then her built up energies could invoke a cultivation leap, but she might take far shorter if her energy requirement was fulfilled sooner.

"Regardless if you take one minute or nine years, I'll still wait." Wei Wuyin told himself this, soothing his heart on things he couldn't affect.

After settling his thoughts, he spent three hours refining the recuperative products he'd consumed earlier. It was extremely difficult to restore his innate energies, converting them to astral force even with his externalized Astral Souls help refining the products swiftly. It was just too high-level. Despite using several low-tier ninth-grade products, he had only recovered twenty-percent of his full reserves.

This might become an issue in the future. A consequence of a stable, outrageously maximized cultivation foundation.

He didn't need to recover more innate energies or astral force, so he settled on this for now and decided to spend more time later recovering the rest. But the issues of a lack of alchemical products and materials to concoct more was growing.

At the very last moment, he told Wu Yu to use some of that earned income to purchase materials for his concoctions, including a few concoction methods of certain types of ninth-grade products. Now he'd just have to wait for it to arrive.

If anyone knew that Wei Wuyin was using a quasi Demi-Mortal Lord as a gofer, they might faint at the ludicrousness of it all. However, he didn't really have anyone else that could quickly fulfil his tasks available. Most of everyone else in the Aeternal Sky Starfield was at the Astral Core Realm, focusing on their own cultivation or their own assignments.

With a heavy breath, he sent out his astral force to repel the Chill of the Dark Void. Bringing out his Nine Element Eclipse Cauldron, the space was filled with multicolored mist for sixty-three meters in diameter! It was Utmost Purity Mist, the byproduct of successful concoctions of seventh-grade or higher products, and it formed a perfectly spherical domain with this mist.

Wei Wuyin observed this cauldron that had accompanied him during his Myriad Monarch Sect days. He gently caressed its surface. Since he had last shown it to the world, the Utmost Purity Mist had expanded fifty-three meters.

That being said, it was no longer nine-colored on its surface, but pure, pristinely white. At times, it would flicker with a shift of a myriad colors, as if an ever-changing aurora borealis was sealed within its surface, painted across its surface with an animated life imbued throughout. It was gorgeously exquisite, phenomenal to see.

After reaching Element Heart Intent fusing nine Apex-level Intents, the qualities of the cauldron had drastically changed due to his continuous contact and infusion of Intent. Furthermore, its natural state had changed as an alchemical domain had naturally formed, constructed entirely from Utmost Purity Mist.

In the All-Alchemic Clash against Qingye Ying, the Princess of Everlore, it was a high-rank astral-graded tool, but now, after its naturally occurring evolution in composition and emissions of Utmost Purity Mist, it could be classified as the peak-rank. But if Wei Wuyin had a say, he felt it was definitely at the pinnacle-rank, the utmost limits of astral-graded tools.

However, it was extremely, extremely unlikely for a cauldron at the astral-grade to have such high-level characteristics, both its alchemical aura and Utmost Purity Mist. Especially the latter, which was outrageous.

Perhaps only ancient cauldrons used by a long lineage of successful Mortal Sovereign Alchemists or Alchemic Saints could produce such incredible Utmost Purity Mist.

Wei Wuyin started to think. 'The devil's in the details or lack thereof. I've eliminated numerous reasons for why I can't concoct transcendent-quality products, and I believe it's two-fold. If so, I might have both pieces here.'

Wei Wuyin reached into his robes, bringing out the vial of Mystic Origin Liquid, a full six drops, that was given to him by Wu Yu. He pressed against the ground and lifted upwards, and pieces of earth were lifted and brought out a strange material between them. It was strangely ordinary, off-white in color, bland and without any distinctions.

It seemed like this piece of mystic-graded material, the Terra-Mystic Ore was just normal ore. No, even less than normal ore. But Wei Wuyin knew better.

His two eyes manifested seven stars each, bringing out the Alchemic Stars of Mortal Spirituality, an ocular-type of Intent from the Alchemic Dao. The faint traces of the Alchemic Dao's will surged through his pupils, revealing to him things unseen by even the Celestial Eyes of Spiritual Divinity!

In his perception, the bland ore changed drastically!

#### **Chapter 672 - 667: It's A Who, Not A What**

The Terra-Mystic Ore became a dazzling piece of rock with indescribable colors! Wei Wuyin had never perceived these colors before, finding them impossible to place, absolutely incapable of describing! They were beyond mortal perception, beyond mortal limits of visual means!

Flitting within the rock like perpetual, never-ending cosmic comets flowing through it were strange, exotic runes. He had seen runes like these before! His eyes focused heavily on these runes, trying to catch a complete glimpse of them, but their speed was explosively fast, far too difficult to catch.

He tried to execute his Celestial Eyes alongside the Alchemic Stars, but found them conflicting, with only one of them taking precedence. Unable to proceed in this manner, he no longer tried to catch a thorough glimpse of the runes, simply inspecting the ore's peculiarities.

Earlier, when he approached the celestial rogue that contained the Terra-Mystic Mine and its precious ore, he had activated the Alchemic Stars in an attempt to verify his assumption that the ore and earth were separate entities, one mystic and one mortal. If so, he could transmute earth to wind, instantly separating the ore from the earth.

The plan worked, but he discovered something very interesting! Before his Alchemic Stars of Mortal Spirituality, the Intent of the Alchemic Dao, he realized he could visibly see the differences between them! The Alchemic Stars was an ability gifted to him after successfully concocting the Everlore Ascension Pill, but he hadn't felt it was very useful.

While it could perceive Alchemic Spirit Remnants, he hadn't discovered other abilities. He thought it wasn't very useful, as not all Intent was beneficial. Even while he concocted products, it served no use that he could see. He didn't understand why the Alchemic Dao would bestow such a gift to Mortal Sovereign Alchemists.

As for Alchemic Spirit Remnants, he was aware of its existence even before the Alchemic Stars manifested. There have been numerous Evil Cultivators and Alchemists who've extracted the remnant efficacy of alchemical products from cultivators, either to cultivate themselves or concoct strange products.

He didn't need to observe it to extract it at his skill-level. But after thinking about it, the Alchemic Stars had allowed him to perceive Su Mei's shattered world and react. If it wasn't for that, he would've been forced to look at a still image of Su Mei as she died.

The Alchemic Stars of Mortal Spirituality was an ocular-type Intent, and the first one he'd ever seen or perceived. Unable to spare the time on wild experiments, he hoped to find answers in more advanced civilizations or the thick tome he had obtained from the Alchemic Association.

Unfortunately, the latter was uneventful and the former had yet to fully manifest itself. While he was certain the Everlore Association or one of the many forces with Mortal Sovereign Alchemists might have detailed information, he was unable to acquire it at this moment. After all, even Wang Yutian said Mortal Sovereign Alchemists were terrifying, and he felt it had to do with this strange Intent.

After noticing this unique power of the Alchemic Stars, he gradually realized that he might've held a piece to the puzzle that was transcendent-quality products.

"When I unintentionally concocted the transcendent-quality World-Light Refraction Elixir, I hypothesized that my Zenith Origin State had inadvertently interacted and introduced an unknown element during the concoction process. This caused the quality to elevate. However, after a lot of testing, I came to a few conclusions and realizations.

"Firstly, whatever happened wasn't a million to one chance. I've concocted tens of millions of products since my Sky Ruler Astral Tribulation, from pellets, pills, elixirs, and vats of paste, not a single one of them is of that quality. This meant the probability of it happening was infinitesimally small. It was just a happy accident that it came out transcendent-quality.

"Secondly, the transcendent-quality has something to do with this mystic intent or perhaps even tainted mana with its qualities. But I'm still a mortal, I'm unable to even perceive it. Until now, of course." Wei Wuyin grabbed the ore with his left hand. While it seemed different in his eyes, in his hand it felt like an ordinary piece of ore.

"Lastly, Zenith Origin State is critical. My personalized mana has a special quality that can attract, even introduce mystic intent or mystic-graded mana into my concoction process." The ability to do so was why he had the outrageous thought that he could normalize the concoction of transcendent-quality products. It was just an idle thought, but his astral souls believed in his outrageous idea, in him!

He now had two objects of mysticism, the Terra-Mystic Ore and Mystic Origin Liquid. They were both mystic-graded materials, and they both embodied two different states of matter and purpose. The Terra-Mystic Ore was used to forge tools and objects, which meant it contained Mystic Intent and Mystic Essence.

The Mystic Origin Liquid was used for cultivators to comprehend Mystic Intent or act as a means to artificially halt an Ascension, mostly regarding the Third Ascension, the tribulation to enter the Demi-Mortal Lord Phase, the Third Stage of the Mystic Ascendant Realm.

They had two interesting qualities and effects. Most notably, the Mystic Origin Liquid. While naming doesn't strictly suggest a connection, he felt that Mystic Origin Liquid was actually condensed mystic-graded mana in liquid state. And when he saw it in Wu Yu's hand, and finally obtained it in his own hands, he knew it was true!

Mana was often in liquid form when condensed, even the Spiritual Mana used to concoct the Neo-Dawn Eclipse Pill was uniquely refined mana made through man-made means. There were all sorts of liquid mana materials in the cultivation world, both artificial and natural.

With this discovery, he had a thought. A fascinatingly powerful thought! His Zenith Origin State Astral Souls were abnormalities that had leapt the barrier of cultivation conventions, directly evolving from their Zenith Mortal States. As for the Zenith Origin State? It must belong to those in the Mystic Ascendant Realm!

He had asked Wu Yu about other states of Astral Souls long ago during his discussions with him, but even Wu Yu was ignorant of it despite reaching the Soul of Mysticism Phase, the Second Stage of the Mystic Ascendant Realm! If so, Wei Wuyin felt it was only a state one could reach while in the Mystic Ascendant Realm, but not an automatically developed trait upon Ascension, just like the various levels of Mortal States.

With this theory in mind, he believed in his chances of successfully concocting transcendent-quality products now! In truth, he felt a slithering feeling that maybe, just maybe, he'll be able to concoct Mystic-Rank products prior to the Mystic Ascendant Realm. Just maybe, of course.

Lacking any mystic-tier concoction methods, he couldn't even test out this thought, so he shelved it. One should walk before they decide to fly.

Wei Wuyin interacted with his four Astral Souls, invoking their unique Zenith Origin State mana control. He deeply inspected the two objects, both the Terra-Mystic Ore and the Mystic Origin Liquid. With an unwavering gaze, the chaos mana in the environment trembled, but was kept out by his physical aura.

"Come on." Wei Wuyin pressed harder, trying to raise a reaction from the objects. He directly expelled a breath of his personally refined mana, sending it engulfing the ore. With his adroit control over mana, he churned it.

The ore's strange runes seemed to be faintly affected. But his eyes widened as he noticed the ore observing his mana, and the speed of those runes that were like high-speed comets of the cosmos had risen considerably. Unable to follow their trails anymore, he halted to observe.

After an hour of this accelerated state, the ore calmed down, seemingly exhausting whatever fuel his refined mana had given it. "Curious," this type of reaction was almost chemical. He didn't expect it.

He tried a few other experimental actions. Even trying to crush it! But he discovered that his strongest might was unable to even distort its shape by a millimeter, quickly realizing one of the many reasons why it was so difficult to mine!

He smelt it with elemental origin fire, tried to use alchemic force to refine it, and even tried to eat it like Bai Lin but to no avail. His teeth couldn't even dent it, and it was completely indigestible. While he might

have the bloodline of a True Dragon, the ability to refine raw materials through his stomach was not an ability he gained. Unfortunately...

Turning to the Mystic Origin Liquid, all six drops in that small vial, he saw tiny, very tiny runes floating within, but their colors were just as indistinguishable and the runes were unable to be seen, clouded by a ceaseless series of ripples that masked it. It was as if it was deliberately blocking his vision.

Wei Wuyin pondered on this subject. Was he unworthy? Was the speed of movement and ripples just manifestations meant to prevent him from observing the qualities of mysticism prematurely? Was it detrimental?

He halted his experiments for a long, long while. He decided to meditate on this. If this was detrimental to his cultivation, then there might be severe consequences in doing this as a mere mortal.

Nine days later.

With a soft breath, he steeled his heart. After considerable consideration, he decided to push through.

"About time," Kratos commented. Its tone was filled with relief at Wei Wuyin's decision.

"I knew he'd decide to do it! I knew it! I knew it!" Ori excitedly shouted. She had been forced to remain silent because while they had their own paths, this was Wei Wuyin's cultivation path. They couldn't directly interfere. At least, that's what Eden told them.

"Fearless," Eden said this one word and went silent.

"Tch," King felt this was pointless. If problems arise, just end it. Wasn't it that simple?

However, despite their comments and thoughts, they were all in joint agreement that this type of risk was Wei Wuyin's to decide. They always took risks on their paths, nearly killing themselves and Wei Wuyin a few times, but comprehension was solely for Wei Wuyin. They respected that, just like Wei Wuyin who respected and trusted their world-shaking, life-threatening decisions.

Wei Wuyin solemnly stared at the Mystic Origin Liquid, then at the Terra-Mystic Ore. His eyes looked deeply at both, inspecting them both. And then...

Eureka!

A light exploded violently in his mind. He finally figured it out! He stored the Mystic Origin Liquid in his robes, staring at the ore with an abundantly bright gaze suffused with joy.

"I think I found the key! The key to transcendent-quality!" Wei Wuyin exclaimed.

"What? You did? What is it? What is it?!" Ori immediately asked, its curiosity as boundless as its raging excitement!

"...!" Eden was connected to Wei Wuyin's mind, so he realized the comprehension, and it shook slightly within his Sea of Consciousness.

"..." Kratos and King remained silent, but the fast-paced, explosive heart-throbs were unable to be hidden!

Wei Wuyin faintly smiled, "It's not a what..."

A strange rippling fluctuation started to emit in the Dark Void. It was extremely erratic, as if a gigantic mountain was smashed into a vast ocean, creating incredible waves!

"KREE!"

Wei Wuyin lifted his gaze to observe the fluctuations, his smile turned into a grin... "It's a who."

### **Chapter 673 - 668: Transcendent**

In a location that was lightless, lifeless, and harbored untold, undiscovered mysteries, a grey-scaled man and a golden-eyed beast were pursuing the means to break upon the limits together. They hounded out an unfathomably invaluable discovery with their jointed means.

Wei Wuyin sat crossed legged before the Nine Elements Eclipse Cauldron, which he promptly decided to rename as the All-Elemental Eclipse Cauldron, better embodying its current state. Its white sleek shell was pristine, smooth, and carried with it the aura of ultimate elemental combination.

The Utmost Purity Mist's domain was fully manifested. Within the cauldron was a golden-scarlet radiance and a faint flickering of a flame, bringing light to the lightless. It exuded a distinctly remarkable aura of life, bringing life to the lifeless.

Bai Lin had finished her second Nirvanic Rebirth, entering into a new realm, and inching closer to the genesis of her bloodline, the Fire Phoenix. Her form had two distinct changes, but besides those, there was very little difference. Firstly, she was larger. If before she was just eleven meters, now she was twenty-two meters, and her other proportions such as wingspan had doubled exactly. Secondly, her golden-scarlet flames were more golden than before.

As for her aura, it was notably more mysterious. There was an exquisitely raging power coursing through her feathers, heart, and bloodline. She had grown far stronger than before. Even Wei Wuyin wasn't able to determine her exact strength, finding her more inscrutable than before.

She was currently standing over Wei Wuyin's sitting form, her golden-colored eyes stared at the cauldron. At times, she would periodically open her beak and release gentle embers towards the cauldron. Wei Wuyin would act quickly, using his personally refined mana to carefully grab hold of these embers and infusing them into his elemental origin fires present within the cauldron.

A sudden burst of light would occur that brightly lit the surroundings. The two worked in perfect unity with Bai Lin providing the fuel while Wei Wuyin provided the utmost finesse of his alchemical skills. They were of one mind.

After Bai Lin's successful transformation, confirming Wei Wuyin's thoughts that Bai Lin's nirvanic rebirths were relative to the amount of built up energies she's accrued rather than a static requirement, he had hurriedly brought her over to execute his theorized solution to the complicated and mysterious equation of the transcendent-quality.

Inspired by the near-chemical reaction of his refined mana and his past experience, he was invigorated by a certain belief. The contents within mystic-graded material, be it the elusively invisible mystic intent



or mystic essence, was the key. For a product to reach transcendent in quality, it must have the thorough infusion of an aspect beyond mortal limits.

His thoughts weren't so simply put. If he was correct at it being so simple, then every alchemist at the Mystic Ascendant Realm should be creating transcendent products at every successful concoction of a Mortal-tier product, but that clearly wasn't the case; thus, it had to be more complicated.

That complication stemmed from his abnormality, the Zenith Origin State and the refined mana within. He had earlier theorized that the Zenith Origin State was an evolutionary stage of an Mortal State Spirit of Cultivation, of a Mystic Soul. He had broken that limit thanks to his four Astral Souls outrageous behavior in pushing the tribulations to their limits. His astral souls were capable of naturally producing Origin Essence, infused thoroughly within his own personally refined mana.

It was this quality that allowed his astral soul's refined mana to interact, attract, and attach those mystic qualities. This, by a miracle, had created the World-Light Refraction Elixir during the All-Alchemic Clash.

The issue was that he couldn't sense or interact with these qualities. Blind as he was towards it, he couldn't replicate the feat. However, even after using the Alchemic Stars to break this inability, he still couldn't break down or control the mystic qualities within those materials.

But...Bai Lin could.

Her unique existence as a Genesis Beast and ability to devour mystic-graded materials, processing it into usable energies had brought forth another avenue of possibility. After learning that her Nirvanic Flames were partly responsible for such dissolution of those mystic qualities, he joined together with Bai Lin to refine the Terra-Mystic Ore into only those mystic qualities, and using his Zenith Origin State's refined mana to attract it.

Using this process during concoction, while seemingly simple, was incredibly difficult and required multiple special abilities including Wei Wuyin's alchemical energies that rivaled Mystic Ascendants in terms of raw quality thanks to his Alchemic Astral Soul—Eden.

It's been three days since they began a steady concoction and they were both intently staring at the cauldron. To them, only this cauldron existed and the contents inside.

Bruuuuum!

A strange sound resounded from the cauldron, and the light within Wei Wuyin and Bai Lin's eyes simultaneously blazed with a burning radiance. Wei Wuyin executed a few hand-seals, completing the last process of the alchemical process. With a smack, the cauldron opened and a single pill violently shot out.

Wei Wuyin acted swiftly, using his hand to grasp at it. It halted within his palm.

"Kree!" Bai Lin cried excitedly. "Is it finished? Did it work?"

Wei Wuyin's nerves were incredibly taut. If this was a success, then his path of transcendent production was completed. Going forward, he would be able to reliably concoct products of this type. He would excel in his practice of the Alchemic Dao as a mere mortal. Even if he eventually became a Mystic

Ascendant Realm alchemist, this method would have an extreme impact on his understanding of the Alchemic Dao.

In fact, he might be able to breach past the limits of mortal concoction, concocting Mystic-grade products as a Mortal! Because the missing means that Eden felt that gated its entry into such levels would be shrunken, neared, and in reach.

Wei Wuyin opened his palm. A pill that was like a black star revealed itself. It floated quietly above his palm. It was the low-tier, ninth-grade Everlore Ascension Pill! That's right! His first experiment wasn't a lower-graded pill, but the Everlore Ascension Pill! The very same pill that started the still-thriving legend of a King of Everlore!

He was confident in concocting this product as a peak-quality pill even with his eyes closed, his senses distorted, and his thoughts distracted. The miniaturized black solar star-like object that was the Everlore Ascension Pill had a strange belt around it.

Wei Wuyin's pupils constricted! "This looks like that solar ring I saw..." Undoubtedly more focused than ever before, Wei Wuyin recalled that belt that surrounded that gigantic Solar Star when he was brought away by the Soul Pulse Rings during his Soul Idol Astral Tribulation.

It was remarkably similar!

In fact, it was almost an exact copy. The only difference he felt at first sight was the color. The belt matched the pill. It released a cool radiance that felt otherworldly, beyond the concept of the Mortal Dao.

"Transcendent Radiance Belt," Eden echoed out in his mind with a commanding voice. It seemed to originate from the deepest parts of its being.

When it was finished, Wei Wuyin's eyes widened as he felt a very familiar feeling incoming.

RUMBLE! BOOM!

Scintillating light of seven colors bursted out violently alongside the quaking of the surrounding space!

A stellar manifestation was once again occurring, despite Wei Wuyin's sealing formation being established!

### **Chapter 674 - 669: Wu Yu's Return**

Two months later.

Wei Wuyin lazily slept on Bai Lin's side, comfortably wrapped around her warm wing. The heat emitted from those feathers of hers was incredibly soothing. Only when one was nestled between them would they be able to truly enjoy such a fantastic feeling.

Bai Lin's breathing was steady, and her eyes were closed in a calm sleep. The man and beast rested atop an earthen sphere that floated within the void-blank space, sitting upon the motherlode of treasures.

The horrific dangers of the Dark Void, especially within the void-blank space, was numerous, but the two were completely unfazed by such dangers. The earthen shell that kept the Terra-Mystic Ore rotated in

the same location. Furthermore, Wei Wuyin had an absurd amount of Karmic Luck Value, he didn't believe that staying mostly stationary would provoke any calamities that could threaten them.

While the Heavenly Daos were fooled on a regular basis, not being entirely reliable, but when it came to keeping their Blessed safe from the worldly forces without extreme variables, it could be praised with applause. They hadn't come across a single abnormal event since arriving.

Soon, a figure flew through the Dark Void and raced towards the earth sphere with purpose. The figure arrived at the earthen sphere, its aura vigorous. This prompted Bai Lin to open its eyes, regarding the figure and then giving a slight snort. She closed her eyes, unconcerned.

Wei Wuyin was awakened by the aura's approach, a hint of dissatisfaction between his brows. For cultivators of his level, especially with his level of mental energies, sleep was an irrelevant act except during times of severe mental exhaustion. However, it was relaxing to dream.

In your dreams, you could be anything, do everything or anyone, and have the happiest of endings. To have such dreams disturbed, anyone would be a little frustrated.

"Young Lord..." Wu Yu was unable to say a single thing at the lazily, sleepy glare he received from Wei Wuyin or the utter disregard from Bai Lin. That creature that was just a mere crane he could squash with a thought even in his spiritual form had truly grown into its own. Her aura and size had grown, doubled for the latter, and more unfathomable for the former.

There was a feeling of danger when she locked her gaze on him, but it was as brief as her glance. This instinctual feeling wasn't dismissed by him. He truly regarded Bai Lin as a being that could threaten his life. In comparison, the three Ascended hadn't even tickled his instincts despite his severely exhausted and weakened state.

Wei Wuyin softly sighed, wiping off the sleep in his eyes and stretching his muscles that were covered in hexagonal scales. Bai Lin tactfully removed her wing, giving Wei Wuyin his freedom. Rising, he walked towards Wu Yu.

"Took you long enough. What happened?" He didn't expect that Wu Yu's tasks would take him two months. Furthermore, he didn't expect Wu Yu would fly here by himself.

Wu Yu had a bitter smile, "I did as you wanted, but it was a little complicated. I had to participate in a brief conflict between the Golden Life Pavilion Branches." There was a hint of disgruntled emotion within his tone. It wasn't directed at Wei Wuyin, but another.

"Participate in a conflict?" Wei Wuyin was taken aback.

Wu Yu explained, "When I arrived at New Everlore, I made my way to the Endless Prosperity Domain through a series of Void Portals. After all, the territory of the Aeternal Sky Starfield is massive and I wouldn't dare travel openly. When I did, I realized there was an ongoing civil conflict between the branches of the Golden Life Pavilion.

"The conflict seemed to have the First and Third Branches facing the Main and Second Branches, fighting for some controlling rights. The details are quite iffy, and I wasn't able to gather the full picture, but a competition was held by the two Earthly Saints of the Golden Life Pavilion. It included the junior talents to the senior powerhouses. They could even invite foreign experts to participate.

"When I arrived, I had been pulled into it. They wanted me to fight to represent the Soul of Mysticism category. They even put me in a disguise and heralded me as your Envoy. I was clearly pulled into a scheme to represent you and they didn't try to hide it."

Wei Wuyin interjected, "You won?"

Wu Yu grinned, "Win? That might be understating the outcome. Haha. Don't worry, I didn't bring shame to your name."

Wei Wuyin nodded. It would be a little humiliating to suffer a loss without being present, even if it was through a proxy.

"It wasn't just me. That Ma Zheng of yours acted. I've never seen such a powerful being before. He devastated his opponent in such a manner that I felt embarrassed for that Demi-Mortal Lord. If you saw it, you'd understand."

"The competition took a long time to complete and settle. The First and Third Branches suffered considerable losses in the junior competitions, but they still eked out some salvation by forcing a stalemate through some archaic rule." Wu Yu's gaze became strange as he said the last sentence, looking at Wei Wuyin oddly.

Wei Wuyin felt something was off. "What was the rule?"

Wu Yu awkwardly laughed, "The rule is specifically allowed in the case of a team winning the Mystic Ascendant category but losing the majority. The final victor can be determined by an All-Alchemic Clash."

"An All-Alchemic Clash?" Wei Wuyin realized where Wu Yu's expression stemmed from. As if to echo his thoughts, Wu Yu continued: "Yes. It'll be settled by the Mortal Sovereign Alchemists of the two sides. The reaction of the Main and Second Branch was quite vivid, even distorted into ugly sights. It was amusing. After all, the First and Third Branch had used your name. That Ma Zheng is quite shameless."

"..." He hadn't even set foot on the Aeternal Sky Starfield, and he was being drawn into some civil conflict? The Golden Life Pavilion was to prove themselves to him, not embroil him in these troubles.

"What's the purpose of all this?" Wei Wuyin felt this was such an odd move on Ma Zheng's part. Perhaps it was a matter that was a long time coming, and his existence had only accelerated things. However, he wasn't sure what all this was for. To obtain ruling rights to the Golden Life Pavilion? Feels like this would splinter the entire pavilion into two.

Wu Yu was swift in his reply: "You'll be quite surprised. It's all to obtain a unique treasure!"

"Oh?" Now this was surprising! He had thought it was an attempt to seize the rights to rule or take leadership of the Golden Life Pavilion, not for a treasure. The term treasure wasn't used lightly in the cultivation world. Because it didn't relate to just some absurdly powerful weapon or exceptional tool, but an item of unfathomable means.

While in the Scarlet Solaris Sect, everyone had assumed that he was in possession of a cultivation treasure due to his rapid advancements and high battle prowess. Of course, it was only attributed to his lucky chances from the Heavenly Daos, hard work, and comprehensive talent.

"What's special about this treasure?"

Wu Yu shook his head, "I don't know. All I know is that it's a treasure. Even its origins are concealed, and I tried to pry it from their lips, but they were tightly sealed on the matter. Ma Zheng did say that if you arrived, he'd have no issue informing you."

"They're not expecting me to arrive?" Wei Wuyin was confused. They used his name, but what Wu Yu had just said suggested that Ma Zheng wasn't relying on him. Was there another play involved? Was this competition even important?

Wu Yu smiled at seeing Wei Wuyin's thoughtful expression, "I thought the same. It seems to be a perfectly performed smokescreen. An incredibly powerful one too as the Golden Life Pavilion branches are deeply focused on this matter. It seems that Ma Zheng isn't so simple."

Wu Yu proceeded to explain the details of the competition, informing him that the All-Alchemic Clash wasn't for some time. Three years, in fact. This gave him plenty of time to decide if he wanted to participate. However, this competition was likely far from vital for Ma Zheng's final plot.

"Here, all the materials and even more. Ma Zheng didn't skimp on the supply." Wu Yu handed him a spatial ring filled with astral-graded materials, enough to fill a small world realm. It was varied and vast. He was startled for a moment. The amount of resources here exceeded the Elementus Cache. There were some materials he didn't even recognize.

Ma Zheng had happily supplied Wei Wuyin resources. This especially included materials meant for the Neo-Dawn Eclipse Pill. His intentions were abundantly clear. Likely this amount of wealth was insignificant to the Golden Life Pavilion as a whole. The desire to obtain the full support of the Golden Life Pavilion was growing.

"Maybe I should participate, if only to strengthen Ma Zheng's position. It might help his plans along," Wei Wuyin contemplated. The moment this thought formed in his mind, he furrowed his brows. What if Ma Zheng's plan was for him to arrive? No...it shouldn't be.

Wu Yu's arrival through the Dark Void hadn't been deliberately done. He would've preferred using Wei Wuyin's Void Portal, but the Bing Clan had noticed him somehow. They were demanding answers, so he absconded away using the Golden Life Pavilion's Void Portal, reaching the Treasured Light Starfield and made his way over. However, he assured Wei Wuyin that there was no evidence of his crime or identity being leaked. They were suspecting him based on his strength, nothing more.

When Wei Wuyin heard this, his expression became sullen. The Bing Clan now had suspicions.

Regardless, Wu Yu was now here. He could leave the Terra-Mystic Ore in his possession. Without this mountain on his shoulders, he was free to travel as he willed.

"Where will you be going?" Wu Yu couldn't help but ask. Could he be venturing to the Aeternal Sky Starfield?

"At first, I was going to, but..."

Wei Wuyin looked at his right arm. Six days ago, he received that familiar sting.

Karmic Luck Value: 15,138.1 → 14,220.5.

First Calamity: Survived - 7/7.

Second Calamity: Claimed - 1/1.

Third Calamity: Suppressed - 43 Years.

### **Chapter 675 - 670: Dangers Of The Dark Void**

Atop the treasure trove that was the Terra-Mystic Ore kept as an earthen sphere, Wu Yu sat in the lotus position with his eyes closed. After settling his tasks, he rested diligently, acting as the overwatching guardian for such precious materials. Initially, he was somewhat disinclined to the idea of protecting the ore.

In his opinion, Wei Wuyin should simply inform the Golden Life Pavilion, his merchant contact, and let them handle it and whatever fallout that it would produce. However, after returning to the Aeternal Sky Starfield, he did a little checking on the value of Terra-Mystic Ore via each ounce of it.

He discovered a few facts that caused his thoughts to change. The most notable fact was that Terra-Mystic Ore was divided into difficult to differentiate grades during the initial surveying process. Just like mystic-graded alchemical products, mystic-graded materials were divided into Mystic-Earth, Mystic-World, Mystic-Heaven, and Mystic-Soul, further divided into low, high, and peak grades.

The most common type of mystic-graded materials were low-grade Mystic-Earth materials. They were often fostered and grown by powers using formations or methods, such as the water-attributed Stillwater Blood that the Ma Clan used to surround their headquarters in the Grand Horse Realm.

The greater the grade, the higher the quality of Mystic Intent, Mystic Essence, or attributed Mystic Energies within. He had picked up a means to differentiate them at the Golden Life Pavilion out of curiosity. While there, he also learned that the planet Optimal Sky bid by the Imperial Clan during the auction was only a low-grade Mystic-Earth Terra-Mystic Mine, tiny-sized at that.

Yet it was worth over one thousand mystic stones in its already mined state. This was the Golden Life Pavilion's accurate estimation of its remaining value, not the entire value of the Optimal Sky at its freshly discovered state.

The celestial rogue those three powers found were severely underestimated in value. They were using the rubric of the planet's value as a low-grade Mystic-Earth material. But even then, their surveying was still off its correct value.

Now that Wu Yu had sufficient time to inspect the ore without any impediments, it all compiled in a single area, he was greatly aware of its size. Even if one used that standard, the value of the mine, including its ore and core, would be roughly twenty-two thousand mystic stones. That was enough to make it the third most valuable mine of its type in the entire Grand Cyclic Stellar Region, not much off from the second.

However, the celestial rogue's ore was not low-grade Mystic-Earth, but peak-grade Mystic-Earth. PEAK! When he verified this again and again, he further understood the true importance that this ore was not discovered by others.

Even if the Golden Life Pavilion were to obtain it, they would not be able to handle such a massively valuable treasure trove or keep it a secret from the numerous forces. Not only would mining it in its original state leak its aura outwards, but just having it in the starfield would be like a lighthouse to those Earthly Saints.

A bloody war would be inevitable.

Those three forces had no idea what they discovered. Absolutely none. They would've been crushed by the ensuing chaos for this ore. If Wei Wuyin hadn't extracted the ore using his unfathomable means, there was no telling imaginable way they could have kept it a secret without alerting those peak experts.

In his thoughts, Wei Wuyin was lucky to have found it before they started mining. With the immovable manner of the Celestial Rogue due to its composition, this space would've been the site of a war between the two starfields, and so many other powers would surely have collapsed on it with relentless greed, using those two starfields as bases of operations.

"This thing's value..." Wu Yu caressed the earthen surface, calming his racing heart-rate. If the Golden Life Pavilion's measurement methods were reliable, even if their estimation was off by a fair bit, the value of this mine reached eight hundred thousand mystic stones.

To put it into a simple, easier to comprehend scale: Its value equalled roughly three average starfields in the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region! There were only twenty-three. Twenty-three!

Wu Yu no longer thought that Wei Wuyin's decision to keep it a secret and a closely guarded one was an incorrect one. In fact, he felt it was the most sensible decision he had ever come across in his lifetime. He was a little afraid just having it beneath him. Fortunately, he could use physical strength to push the ore as it wasn't entrenched around an entire planet reinforced through continuous contact with the ore. It was still a little heart-shaking that Wei Wuyin solved this issue.

The planet's crust would've been so difficult to mine that ordinary Starlords would have seemed like snails using their innate physical strength to do so.

"I wonder how he discovered this celestial rogue," Wu Yu questioned with fascination. Wei Wuyin's feats were always a little outrageous, from becoming a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist at the age of fifty to shaking an entire starfield with a few calculated moves, but this has to be the single most impressive feat a mere mortal has ever accomplished in their lifetime.

If properly managed...

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Unaware of the true value of the mine, Wei Wuyin and Bai Lin floated several hundred thousand miles away from Wu Yu in the Dark Void. Wei Wuyin had his eyes closed as he rode atop Bai Lin. The duo were silent. Their auras were insignificant, as if dead.

Bai Lin had her eyes completely closed. Despite her recent breakthrough, her control over her aura was sublime.

WOOSH!

The space surrounding them faintly trembled. There were ripples, subtle yet largely noticeable if paid close attention to. It was like the movements of a fish within clearwater, producing a wake of ripples. The ripples buffeted the two, but their auras, heartbeat, and thoughts remained entirely silent and concealed as if one with space itself.

The wake increased in intensity, being only a few hundred feet from the two. If one were to observe this phenomenon, it would seem as if a creature was swimming within space itself, hidden within its folds. After a while, the wake's intensity tittered off as if the tail-end of a serpent was all that was left.

Soon, the ripples vanished altogether.

Wei Wuyin and Bai Lin remained utterly silent. For a split second, Bai Lin stirred a little with a heave of relief.

"...!" Wei Wuyin used his hand and tightly clenched her back and pressed down heavily as a warning. She grew taut, once more returning to her silent, auraless state.

The ripples returned, even closer than before. The surface of Wei Wuyin's hexagonal scales was indented by the spatial force, pressing inwards as if smashed by a fierce hammer. Even Bai Lin's feathers rippled as if in a gust, but they remained completely still despite being pushed by the waves of space.

The wake of ripples lasted for a few minutes before vanishing again. This time, they remained like dead statues floating in the void-blank space, like asteroids without life or purpose. This state lasted for three days.

Then and only then did Wei Wuyin open his eyes, his Celestial Eyes cautiously peering into the void-blank space. The faint grey light of void energies flowed within. His heart was racing like a thousand horses and his entire body was taut to the extreme.

Bai Lin let loose a soft sigh.

"What the heck was that?" She sent a mental message, terrified. They had been traveling when Wei Wuyin told her with the greatest urgency she'd heard since they came against the mysterious wall that tore earth and sundered the sky in the Myriad Yore Continent.

"..." Wei Wuyin was still shaken a little. He knew the Dark Void was dangerous, holding untold and invisible dangers, but he couldn't fathom how close he was to suffering a deadly calamity without the slightest bit of warning from the Heavenly Daos.

Was it far, far above the level of his Karmic Luck Value? He was once again reminded that the Heavenly Daos had limits and weren't entirely reliable. The words said by the Black Skeleton of the Temporal Reincarnator's fate once again echoed in his mind including his own alternative fate. If one lacked sufficient Karmic Luck Value to overcome certain calamities, exacerbated by one's own choices, then death was their only choice.

His cultivation was a little too low to be recklessly exploring the void-blank space, let alone the mysteries of the Dark Void. He was a mere mortal after all; he's not supposed to be outside a starfield and the natural protections of a Solar Star.



If it wasn't for Kratos' warning, he and Bai Lin would've met their untimely end. He couldn't quite see the existence clearly, but it looked like a long, slithering serpent with a length of several hundred miles that was traveling between the folds of fixed and chaotic space. Chaotic space was a concept that even some Ascended hadn't properly comprehended yet.

Just like Bai Lin had rarely heard the urgency in his voice, he'd never heard the panic in Kratos' voice. It urged him to remain silent, still, and concealed, using his bloodline powers to hide his presence, mimicking the aura of space itself and suppressing their auras to the minimum.

Wei Wuyin made an internal sigh. "I don't know. But let's not test our luck again," Wei Wuyin mentally communicated. When he left Wu Yu, he wanted to travel the Dark Void and check out if there were other fortuitous encounters here before following the Heavenly Daos influence, but after coming this far, he was met with a strange creature and Kratos' panicked warning. If beings like Star-Devourers existed, then other terrifying beings must too.

With that in mind, he no longer decided to act adventurous as a mere mortal. The Heavenly Daos had set-up conditions where his life wasn't forfeited by such existences, so he had taken his months of safety for granted. That being said, with creatures like this present, it was a wonder how Void Hunters acted. Perhaps they had specific means to repel such existences.

He was still too ignorant.

After a hefty heaving sigh of relief in avoiding death, he began to establish a Void Portal.

### **Chapter 676 - 671: Other Starfields**

The Grand Cyclic Stellar Region was originally a grand cosmic territory that contained hundreds of thousands of starfields, its territory divided and vast, filled with a variety of life and mysteries. However, as cultivators developed in strength, numbers, and technologies, the number of starfields were reduced.

Some of the Solar Stars met their ends at the hands of Ascended-level Wars. Others were taken to serve as a foundation for secret realms, world realms, or additional suppliers of essence for cultivators. A few were taken away and forcefully merged with other solar stars, creating super-sized solar stars that could even engulf multiple starfields.

The Aeternal Sky Starfield was one such example. Their supermassive Solar Star was orbited by a Mystic Radiance Belt and served to provide the entire starfield, which was the result of hundreds of starfields merging, high-leveled essence.

Eventually, throughout the long, complicated history of the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region only twenty-three starfields remained. The wars settled. The borders were marked. The experts were established. An ensuing surface-level peace had been erected by those established forces and their inhabitants.

With the increased strength of expert's cultivation bases, so did the annihilating damage that could be caused. This led these peak cultivators to forcefully halt their aggressive actions of territorial claim lest they devastated everything left. They were bombs that were too afraid of causing damage to themselves. The weak were already culled, leaving only the strong.

Out of the twenty-three remaining starfields that existed, none of them were weak by any means of the word. But there were those that were weaker and those that were stronger, their environment was richer, their talents more numerous, their experts and legacies refined throughout the years.

The strongest of these starfields was the Aeternal Sky Starfield who possessed the only supermassive Solar Star with a matching Mystic Radiance Belt—a product of a gargantuan-sized venture that cost the lives of numerous Ascended and countless mortal-tier experts over centuries of effort. However, they weren't the only starfield with Mystic Radiance Belts elevating the potential of their Solar Stars.

There were three others.

They were merely the only ones with a supermassive one. The others weren't as brave or ambitious as the former Imperial Clan that were willing to pay the price to establish a high-level mystic environment for themselves and their descendants. Very few Ascended would consciously give up their long, hard-fought lives for mortals that would live a tenth of their total lifespan at least.

To them, as long as they lived, they could pursue a higher stage of cultivation granting them longer lifespans, stronger power, and validation of their talents. It was practical. Thus, those like the Trihex Starfield, Hexaflame Starfield, and Ninestar Starfield had taken routes of using smaller-sized naturally-born Solar Stars to establish smaller, safer Mystic Radiance Belts.

They kept their losses to a reasonable limit.

While their environment paled heavily in comparison to the Aeternal Sky Starfield, their history wasn't as divided and diverse as the Aeternal Sky Starfields. While the Aeternal Sky Starfield was heralded as the number one starfield in the stellar region, this was strongly attributed to the strength of their united forces. A feat that would only occur during times of war, an external threat.

The Imperial Clan held massive power within the starfield, this was without a doubt, regarded as the strongest force present, but that was only to those who were unable to see the abnormal entities such as the Everlore Association or the mysterious Void Voyage Sect that kept a low profile.

The agreements and oaths made by the Tian Clan after the civil war kept internal competition between forces at an all-time low. A prime example of this was the True Element Sect. Due to agreements and oaths, the World Sect was divided by various internal forces and the strongest external forces couldn't capitalize on this weakness. Unable to seize a healthy bite of that delectable snack.

As for the other three starfields with Mystic Radiance Belts, they were ruled by a singular power. Those forces that wished to strike out as independent entities in their territory were booted out of the starfield at best, thoroughly eliminated at worst. The latter of which was mostly to prevent rebellions and chaos over territory. Very few had the luxury as the sixteen mystic-tier forces had in the Aeternal Sky Starfield.

Almost every force of the sixteen forces were established by clans or forces that had stayed neutral or allied with the Tian Clan for certain benefits. Some collapsed due to their own civil disputes or weakness, others breached their oaths and were viciously absorbed or destroyed, while most merged together and eventually became World Sects.

With the complicated history of the Aeternal Sky Starfield, the division of their ample resources, and the passivity of the current Imperial Clan, they weren't feared as when divided, only when united.

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In the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region, there was a starfield with nine titan-sized Solar Stars of uniformed size, all being of the same type, emitting a yellow-colored radiance. Solar Stars were classified in sizes by five types, from smallest to largest: Dwarf, Titan, Colossus, Supermassive, and Absolute.

While the ranges were varied, with some dwarfs being three times as large and bright as others, there was a general rule in terms of size. All dwarfs had a minimum official size, and this minimum size, when multiplied by ten, becomes a titan-sized. The next stage, Colossus, is ten times a titan-sized minimum. Supermassive is one hundred times the minimum of a colossus, and Absolute is one thousand times the minimum of a supermassive Solar Star.

The vast majority of Solar Stars were dwarfs, including the three Solar Stars of the formerly known Tri-Vision Starfield, publicly named Everlore Starfield.

The nine titan-sized stars were at the bare minimum, and they all had white rings around them. They were all Solar Stars with Mystic Radiance Belts! They orbited each other in a strange, perfect rhythm that was harmonious. Despite there being nine stars present, night still came periodically to all the planets, lunar satellites and continental flat earths.

One could tell that the orbit was intricately designed with a specific purpose, orchestrated with excellent direction and perfected distance. As they coursed through their orbit, few planets lacked the proper essence exposure, even those at the edge of the starfield weren't starved or neglected.

The nine stars weren't all at the center of the starfield, resembling more like lunar satellites orbiting its center like a planet. The Solar Stars weren't in motion, however. The planets just orbited faster, moving along an accelerated path thanks to the gravitational forces emitted by each individual solar star.

This was the Ninestar Starfield, renowned by the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region as the second strongest entity behind the Aeternal Sky Starfield, ruled by the Ninestar Sainthall and home to the highly prestigious Ennea-Hall Alchemic Saint!

And at this exact moment, a man and beast arrived at its borders through a Void Portal... They were unaware of the chaotic and high-octane events that they would soon experience.

### **Chapter 677 - 672: Mark Of War**

"That is so beautiful!" The femininely youthful voice that was upbeat yet smooth like silk exclaimed with abundant wonder and awe. Wei Wuyin felt the genuine astonishment within, forming a gentle smile as he noddingly agreed.

"It is. Quite beautiful." The two, man and beast, had just arrived at the outskirts of the Ninestar Starfield's border through a well-established Void Portal. They hadn't yet entered the sphere of entry, the edge of a starfield where light, essence, and matter from the Solar Stars comes to an abrupt end, leading to the void-blank space's unique environmental conditions.

Wei Wuyin originally sought to enter directly, but his actions had been halted by some unfathomable force, a pushback that restrained his Void Connections between two points of fixed space. This was the first time ever that he's experienced such a denying boundary, not even the Aeternal Sky Starfield had it.

Unable to manifest the Void Portal and connect to his desired destination, he could only arrive at the very edge of the starfield while riding Bai Lin as the next best alternative. At first, he thought this was due to his weak cultivation base and a powerful protective formation that prevented invasion-by-portals, and while it might contribute to the reason, it wasn't the main obstacle.

'I don't have an anchor to connect to, so I can't bypass the restrictive formation.' Was his conclusion as he admired the scene of the nine solar stars and the nearly a thousand planets of varied sizes circulating in a strange, gorgeous manner. Before, he had Wu Yu or Ying, but this location was barren of any of his spatial rings he had left behind.

However, he realized that this fault wasn't one, but a discovery. Despite the protective restrictions against abrupt invasions of foreign forces, if he could send an anchor into the territory beforehand, he could directly bypass such restrictions. The prospects of using it in a war or thieving-like manner left him with a wide-array of thoughts.

The two floated while observing the starfield. Wei Wuyin was quite emotional. He had never been to another thriving starfield before, only a single one. In fact, he's only ever been to two civilizations and cultivation societies—the Everlore Starfield and the Four Extreme Continent.

There was a novel feeling to exploring a new world, stepping foot into an entirely new environment with individuals with different forms of common sense, thoughts on certain topics, and beliefs. A sensation of raw anticipation fueled every one of his pounding heartbeats.

He wasn't the only one.

"I wonder if there's other beasts here? What about the food? I haven't eaten in so long!" Bai Lin was invigorated just as much as him. While her thoughts were on other topics, it still bore the same level of anticipation.

Wei Wuyin's anticipatory thoughts and speculations were interrupted by an intrusive glance at his right arm, causing him to lift its sleeves and inspect the Bloodline of Sin tattoo that was etched into his skin.

Karmic Luck Value: 14,220.5.

First Calamity: Survived - 7/7.

Second Calamity: Claimed - 1/1.

Third Calamity: Suppressed - 43 Years.

Before his last deduction, his Karmic Luck Value was 15,138.1. With this recent deduction, the total Karmic Luck used was 917.6. This was borderline close to a full-blown karmic surge, but just barely lacking. When he received this, he was thoroughly shaken.

Since his rise in the Myriad Monarch Sect, he'd received very little deductions, and what was deducted was insignificant in comparison to his current karmic luck usages. He knew this was because the Heavenly Daos was limited in how it could support him in a starfield that could be considered declining,

and backwater, especially since he had no needs that couldn't be filled by his backing. While it couldn't read into him, his circumstances were certainly things he was aware of.

Such as wealth and reach.

In a way, he had orchestrated situations and an established favorable environment where the Heavenly Daos couldn't do anything. Considering his thorough bribery, proper networking, ample wealth, sufficient backing, and limited risks, there truly was very little that could be done. Even the mere utterance of his name, at one point, stopped an execution and the entire Knights of Enforcement Department was in an hectic uproar, shivering with fear.

Now that he's expressed a desire to enter a new civilization, an entirely new stage, the Heavenly Daos seemed ready to present any and every opportunity it could, as if fearful of being accused of neglect. It even took into account his Void Portal movements, bringing him to a piece of Terra-Mystic Ore. If it wasn't for his Bloodline of Sin's warning, he would've thought it was just a beginner's failure at using a Void Portal to cross stellar regions.

To him, this was an indication of his perceived weakness to the Heavenly Daos. It was clearly attempting to ramp him up for things that might involve him. A preparation of sorts. For what?

He wasn't certain.

Wei Wuyin inhaled, exhaling shortly after. Lifting his gray-scaled hands, he glanced at his palm to find a unique symbol, a strange series of multicolored runes that formed the character: "War."

The runes were lively, swimming like fishes searching for food, and the character gave off a faint Battle Aura that stimulated the physical, mental, and spiritual senses. Within his vertical eyes, saberlight seethed vigorously.

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Six days prior to Wu Yu's return, roughly ten days from the present, he was cultivating, studying principles of alchemy and writing down his thoughts on certain alchemical methods. He had a habit of jotting down his mental musings. While in the Scarlet Solaris Sect, it remained as such, and even reaching his current levels and attainments, he still maintained this trait of his.

While delving into the possibilities of new interactions of materials, including the imperfections or gaps of established principles and methods left behind by ancient Alchemic Emperors, he received the familiar sting in his head. At that very moment, he felt an explosive ripple in fixed space that stimulated his innate spatial energies. Even Bai Lin was alarmed.

They noticed and discovered an object was coursing through the Dark Void as a comet surrounded by icy light at remarkable speeds. Wei Wuyin felt the Heavenly Daos influence telling him to investigate, to lower his caution towards the unknown. Curious, he acted and approached the comet.

Before he could even react, it started to glow with a radiance brighter than even a Solar Star, and then twisted in an odd manner, zooming towards him at breakneck speeds. He could only instinctively push out his hands to block, trying to surge his astral force in defense.

It did little as the comet blew through his defensive wards and smashed into him. He went unconscious. Bai Lin hurriedly engulfed him in her life-infusing Nirvanic Flames to protect him, but he was already sent into a dream.

The dream was of a crimson tinted world. There were the endless sounds of metal clashing with metal, flesh meeting metal, flesh meeting ground, and screams of pain, insanity, rage, excitement, and death. It was endless.

As he looked down, he found a battlefield with faceless humanoid soldiers in translucent armor. There were no distinctions between enemy and ally, and he was unable to tell race, gender, or cultivation base. There was only a violently bloody battlefield where kill or be killed ruled the land.

He was sent coursing through this battlefield, surfing through the events and saw the hectic chaos of war. There was a soldier that struck with unfathomable ferocity, killing enemies to his left and right, but a random arrow that wasn't even targeting them had inadvertently pierced their helmet, exiting their skull and halting the glorious momentum of battle with a gurgle of death and rage.

There was a battle between two individuals that were incredibly intense, their skills equal. They clashed and killed those around them while trying to kill each other. In the end, a fallen soldier that had been wounded, not killed, maliciously sliced at the ankle of one of the soldiers, leading to a jerky, unexpected strike that left his enemy unable to react to such a strange action. A head flew and the injured soldier had won the long-fought battle in such a manner.

Astonished and stunned, the wounded soldier forgot himself for but a moment and a blade entered the thick of his neck, gushing out blood like a broken fountain. His life soon ended with a violent twist.

Wei Wuyin looked at these events with an unerring calm. He looked upwards and saw that the world wasn't naturally crimson, but that there were blood clouds formed above from the lengthy battle and blood-drenched battlefield. None of this shook his heart or surprised him the slightest, however.

Soon, his perception was brought to a thirteen meter high monolith of black with silver characters etched in it. It was at the very center of the battlefield, untainted by even the slightest splash of blood.

After seeing this monolith, the world experienced a drastic earthquake that shook his mind and awoke him from his unconscious state. Engulfed by Bai Lin's nirvanic flames, he calmly steadied his breathing and collected his thoughts. He felt an itchy sensation in his right hand and lifted it, finding the character for 'war' on it.

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At the edge of the Ninestar Starfield, Wei Wuyin's eyes remained utterly calm. When he received the character, he was also given a mental stellar map that revealed his current location and his target. This was the reason why he could accurately arrive at the Ninestar Starfield despite not knowing its location prior. Whatever this character was leading him to, whatever the Heavenly Daos wanted to present him as an opportunity, was here.

"Will we battle here?" Bai Lin asked excitedly. Her golden eyes reflected the beautiful scene of the nine solar stars, thriving with a battle will. She felt as if she was brought back to the old times with Wei Wuyin. They fought and killed with only three things: saber, man, and crane. Unstoppable.

"Likely," Wei Wuyin smilingly answered.

"Can we kill here?" A seething killing intent surged into Bai Lin's eyes. She knew that Wei Wuyin was cautious, not killing unless necessary, especially as of recent. He had let Long Chen live before, didn't outright slaughter the Jade Lotus Sect, or violently plunder that hidden clan. While these events happened in the Myriad Yore Continent, she knew that Wei Wuyin had lessened his usage of outright violence in favor of strategic advantages.

She knew his goals were more lofty, driven by a greater desire. She wasn't a dimwitted beast that lacked awareness. She knew that his thoughts, concerns, and priorities had changed. At one point, he had put down his saber entirely in favor of enjoying life, losing his will to struggle and fight. While this later changed, it had only evolved him, not returned him to his previous self.

"If we fight, we can kill." Wei Wuyin coldly stated, his eyes flowing with saber light, and his heart throbbing with faint draconic roars. That dream was unlikely to result in a calm, peaceful opportunity. If he wanted to grasp it fully, he needed to be prepared for everything.

"Let's go."

### **Chapter 678 - 673: Ninestar Starfield**

In the unfathomably vast, ancient, and developed Grand Cyclic Stellar Region, there was a uniquely constructed starfield ruled by the Ninestar Sainthall, one of the greatest forces within the entire stellar region—the Ninestar Starfield.

Unlike the Aeternal Sky Starfield, the hierarchy within the Ninestar Starfield was clear-cut, ruled by elite experts from top to bottom, divided specifically to cater to all levels of society and status. To begin, the Ninestar Starfield was divided into Nine Domains, each governed by one of the nine Sainthalls.

The Domains are: the Soul-Rising Domain, Soul-Falling Domain, Soul-Creation Domain, Soul-Eruption Domain, Soul-Destruction Domain, Soul-Enlightening Domain, Soul-Rumble Domain, Soul-Martial Domain, and lastly, the strongest of the nine domains, the Soul-Saint Domain.

Each of these nine domains were ruled by the nine Sainthalls, led by their respective Earthly Saints. These Earthly Saints commanded their domains, regulated their territory, and established rules. However, while their leadership might have differences, their structure remained largely consistent.

All nine Sainthalls were divided into eight other halls, ruled by experts of a designated level and combat prowess, electing only the most elite, experienced, intelligent, and capable.

The nine divisions of halls, from greatest to least: Sainthall, Lordhall, Spirithall, Mystichall, Starhall, Timehall, Realmhall, Mortalhall, and Genesishall. While their naming sense was simple, indicative of their requirements and relative might, their unique structured society has led to unimaginable effects amongst the inhabitants.

All experts understood they served under and thrived on the resourced of the Ninestar Sainthall, all being something better with a ladder of unlimited potential to climb, and this instilled a sense of competitive spirit and strong nationalistic thoughts. The Ninestar Sainthall acted as a united council under a single banner without an established ruler with full authority.

The multileveled societal structure of authority and power provided a diverse manner of function, including the implementation of certain territorial laws and restrictions. In some domains, things outlawed might be freely allowed unless the Nine Sainthalls acted to pass down a universal law that all had to unanimously obey. This furthered the idea that with strength, even if weaker than the whole, you can establish yourself and let your ambition free.

While the system compartmentalizes certain dictations of society, it has led to ambition and a strong competitive will. Cultivators sought to climb the Ladder of Halls so-to-speak, the figurative power structure of their world, and one day reach the Sainthalls. Be it through schemes or force, and those above would rarely interfere unless directly affiliated.

Despite this, strength still reigned supreme as battle prowess dictated one's position in life. There was, however, no restrictions on talent or age, focusing purely on attainments and not other matters. Therefore, the young and talented were often subordinates, while the older and aged were leaders with firmer cultivation bases and experience.

Often unable to rise above their station and claim leadership of a Hall with those old gatekeepers, most geniuses reach the limits that their talent, backing, resources, and environments allow before focusing on improving their battle strength and fighting for leadership, not trying to get bogged down at lower halls.

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In the Ninestar Starfield, there was a multi-planetary territory ruled by the Soul Rising Sainthall called the Soul Rising Domain. Within were nine different state regions, each ruled by a Lordhall, and containing a series of planets and lunar satellites. Within these state regions were planets.

These planets numbered only nine, and each was strictly ruled by a Spirithall. There was a particular planet named Blueglow, which had an atmospheric layer that displayed a unique phenomena due to a gaseous substance present within called saxegen. This gaseous substance caused the planet to have a low luminous glow of a shade of blue.

Blueglow was ruled by the Spiritwalker Hall, one of the nine Spirithalls under the Essencequake Hall, the Lordhall that ruled the state region.

On this planet, there was a city. It was bustling, thriving, and heavily populated. There were cultivators throughout, and at the center was a tower that reached four hundred meters in height. Atop it were glowing characters that read: Darksword Hall. The Darksword Hall was a Starhall. They were merely one of the nine cities under the prefectural rulers of Blueglow, the Skytaint Hall, one of the nine Mystichalls.

Within the southern side of the city, located at its gated entrance was a man and a beast. Riding stably upon the beast's back, the man wore a black-colored, form-fitting martial outfit with a light-grey trim and sash. The beast's beautiful appearance attracted numerous gazes from the nearby cultivators. They made sounds of wonder, their eyes brightening as they saw it take step after step with its long legs.

"You're not going to conceal yourself?" Bai Lin asked with a grinning tone. She had heard the words of Wu Yu. While she was busy eating the Terra-Mystic Ore, she was paying rapt attention to the situation. Wei Wuyin was a sensation, as always, so she teased him.



Wei Wuyin chuckled heartily, "And why, my gorgeous phoenix, must I do that for?"

Bai Lin proudly stretched her neck out, shifting her gaze to the numerous gaped mouths and wide eyes. Her appearance was quite unique, as in the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region, developed beasts used as mounts or battle were a rare sight. They were substituted and made obsolete by skyships and voidships, protective formations and talismans. Furthermore, the expenditure to unlock their bloodlines was quite difficult.

This problem was quite prevalent even in the Myriad Monarch Sect, just the declining cultivation society's standards and underdeveloped technology had allowed beasts to become premium tools to be fostered and used. However, in all forms of society, even in locations like the Bloodforge Continent, there was a trend of the strongest mounts developed by the strongest cultivators were notably weaker than the cultivators themselves.

Only in underdeveloped areas of that society could beasts of certain types propel and shine, displaying remarkable battle prowess and usage.

The question that caused this inevitable circumstance was: "Why waste resources on these beasts when you can use them on yourself?" Followed by: "If the beast can do it, so can I." It was that simple, as even Realmlords could traverse the Dark Void for a brief period, and even bring others along, so beasts were truly rendered irrelevant after a certain level. As for materials and resources they didn't need, they could trade it for things they did.

It was impractical.

Wei Wuyin didn't disagree. After all, beasts weren't meant to be mounts developed by masters, but free spirited existences that freely grew without limitations, raised by the environment. The dragons of the Desolate Dagnet Stellar Region reached levels that rivaled Mystic Ascendants without interference, but cultivators without additional support from alchemy and man-made Solar Stars couldn't even exceed the Fourth Stage of the Astral Core Realm.

The difference was abundantly clear. While neither was inferior to the other, beasts thrived in the wild kingdoms of their own design. When suppressed and domesticated, they suffered unless at the hands of a skilled, caring alchemist.

The Alchemic Dao had no racial bias.

Bai Lin felt amused by the stares and whispers, "What if you're recognized?" While her words seemed to carry concern, there was none in her voice.

Wei Wuyin coolly streaked his fingers through his dark hair, removing some strands that briefly concealed his unearthly visage that could throb the beating heart. "Few even know how I look. Even if I'm found out, I have you, no?" Lightly patting Bai Lin's back, he grinned.

He had talked with Wu Yu about this. For some reason, his appearance was kept a secret. There was no major publicized reveal. Perhaps it was to respect his privacy or to avoid offending him, but no major force has taken that line of action yet to find him. However, that just meant the general populace was unaware of his existence, not those major powers.

Wei Wuyin randomly wondered as he recalled Tuo Bihan's words long ago, 'I wonder if my silver eyes has given ideas of a relationship with the King of Everlore.' While he knew his silver irises weren't too unique, with some demon-hybrids mixed with elves, humans, or beastmen had it, including those who cultivated certain ocular arts, even Tuo Bihan had believed he had a connection with that figure due to his alchemic talent.

As the two arrived at the gate, there were two guards in light-armored uniforms with the symbol of a black sword on their chest armor, beneath that was the characters: Star & Hall.

Wei Wuyin had learned of the societal structure of this starfield on the way, so he wasn't ignorant of their status or his location. When those guards at the Fifth Stage of the Astral Core Realm, the Light Reflection Phase, noticed Wei Wuyin's approach, they were dazzled.

Bai Lin's aura proudly lifted her head, showing off her good side. Look more, peasants. Bask in my radiance! Wait, what's this? What are you looking at?

However, the two guards' eyes weren't fixated on Bai Lin's exquisite form. Their gazes were frozen on the one who rode her. It was Wei Wuyin!

"...You-you're!" One of the guards stumbled, pointed at Wei Wuyin with shock and disbelief.

Wei Wuyin's expression grew dark. Was he found out?

#### **Chapter 679 - 674: Recognized? Targeted?**

Not offended in the slightest by the guard's focus, Bai Lin had the same thought as Wei Wuyin. She joyfully waved her wing, using its end to point at the two guards, "See!" She teasingly laughed.

Wei Wuyin wryly smiled. He hadn't thought he would be recognized by two gate guards, but if it happened, he didn't have any issue with it. While he was joking with Bai Lin, he didn't mind if his identity was known or his whereabouts. While others might consider this reckless, considering his weakness and vulnerability to Ascended, especially Earthly Saints, he had his reasons.

However, his thoughts and Bai Lin's were frivolous.

"You're so handsome! What rank are you?" One of the guards excitedly approached, asking with bright and curious eyes. This confused Wei Wuyin instantly. Rank? He shot a glance to the other guard who was checking a black jade with his spiritual sense. Sometimes, he lifted his eyes to inspect Wei Wuyin and frowned before placing his spiritual sense into his jade again.

He was clearly looking at something, trying to match Wei Wuyin to something. If Wei Wuyin hadn't heard the other guard, he would think he was being compared to some wanted criminals.

"What do you mean by rank?" Wei Wuyin slid off Bai Lin. When he arrived close to the guard, he could feel two's heartbeat accelerating in pace and strengthening in beating force. They were anxious and in awe.

The guard started. A light of bafflement surged in his eyes, "You're not part of the ranking?"

Wei Wuyin asked again, "What ranking?"

"..." The two guards exchanged a look towards each other. The guard that was checking the black jade frowned heavily, shaking his head again. "He's not on the rankings."

Wei Wuyin felt somewhat annoyed. But he patiently asked again, "Can you tell me what ranking you're talking about?"

The guard was disinterested. It was as if Wei Wuyin's looks, while incredibly impressive, lost a large portion of its greatness after learning of his absence from this ranking. Such cognitive change made Wei Wuyin speechless.

The other guard coughed lightly, "Entry cost is one astral stone." The tone of an official and duty-bound guard resounded. Wei Wuyin furrowed his brows. He didn't hesitate to bring out an astral stone and gave it to the guard. He was about to bring Bai Lin into the city, but the guard stopped him with a held-out arm.

"Since the fat bird is entering, so you owe three astral stones," The guard pointed out, and the other chuckled smugly. Bai Lin's eyes glinted fiercely. She wanted to strike, but Wei Wuyin gave her a pat.

Wei Wuyin then briskly nodded, bringing out a two more stones. Afterwards, they entered the city without issue or an in-depth identity check. Within the city, Bai Lin walked beside him, her wide frame and tall height was noticeable consuming up space. A few residents of the city stumbled upon seeing her.

"Hey! Mister!"

When Wei Wuyin only got a little bit in, his eyes inspected the unique architecture of the city, he heard a voice behind him. The houses were built using a type of obsidian. This material had a faint glimmer of earth and metal energies, intermixed perfectly without any rejection.

He didn't think the voice was directed at him. After all, he just got here.

"Mister! Mister!" A chubby young boy with clear eyes and average-looking clothes befitting a low-class member of any society shouted out. He arrived in front of Bai Lin, huffing and puffing as if he had just run a marathon. His brown-hair was slick with sweat and his baby fat jiggled on his face with every exhale.

Wei Wuyin halted his steps and observed this chubby young boy. From his life aura, he was older than Wei Wuyin, roughly eighty years old. However, from his appearance that seemed to be thirteen or fourteen, his cultivation must've reached the Astral Core Realm at that age, rapidly decelerating his aging looks from time.

This wasn't the first time Wei Wuyin had met such a scene. There was once a girl in the Bloodforge Continent that was over thirty but looked like a little girl yet to hit puberty. And that girl wasn't in the Astral Core Realm. The aging of cultivators, even their natural bodily functions, like menopause of women, were affected by their rising cultivation and lifespans.

Still, society evened out eventually, and those at his age were considered a part of the junior generation due to the standard difference. From the Chosen King Competition's age requirement, five hundred years old, it was clear those at that age were still considered juniors.

If the average lifespan of a mortal was translated with the average lifespan of a cultivator at the Astral Core Realm, then five hundred years was around early-twenties at worst.

"Huff! Huff! Mister!" The young boy called out again.

Wei Wuyin faintly smiled. This kid was at the Astral Core Realm already. How could he be exhausted due to a small exertion? It was a cute act, but was he a target to be scammed?

"Where's the emergency?" Wei Wuyin smilingly asked.

The young boy shook his head, wiping the sweat from his brow and catching his breath. "I saw what happened at the gates, are you really not on the Immortal Hero Ranking?"

Immortal Hero Ranking?

Wei Wuyin's eyes grew curious. "I'm not. Is that strange?"

The young boy nodded vigorously, "It is. You're so good-looking. Are you really weak?" He eyed Wei Wuyin up and down.

Wei Wuyin lifted his left eyebrow, "To some, I'm weak. To others, I'm quite strong. What's this Immortal Hero Ranking?"

"..." The boy's eyes grew dispirited, a little dissatisfied by Wei Wuyin's acknowledgement. With an inward sigh in his heart, he put on a smile and said with an enlivened tone: "The Immortal Hero Rankings is established by the Golden Gate Pavilion. They rank all the outstanding male cultivators in terms of looks, talent, cultivation, backing, and more!"

Wei Wuyin finally understood. It was the male equivalent of the Immortal Saintess Ranking. But he was intrigued by this topic, "Is the Golden Gate Pavilion's list officially recognized here? Aren't they based in the Aeternal Sky Starfield?"

The boy laughed proudly, "The Immortal Hero Ranking is throughout all starfields, not just the Aeternal Sky Starfield! Don't think our starfield is lacking, we occupy numerous spots!"

Wei Wuyin realized the reach of the Golden Gate Pavilion was far larger than just a single starfield. He wondered if the Golden Life Pavilion had the same reach, but when he recalled the Golden Auction and how the Ninestar Sainthall claimed victory in it, he realized that was likely the case. His interest in grasping the means of the Golden Life Pavilion was once more invigorated.

"So, what scam are you running? And what is this?" Wei Wuyin directly asked, lifting his hand to touch his right thigh. He pulled away and extracted an invisible worm-like creature that looked remarkably like a leech. Just now, this animal slithered its way from his shoe to his leg and settled there.

The invisible leech turned translucent and flickered visibly until it camouflaged again.

The boy's expression changed. "What's that!" He pointed behind Wei Wuyin with an aghast expression, as if he just saw an extremely frightening monster. With horror in his eyes, he trembled very realistically.

Wei Wuyin lifted his brow. This kid's acting was quite good, but wasn't such tactics a little...

Seeing his act didn't work, the boy's expression became dark. He looked defeated, lowering his shoulders in defeat as if accepting his fate. "You see, that is..."

BOOSH!

With blitzing speed and pulsing air pressure, the boy executed a movement technique and rushed into the nearby crowd. He ran without looking back. His movements were swift and precise, navigating through the crowd and even using a strange art that created projections of himself. These projections split into many different areas.

Wei Wuyin was amused. Even Bai Lin just looked on, smiling as she watched the boy run off without losing his trail. The two exchanged a glance, finding this entire situation outrageous. Wei Wuyin didn't move. He waved his hand slightly.

"Ahhhh!" Tumbling in front of him, the boy appeared and face-planted on the ground. The boy lifted his dirty face to see Wei Wuyin, and he was aghast. "You lied!"

"Lied?" Wei Wuyin chortled. What did he lie about?

"Yes! You said you weren't on the Immortal Hero Rankings, but your cultivation isn't low at all! With your looks, how could you not be on it?!" The boy raged, throwing a tantrum as if he was the victim.

Wei Wuyin shrugged his shoulders indifferently. "Answer me: what scam are you running?" He couldn't figure out what the boy wanted, and after noticing the invisible leech, he realized the boy was definitely about to leave. He didn't like waiting and seeing, and he had other things to do. Furthermore, he felt that everything he encountered was slightly strange. The guards, for example.

They were excited and then deadfaced.

His importance in their eyes faded. No, that wasn't quite right, but he couldn't pinpoint the exact emotion. Furthermore, the boy revealed disappointment after learning he wasn't on the Immortal Hero Ranking. What was this nonsense? Clearly, a scheme was afoot.

The eighty-year old boy snarled. He didn't even try to fight, believing that escaping wasn't likely, but Wei Wuyin certainly wouldn't kill him here in the city limits. So he just pouted and crossed his arms, dirty face and all.

Wei Wuyin slightly furrowed his brows, narrowing his eyes. "Are you going to answer me?"

The boy huffed and puffed, turning away. So what if you caught me, you're not going to do anything! His attitude was quite clear. There were even a few spectators who watched this from start to finish, commenting and glancing at Wei Wuyin before either minding their own business or enjoying the show.

Bai Lin lifted her wing.

WOOSH!

Pah!

Wei Wuyin stood before the boy, his arm stopping Bai Lin's lethal wing-slap. She was about to turn this boy into crushed meat, if he was lucky. The boy was older than them both, so she didn't view him as an immature child to be pitied or given a gentle lesson.

"You said we can kill!" Bai Lin complained mentally.

Wei Wuyin sighed. His act of stopping Bai Lin had been quite subtle, and Bai Lin's physical strength was impressive, but his own wasn't anything to sniff at. Of course, if she used her full power, then even a true Ascended couldn't save this boy.

"Give me a second," Wei Wuyin urged. He reached and grabbed the head of the young-looking, eighty-year old boy, his eyes flashing with Seven Source Light. The boy's eyes went blank, and Wei Wuyin directly interacted with his memories. From life to now, he viewed it all.

"Huh," Wei Wuyin tilted his head. He removed his hand, frowning as he did so, allowing the boy to regain the light in his eyes. With a pondering expression, he walked away ponderous, his thoughts deeply engrossed by what he just learned.

WOOSH!

BOOSH!!!

Wei Wuyin turned around to see a gigantic hole in one of the stone buildings, its edges painted with a bloody wetness and fragments of white bone and crushed flesh. Wei Wuyin turned to Bai Lin who waved her wing with a little flexing, "I still got it!"

### **Chapter 680 - 675: Wanting To Applaud**

"..."

"..."

"..."

The spectators and bystanders all froze in place, from their expressions to their movements. Bai Lin strutted forward, her stride was excited as she moved to the hole she created. Her golden eyes gleamed.

Those nearby slowly regained their sense of self, the shock dissipating and the light of realization flowed through their eyes. Did that bird just smack that young-looking cultivator to their death?

Wei Wuyin slightly shook his head with a wry smile. While he might not have been so direct, he didn't feel anything wrong with Bai Lin's actions. That cultivator was not a good soul, and his memories contained acts of extreme cruelty. Even he was shocked.

This so-called young-looking boy had taken advantage of certain weak and vulnerable women, stolen from the sick, and outright led others to their deaths. He might've looked young, but in his eighty years, he was quite active.

In fact, he was about to sell him off to some black market dealers, using that invisible leech-like creature to track his movements when he eventually left the city to be intercepted. However, that was just his own intentions. Wei Wuyin had discovered why the guards were acting strange.

When he learned of it, his expression became odd.

"MURDER! MURDERERS!!" A shrieking voice screamed out in abject horror. With the act now dawned on them, the crowd grew terrified. They put some distance between Wei Wuyin, Bai Lin, and the scene of the crime. In a few breaths, the area around them was devoid of anyone for fifty feet.

"Us? Murderers?" Bai Lin tilted her head curiously as she eyed the fearful spectators in the distance, thinking they were safe to observe. Then, her eyes gleamed with killing intent and a wisp of coldness. In the Scarlet Solaris Sect, conflicts, fighting and deaths were common occurrences. She was bred not just as a mount, but a beast of battle and carnage. This cultivator tried to scheme against them, was caught after trying to run away, and then refused to speak.

He got off easy with a quick death.

How childish was it to scream out such accusatory titles?

Wei Wuyin's thoughts were interrupted by Bai Lin's chilling killing intent. She truly wished to begin a bloody slaughter here. He arrived beside her and softly rubbed her torso, "Don't mind the ignorant."

Bai Lin inhaled and exhaled out her killing intent, calming down. Wei Wuyin had taught her early on about the principles of killing, and how it must be done with reason. She wouldn't devolve into a mindless killing beast if she stuck to these differentiating principles, so she cherished them with all her heart. Even when she spent nearly a decade alone, waiting for Wei Wuyin's memory to return, she hadn't acted against these principles.

The only reason she acted against the young cultivator was because he schemed against them, well within reason to deliver a death sentence.

However, the shouts had alerted the guards. They were currently flying through the air, ferociously pushing through the crowd, and racing to his location. He felt a spiritual pressure erupt, threatening to weaken his cultivation base, and a series of formations were activated that sealed the city. There was no entry or exit. They were quite efficient.

Wei Wuyin looked at the sky with a faint spiritual light. "Bai Lin, we're going to allow ourselves to be captured. Okay? Don't resist. Also, don't reveal your strength." He rubbed Bai Lin a little more gently. He knew she wasn't one that liked to be restrained, so he tried to comfort her.

"Oh? Are we going to do something big?" Bai Lin, however, wasn't focused on being captured, but the plans for it. While she didn't like being restrained, that's on the basis of actually being restrained. Getting a free trip wasn't anything.

Wei Wuyin warmly smiled, "Maybe. I just learned something interesting. Either way, you'll have a battle on your hands. But whether you want it or not, that's another question. Haha."

Bai Lin's eyes brightened. Battle? She was down for it! With a trembling body, her long legs grew unstable as if unable to resist the strength of the spiritual pressure. It soon subdued her. The light in her

eyes dimmed. She toppled with a quivering struggle, trying to rise but was unable to do so. She released a soft, pained cry.

Wei Wuyin saw this and was awed. She was even better than that young-looking cultivator at acting, far more realistic. He had to consciously hold back his applause. Still, his smile was unable to be held back.

The spiritual light in his eyes then dimmed considerably. He openly revealed his cultivation at the Gravity Emission Phase and kneeled next to Bai Lin with trembling knees.

The guards soon arrived, including the two from earlier. They glanced at each other with a strange glint in their eyes.

When a few guards came along, Wei Wuyin roared ferociously with fierce defiance. Suddenly, his aura exploded out, striking out with an exaggerated punch that contained his astral force. The incoming guards were blown back, a few injured.

He had strictly controlled his astral force, using less than a millionth of its true strength. He thoroughly learned his lesson to not use even one percentage of his power against ordinary cultivators of similar or weaker cultivation. He had obliterated quite a few cultivators by mistake, severely underestimating his power.

Still, he took this outburst and opportunity to send out two rays of condensed astral force. It pierced through the air and arrived before the two guards that had welcomed him. Their eyes widened for a moment as their heads exploded.

Wei Wuyin then shouted out defiantly. He kneeled, quivering with rage. He didn't speak out, just roared with anger from being suppressed. He soon felt a pressure descend, restricting him and Bai Lin.

A Worldly Domain!

A Realmlord arrived on scene. They wore black robes and swept their gazes around. With a wave of his hand, he sent out a burst of spiritual force towards Bai Lin and Wei Wuyin. As if simultaneously agreed upon, they both released wretched screams of agony and slowly lost consciousness.

Their coordinated effort was flawless. From timing to realistic expressions, there was nothing to be critiqued. Their spiritual fluctuations and mental fluctuations went quiet, representing their unconscious states. The Realmlord scoffed, sweeping his eyes towards the two guards that were killed by Wei Wuyin's last-ditch attack.

"Unlucky bastards," he remarked. With that, the Realmlord vanished with a flicker of silver light. He lazily delegated his subordinates to handle this. After all, it was just a Gravity Emission Phase cultivator and his archaic mount. They were insignificant in the eyes of a Realmlord.

The guards acted and swept the two up, placing Wei Wuyin and Bai Lin in shackles. They brought them away, found them a cold, lonely cell, and placed them there together. It seemed they were treating them both the same.

Wei Wuyin and Bai Lin laid down in the damp, cold prison beneath the city. There were others there, shouting or groaning. They were either going insane, being tortured, or silent and lost all reason to live.



After a few hours, Wei Wuyin opened his eyes. The silver radiance within was prominent, and he looked up at the ceiling. "So they did put us together."

Bai Lin's eyes opened. She didn't move because her body was too large in this cramped prison cell. If she casually exerted some strength, the walls and restraints would collapse. She feared ruining their ruse.

"That is weird," Bai Lin remarked. The screams of agony and pain groans of the desolate and exhausted did little to shake her heart.

Wei Wuyin looked at his right palm, looking at the 'War' character that glinted with light. Eventually, he clenched his fist, deciding to put it off for a little bit longer. If the information he obtained from that young cultivator's memories were true, then he just found a certain prospect that might be very interesting.

"Until I give the signal. Don't act, okay?" Wei Wuyin calmly instructed, his eyes returning to the ceiling. Bai Lin was a little too strong and she was a little temperamental.

"Okay!" Bai Lin enjoyed this. Before, she had been relegated to a useless weakling when they entered the Myriad Monarch Sect. Even a winged colt-like pegasus was at the Astral Core Realm, and she couldn't rival such strength. While she strengthened eventually, she couldn't catch up to Wei Wuyin's own.

They were no longer able to fight the same battles. She couldn't even act as his mount because of the Sky Layers. Xiao Bai had taken that place, and it frustrated her greatly. While she teased the young pegasus, within her heart was a swelling seed of inferiority.

Being able to once again travel with Wei Wuyin, participate in battles and schemes, it refreshed her! Her golden eyes looked at Wei Wuyin's figure, her heart stirring with emotions, and her bloodline tingled. She closed her eyes and waited.

Wei Wuyin eyed Bai Lin, feeling the same stimulation in his bloodline as hers. He frowned slightly before relaxing. Calming his bloodline's seething, he laid on Bai Lin's soft feathers and warm body.

A certain memory surfaced in his mind.

When it did, he couldn't help but smile.

Despite being in a prison dungeon that smelled of blood, death, and echoed of pain, the man and beast were content with just being together. For ten days, they remained in this dark, damp space.

And the ones they were waiting for had arrived!