

## PARAGON 811

### Chapter 811: Announcement by Proxy

"I..."

Wide-eyed, the brown-eyed Ever-Knight felt his heart clenched by the great hand of death. It was heavy, unrelenting, and cold. So very cold.

There was regret circulating within his mind with frenzied energy. His eyes bulged as the halberd-transformed Myriad Monarch Canon entered his torso, piercing through the other side with disturbing ease, and with all his remaining strength, the Ever-Knight directed his hands to grasp its handle.

Tens of thousands of dark-red Mystic Runes erupted from his body, like a heated volcano at its climax, spewing out copious amounts of mystic power without any restrictions whatsoever.

When he stared at the pummel of the halberd, tracing the pole that pierced chest, and the fragmented armor that had shattered upon contact, his eyes reddened and his pupils expanded to their utmost limits. A fierce, unwilling, and unyielding will surged from those eyes of his.

"GAHHHH!!!" The Ever-Knight violently roared as dark-red blood gushed out of his openings, from his helmet, gloves, and greaves. It almost seemed as if his entire body was on the verge of exploding. Unfortunately, his efforts bore little fruit as the halberd carried him further and further away. He became the tip of a comet with a starry light tail.

"...!" There wasn't a single involved party that wasn't startled by this development, finding themselves in disbelief as they momentarily paused in surprise. They were all caught off-guard, certain that Wu Yu was aiming for the Mortal Sovereign Alchemists after his initial fake. However, it had been a layered fake!

It was a brief pause though, but it was enough for Wu Yu to follow-through. He executed a sequence of three hand-seals. At the end of which, his mystic power seemed to rapidly diminish within his body, causing his Mystic Aura to weaken to a considerable degree.

Without warning, the halberd began to emanate starry light without end, reaching tens of miles and inductating the Ever-Knight in its gorgeous radiance. However, the Ever-Knight was unable to appreciate its beauty as the Imperial Heaven Aura infecting his body began to be fueled by a tremendous amount of power, releasing fierce Imperial Pressure.

The Ever-Knight squirmed violently. With all their strength, they tried to pull out the halberd as if it was their life mission. The last mission they may ever receive. Unfortunately...

They failed.

There was no thunderous boom, strange crunching sound, or wave of energy. The Ever-Knight's openings flooded with gushing blood and gooey flesh. Their armor was perfectly intact, but the insides were a mess, filled with mangled flesh and bones, and even their Mystic Soul was shattered without mercy.

Dead.

Wu Yu's expression grew ashen. He had exhausted vast quantities of his mystic power to fuel and detonate the latent Imperial Heaven Aura within the brown-eyed Ever-Knight.

"NOOO!" The tangerine-eyed Ever-Knight was stunned to the extreme, a wave of anguish and horror echoed out of their voice. The emotion was raw, even greater than Wu Yu's previous emotional outrage. It was genuine.

The remaining Ever-Knight didn't hesitate to unleash their greatest strength, shooting towards Wu Yu with violent, murderous eyes.

Wu Yu grimaced, turning towards the enraged Ever-Knight, and feeling a heavy pressure descend upon him. His eyes contracted slightly as he realized the Ever-Knight was igniting their Mystic Soul! Without hesitation, he reached out and pulled back his hand. The halberd jolted out of the mangled body, causing pieces of armor to scatter, and shot towards Wu Yu with extreme speed.

Wu Yu didn't retreat. He held steady as the halberd reached him before the Ever-Knight could, and then he spun it around in full circle overhead, causing the mystic runes around him to stir fiercely as mystic power was unleashed.

The Ever-Knight was seemingly ready to fight to the death, but then he halted without warning. Those vicious eyes reflected hatred, but that had been replaced with concern, and then shot backwards to the Ever-Knight's mangled body and intact armor.

Wu Yu was startled for a moment, and then his eyes widened with disbelief. The Ever-Knight grabbed the floating armor, and seemingly pulled out a shattered Mystic Soul. It was dark-red, burning the surrounding space, and attached to it was a faint cyan-colored silhouette.

As someone who lived for thousands of years in this strange form, a Soul attached to his Mystic Soul, Wu Yu immediately realized what had happened. But shockingly, when the tangerine-eyed Ever-Knight took out the Mystic Soul, they were using their ignited Mystic Soul to bring it into themselves.

Wu Yu immediately realized that he was baited to bring back the halberd, to prevent him from ensuring the death of the brown-eyed Ever-Knight from afar. Furthermore, the tangerine-eyed Ever-Knight seemingly ignited their Mystic Soul to use some strange spell to bring it into their dantian.

Curiosity abounded, the tangerine-eyed Ever-Knight stared at Wu Yu with a frightening gaze. "I guess killing an Ascended being is harder than I thought," Wu Yu quietly remarked as he realized that he'd never killed an Ascended being before. They weren't considered beyond Mortal Limits for no reason.

He scoffed in vexation as he turned his attention elsewhere, not wanting to fight an Earthly Saint that had ignited their Mystic Soul in his current state. The Voidship with the Mortal Sovereign Alchemists were defended by four Earthly Saints. He wondered if he should've followed through with that plan, but he eradicated the thought. He had exhausted a large portion of his power to kill that Ever-Knight, and he barely had much in his tank.

He hadn't consolidated his cultivation base nor replenished himself with newly refined mystic energies of the Earthly Saint level, so his power was severely limited. Furthermore, he had consecutively ascended from the Soul of Mysticism Phase to the Earthly Saint Phase, so the disparity was even greater

than other newly ascended Earthly Saints. If not for his Awakened Mystic Intent at the eight mystic runes level, he wouldn't have lasted this long.

While cultivators typically had tremendous quantities of energies within them, this was relative to the activity itself. When fighting two Earthly Saints, each attack or defense was at minimum an entire percentage of his reserves. And that was the minimum.

'This is all too fast,' Wu Yu thought to himself. While it wasn't exactly unexpected that the Everlore Association would make an attempt on Wei Wuyin's life if given the opportunity, he was startled by how all this unfolded. He felt at fault.

Regardless of the outcome, Wei Wuyin and the Everlore Association's relationship was now indefinitely antagonistic. It was far too early for this. Wei Wuyin was still a mortal with strong ties to other cultivators in the starfield, and if the Everlore Association considered Wei Wuyin or himself as a threat...

While his priority should be to escape, Wu Yu couldn't help but realize how much turmoil was generated by his ascension. He had wanted to weaken the Everlore Association by killing an Earthly Saint of theirs, but the feat of genuinely killing an Ascended being was more difficult than he originally thought. He had to ensure their Mystic Soul was thoroughly eviscerated, not like normal mortals who died if beheaded or crushed.

Wu Yu heaved a sigh.

He looked towards the tangerine-eyed Ever-Knight and calmed his breathing, stabilizing his Mystic Aura, and glanced towards the Voidship still actively fleeing while guarded by four Earthly Saints. He pointed towards the devastated Rainbow Sky that was floating out of orbit, bits and pieces of it broke off at times. It was a depressing, lifeless sight.

"My Young Lord has ordered me to give that Earthly Knight punishment for his crimes, but spared his life so that the Everlore Domain can seek answers. He has a question for him, for all of you..." Wu Yu paused, moving his gaze over the Earthly Saints and the spectators that were watching from afar. They were all shocked by Wu Yu's calm after his ferocious killing attempt and layered fake. A few even thought it was merely another distraction.

Wu Yu continued without caring about their thoughts in the calmest voice imaginable: "Why deliberately kill billions under the guise of an accidental discharge? You owe your entire Domain an explanation. This is his question and his statement."

"..."

"..."

"...What?!" The spectators reeled at Wu Yu's words. That was clearly an unintended action from an explosive fight between Earthly Saints! Why would the Everlore Association destroy Rainbow Sky deliberately? That was ludicrous!

"..." The tangerine-eyed Ever-Knight gave Wu Yu a heavy gaze.

Wu Yu gripped his halberd, bringing it to his side, and looked at the far-off distance. "I just reached the Earthly Saint level, and I could even tell that it was deliberate. I can't imagine you intended to fool the

other Earthly Saints, even a Soul of Mysticism would notice the strangeness of an Earthly Saint of thousands of years of experience losing control of their attack while at full strength. I don't know whether you consider them fools or you just didn't care if they noticed."

Wu Yu hefted his halberd, a wisp of sharp light emanated from his eyes. Then, without hesitation, he spontaneously threw his halberd towards a direction. It zoomed at exceptional speeds, causing several cultivators to gasp in shock.

It traveled for thirty-thousand miles in a brief moment, and then abruptly stopped. At the very tip of the halberd's blade was a pale-faced female with an icy aura. She was a Soul of Mysticism Cultivator! One of the numerous spectators observing the fight!

She couldn't move as cold sweat slowly dripped from her forehead. The tip of the halberd only needed to move just an inch and her forehead would've been pierced. She heavily gulped, fearful for her life.

"See. I can control my attack with such ease, how could an experienced Earthly Saint not do the same?" Wu Yu grabbed towards the halberd and the halberd returned in a long streak. No one dared to intercept it, especially since it had almost killed an Earthly Saint.

When the halberd returned to his hand, his Mystic Aura flared slightly. "I'll let you explain that one, and why the Everlore Association would allow their Ever-Knight to destroy an entire planet, including all the lives. That said, I'll now say what my Young Lord wanted to announce to the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region:

"I, Wei Wuyin, as a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist, will be hosting an Alchemic Gathering for all eligible alchemists! It'll be set for ten years from today! There, an All-Alchemic Clash Royale will be hosted. To any who can best me, they'll claim the Neo-Dawn Eclipse Pill's Concoction Method as their prize! More details will be released in the future."

Those words were meant to offer Wu Yu a legitimate reason to be here and to act as a messenger. It was Wei Wuyin's way of serving as a justified reason for his presence here, and to offer a way to shift attention away from Wu Yu and onto himself. Unfortunately, the Ever-Knight had attacked and a conflict still ensued.

After saying this, Wu Yu glanced at the remaining Ever-Knight: "This could've been avoided had you let me speak, not attacked without reason to justify destroying your own planet. After all, I'm just the messenger." Wu Yu didn't linger. He shot off into the distance taking advantage of their shock.

This caused everyone to be stunned. The Ever-Knight's eyes flickered with strange light. The doubt in his own eyes was clear, but he didn't just let this be. He chased after Wu Yu. Regardless of what, Wu Yu was a foreign Earthly Saint and his existence led to the destruction of Rainbow Sky.

However, the indifference in which Wu Yu spoke and the faint reveal of evidence caused thoughts to flare within the minds of all those watching. Especially the faint mockery in his tone as he insinuated that the Everlore Association considered them idiots. This exacerbated the issue when they realized they even thought it was an accident.

No one liked to be fooled, and even worse, no one liked when they were successfully fooled and then it was revealed later!

Did the Everlore Association truly destroy their own planet? Killed billions? For...what?!

## Chapter 812: Turtle In a Jar

San Luoyang's facial expression was the furthest from being calm and settled, his eyelids were heavily drooping, and his pupils emanated a dark, particular light. When the others inspected him, they discovered the emission of a negative aura. Despite being protected by four Earthly Saints, Wu Yu escaping into the distance, and an Ever-Knight who ignited their Mystic Soul following, his mental state was not great.

The Earthly Saints thought it was due to the situation of Wu Yu's announcement or the accusation of the Rainbow Sky's deliberate destruction, but San Luoyang's heart and mind were besieged by an unease that disturbed him deeply. It was Wu Yu's existence.

It was the meaning of his existence.

Others might be awed by the flood of events, but soon they'll recall these events and discover a series of facts that were unable to be forgotten. Firstly, Wu Yu is a foreign Earthly Saint who has no Mythical Oath restrictions to him. This would devastate the balance of the world, something that threatened every force due to the sheer unstoppable power that Earthly Saints possessed.

Just a casual attack destroyed Rainbow Sky in a matter of three seconds, burnt to a cinder, every life lost without any chance of saving. This was why Earthly Saints were prohibited from fighting and especially entering other territories. However, Wu Yu bypassed their borders due to ascending inside the Everlore Domain.

Without those oaths in place, not only were Mortal Sovereign Alchemists in danger, but the various mystic-tier forces no longer had peace of mind. Some of the sixteen forces, and especially the twenty-two starfields, had oaths to guard their interests and territories. Some of them did not have an Earthly Saint to protect them.

Secondly, and most distressing, Wu Yu had fought two Ever-Knights as a NEWLY ASCENDED Earthly Saint and semi-killed one, forcing the other to ignite their Mystic Soul to save that Ever-Knight and chase after him. The events had happened so fast that few had processed this yet, blinded by the awe and mystery that was Wei Wuyin, especially his announcement.

Thirdly, and most disgustingly, Wu Yu's appearance here and the purposeful destruction of Rainbow Sky, added with Wu Yu's initially vengeful roar of emotional rage and then an unsettling calmness and indifference, suggested two things: Wu Yu was initially unaware that Wei Wuyin wasn't on Rainbow Sky when it was destroyed due to the Earthly Ascension and later learned that he wasn't killed, proceeding to announce the so-called All-Alchemic Clash Royale.

These events were certainly recorded through various mediums, and those intelligent will definitely delve into this topic like hungry worms on a decaying corpse. Out of these three, San Luoyang was most affected by Wu Yu's battle prowess and allegiance. The era of the Everlore Starfield during the King of Everlore's early years was religiously followed. It wouldn't take long for others to determine Wu Yu's origins as the only Mystic Ascendant that died.

In some circles, Wu Yu was a joke. He had stayed in a backwater location, leaving the King of Everlore's entourage, and later failed his Third Ascension in a befitting fashion. Most would kill to be in his position, yet he threw it away and suffered the consequences soon after. Hilarious.

But now? Those ancient jokes will resurface and instead become a legend to his name, and the beginning of his feats will be dominating two Ever-Knights of the Everlore Association. Their reputation will be hit from three angles.

Shao Jing looked at the four Earthly Saints who had various spiritual lights emitting from their eyes. They were clearly following the chase of Wu Yu and the tangerine-eyed Ever-Knight closely. Their expressions were vividly shifting.

Suddenly, a tall, muscular, and handsome male Earthly Saint turned to San Luoyang and suggested: "Grand Secretariat San, you should call back your Ever-Knight." His expression was increasingly odd, including the others.

San Luoyang's expression fell, using his ocular spell to its maximal limits, but the two Earthly Saints were already far outside his visual range, and their movements were extremely swift, disguised further by a sea of Mystic Runes that turbulently moved. Unable to tell what was happening, he didn't know how to respond.

"Oh!" A middle-aged man with lively eyes, dressed in loose aquamarine robes tied by an exquisite silver belt with the azure character 'He' etched on its buckle, exclaimed slightly. This was none other than the He Clan's Earthly Saint, and his voice was as soothing as rushing water, yet as vigorous as a waterfall.

His exclamation drew Mu Yura and Shao Jing's attention. They, too, were unable to grasp the details of an Earthly Saint's chase. They weren't Demi-Mortal Lords, so they barely saw anything after the first few seconds of their disappearance. The disparity of power between those at the Soul of Mysticism Phase, the Second Stage of the Mystic Ascendant Realm, and the Earthly Saint Phase, the Fourth Stage of the Mystic Ascendant Realm, was exceptionally vast.

Mu Yura inquired, "What happened?" Despite being surrounded by Earthly Saints, she held a proud, dignified bearing that told the story of her personal belief in her status. A Mortal Sovereign Alchemist of the Everlore Association wasn't any less prestigious than an Earthly Saint.

"He's gone," the He Clan's Earthly Saint, He Bojing, announced with a slight frown. This gave everyone a jolt.

"The Ever-Knight?" Shao Jing subconsciously thought the tangerine-eyed Ever-Knight met the same fate as his partner, not realizing his own lack of confidence was bleeding through.

"No. The Grand Knight of Neo-Dawn vanished. He concealed himself using an exceptional spell. That Ever-Knight was sealed by a World Prison and was delayed by a second. They should be returning soon." A female Earthly Saint with a tall stature, gorgeous looks and platinum blonde hair accentuated by her lime-green eyes, and a reserved disposition explained more thoroughly. She was Yu Shishi, a member of the Yu Clan of the Eight Noble Clans of the Aeternal Sky Starfield.

She was the sole Earthly Saint of the Yu Clan and was considered unrivaled in the field of talisman crafting, the Yu Clan's specialty.

"Escaped?" Mu Yura was shocked, but San Luoyang inwardly groaned.

SUUUUUZZZZZZZZ!

Without warning, a rippling bubble emerged over the entire Everlore Domain in an instant. It was crystalline, fluttering with three colors of black, grey, and gold, representing earth, sky, and heaven. The Everlore Association's Earth-Sky-Heaven Mystic Array!

This array was divided into three multi-linked formations, the Earthly Core Formation, Sky Shell Formation, and Heaven Annihilation Formation. The bubble was currently the Sky Shell Formation!

"..." San Luoyang and the others inspected the bubble in faint awe, and the tall, muscular Earthly Saint had a glint of aggressiveness within his gaze. It seemed he sought to test its defensive prowess from his challenging glare. However, he swiftly kept his emotions at bay.

The bubble distorted and shifted like a true water bubble, bringing it a strange feeling. How was this bubble supposed to represent the sky? Regardless, the tangerine-eyed Ever-Knight soon returned three seconds later and descended on the boat while sweeping the four Earthly Saints with a steely gaze.

"Report," San Luoyang requested.

The tangerine-eyed Ever-Knight ignored the four Earthly Saints, turning to San Luoyang and reporting: "The criminal is still within the territory, and all Mystic Intent not allowed by the Earth-Sky-Heaven Mystic Array will be suppressed until his capture."

"..." The four Earthly Saints had varying expressions. The tall, muscular Earthly Saint summoned his Mystic Runes, revealing his two sets, a 2nd Runic Ascendant, and frowned slightly. Then, a burst of power erupted from beside him, and his Mystic Runes trembled as if subjected to an intense earthquake and collapsed into bits of mystic light.

He coughed heavily as his eyes went bloodshot, glaring at the Ever-Knight. This man was the Chen Clan's sole Earthly Saint, Chen Yibo. The Chen Clan was also one of the Eight Noble Clans that had fought alongside the Imperial Clan during their ascent, forging their home in the Aeternal Sky Starfield.

They specialized in Martial Arts that used physical energies, forging their bodies into literal weapons that could rival defensive armaments in durability.

The other Earthly Saints gave him a brief glance, but their eyes flickered with various lights of different emotions. After a while, they settled down and seemingly relaxed.

Yu Shishi turned to He Bojing, saying: "King Aquaguisse, when will you release the Bing Clan's Highlord Frostwind?" Highlord Frostwind was also called Bing Tian.

Tian Muqiu's expression changed slightly, looking at He Bojing subconsciously after hearing that name. While he was still shaken by the Aeternal Sky Scripture in Wu Yu's possession, he knew what he should reveal and what he shouldn't.

He Bojing gave Yu Shishi a faint smile, "I'm just giving her some punishment for intruding into my territory without permission, causing a hectic mess. I didn't think the Yu Clan was so concerned about the Bing Clan's affairs. If I knew, I would have informed you."

Yu Shishi seemed unbothered by this answer, merely giving an indifferent sweep of her eyes towards Tian Muqiu. She calmly replied, "Oh, I see. And here I thought you were trying to obtain your 177th Concubine. In that case, then I await news of her safe release after proper punishment."

He Bojing's expression was similarly undisturbed, giving a faint smile and looking away. This exchange was brief, but the others felt the spiked barbs layered in their words.

Tian Muqiu frowned, giving He Bojing a glance. Highlord Frostwind was a member of the Bing Clan, and she was one of the five Highlords present there. For the last few months, there had been no news of her. But it was common for Ascended beings to cultivate for decades at a time, so a few years was nothing.

Considering the Bing Clan's relations with the Imperial Clan, he would have to report this.

"Her and her clan members' punishment still has some time remaining, but since Queen Yu has spoken, I'll settle this matter. When I return, I'll release them." He Bojing seemed unaffected, but no one knew what was going on in his heart.

Yu Shishi nodded, giving a soft thanks for the consideration.

Chen Yibo sat down cross-legged, repairing his damaged Mystic Intent from its crumbled state. How terrifying was this suppression? A lingering fear remained in his heart.

Meanwhile, Wu Yu was hidden within a lunar satellite's earthen layer of the Everlore Domain, concealing his aura with his strongest effort. He was feeling extremely horrible after feeling the suppression of his newly awakened Mystic Intent. It felt as if he was being squashed by a giant club weighing hundreds of thousands of tons. While his Mystic Runes hadn't collapsed, they trembled ceaselessly as they fueled his concealments.

This was a massive difference between the 2nd Runic Ascendant Chen Yibo and his 8th Runic Ascendant state; his Mystic Intent was sturdier and stronger. He knew that this was merely the surface benefits of his foundation, likely his 8th Runic Ascendant state granted special abilities such as the Spatial Resonance Phase's spatial ripples.

Hidden away and without any way to escape, he could only continue cultivating in hopes of remaining undiscovered and, if discovered, strong enough to escape. He still had 70% of the World Genesis Elixir remaining, and he felt confident in reaching the 2nd Stage of the Blood Origin Method. Regardless, he had to consolidate his cultivation base.

Further away, Wei Wuyin and Wen Mingna observed the bubble that trapped them within. Wei Wuyin's frown was deep, realizing that the Everlore Association had no intent on allowing Wu Yu to escape. He never thought they would, but this only gathered the concern in his thoughts.

Wen Mingna's eyes once again emanated a glossy golden light, but it soon receded as she breathed out softly. "There's a scrying-guard formation within this array. I can't find him. I'm so--"

Wei Wuyin grabbed her hand, causing Wen Mingna to jolt slightly. "There's no need to apologize to me, ever." He 'looked' at Wen Mingna with a smiling expression, attempting to comfort her. "We need to leave the array's influence. If we do, I'm roughly 80% confident in bringing Wu Yu out as well."



Wen Mingna was startled. If a mortal had told her that they could leave the Earth-Sky-Heaven Mystic Array, she would've thought them delusional, but since Wei Wuyin said so, then she felt that it was doable.

"What do you need?" Wen Mingna didn't question how, merely what was needed.

Wei Wuyin felt that unhesitant trust in him, not doubting him in the slightest. "Just one question: Does this array seal the Void?"

Abruptly, Kratos roared within Wei Wuyin's flesh and blood heart as if answering the question on Wen Mingna's behalf: "THERE'S NO WORLD I CAN NOT REACH AND NO CAGE I CAN NOT ESCAPE!"

### Chapter 813: My Eyes

Kratos' confidence was exuberantly infectious, pulsating throughout Wei Wuyin's body, veins, and heart. It invigorated him with a sense of incredible freedom, influencing his Sea of Consciousness, and he truly felt, for the very first time, that Kratos' words weren't just exaggerated nonsense.

Alarmed by this sensational feeling, Wei Wuyin turned to his flesh and blood beating heart that housed Kratos' Astral Form, seeing a distinguishable silhouette darting about within a grey cloud. The cloud contained a formless presence of space as if it existed on a different plane of existence.

"Are you certain?" Wei Wuyin had roughly 80% certainty of taking Wu Yu out if he could leave, but that all hinged on being able to leave the Earth-Sky-Heaven Mystic Array's restrictions on space. Unfamiliar with the aspects of the array, he could only plot an attempt.

"There is nothing that can cage me; there is nowhere I cannot enter. I am the Void." Kratos' words were spoken with absolute firmness. There was a time when going to Hell wasn't enough to dwindle this confidence, this unshakeable belief of its existence.

Wei Wuyin didn't ask again, believing wholeheartedly in Kratos. As a True Void Dragon, he personified the Dao of the Void, a profound Dao that Wei Wuyin barely understood even to this day. It involved space, time, astrological forces, including void energy. Just space was too complex for him to fully grasp, stating its influence over fixed, stable, chaotic, and atmospheric space. Let alone time and its natures of past, present, future, isolated and paradoxical.

Wen Mingna was unaware of Kratos' statement and beliefs, answering Wei Wuyin's question to the best of her ability: "The Earth-Sky-Heaven Mystic Array isn't simple, and it's said that all forms of spatial shifting and Void Gates are heavily restricted, if not outright forbidden, within the Sky Shell Formation. I don't know if it can hinder the void."

Wei Wuyin turned his head and 'looked' at Wen Mingna. He had forgotten that the void he spoke of was different from the fixed space that cultivators were familiar with in their cultivation realm. He couldn't help but wryly smile, giving her a nod of understanding.

The Void was different than anything he'd ever experienced. He had entered it on numerous occasions, even carrying an entire continent through it. The Void embodied a plane of existence that was interconnected through everything, even things such as time, space, and other profound details. When he tested his Void Portal Creation, he experienced strange lag and a flood of information that nearly exploded his Sea of Consciousness due to its overwhelming detail.

He had just inspected a single life of an air particle and nearly suicided off the sheer amount of information it carried. The memory still sent shivers down his spine.

"Alright, we'll leave this cage. Before that, I need you to see if New Everlore is in danger." Wei Wuyin had already decided his next course of action, but this matter was weighing on his heart. Wu Yu played his part perfectly, but his actions of nearly killing an Ever-Knight, escaping, and declaring his connection with himself were a cause for concern.

Wei Wuyin felt deeply frustrated by these events that kept spiraling out of his control, and while the benefits were great long-term, the immediate effects carried a worrying trend and realization: he was far too vulnerable. If it wasn't for Wen Mingna, this brilliant Heavenly Seer, acting as his eyes, he would've met an untimely end on Rainbow Sky.

Now, suppose the Everlore Association decided to outright declare their ill-intentions towards him. In that case, he'd be in for a world of struggles before he could even establish himself within the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region. And what was a fortunate encounter before was now a serious weakness, with the Ascendants scattered and New Everlore left without any protection. It wouldn't be long before Wu Yu, and the newly established Eternal Monarch Sect's connection, was found by these experts.

Wu Yu's newfound cultivation base and show of strength might cause pause for some, but not the Everlore Association. There was a wisp of anxiety in his heart dwelling on the possibility of them being taken advantage of.

Wen Mingna looked at Wei Wuyin with a tinge of surprise, and then she frowned slightly. She shook her head, not performing any divination, "They shouldn't be."

Wei Wuyin noticed the hint of peculiarity within her voice, realizing he was ignorant of an important detail.

Wen Mingna elaborated, "New Everlore and its inhabitants are protected by the Imperial Clan. The Everlore Association, Golden Gate Pavilion, and the other mystic-tier forces were all sworn into Mythical Oaths by the Imperial Clan. Even if they wanted to, they wouldn't dare—especially the Everlore Association. Of course, the protection only extends to those on New Everlore and their inhabitants, but if they willingly leave, they'll no longer be subjected to those protections."

Wei Wuyin was perplexed by this detail, and how did Wu Yu not know of it?

Wen Mingna sensed his confusion, explaining further: "It was a silently conducted Mythical Oath that only the Sixteen Mystic Forces made, established to protect the legacy and culture of the King of Everlore. Supposedly, this was the Sky Zenith Alchemic Saint's explicit demand, and she paid a heavy price to ensure it was protected. It was the only news she released in the last decade or so."

Wei Wuyin recalled the Sky Zenith Alchemic Saint's history. According to Wu Yu, she was the Alchemic Saint of the Imperial Clan and a rumored disciple of the King of Everlore, much to Wu Yu's disbelief. He was skeptical, but her achievements and talents spoke for themselves.

Pondering on this for a few minutes, Wei Wuyin nodded his head with acknowledgement and acceptance. Unfortunately, this meant the Ascendants outside of New Everlore were still unsafe if the Everlore Association decided to throw away all decorum.

Wen Mingna looked into the distance, observing Rainbow Sky's roasted, crusted, and shattering form with a large, piercing hole punched through its surface. So many lives were lost, and for what? While she could deduce the oncoming event and the faint emotions lingering from the one responsible, she was unable to grasp why.

Wei Wuyin hadn't even made himself known yet, so why would Earthly Saint beings try to kill him in disguise? Was the Everlore Association feeling threatened, or was Wei Wuyin more dangerous than she knew? She couldn't help but look at that handsome, thinking visage of the man beside her, remembering all the drastic and hectic events folding from his name without a single appearance.

Each and every event that occurred that involved him shook the world. The Neo-Dawn Eclipse Pill, the Shadow Egg with the Fire Phoenix, the chaos in the Ninestar Starfield, and the ascension of a new Earthly Saint. There was no way a mere mortal should be able to ignite these events, and yet...

Her limpid eyes reflected his image, seeing his closed-eyed, unearthly face with extreme clarity.

Wei Wuyin felt a gaze and gave Wen Mingna a 'look', smiling faintly as he honestly said: "Thank you for being my eyes. And a little bit of my much-needed library, haha." His laugh was infused with a lively heart, and despite the ongoing pressure, Wei Wuyin didn't carry a mountain of worries on his shoulders, remaining unencumbered by stress.

With the teachings of his older brother, he understood what it meant to wield a saber, what it meant to dream, what it meant to walk down your own path, and sometimes, even if the path seemed cloudy and indistinct, with confidence and personal belief, and a single step at a time, all paths can be traversed.

Wen Mingna's breathing stalled for a moment before she breathily said with a smile: "I'll always be your eyes." It was unfortunate that Wei Wuyin was unable to feast on this rare-as-an-eclipse smile that formed on Wen Mingna's face. It had been far too long since she had genuinely smiled.

"Let's go," Wei Wuyin no longer lingered, grabbing Wen Mingna's hand and flying upwards. Wen Mingna unleashed her Worldly Domain generated by the Neo-Dawn Eclipse Pill, and he kept the archaic Voidship after knowing she was protected from the Dark Chill of the Void.

Atop Bai Lin's back, they slowly floated through the Dark Void. Wen Mingna stayed close, observing Wei Wuyin with curiosity within her heart.

Wei Wuyin deeply inhaled, holding it in for a while, and then exhaled heavily. He warned, "Stay close to me and don't open your eyes. No matter what."

Draconic Transformation!

#### **Chapter 814: Power of the Void Dao**

Wei Wuyin invoked his True Void Dragon Bloodline, invigorating his body as a myriad of transformations began to take place. With the hexagonal grey scales, as enchantingly beautiful and perfectly flexible as always, forming over his skin, he began to exude a heavy draconic aura.

Wen Mingna's heart began to pound intensely before the sheer quality of physical energy emanated from Wei Wuyin's every breath. It was harrowing, like a raging tempest was stored within his body,

enough to engulf worlds upon worlds. Yet she didn't retreat in the face of this torrential aura but stayed close, and she didn't hesitate or have any misgivings in physical contact.

She directly hugged Wei Wuyin's chest from the front, holding him tightly and nestling her head on his chest. She interlocked her fingers together around his waist and pressed her feet atop Wei Wuyin's. Her eyes closed shut, even tighter than Wei Wuyin's.

Seeing her act without any hesitation and fully following his orders without holding anything back, Wei Wuyin was astonished. He looked at Wen Mingna's luscious short-brown hair, styled with golden highlights, he was unable to hold back a warm smile. An urge to caress her head swelled within him and an average man might hold himself back, but Wei Wuyin unhesitatingly gave her head a soft rub, ruffling her hair slightly.

She nestled further, her eyes even tighter than before. It was quite cute, but Wei Wuyin was unable to tell if she took this as a sign of him beginning whatever he intended to do. He was unsure if she knew of his abilities or if she just wholeheartedly trusted him at this point.

"I like her," Ori commented.

"Tch," King added, but the tone was agreeable.

"..." Kratos was intensely focused, so it could not give its opinion. At the moment, it was gathering a tremendous amount of bloodline energies and void energies in preparation.

"You should learn why she's like this," Eden wisely said. Wen Mingna was willing to give up her life for Wei Wuyin, which was exceptional, but despite searching their memories, there was no prompt to indicate that level of willingness. In a way, it seemed to have been born out of nowhere. This brought a bit of suspicion towards Wen Mingna's goal.

"I know why," Wei Wuyin said. He didn't explain, but Eden's Astral Form's roots quivered for a brief moment, and then it heaved a relieved sigh within his Sea of Consciousness.

No longer dwelling on this topic, Wei Wuyin drew upon Kratos' gathered power and tapped into his Infinite Void Wings! They had erupted outwards but only reached two meters in length, their shortest ever. But if one saw them, they would realize that they were incredibly solid and condensed, quivering from time to time.

Wei Wuyin had poured a tremendous amount of energy into manifesting these wings! Despite their size, they were the strongest Infinite Void Wings manifested to date, even greater than when he pulled along an entire continent and its billions of lives through the Void!

Wei Wuyin wrapped his arms around Wen Mingna's back, tugging her closer. He had no inappropriate thoughts, merely concerned about her safety. While he had traveled the Void a few times before and once with an entire continent, he felt this might be an entirely different experience. The Earth-Sky-Heaven Mystic Formation might not directly block off the Void, but that didn't mean it didn't hinder interactions with space in general.

Wei Wuyin's wings unfurled, shaking fiercely, before they hugged the two's bodies, and without moving, the three, Wei Wuyin, Wen Mingna, and Bai Lin began to warp and distort, and without warning, they vanished!

Three seconds prior.

Outside of the bubble that was the Sky Shell Formation, a grey-scaled figure with two wings holding a gorgeous woman emerged out of nowhere, as if spewed out by the universe without any indication. They were two hundred thousand miles away from the Everlore Domain's protective bubble, firmly within the Elementus Domain's western region.

Wei Wuyin held onto Wen Mingna gingerly, but his veins and arteries were protruding, and his face seemed to become an unusual red.

"Don't open your eyes!" Wei Wuyin shouted violently, borderline reaching a bestial roar of savage proportions. Its volume was fueled by pain and chaos, distorted and twisted in tone.

Wen Mingna felt something was wrong, her Fate Light Astral Soul was trembling hectically, and it seemed to be attempting to implode. The pain and attempt were suppressed by Wei Wuyin's energies that flooded into her in outrageous amounts. She kept her eyes closed; a wisp of fear engulfing her heart.

She wasn't easy to scare, but she felt terrified.

Bai Lin had listened without needing to be reminded, shutting her eyes completely, feeling the strange, horrifying feeling sweep across her. If it wasn't for Wei Wuyin's energies flooding into her also, she would've cried out in terror.

Wei Wuyin's eyes couldn't remain closed, and his eyelids shot open as he lifted his head and unleashed a draconic roar! Space and time seemed to ripple endlessly, reaching an untold distance. In a matter of mere moments, the ripple traversed a million miles.

Two seconds prior.

Wei Wuyin caressed Wen Mingna's head. Abruptly, his head jolted upwards, and his body quivered. A sensation of needing to begin the process surged through his heart. With a thought, he initiated it. With his wings formed around himself and Wen Mingna, he vanished.

Present time.

Wei Wuyin's entire body quivered so intensely that Wen Mingna felt that she was a small boat in a merciless oceanic storm, but the boat remained steady and firm, ensuring her a safe journey. She felt a sensation of safety that astonished her, and her head nestled deeper, her hands clutched tighter, and she scrunched her expression tensely.

Wei Wuyin's eyes spewed out large amounts of spiritual light, releasing two rays of brilliant, scintillating light that even those at the edges of the Elementus Domain could faintly see. He was like a lighthouse in the middle of the Dark Void.

"Argh!" With an anguished shout, he closed his leaking eyes with all his might. The edges of his eyes and eyelids were seemingly scorched by a cyan-colored ray of heat, the sides intensely scrambled, and bits of light leaked outwards.

"WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT?!" Ori was the first to fire this question out, absolutely confused by what just happened. For a moment, it felt as if it wanted to implode on itself. That some unfathomably vast and ancient law in the world didn't want it to exist, and it wasn't the Heavenly Daos!

"...Did we just?" King questioned as wisps of saber light swirled around Wei Wuyin protectively, unleashing a faint aura of pure annihilation power. If anything approached, be it Heavenly Daos or that strange law, it would challenge it with its edge!

"I felt myself," Eden stated eerily, clearly shaken.

They all were.

Kratos heaved a heavy sigh of satisfied relief, exhausted to its limits. At the moment, Wei Wuyin's heartbeat was extremely slow and weak. But besides that, his innate energies and astral forces were completely untouched, as if he hadn't used any energy. He thought Kratos would exhaust its bloodline source, but it hadn't. In fact, it didn't seem like it even used any of its energies or forces, just its Astral Form within his heart was weakened. It was strange because he clearly remembered pouring energy into Wen Mingna and Bai Lin.

"What the hell was that?!" Wei Wuyin breathily questioned. He felt as if he had traversed the Void, just like the other times, but this was different.

Kratos' voice was weak, but it softly explained: "I am the Void!" And yet again, it failed to do so with any sense. However, Eden came to the rescue.

"I felt another me, and then I felt as if something wanted me not to exist. As if I was an inconsistent part of the world, an impurity that needed to be refined." The Alchemic Dao clearly served as its explanatory reference, but it was still unclear.

"I felt it too," King agreed.

"DID WE JUST TRAVEL THROUGH TIME!?! THAT'S SOOO AWESOOOME!" Ori was excited; the lingering feeling of danger could not squash its jubilant thoughts. No one said it plainly, but Ori didn't hesitate to speak its mind.

Wei Wuyin's mind stirred, realizing what had just happened, but he recalled that sensation of his breakthrough into the Astral Core Realm. He had seemingly returned to his firsts of many things, capable of reacting differently with his renewed awareness, and due to this, he had two sets of memories. He could never verify if he had indeed traveled back in time or not or if it was an illusion...

"Why? How?" He asked Kratos. Out of all of those here, he was the manifestation of the Void Dao, infused with its profound powers. He had tried to just traverse through the Void, so why did he experience such a strange, unfathomable situation?

Kratos was still tired, seemingly ready to sleep, but he answered with two words: "Paradoxical Correction." Those words were all it said before it started to go dormant. While Wei Wuyin could still use his Draconic Void Force, he was unable to interact with Kratos.

"Something must've happened when we were trying to travel through that array," Eden tried to find a reason. Unfortunately, that was all that it could say on the subject.

"...Yeah." Wei Wuyin could only agree, but the depths of his mind was vigorously stirring with all sorts of thoughts. If they had actually traversed through time and space, then...

The power of the Void Dao was truly heaven-defying, or at the very least, when he thought of the Temporal Reincarnator, it was heaven-equalling!

While this exchange seemed to have taken a long time, it was merely two additional seconds before it reached this point. Wei Wuyin didn't hesitate to flap his Infinite Void Wings and fly through the Dark Void with Wen Mingna and Bai Lin on tow. He didn't want to draw any more unwanted attention, especially since his eyes had unleashed that lantern-like spiritual light.

Several minutes later, a few figures descended upon the space where Wei Wuyin had been. They inspected the area but found no traces of any being here nor any strange treasures. They kept searching for an hour until nothing was found, soon scattering to search the nearby areas.

Wei Wuyin had long since left, concealing his trail by becoming one with fixed space.

Three days later, Wu Yu was still cultivating in a lunar satellite's earthen layer while hidden away. There was an ongoing search for his existence, but no cultivator above the Demi-Mortal Lord Phase, the Third Stage of the Mystic Ascendant Realm, had swept their spiritual senses across the planet. He remained completely undetected.

"The Imperial Void Shadow Spell is quite exceptional..." Wu Yu commented as he kept refining the World Genesis Elixir, cultivating the Blood Origin Method. Now that he was an Earthly Saint, having a body filled with Awakened Mystic Runes, he could refine Mystic-graded materials and products with faster speed.

In these three days, he refined another 30% of the elixir. He was very close to the second stage of the Blood Origin Method, the World-Blood Stage. Just a little more.

Suddenly, a spiritual light erupted from his hand. It belonged to his spatial ring, the one given to him by Wei Wuyin. His eyes lit with a heavy brilliance, intrigued as he inspected the spiritual light. The moment he did, he felt a strange spatial ripple erupt.

Pop!

A sound occurred, and a spherical Void Portal emerged directly before him, swallowing the loose earth around it.

A voice flowed through, giving off a familiar vibe that Wu Yu could never mistake.

"I can't hold it for long, hurry."

Wu Yu didn't hesitate, once again astonished by Wei Wuyin's exceptional means, and he entered the Void Portal.

Directly outside the Aeternal Sky Starfield's border outside of the Elementus Domain, just a mile away from its spatial restrictive limits, Wei Wuyin and Wen Mingna stood side by side atop Bai Lin floating in the Dark Void with the former's hand outstretched outward. A Void Portal, expanding and contracting erratically, was present before them.

Wu Yu walked out with a bright, relieved smile on his face. "Young Lord!"

### **Chapter 815: The Search**

It was clear that Wu Yu's attitude didn't change after becoming an Earthly Saint, but was further reinforced by his belief in the choice he had made. Standing before Wei Wuyin, Wu Yu knew that he would no longer regret or contemplate his position as the Grand Knight of Neo-Dawn.

And as if sensing his thoughts, Wei Wuyin's slightly pale expression revealed a teasing smile as he said: "Grand Knight of Neo-Dawn?" The hint of a smirk was seen, and Wu Yu chortled in response.

"At your service, Young Lord." Wu Yu's expression became dignified as he kneeled on one knee in the Dark Void, treating the space as if it was solid ground. This caused Wei Wuyin and Wen Mingna to be astonished to the point of being stunned.

If anyone were to say that an Earthly Saint that cultivated the Imperial Heaven Qi Method was willing to kneel before a single mortal, they would be in absolute disbelief and refuse the notion. They might laugh, treating it as nothing more than a joke said in jest.

Wei Wuyin's outstretched hand trembled. The veins on his grey-scaled hand protruded fiercely, throbbing from immense strain. Without warning, he pulled away, and the Void Portal shuttered until it eventually collapsed entirely.

"Rise," Wei Wuyin heaved a fascinated breath at Wu Yu's wholehearted display. Wu Yu didn't mind it, so he rose immediately and turned around to see the collapsed Void Portal that contracted until it blipped out of existence. His mind was filled with curiosity, but he decided against questioning it. He sensed around cautiously and noted they were outside of the Aeternal Sky Starfield, directly next to the border of the Elementus Domain.

Astonished again, Wu Yu looked at Wei Wuyin with intrigued eyes.

Wei Wuyin looked at his shaky palm. The negatives of creating a unique art like the Void Creation Portal was the inherent need to explore its advantages and disadvantages. Without guidance, he hadn't been able to explain why he was capable of creating a Void Portal with ease while outside of spatially restrictive formations and arrays, but found it abnormally strenuous, if not outright impossible, while within it. Even if he was conjuring a Void Portal inside the spatially restrictive formation or array.

It was only now that he figured out the cause. The formations and arrays of the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region were designed for one-way transits of Void Gates, to prevent entry from external forces to prohibit a sudden invasion. This was the designed feature for every formation or array of the sort, and it was limited by this world's current technological developments of Void Gates.

However, his Void Portals were two-way transits that connected to each other. This was why a Void Portal would manifest at the targeted location, unlike Void Gates, where cultivators seemingly manifest out of thin air at their destination after traversing through it.

The interconnected fashion of two points allowed him to act as a primary anchor, unencumbered by spatial influence, and like a unique void burrowing worm, they constructed his Void Portal tunnels to his pre-planned destination. While he needed a marker, such as his own spiritually-infused spatial rings, to



be within range of his Spiritual Sense or aware of a specific Void Portal's coordinates, this allowed him to bypass any restriction.

Yet, if he tried to act as the anchor within a spatially restricted area, he would find it immensely difficult. He faced this when trying to depart with Yue Songli and Bai Lin, exhausting a hefty portion of his entire reserves to compensate. This issue might dissipate if his cultivation reaches a high enough stage, but it'll still impact his abilities.

Fortunately, the Earth-Sky-Heaven Mystic Array was similarly designed with this flaw that few could discover or capitalize upon. That being said, it was far more complex than other formations of this type.

Wen Mingna sent Wu Yu a look, sensing that unfathomable aura that he emitted. The Grand Monarch Wu Yu whom she felt incredible admiration towards, had entered the Earthly Saint phase and eluded the pursuit of the Everlore Association for three full days, trapped in their mystic-graded array.

She walked forward, unhesitatingly giving him a look, gesturing towards his right arm. Wu Yu was startled for a moment, glancing at Wei Wuyin before realizing that Wei Wuyin was currently enveloped in his thoughts. He lifted his brow towards Wen Mingna but didn't hesitate to lift his right arm towards this Heavenly Seer.

She touched his outstretched arm without fret or fear, pulling his sleeves upwards and feeling how incredible the material of his robes were. With a slight breath, her eyes became glossy golden. Wu Yu realized his three-inch mystic tattoo, a spell against Seers and Oracles, was faintly reacting.

Wen Mingna inhaled heavily; her eyes regained their original color and clarity. "Your Divine Eye-Sealing Spell is powerful, designed from a high-level foundation. However, it's too weak to guard against powerful Seers and Oracles. Use your innate energies to reinforce it. Considering your strength, even the Fate Princes might find it difficult to glimpse any detail of your life." After speaking her warning, she returned to Wei Wuyin's side, leaving a wowed Wu Yu in her wake. Wu Yu nodded knowingly, realizing that he had to beef up his protections against those with divination means. This three-inch, white-colored, intermixed with multicolored stars was the spell he copied from Ma Sujiang. Considering she was a member of the Golden Life Pavilion, the anti-divination spell she used must not be ordinary.

"It is quite useful to have a Seer on hand," Wu Yu thought. He wondered if Wei Wuyin escaped the attempt on his life due to her? If so, she was too amazing.

Wei Wuyin completed his thoughts regarding the Void Portals. The idea to establish a perpetually formed anchor that could be interacted with while in spatially restricted areas was born, but its logistics was far too intricate to grasp in a short moment.

Wei Wuyin, Wen Mingna, and Wu Yu entered the archaic Voidship and floated in the Dark Void. Wu Yu began to explain the various changes he felt towards his new cultivation level, the events that happened in the Ever-Knight battles, and his discoveries. When he proudly revealed his 8th Runic Ascendant state to them, they weren't that impressed, but when he mentioned the 3rd Runic Ascendant state of the Ever-Knights, Wei Wuyin was absolutely stunned.

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While the trio discussed the events peacefully, the rigorous search for Wu Yu continued. After finding nothing for five full days, yet knowing fully that Wu Yu hadn't escaped the Sky Shell World before its manifestation, the Everlore Association deployed the four Earthly Saints to search the area for an exuberantly high-price.

For another three days, they scoured the entire Everlore Domain without missing a single spot, but discovered nothing. The Everlore Association was clearly frustrated as they upped the suppression of mystic forces, giving the four Earthly Saints exemption tokens, and redoubled their efforts. The sheer cost of maintaining the Earth-Sky-Heaven Mystic Array per minute was astonishingly, heartbreakingly high.

It cost the Everlore Association roughly a mystic stone in similarly graded materials every minute, including rare spatially-attributed mystic-graded materials. In ten days, they had already lost 15,000 Mystic Stones worth of materials just maintaining the Sky Shell World and the suppressive effects of the formation. This was exacerbated by their increased suppression.

While they were rich, they weren't that rich. At this point, they were going to have to tap into their reserve funds, kept for emergencies and war invasions. The Everlore Association might be a haven of alchemy, wealthy bastards of absurd wealth called Alchemists, but materials of the mystic-grade were finite at any given moment.

Unable to bear the cost, they deactivated the array after the thirteenth day in a defeated manner. They concluded that Wu Yu had somehow escaped prior to the activation of the array, an attempt to save face for their inability to seize a foreign Earthly Saint in their territory.

But their attempt was a bandaid to a rapidly deteriorating situation after the bubble sealed their territory! When freedom of movement was regained, the Earthly Saints left their territory with satisfied smiles, news of the events started to spread across the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region like wildfire.

While an official story was put out there, explaining the destruction of Rainbow Sky and the severe loss of life on the Ever-Knight being interrupted while refining a volatile mystic-graded material, and when jolted by another Earthly Saint's attack, even a newly ascended Earthly Saint, they temporarily lost control of their powers. An unfortunate event.

The Everlore Association offered all sorts of compensation and expressed a willingness to establish a memorial. It was them taking the blame and trying to make amends that allowed them some reprieve, but some wasn't enough. The news of Wu Yu, the All-Alchemic Clash Royale, and recorded events was spread. This included Wu Yu's words of saying it was deliberate!

Supposedly, the Everlore Association had stealthily tried to seal away the recordings after the erection of the Earth-Sky-Heaven Mystic Array, so only low-quality details were revealed, but it was enough. Typically, the dissenting voices of the Everlore Association were non-existent, but this matter was huge!

Because that Ever-Knight had clearly acted while Wu Yu was acting in a non-hostile capacity, attempting to announce the All-Alchemic Clash Royale for Wei Wuyin, the mysterious and elusive Grand Mortal Sovereign Alchemist that invented the Neo-Dawn Eclipse Pill! Furthermore, the first thing that happened was the destruction of Rainbow Sky.

Those intelligent cultivators delved into the event with a microscope and a scalpel, and soon word that the Everlore Association believed Wei Wuyin was on Rainbow Sky was spread. At first, it felt too much like a conspiracy. But then the emotionally-charged roar of Wu Yu and 'punishment' of the Ever-Knight while 'sparing' his life on the orders of the Young Lord spoke volumes.

Wu Yu's acting had lit a fire in their minds that couldn't be extinguished!

Was the Everlore Association trying to kill Wei Wuyin? And if so, why? Since the King of Everlore, and even slightly before that, alchemists were always treasured resources. Because you can't breed a talented alchemist with any known means, so it was mostly up to luck. Every last one was far too important and beneficial to the starfield's continued growth.

Unfortunately, the Everlore Association put out an announcement after facing the heat that stated Wei Wuyin was not on the planet when it was destroyed, and his life was not in danger. While there was some semantics involved, the Alchemist Association lowered the intensity of questions regarding this topic.

However, without warning, the Golden Gate Pavilion issued a statement regarding this statement. It was a single word directed towards the Everlore Association, and it birthed renewed speculation. It said: "Fear!"

While cryptic, many concluded that the Everlore Association was scared of the backlash, or perhaps Wei Wuyin was now afraid of the Everlore Association even if they weren't at fault! Still, the Everlore Association responded swiftly to this message, saying that they invited Wu Yu, the Grand Knight of Neo-Dawn, to the Saint Cyclic Renewal Summit, swearing to end hostilities to reassure Wei Wuyin of his safety. Just like the others, he would be protected by the Mythical Oaths established and no longer pursued.

This move brilliantly maneuvered the belief of that single word, making it seem as if the Everlore Association wanted to display how they had no ill-intent toward Wei Wuyin.

This settled the raging assumptions but further brought into focus the Grand Knight of Neo-Dawn, Wu Yu! His identity and who he was soon became widely public knowledge, and the stellar region was shaken!

### **Chapter 816: Wu Yu's Legacy**

Grand Monarch Wu Yu, the Everlore Starfield, King of Everlore, domineering and dominating, thousands of years ago, these topics were circulating once more in vigorous discussions and debates.

At times, the Divine King Han Xei and Guardian of Elements Han Yuhei were brought up, including Guardian of Elements' illustrious reputation, such as being one of the strongest cultivators at the Earthly Saint level in the Aeternal Sky Starfield.

It was rumored that the Ever-Knights had been nurtured by the King of Everlore, being amongst the strongest of Earthly Saints, at the very least, the average Earthly Saint of the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region was not their match. This supported the ongoing theory of them being nurtured by the King of Everlore prior to his disappearance.

The stellar region soon grew abnormally active, especially regarding news of Wei Wuyin and Wu Yu's resurgence and display of strength, defeating two Earthly Saints, no, two Ever-Knights and outright punishing one by destroying their physical body and escaping the Everlore Association's pursuit, had alluded to Wei Wuyin's impeccable means and heightened his reputation once again.

It was one thing to be a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist or to invent a ninth-grade pill that'll redefine generations of talent standards, but an entirely different matter if a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist had an Earthly Saint, or even an Ascended being, as a subordinate. This was a luxury that only Alchemic Saints of the stellar region could obtain.

While the lesser cultivators and inhabitants of the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region discussed these matters in excitedly, lauding Wei Wuyin's already mysterious existence with layers of praise and hopeful titles, such as the next Saint Alchemist, with some even shamelessly referring to him as the Neo-Dawn Alchemic Saint, or as 'the Mortal who make Saints', those in the upper-echelon of cultivators were reeling.

Wu Yu had reached the Earthly Saint level, and demonstrated tremendous initial strength. Not a single Ascended being was unaware of the severe lack of power possessed immediately after ascending, and for those who were Earthly Saints who ascended from the Demi-Mortal Lord Phase, this detail grasped their greatest focus.

When a cultivator ascended, even mortals, their innate energies and various forces had yet to be properly refined, and their control and understanding of various powers were severely limited. For example, a cultivator at the Soul Idol Phase, the third stage of the Astral Core Realm, who ascended to the Spatial Resonance Phase will not have their innate energies and various forces imbued with refined spatial energies.

They wouldn't be able to maximize their Spatial Mark, Spatial Prison, Spatial Sense, or Spatial Shifting abilities. They wouldn't have access to various movement arts that involve fixed space, enhancing their speed, or concealment spells and sensory spells. The bridge between Demi-Mortal Lord and Earthly Saint was the difference between Seed-level Mystic Intent and Awakened Mystic Intent; the drastic difference was unimaginable to mortals.

Yet Wu Yu had, in this fresh state, defeated two Ever-Knights.

The various mystic-tier forces weren't just reeling in their seats, clenching their armrest with furrowed brows; they were downright tensed to the limits their nerves allowed, developing countermeasures to a possible rogue Earthly Saint. Wu Yu's news wasn't exciting to them but deeply concerning. This was further exacerbated by Wu Yu's lack of restrictions via mythical oaths, having a degree of explicit freedom that few of them possessed. It wouldn't be an issue if he was an ordinary Earthly Saint; they could 'implore' him to make some beneficial oaths.

Unfortunately, he wasn't ordinary.

If they knew that Wu Yu had skipped the Demi-Mortal Lord Phase...

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Eight months after the events of Wu Yu's Earthly Ascension.

Ninestar Starfield's Soul-Saint Domain.

On the Shattered World Moon, inside the Shattered World Palace, seven figures were intertwined in conversation while seated at a rectangular dinner table, with the spread being scrumptious and varied from succulent desserts to high-end wine. The spacious room was opulent, adorned in peak astral-graded materials from top to bottom with various formations suited for cleansing air, generating a perfectly heated environment, and permeating pure astral essence in it all.

Next to the room walls, there were dozens of servants lined up with various sensory-blocking spells erected by a strange oval necklace on their necks. This tool outright sealed their five senses and spiritual sense, and they'll only react if summoned. They were clearly not privy to listen in on the conversation.

At the head seat of the table was none other than Highlord Worldbreaker herself—Yue Lixiang. At her left, her daughter, Yue Songli, was seated with an alluring deep pink dress adorned with a variety of accessories, from multiple ring bracelets on her arms to gorgeously brilliant earrings that accentuated her facial features. She toyed with her food, her eyes somewhat unfocused.

To Yue Lixiang's right was a bearded middle-aged man with a smiling expression, garbed in luxurious robes; he gave off a friendly and relaxed demeanor that made it difficult to dislike at first glance. This was Song Yunhai, also known as Venerable Risingfeather, and Yue Songli's father.

The other four members were all prominent figures within the starfield, two Highlords, and two Chosen. They were Highlord Crimsonfist and Highlord Cascadingwaves, followed by their talented male juniors at the Sixth Stage of the Astral Core Realm, Jun Bingwen, and Feng Li.

Jun Bingwen was a talented Chosen from Soul-Rumbling Domain's Sainthall, considered the greatest talent of his generation amongst the entire Domain. Feng Li wasn't any inferior, belonging to the Soul-Falling Domain's Sainthall. Highlord Crimsonfist was the direct subordinate of the Soul-Rumbling Saint, and Highlord Cascadingwaves was the same for the Soul-Falling Saint.

Highlord Crimsonfist was a youthful male with a tall stature and strong form; his eyes were a crimson color, and he had healthy brown skin that glistened slightly. Highlord Cascadingwaves was an elderly woman garbed in multi-blue robes with a lazy look on her eyes. Her most notable feature was her grey and blue hair styled in a rising bun.

"Haha! I can see these two handsome juniors have immense potential," Song Yunhai chuckled as he commented on the two young men before them, who were eating and stealing glances at Yue Songli.

Highlord Cascadingwaves indifferently nodded at Song Yunhai, mostly dismissing him, "What do you think of the Soul-Falling Saint's proposal, Highlord Worldbreaker?"

Highlord Crimsonfist snorted, "I recommend you take the Soul-Rumbling Saint's proposal into consideration first, Highlord Worldbreaker."

Highlord Cascadingwaves sent over an indifferent glance towards Highlord Crimsonfist, her thoughts undecipherable.

Song Yunhai kept his admirable smile despite the blatant disrespect, saying: "Both of your proposals are rather interesting. How about you give us some time to think it through?"

Earlier, the two Highlords, under the orders of their respective Saints, had come with a wager of sorts. These two Chosen were extraordinary talents and had a high chance to successfully ascend during their

generation, and Yue Songli's recent gathering had alluded to her lack of interest towards members of her generation.

They devised a strategy by bringing potential talents to serve as eventual partners to Yue Songli, offering tremendous resources to the Worldbreaker Lordhall to establish a simple wager. If either of these young talents reached the Soul of Mysticism Phase before a certain age, they'd marry, binding their halls in marriage.

Even before that, however, the two Sainthalls would give these resources to them. If the juniors failed to ascend within the timeframe, then Yue Songli and the Worldbreaker Lordhall would have no obligation to return those resources. From a certain perspective, this was a risk they were taking. Even Chosen, top-tier Chosen, weren't absolutely certain to advance successfully, let alone at a certain age.

These types of arrangements would typically occur if the Ascended female lacked suitable suitors in their generation or sought someone with greater talent.

"We've given you enough time, no? What is left to consider?" Highlord Crimsonfist was visibly annoyed by these stalling tactics.

"I agree with that sentiment; what is there left to consider? Do you wish for more resources? A more binding oath? Tell us. We can move on after that," Highlord Cascadingwaves dryly said.

Yue Songli's attention was brought back to the table, glancing at the two shy youths that were nearly four hundred years of age. Their auras were abundant and rich, clearly given high-level cultivation methods and resources to supplement them. They were top-tier in their generation, definitely not lacking in comprehension.

Yue Songli couldn't help but comment, "In a hundred years, wouldn't these two become outdated relics?"

Those words caused the two youths to be rattled, their heads lifted, and they stared at Yue Songli. A defiant light in their eyes, unified by the confidence in their talent and willpower.

Yue Songli, however, didn't believe it.

Highlord Cascadingwave frowned slightly, "Their talents are slightly higher than yours before. And those so-called new Chosen will not be decided by the merit of their hard work and results, but by who could purchase a single pill. You think that'll cause Feng Li to be outdated? Wouldn't you?" She unhesitatingly spoke her mind, clearly pricked by Yue Songli's words.

Yue Songli's eyes glinted as she gave Highlord Cascadingwaves a look.

Yue Lixiang spoke up at this moment, "I'll have to thank the two Soul Monarchs for taking the time to think highly enough of my daughter, but our family is not fated for such an arrangement."

Shockingly, the two Highlords weren't bothered by the rejection. Highlord Crimsonfist sighingly commented, "You should reconsider your family's fate, Highlord Worldbreaker."

Those words were thinly-veiled in meaning, and the Ascended beings at the table were well aware of it. Yue Songli had been captured by Trueborn. This detail couldn't be hidden from these Ascended beings with some means and channels of information.

In fact, the Trueborn might've leaked this information themselves to reveal their intent to reclaim her. The Soul-Falling Saint and Soul-Rumbling Saint's intentions were clear. They both wanted to provide protection to Yue Songli to ensure the Trueborn understood that doing so would directly offend a third of the Sainthalls of their Ninestar Starfield.

They might not even consider this proposal seriously, but if it panned out in their favor and united their halls, it would be a win for them.

Yet Yue Lixiang remained unaffected by her words, "Thank you for your concern for my family's fate, but I'll handle anything that comes."

"..." The two Highlords just gave Yue Lixiang a stare filled with all sorts of emotions, like pity or disbelief. Unfortunately for them, Yue Lixiang remained adamant on her stance. They ate and discussed other topics, sharing some perfunctory conversation before the four began to leave.

When Highlord Cascadingwaves was about to leave, she sent a spiritual transmission to Yue Lixiang that caused her falsely cordial expression to crack.

Yue Lixiang, Yue Songli, and Song Yunhai remained. Song Yunhai couldn't help but ask: "Do you think rejecting them was the right idea? What if this leak was really Trueborn's warning?" Song Yunhai was merely a Soul of Mysticism cultivator, and while he once rivaled Yue Lixiang as a Chosen of their generation, their potential was fully revealed after thousands of years as Ascended beings. He wasn't strong enough to protect them from the winds and rains like a man wanted for his family.

Yue Lixiang was silent for a long while, and then she looked at Yue Songli with a heavy expression. Her next words were spoken solemnly, "Do you have a way to contact him?"

"Him?" Song Yunhai was confused.

Yue Songli's heart jumped seeing her mother reveal such a foreboding facial expression, especially knowing that her mother had reached the Earthly Saint level. "Why?" She asked, beset by confusion and anxiety.

"I underestimated your importance to them," Yue Lixiang directly admitted, her fists clenched tightly, causing her knuckles to become totally white.

Song Yunhai was still confused, but his expression paled considerably upon hearing 'them' mentioned.

"Contact him now," Yue Lixiang urged.

Yue Songli's eyes widened as she hurriedly brought out Wei Wuyin's spatial ring. A wisp of hesitation flowed through her eyes, causing her to glance at her mother who was no longer looking at her, but at the roof with a spiritual light effusing from her eyes. This caused her heart to tremble, and she brought out the spiritual crystal that Wei Wuyin instructed her to shatter if she needed help.

"What's that?" Song Yunhai was ignorant of Yue Songli's rescuer, so when he saw the crystal, his eyes became somewhat strange.

Yue Songli hadn't told him under her mother's orders, but she no longer felt the need to hide it: "It is Wei Wuyin's."

Crack!

Boosh!

The crystal exploded as she crushed it in her palm, releasing a dull, thrumming sound in the air.

When Song Yunhai heard that it was meant to call forth Wei Wuyin, this mysterious existence, his countenance unnaturally went pale as he recalled the Grand Knight of Neo-Dawn, his heart quivering as he unconsciously reached out to stop his daughter. But it was too late.

"THE AUDACITY!" Yue Lixiang suddenly shouted angrily, explosively shooting upwards and vanishing amidst resplendent silver light.

RUMBLE! RUMBLE! RUMBLE!

The entire Shattered World Palace started to violently quake!

Yue Songli's body shivered without end, not due to the shaking of the palace but the rumbling caused by the force that she knew was here for her.

Trueborn!

### **Chapter 817: Prior**

The Shattered World Moon was subjected to chaos, rumbling, explosions, and raging thunderous booms echoed out without end. The foundation of the Shattered World Palace began to collapse, the walls cracked, the floors fragmented and became lopsided, and Yue Songli and her father, Song Yunhai, remained within the palace.

The former was anxiety incarnate; her eyes were flashing with spiritual reflections of her vividly recent memories of being imprisoned, subjected to another's will, and believing that her life and freedom was obliterated forever. The latter was pale, looking at the dust particles of the shattered spiritual crystal in an absentminded and confused manner.

When nothing happened after several seconds, a faint smile of relief lifted on his lips. When Yue Songli turned towards her father, seeking some comfort, that smile was hidden away behind her visage of shock. When Yue Songli saw this, her emotions felt disturbed and she didn't voice her question, merely looked towards her father before a thunderous boom far louder than the rest resounded.

She had to use her mystic power to stabilize herself, looking all around her as she felt the emissions of power all around her. She could feel five different powers that far exceeded her own, unfathomable and powerful! Followed by seventeen lesser powers, yet their auras still exceeded hers.

'Five Earthly Saints and Seventeen Demi-Mortal Lords!' Her senses felt their abundant forces being unleashed wildly. Was this all for her? Did those bastards send four Earthly Saints, just for her?! Will her mother be okay?

Please let her be okay...



Yue Songli softly repeated, "Not again. Not again..."

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Six months prior, in the Void-Blank Space that bordered the Aeternal Sky Starfield's Elementus Domain, Wei Wuyin, Wu Yu, and Wen Mingna were standing atop an artificial asteroid that floated through the Dark Void without direction or speed. It casually cruised through the space, a faint translucent layer engulfed it, concealing the auras on it.

"I've fully refined the World Genesis Elixir; its effects are miraculous beyond belief, and..." Wu Yu touched his chest, directly upon his beating heart, and continued: "I've even reached the second stage of the Blood Origin Method, attaining the World-Blood Stage and developing my Heart of Origin."

Wen Mingna was standing beside Wei Wuyin, giving Wu Yu multiple inspective looks at various areas of his body. He felt far more unfathomable than before, a distinct gleam of interest flashed within her eyes.

"I must say," Wu Yu lifted his hand to his face, clenching it slightly and causing faint ripples to surge outwards, "The Earthly Saint Phase is a whole 'nother level of existence. It's as if I ascended to another realm, like going from the Astral Core Realm to the Mystic Ascendant Realm. My body can refine products and energies far, far faster than before."

When Wu Yu became an Earthly Saint, it took him far less time to refine 30% of the World Genesis Elixir than before, likely a benefit of a body infused with Awakened Mystic Intent, including these thousands of mystic runes flowing within him. They supported the refinement process to an extremely noticeable degree.

"How's your consolidation?" Wei Wuyin asked, similarity giving Wu Yu a look of interest. For two mortals to freely observe an Earthly Saint being as if they were on exhibition was a rare moment. But Wei Wuyin had a greater investment in Wu Yu's state.

Wu Yu gave a smile of confidence, "Not only has my refinement speed reached tens, if not hundreds of times, faster than before, but that Essential Forging Elixir you've given me has performed tens of years of effort and condensed it in a few weeks. I'm in awe, Young Lord."

Despite Wei Wuyin not being an Ascended being, he suddenly had several Mystic-Earth grade alchemical products at his disposal, such as the World Genesis Elixir and Essential Forging Elixir, the latter meant to rapidly consolidate one's mystic-graded innate energies. Whether it was his physical energies, his mental energies, essence energies, or spiritual energies, the Essential Forging Elixir had refined them all to his current stage.

"Well, it is a high-tier Mystic-Earth grade product." Wei Wuyin nodded. From Cai Liuyang, the lover of Jing Jiu, the War Blessed from the Battlefield, Wei Wuyin had acquired a smorgasbord of pills, elixirs, and pastes of the Mystic-Earth grade.

She was obscenely wealthy. As a Demi-Mortal Lord from a society where Ascended Sovereign level beings exist, and being cherished by her force and considered an extreme talent, this was to be expected. Relative, at least. The most notable degree of her wealth was preparatory means for her upcoming Earthly Ascension.

This included the Essential Forging Elixir, to condense dozens of years of cultivation to a greatly reduced period of time. Despite being an Earthly Saint, having a lifespan of tens of thousands of years, every second still matters when in pursuit of greater heights. Wu Yu now benefited from her Senior's hard work.

Wei Wuyin still was vexed. He hadn't perfected the Eighth Source Transcendence Spell yet, but he had used it once again, costing him Utmost Purity Mist, to make the Essential Forging Elixir easier to refine. Shockingly, the Essential Forging Elixir's quality hadn't improved from its high-quality level. This was likely the result of incorrect infusion of Utmost Purity Mist or refinement technique.

It seemed different Elixirs might have different needs to elevate their respective qualities, be it quantity of Utmost Purity Mist or a change of infusion technique. There was still room to grow and more to learn, with many of his ideas being hypothetical for now.

Unfortunately, experimentation cost far too much.

"Young Lord, shall we visit the Everlore Association?" Wu Yu's eyes glinted with a dark, murderous light. He fully intended to kill that Ever-Knight, but his inexperience shone through and resulted in him escaping. Considering he made an attempt on Wei Wuyin's life, it was an affront to his status as a Grand Knight to allow that individual to live in any capacity.

Wei Wuyin felt the cold, infuriated killing intent emanating from Wu Yu. Wen Mingna slightly shivered. The mental emotions of an Earthly Saint were incredibly pervasive, especially with their mystic-graded mental energies empowered thoughts. If it wasn't for Wu Yu's conscious control, ensuring that Wei Wuyin wasn't affected much, she might have trouble breathing and staying conscious as a mere mortal.

'To think Grand Monarch Wu Yu is so obedient...' Wen Mingna was awed once more by this situation. For an Earthly Saint to stay subordinate and deferential to a mortal, it was an outrageous notion that many would laugh at, finding it unbelievable.

Wei Wuyin thoughtfully lowered his head, hand on chin, and eyebrows furrowed slightly as he considered Wu Yu's suggestion. In the end, he shook his head. "Wen Mingna scouted the ongoing situation, and the Everlore Association is acting friendly on the surface. It'll be reckless to challenge them without knowing their full strength. You might be an Earthly Saint at the 8th Runic Ascendant state, but what if they had someone at that level hidden away? Or even worse, a Worldly Saint level being or greater means?"

"Furthermore, it isn't in my best interest to fight a war with the Everlore Association right now." Wei Wuyin lifted his head and explained his thought process, alluding to the timing of an attack as inappropriate.

Wu Yu's killing intent slowly dissipated after hearing this. He nodded, accepting Wei Wuyin's thoughts on the matter. It was highly possible that the Everlore Association had trump cards that'll take him down. While he was confident, he wasn't that reckless. Still, he regretted not killing that Ever-Knight.

"My Golden Gate Pavilion also revealed something I couldn't divine properly, that the Everlore Association had tried to kill you out of fear." Wen Mingna added calmly, knowing the limitation of her ability.

Wu Yu gave this Heavenly Seer a glance. Heavenly Seers and Oracles were extremely mysterious, having means to glimpse into events of the past, present, and future, and even intent of others. He still didn't know how they cultivated to do so.

"I don't understand that," he voiced his confusion, "why would the Everlore Association fear you? The King of Everlore had developed just fine here, and in a way, he was far more talented than you on the surface. This power existed for so long, why would they consider you a threat? At best, you were a new competitor." The past suggested that the King of Everlore's growth went unabated by the various forces, his identity was worshipped and his skills were wanted even before he became a Saint Alchemist.

Wei Wuyin shook his head, "Different times, different circumstances." The world wasn't exactly aware of his cultivation base, only presumed him as mortal, but even his age was called into question by the masses, including his cultivation. While most hadn't outright trounced on the Golden Life Pavilion's declaration at the Grand Demonstration, they didn't fully believe it in their hearts.

There was no proof except words from citizens of the now-destroyed Everlore Starfield. They weren't very reliable. Furthermore, the King of Everlore developed at a time where Mortal Sovereign Alchemists were in shorter supply and no Alchemic Saints existed. Thousands of years later, there were now dozens of Mortal Sovereign Alchemists, three Saint Alchemists, and numerous Earthly Saints.

He couldn't fathom why a long-standing organization like the Everlore Association was willing to sacrifice billions to kill him, but he didn't feel inclined to investigate. The reasoning was mostly irrelevant, their actions spoke volumes of their intent.

"It might be the will of one, not of the whole." Wen Mingna said, causing both Wei Wuyin and Wu Yu to consider this possibility. If so, it might not be the Everlore Association, but the Ever-Knight himself. While the world said the Ever-Knights were beings loyal to the association, acting for the association, it didn't mean they were slaves without the ability to act as they wanted. They were Earthly Saints, after all.

After a brief period of silence, Wu Yu asked: "If not the Everlore Association, where to, Young Lord?"

Wei Wuyin had waited two months for Wen Mingna and Wu Yu's cultivation to consolidate, while also refining the Nascent Saber Soul with War Souls. Unfortunately, two months were too short for it to advance a level.

"With your rise in cultivation, its time to visit the True Element Sect. Let's see how they welcome their so-called Chosen," Wei Wuyin said with a faint smile. He prioritized his eyes above all else. Without his Celestial Eyes, his cultivation path was permanently hindered. He couldn't waste anymore time on this.

Wu Yu's eyes lit. Han Yuhei, that brat, was at the True Element Sect.

Wen Mingna remained silent, but she didn't seem against it.

Wei Wuyin nodded, about to summon the archaic Voidship when his spatial ring flashed with spiritual light!

He inspected the transmission, and his eyebrows lifted in surprise. Wu Yu and Wen Mingna looked curiously at Wei Wuyin. Judging by his reaction, the message he received was certainly not ordinary.

"It's those three..."

## **Chapter 818: Findings**

Kree!

A clarion cry echoed through the Sea of Consciousness of the trio. In the last two months, with Wei Wuyin's unrefined life force and extracted energies from Draconic Blood Pearls, Bai Lin had almost fully recovered her fiery might. She was lively, glistening white and golden feathers, brilliant eyes infused with exuberant light, and a proud form.

She flew towards the asteroid from a distance. She had been testing her flight abilities and bodily condition on Wei Wuyin's orders, and she was elated at the results. Bai Lin's twenty-two-meter size was sufficient to allow the trio to ride her to any nearby destination.

Wei Wuyin looked over to see her approach and warmly smiled. He gestured with his hand, and her speed rapidly accelerated alongside another cry, and she wooshed over and landed before Wei Wuyin. The asteroid shook violently for a brief moment, bits of loose rock breaking away.

Wu Yu glanced at this avian creature. When he was at the Soul of Mysticism Phase, closely touching its limits, he felt a distinct fear towards Bai Lin. Her body contained a power that imbued caution in his survival instincts. When he realized that the sensation hadn't lessened despite becoming an Earthly Saint at the 8th Runic Ascendant state, he found himself baffled.

When he recalled learning about how she trounced Demi-Mortal Lords, killing two, he felt that she was definitely extraordinary. After all, when he first saw Bai Lin, she was roughly equivalent to a Qi Condensation Realm cultivator, but in less than two decades, she had leapt to rivaling Demi-Mortal Lords. While cultivation was difficult, beasts seemed to take another path that allowed rapid progression.

Even Wei Wuyin, with all his resources and talents, was unable to become an Ascended being, still lingering at the Sixth Stage of the Astral Core Realm, the Gravity Emission Phase. Yet when he saw Bai Lin move her head towards Wei Wuyin to rub with a gleeful smile in her eyes, he couldn't help but find Wei Wuyin more and more fascinating.

Wen Mingna was also surprised by Bai Lin when she met her again. She was different from when they were in the Myriad Monarch Sect, in size and appearance, but her body emitted an unfathomable aura as well. Bai Lin was at the level of an Ascended being, and Wen Mingna was deeply aware of the events of the Tang Clan's failed venture.

Such a powerful beast was happily allowing a mere mortal to pet her, not a single ounce of pride emitted while facing him. Bai Lin let loose a low cry as she walked toward Wen Mingna. Seeing this, Wen Mingna revealed a rare, beautiful smile as she reached out to rub Bai Lin's slender neck.

Bai Lin knew of the sacrifices that Wen Mingna made for Wei Wuyin, and had been quietly watching their interactions, with Wei Wuyin explaining everything on the side, such as the information about Hell and her saving their lives. She liked Wen Mingna. And it was clear that Wei Wuyin liked her too.

The two hit it off instantly.

Wei Wuyin sensed this with his spiritual sense, feeling warm inside as this moment of silence was rare in recent years. Since he arrived in the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region, he's been besieged with issue after issue. He knew the world wouldn't stop because he wanted it to. Everyone had their own thoughts, actions, and flow, and he was affected by some of it. But moments like this, beautiful and serene, were cherished.

"Young Lord," Wu Yu called out. Wei Wuyin's thoughts snapped back to focus, turning away from Bai Lin and Wen Mingna. Just earlier, he received a message from the three Ascended beings that he acquired shortly after arriving—Kun Yiming, Venerable Slayingsword, and Venerable Bluecloud. They were respectively a leader of a mystic-tier clan, a Void Hunter Organization leader called the Reaping Sword, and Pavilion Master of the Vast Cloud Pavilion.

Their relationship seemed to be interconnected, and they had discovered the rogue planet that housed the Terra-Mystic Ore. Wei Wuyin had snagged it beneath their notice, using Wu Yu as bait to lure away their attention but the plan shifted when Wu Yu inadvertently dominated the trio. They were captured and given a choice to live or die, later swearing allegiance and binding oaths towards Wei Wuyin.

They were his first subordinates acquired in the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region. And they all resided or operated near the United Source Starfield, one of the formerly twenty-three, now twenty-two starfields, of the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region.

They were all genuine Ascended, rare individuals of incredible talent relative to the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region. Since he was busy with all sorts of matters, he was unable to properly handle those three. Now, they had sent him a spiritual transmission.

"Those three said that they've discovered a strange realm that might contain unimaginable benefits. Unfortunately, they were being stonewalled by the United Source Starfield's upper-tier mystic organizations, restricting their access." Wei Wuyin explained, rubbing his chin slightly in thought and consideration. His main priority was finding a solution for his Celestial Eyes of Spiritual Divinity, but he had never been one to forgo an opportunity that presented itself.

If it was enough to get the various forces to restrict them, and for the three to leak the details to him, he felt curious enough to investigate.

Wen Mingna walked closer with Bai Lin following, "A strange realm?"

Wu Yu was now an Earthly Saint, his cultivation consolidated, and his confidence at an all-time high. He didn't even mind going up against the Everlore Association, so snatching things from a weaker starfield wasn't an issue. "How far?" He was aware that Wei Wuyin had other plans, so he smartly considered the time that it'll take for this detour.

He also added, "If you want, I can handle it myself. Bring back whatever they found." His words emanated arrogance, believing that if Wei Wuyin wanted it, it was his. Who knew how many in the United Source Starfield would be fuming mad at this attitude.

Wei Wuyin shook his head, "Distance isn't an issue."

Wu Yu's eyes shone vibrantly, recalling Wei Wuyin's miraculous abilities to generate strange Void Portals. "Right."

Wei Wuyin replied to Wen Mingna, "They only said a strange realm, nothing more about it." A strange realm reminded him of the Elementus Chosen Trial and the Gateway Door that led to the unknown. The Myriad Monarch Sect had sent their juniors inside to investigate, many risking their lives and dying as a result.

However, since Ascended beings of the United Source Starfield were involved in this, it shouldn't be ordinary by any stretch of the imagination.

"Fine, let's go find out what this is about. From their spiritual coordinates, they're in the Void-Blank Space, so traveling there and back won't take long." Wei Wuyin decided after taking into account his abilities to open Void Portals. He traveled through the Void-Blank Space from the Desolate Dagnet Stellar Region to the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region without much difficulty, and this was a far shorter journey. Despite Kratos' slumbering state, resisting the so-called Paradoxical Correction, he could still make full use of his Draconic Void Force.

The four gathered together, and a Void Portal opened, linking to the location of Venerable Bluecloud's spatial ring.

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The United Source Starfield was a mid-grade starfield relative to the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region. They were ruled by the United Source True Queen. The 'true' moniker was reserved for leaders of Starfields at the middle-tier, such as the Ravenous True King and World Prison True Queen of the Ravenous Edge Starfield. This signified the strength of their starfield, and while still lower than the Ravenous Edge Starfield, they had an Earthly Saint of respectable power.

At the moment, at the edge of the United Source Starfield, slightly beyond its borders, there was a hectic array of activity that involved dozens of high-grade Voidships. Each of these Voidships was of a grade that only gold and mystic-tier forces could afford.

Unlike the Aeternal Sky Starfield with predetermined borders, most starfields allowed for mystic-tier forces to grow unhesitatingly and fight for territory as long as the fallout didn't extend beyond a certain point. This brought about chaos and growth that allowed these Starfields to eventually grow their own Earthly Saints.

The Aeternal Sky Starfield was relatively peaceful and too established. Since the age of the Tian Clan's rise as the Imperial Clan and leader of the starfield, not a single of the sixteen mystic-tier forces has changed. Whenever an Ascended being wished to develop, they either had to join those forces or leave with their family, clan, or force.

Most joined the Imperial Clan without hesitation, unwilling to throw away the precious and greatest environment that the Aeternal Sky Starfield provided. This was one of the main reasons why the Imperial Clan's growth was remarkably higher than the others, including having the highest number of Ascended beings at all levels. Even the Tang Clan's Highlord numbers paled in comparison.

This growth was also why the possibility of wiping out oaths was increasingly problematic to these other forces.

The United Source Starfield was not like this. The contest for resources, talents, and territory hyper-charged the forces with invigorating energy and motivation to develop. This was further reinforced by the strongest force's binding restraints, allowing them to not worry about being conquered without the ability to resist.

That said, those oaths were clearly in effect due to the Earthly Saints presence. The Ravenous Edge Starfield was the gruesome reality of starfields that lost their leaders, divided by the various forces, and eliminated as a starfield.

At the edge of the activity, three Voidships lingered closer than the others, with the center one sporting the 'Kun' character at its hull. There, three auras of genuine Ascended beings were gathered.

If one looked closely, a thin film of translucent spherical barrier encapsulated all these Voidships. They were all trapped by this barrier, unable to escape as they looked out into the distance to see a foggy mess.

Kun Yiming, Venerable Bluecloud, and Venerable Slayingsword were all present. Their bodily states were perfectly fine, even healthier than before, despite being previously devastated by Wu Yu.

"Can he even get the transmission?" Venerable Slayingsword questioned with disbelief, eyeing the thin barrier established by the United Source True Queen. The various gold-tier and mystic-tier forces brought over by the phenomenon were suppressed and restrained, only able to look on helplessly.

"You were the one who suggested we send the message, and now you ask this?" Venerable Bluecloud wanted to bonk this little brat on the head. It was already a risk to send out a message, but if they were caught doing such, they might suffer from the United Source Clear Palace, the greatest force within the United Source Starfield ruled by the United Source True Queen herself.

Venerable Slayingsword snorted dismissively, "We're supposed to act in his interest, and it's in his best interest to learn of this." While he defended himself with this reasoning, he received a faint pinch on his hip that caused him to grimace. He glanced at Kun Yiming, who gave him a look, causing him to go silent.

Venerable Bluecloud sighed, "You and I know that we didn't send this message out for that. While this phenomenon can draw some attention, who knows if it'll attract a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist's interest, but if we didn't, we might be silenced here."

Kun Yiming agreed with a soft nod, "If it's like what we found before, our lives are indeed in danger." She was aware that it had only been a short while since they've sworn their oaths of silence and loyalty towards Wei Wuyin, but they hadn't received any orders besides their initial one.

It wasn't abnormal to have entire forces go missing due to discovering rare treasures. They were fully intent on eliminating Wu Yu the moment he found them, and clearly, the United Source Clear Palace had triggered something they sought to avoid but couldn't. When these gold and mystic-tier forces went to investigate, they were sealed with minimum explanation.

The lingering premonition of death was present. It caused all their skins to crawl. As Ascended beings, their instincts were typically correct.

"Even if something happened, I'll be sure to cut open a path for you," Venerable Slayingsword said in a soft voice, his hand on the hilt of his sword. Kun Yiming's eyes grew warm, and she took a deep breath

before exhaling softly. She was the strongest and fastest out of the three, so it'll be on her shoulders to attempt an escape.

"Enough, little hero. If something happens, we smartly navigate the situation. If all goes well, maybe Lord Wei pays a price for our lives." Venerable Bluecloud was more experienced, and while they swore oaths of silence not to reveal the details of the Terra-Mystic Ore or his involvement, they were free to bring out Wei Wuyin's name in a desperate situation.

This soothed their hearts a little.

Outside the barrier, six Voidships were gathered together not too far away, all belonging to a single force and painted in a tri-blend design of red, blue, and green colors. On their hulls were white characters that read: Clear Palace.

At the center of these ships, concentric ripples of space kept occurring upwards to ten meters.

At the bow of the largest ship, a feminine figure looked at the ripples with a bright gaze. "I finally found you."

At that figure's side was a masked figure, emitting an indeterminate mortal aura, and they stared at the ripples too.

### **Chapter 819: Stellar Nest, Lady Clearwind**

The two figures gazed intently at the spatial ripples. The feminine figure was of a female, tall, slender, with a willowy figure and modest bust. Her figure wasn't too curvaceous, but it had an allure of stability that emanated a demeanor of authority and power, lending her tall stature a feeling of dominance.

She was short-haired, sleek in style, a balanced set on both sides of her face, and the chestnut colors with brighter shaded highlights exuded a unique elegance. This, alongside her sandy warm ivory complexion, strong facial features, and thin lips, was evidence of a different type of beauty. She exuded an aura of unfathomability, a trait of those who've reached the Earthly Saint level.

The masked mortal figure's physical shape and other features were indistinguishable, concealed by a black cloak, but their height was impressive, standing over six feet by an inch or two. The mask itself was a full facial silver design that had sharply lined eyeholes, nose, and a false mouth. It gave the figure a sense of being human. However, from its heavily concealed figure, it was difficult to tell.

"Lady Clearwind, how is it?" The masked figure spoke, their voice masculine. If this was any indication, the masked figure was certainly male.

The female Earthly Saint, referred to as Lady Clearwind, eyes glowed even brighter in a burst of light; spiritual light erupted with a higher intensity. This lasted for a few moments before settling, revealing her light chestnut-colored eyes that fit perfectly with her hair, adding another touch of beauty.

She was none other than the United Source True Queen, or the Lady Clearwind, the title she possessed prior to becoming an Earthly Saint, taking over the United Source Starfield almost six thousand years ago. "It's as you said, the space within is unstable, and Mystic Intent will destabilize it."

Her words were said with a clear sign of dissatisfaction.



The masked figure replied, "Why would I lie to you? The Stellar Nest isn't an ordinary Secret Realm. It can't be entered by Ascended beings, otherwise, it'll collapse at its core, and the source will be able to make its escape from the chaos."

Lady Clearwind furrowed her brows, "What if I can stabilize its space before then?" Her words were spoken with a little bit of a cold chill, directing her eyes towards the masked figure with a wisp of unconcealed hostility.

The masked figure was unshaken by the tremendous pressure that was exuded by an Earthly Saint's refined will and mental energies. A difficult yet commendable feat for any mortal being. The masked figure gestured towards the ripple, saying: "By all means, give it a try."

Lady Clearwind's eyes flashed with light, tempted to do so. However, after a long moment, she dissipated her hostile intent. "No need; you said you have the means to obtain the Stellar Rain and the Zenith Stellar Source? I find it hard to believe, but I hope you can succeed." The cost of failure was too high, so she didn't even try.

The Stellar Nest was a unique spatial realm that was created by an entity referred to as the Zenith Stellar Source. The Zenith Stellar Source was a strange being of the Void, and it produced Stellar Rain. Stellar Rain was like crystallized solar light that traveled at astonishing speeds throughout the Dark Void.

Despite taking the appearance of crystallized solar light, Stellar Rain was lifeforms born from the Dark Void. They were like parasites that fed off solar essence, energies, and light. Due to this, their bodies were overly saturated by these qualities, taking the form of crystallized light.

They traveled in swarms of hundreds of thousands at a time, sometimes even in the billions, and as they traveled through the Dark Void, from a distance, they seemed like solar rain, hence the name. They weren't demons, but they had similar traits as demons, born abnormally and without reason, but they distinctively lacked the presence of a soul, so they couldn't cultivate.

They were attracted to movement and light energies, while acting like ravenous locusts, devouring everything and anything they considered food without hesitation. Since cultivators' bodies had abundant light energies or were tainted by solar essence, they were delicacies that were snacks to these things.

They were one of the extreme dangers of the Dark Void that rivaled the strange, mysterious, and abrupt Vanishing Points. They moved so fast that Ascended beings would find it challenging to capture them, and mortals could only be devoured and drained until they became floating, cold corpses in the Dark Void. A horrid fate.

If the Stellar Rain could be considered a parasite, like an insect of sorts, then the Zenith Stellar Source was the ant queen that sent them out to gather food, recalling them back at specific periods to eat. However, the nest of such lifeforms was insidiously hidden, and no one could determine its location.

Mostly because Stellar Rain was far too fast to chase for the average cultivator, and they would never enter the nest unless there were no being for millions of miles and no spiritual activity observing them in any capacity. They've developed extremely keen survival instincts, protecting their so-called queen from external threats.

Even Heavenly Seers and Oracles would find their scrying attempts inexplicably blocked. While the Grand Seers of the Golden Gate Pavilion could likely do so, the cost didn't measure up to the possible benefits.

And mostly because of the risk; the Stellar Nest was fragile, another safety mechanism of a parasitic lifeform, and it'd collapse if a being that could threaten it entered. The Zenith Stellar Source wasn't very strong, and there were numerous ways to suppress them. The nest of Stellar Rain was bound to have, well, A LOT of Stellar Rain. Since Ascended beings had difficulties obtaining it, chances were that mortals would have almost no odds for success, just a heavy likelihood of death and despair.

While Stellar Rain was extremely beneficial, it was mostly used for Star Core refinement or creation of Solar Stars, so it was mostly valuable to Starlords, those at the Ninth Stage of the Astral Core Realm. At least, that's what it's known for.

The masked figure seemed unbothered by Lady Clearwind's words, looking at the ripple with a brightly lit gaze suffused with desire and confidence. "You'll upkeep our bargain?" The masked figure turned to Lady Clearwind, the excited gleam in their eyes vanishing, replaced by a neutral indifference.

Lady Clearwind was the United Source Starfield's sole Earthly Saint, but she didn't seem too bothered that a mortal was negotiating with her. She faintly nodded, "I'll swear the necessary oaths, enlisting a thousand Starlords to join your attempt. As long as you can obtain the Zenith Stellar Source, all the Stellar Rain will belong to you."

The deal seemed lopsided, but Stellar Rain was far less valuable than the Zenith Stellar Source. With it, she could produce an endless amount of Stellar Rain with proper planning. She intended to drive the United Source Starfield to be the sole creator of Stellar Rain, elevating its economic situation and diversifying its exports.

There were a few alchemical products requiring Stellar Rain that were extremely rare. With the right contractual deal with the right association or pavilion, she'll be able to secure herself sufficient materials to attempt nurturing a second Earthly Saint in the next fifteen hundred years. Preferably, she'll be able to select her own descendant as the candidate.

When this thought entered her head, she considered possible male candidates to sire a child. A strong man with good genes and talent, preferably a genuine Ascended. She swiftly snapped out of her thoughts, focusing on first obtaining the Zenith Stellar Source before proceeding with any plan.

The masked figure nodded, "A thousand should be enough. When will you be ready? I have already made ample preparations on my part."

"Confident, I see. I've already gathered them in my Internal World; they're cultivating and awaiting orders. I'm never unprepared. Shall you leave now?" Lady Clearwind was thoroughly prepared.

"After the oaths," the masked figure stated.

Lady Clearwind nodded. She proceeded to swear three Mythical Oaths that were previously settled between the two, and then she touched her dantian, and strange spatial ripples emanated from her body. With a wave, a splash of silver light dyed the area for a hundred miles in its brilliance.

As if appearing out of nowhere, a thousand armored figures intermixed with short, tall, slim, heavy-set members of both genders emerged on the Voidship's deck in an orderly fashion. They were all adorned in the colors of red, blue, and green, the defining colors of the United Source Clear Palace. On their gloves and pauldrons were emblems of white-colored wings that fluttered in an animated fashion.

The masked figure was taken aback for a moment and then looked at Clearwind with some shock. "The Clear-Wing Knights?"

"You know of the Clear-Wing Knights?" Lady Clearwind's eyes narrowed, but the masked figure's concealments were far too thorough that her spiritual sense or ocular abilities were unable to glimpse into it.

The masked figure nodded, "To think you'll risk your strongest mortal unit for this; you must have some trust in me."

"If I didn't have any trust in you, your corpse would've been floating in the Dark Void long ago," Lady Clearwind plainly stated. The masked figure merely nodded as if that was to be expected, and he glanced at the thousand Clear-Wing Knights, this elite unit forged by the greatest resources of the United Source Starfield. "They'll follow all your orders, as long as it's not suicidal."

"Three days," the masked figure turned away and looked at the spatial ripples that were roughly a few miles away. With a wave of his hand, a black, shuttle that was typically used for textile with glimmering silver starlight was summoned from a strange space. It was the size of a baby's fist, and it emanated a faint mystic aura, but it was altered in a way that made it feel more mortal than mystic.

Lady Clearwind furrowed her brows with a tinge of surprise. This didn't seem like a spatial ring extraction, more like an Internal World's. Was this a special art that replicated a false Internal World? How peculiar. The gleam in her eyes became brighter. It's not like these arts didn't exist, but cultivating them required a high insight into fixed space and tremendous resources to stabilize it internally, and not without its risks.

After all, an Internal World was meant for Ascended beings, those who exceeded Mortal Limits.

The masked figure performed a set of hand-seals, and the shuttle moved. It zoomed with remarkable speed, approaching the spatial ripple and then weaving in and out of it as if sewing. Suddenly, the ripples slowed down considerably. They seemed to be stabilizing somehow.

"Let's go!" The masked figure didn't waste time, summoning a Worldly Domain and shooting off the ship, entering the ripple unhesitatingly.

"Go!" Lady Clearwind gestured, and like trained white doves, the Clear-Wing Knights shot out of the ship and followed along. In moments, they all entered.

"This better work out," she commented lightly as the possible rise of the United Source Starfield hinged on it. But she didn't just trust a strange figure; she had certain assurances.

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At this time, within the sealed barrier that trapped the various gold-tier and mystic-forces that had investigated in curiosity yet found themselves sealed away without any way to resist, a distinct popping sound erupted.

Venerable Bluecloud watched as a dark, endless void of space began to manifest directly in front of him!

### **Chapter 820: Stellar Nest, Controlling the Situation**

Venerable Bluecloud, Venerable Slayingsword, and Kun Yiming were all gathered, discussing their currently perilous and unknown situation with solemn facial expressions that perfectly reflected their hearts. If this followed their internal feelings, a thorough silencing would unfold, and their lives were likely to be dealt with in accordance with the United Source Clear Palace's will.

This feeling of awaiting judgment was an abnormality for Ascended beings. Still, they had the surprise card named 'Ascendant Emperor of Neo-Dawn'; they just wished it wasn't a dud, and the United Source Clear Palace wasn't dead set against displaying mercy to the ignorant and innocent.

Within the enclosed barrier, they weren't the only genuine Ascended beings present, and some of them had already sent them letters of invitation to further discuss their current predicament. However, Venerable Bluecloud felt that such actions were useless and likely to provoke a stronger response if the United Source Clear Palace saw such a united front. This was even more so if they acted preemptively.

Venerable Slayingsword was all for joining the others, concentrating their power to find an escape path, and Venerable Bluecloud reacted with an urge to slap him on the side of his head. Since Venerable Slayingsword was a relatively newly Ascended being, he hadn't fully grasped the difference between a Soul of Mysticism Phase cultivator and a Demi-Mortal Lord Phase expert.

Due to their high talents and powerful abilities, many of these Ascended beings once had the means and power to challenge those a stage or two above their cultivation level at the Astral Core Realm. Some of them were Chosen, such as Kun Yiming, who could fight Realm Lords at the Fourth Stage of the Astral Core Realm, a full three stages above. This inflated sense of confidence often followed them, which allowed their thinking to be a little flawed.

Venerable Slayingsword hadn't learned his lesson when Wu Yu, a quasi Demi-Mortal Lord, dominated them with swiftness, and this frustrated Venerable Bluecloud. Fortunately, Kun Yiming was far more responsible and insightful, and they stayed together, avoiding interacting with the others.

Despite this, those other Ascended beings gathered the Mystic Star Phase and Soul of Mysticism Phase cultivators sealed within the barrier in a spiritual transmission network, communicating together at rapid speeds. They were soon about to take action to escape, regaining their control. Their plan was simple: if they could break the barrier and release information to everyone in the United Source Starfield about this phenomenon, they would have a chance. After all, the United Source Clear Palace couldn't silence the entire Starfield.

While most might find this plan flawed, as the United Source Clear Palace might not spare them after the fact, it was their only way to regain the initiative. If not, the crawling sensation on their skin will soon manifest into the worst-case scenario—their deaths. Some argued in favor of swearing oaths of silence, even thoroughly submitting to the United Source Clear Palace. This created a divide.

Unfortunately, the barrier sealed them in thoroughly. Despite being casually conjured by an Earthly Saint, none of them could breach it or even cause any ripples. The difference in strength was abundantly shown. This only served to reinforce that the United Source Clear Palace wasn't seeking to negotiate.

The tensions grew.

The Ascended, both false and genuine, readied themselves to launch a concentrated attack to breach the barrier in a united effort.

Then, the Void Portal manifested.

Venerable Bluecloud started, looking at the darkness that had appeared out of thin air. Venerable Slayingsword grabbed his hilt, and sword light flared within his eyes. Kun Yiming furrowed her brows, and her thoughts immediately recalled how Wu Yu emerged before.

In truth, they had never seen someone or something leave a Void Portal. Typically, Void Gates just send those who enter them to the set coordinates without warning. There was no phenomenon, just them appearing as if they manifested out of thin air. To see a Void Portal spontaneously manifest without a Void Gate only brought one's thoughts to the Void Voyage Sect. These were their first thoughts too when Wu Yu had made his sudden appearance near the rogue planet containing the Terra-Mystic Ore.

Suddenly, four figures walked out of the Void Portal. A young man dressed in white was at the lead, his eyes closed, and his visage was immaculately handsome, absolutely otherworldly. Slightly beside him was a gorgeous, clear-eyed girl that gave one a feeling of profoundness that exceeded mortal means, and a twenty-two-meter-sized white and gold feathered beast. She gave off an exuberant life force and innate pride.

At the far back stood a middle-aged man with a naturally domineering air. All felt oppressed by his existence as he breathed and looked about. It was as if he was the ruler of Heaven, Earth, and Man.

The three Ascended beings and their crew gawked as they observed the four.

"Lord Wei!" Venerable Bluecloud exclaimed in surprise. They had just sent the message a few minutes ago, yet this man had just emerged before them in such a shocking fashion.

Kun Yiming and Venerable Slayingsword reacted just as intensely, not expecting Wei Wuyin to arrive so suddenly. Their gazes turned towards Wu Yu, and their hearts shook. Few knew that Wu Yu had been a quasi Demi-Mortal Lord just a year or so prior, and now he was a genuine Earthly Saint that escaped from the clutches of the Everlore Association. The event was so widespread that even they heard all the details.

Kun Yiming's eyes, upon seeing Wu Yu, shone with an intrigued light, carrying all sorts of emotions. This caused Venerable Slayingsword, who was beside her, who began looking at her to confirm her similarly shared shock, to feel strange inside. He tightened his grip around his sword hilt, turning to Wu Yu with a vigilant gaze.

Wei Wuyin sent his spiritual sense outward to grasp the situation, and he touched upon the sealed barrier that encased them.

"..." He realized that the urgency of their spiritual message was honest. However, he was curious as he walked forward. His step caused some of the crew to retreat backward, a wisp of fear in their eyes as they observed the newly arrived group.

Venerable Bluecloud was also swift in his thinking and reactions, so he hastily walked forward, clasped his hands together, and deeply bowed: "I greet the Ascendant Emperor." Despite being a genuine Ascended being, he was standing before Wu Yu, an Earthly Saint, and he had already thrown his lot into Wei Wuyin's camp.

Kun Yiming hastily gathered herself, also greeting Wei Wuyin in the same manner. Venerable Slayingsword eyed Wu Yu for a bit before following along. This caused the crew to relax, but curiosity abounded amongst them. None of them were aware that the three were subordinates of Wei Wuyin.

Wei Wuyin gave them a slight nod, but he got directly to the point: "Why are you three still alive?"

This question shook the three. The crew was startled as well. Was this a hostile force? They stared at Wei Wuyin, stunned by his words, but for Venerable Bluecloud, it was only momentary as he realized the hidden question within the question. He hurriedly responded and explained the situation, "The United Source Clear Palace, leaders of our Starfield, headed by the United Source True Queen, sealed us away after we came to inspect a strange spatial phenomenon. I believe they don't wish to attract more attention by slaughtering us and causing a commotion, at least not yet."

Wei Wuyin frowned slightly but eventually nodded. This caused the crew and the other two to realize what Wei Wuyin meant, feeling relatively embarrassed that they hadn't caught it.

"What's the phenomenon?" Wei Wuyin started to take control of the situation and ask a few questions, and Venerable Bluecloud took the lead to answer, with Kun Yiming responding when prompted. Venerable Slayingsword explained bits that involved him, but he kept sending glances toward Wu Yu.

Soon, Wei Wuyin grasped the entire extent of their knowledge and situation. These trapped forces were all organizations that acted in this area of the United Source Starfield, or were coincidentally hunting at the edges of the starfield's void-blank space, and most of them sensed the spatial fluctuation.

Venerable Slayingsword had been the one to discover this, and he informed Kun Yiming, who later told Venerable Bluecloud. They jointly met at the edge of the starfield and flew to investigate as a unit, only to be trapped alongside the others here. Due to their delay, they were amongst the last caught. Besides one other voidship belonging to a developing Void Pirate group, no one else had fallen to their curiosity, caught within the restrictive barrier to await their fate.

They were ignorant of what the phenomenon was, but their instincts told them that whatever the United Source Clear Palace was trying to keep a secret was likely extremely valuable.

Wei Wuyin said, "Find out what this is from the source." Those words caused the three Ascended to be taken aback, but when they saw Wu Yu respond, they immediately realized the order wasn't for them.

"Yes, Young Lord." Wu Yu lifted his gaze upward to inspect the world beyond the barrier. Those eyes of his suffused with starry lights. Right at this moment, the Ascended beings began their attempt to escape. They gathered their forces' strength and Mystic Auras, alongside the cannons on their Voidships began to charge a concentrated assault towards a specific location of the barrier.

Their effort was valiant.

Wu Yu noticed this; his eyebrows moved slightly.

"Handle that," Wei Wuyin causally ordered. He didn't want to feel the backlash of an escape attempt. If the barrier had rebounding properties, then these cultivators were courting death by attacking in this manner.

Wu Yu nodded, floating upwards as the activity of several voidships and Ascended beings was rising in intensity. Wu Yu lifted his hand and then pushed it outward. A burst of mystic power instantly filled the barrier. This wave carried tens of thousands of mystic runes.

The activity instantly ceased as the Ascended beings were sealed by thousands of mystic runes that settled into their bodies; unable to resist, they groaned and cried out as they floated where they were. The Voidships immediately deactivated, and all but their life support formations were destroyed.

Now, they couldn't run even if they wanted to.

Witnessing this domineering move, the three Ascended beings' mouths were gaped with astonishment. What type of power was this?! Is this an Earthly Saint?!

Wu Yu didn't waste time, soaring upwards until he reached the barrier. He touched the barrier with the palm of his hand and then pressed against it forcefully. Instantly, it began to fracture like glass until it shattered into bits of light. Then, he performed a hand-seal, and a similar barrier was constructed that enveloped the group, protecting Wei Wuyin and the others, similarly not allowing those inside to send out any spiritual messages.

If this led to something valuable, then it would be in Wei Wuyin's best interest to keep it hidden as well. Just like the Terra-Mystic Ore, treasures weren't meant to be advertised. Any form of a leak could lead to devastating consequences.

Bai Lin looked at Wu Yu, her eyes brightly lit. She sent a mental transmission to Wen Mingna and Wei Wuyin, "I could've done that too!" She proudly snorted, feeling that Wu Yu was showing off a little too much.

Wei Wuyin chuckled, giving Bai Lin a soft rub on her nap, instantly calming her down. Wen Mingna smiled silently at the side. She quickly got familiar with Bai Lin's personality, so she was aware of that prideful streak of hers.

She, however, sent Wei Wuyin a spiritual message. "Should we leave Bai Lin exposed?" The world hadn't linked Wei Wuyin to the Legion Commander or the Fire Phoenix yet. If this was leaked by the crew, it was bound to elicit a response from Trueborn, the Everlore Association, Tang Clan, and others.

Wei Wuyin shook his head almost immediately, replying: "If it was before, then maybe, but not anymore." He wasn't foolish enough to rely on Wu Yu alone, but he did have some assurances. The act of keeping Bai Lin squared away for who knew how long felt unreasonable and unnecessary. In fact, bringing her identity and their relationship to the forefront might serve to help him.

The world currently believed that the foreign Earthly Saint who dealt the Tang Clan heavy losses and fought against three Earthly Saints, winning with two escaping and one dying, belonged to a strange, unfathomable power.

With Wu Yu by his side, if Bai Lin revealed herself to the world, then his reputation could only skyrocket. The world would be aware that he had at least two Earthly Saints of elite quality at his beck and call. It'll shape a mysterious image that'll protect him a little longer. After all, who's to say he didn't have three, four, or seven?

This question: Who was Wei Wuyin? It will propagate an identity that'll cause pause to all who heard it, even the Everlore Association and Trueborn. He would no longer just be a talented mortal but someone who controlled legitimate power.

While this wasn't far from the truth, he still needed more time to develop if he intended to push any concrete plans. He had just dipped his toes into the dark waters of the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region. If it wasn't for his eyes, he might have been as aggressive as he had been in the Myriad Monarch Sect. Unfortunately, his greatest means of gathering influence, power, and wealth—Alchemy—was hindered by this issue.

"Who are you?!" An explosive, domineering voice suffused with authority erupted above them.

Wu Yu had just confronted the greatest source of information, the United Source True Queen!