

PARAGON 841

Chapter 841: A Resounding Conclusion

It was unleashed!

Han Yuhei's eyes, spiritual sense, and thoughts were all glued to the trapped Wu Yu. The image of Wu Yu's dying in the violent, concentrated beam of power, ripped to shreds, and what was remaining eradicated by pure, concentrated power, manifested within his Sea of Consciousness. A subconscious smile of satisfaction, desire, and relief formed. A complex set of emotions, yet they were bombing him all at once.

However, in the depths of his heart, anxiety festered. All had gone perfectly to plan, with minor hiccups towards the Earthly Saints suffering varying injuries, and this was enough to kill any hostile Earthly Saint.

'Just die.'

Gong Lau's facial expression, on the other hand, was twisted as his arm was bent at the weirdest angle, refusing to regain any sense of normalcy. The pain was indescribable, enough to make him sweat and wish to cut it off himself. Yet when the beam of elemental origin light shot out of the planet, there was a tinge of regret manifesting in his heart.

That Fire Phoenix was currently within Wu Yu's Internal World. Its death would cause their benefits to be considerably lower. The deals that could've been made with the Imperial Clan would've been deliciously profitable. How unfortunate.

'We might be able to salvage bits of the Grand Knight's, hopefully. If anything, the shattered dimensions of their spatial ring should contain some incredible things. A Grand Mortal Sovereign Alchemist and Earthly Saint! Hehe.'

Zhang Ziyi's teeth were clenched as both of her arms had been destroyed. While the bleeding at their stumps had been stopped, her countenance was as pale as a ghost. She could only feel happy that everything had gone according to plan, and this nightmare of a development would soon come to an end.

The beam of concentrated elemental light generated by the Nine-Divine Elemental Star Array was enough to take down Earthly Saints. The relief washed over her heart, soothing the deep, throbbing headache she had since this all began.

'Did we really have to do this?'

All three of their thoughts were different, their motivations and beliefs divergent, but the Earthly Saints of the True Element Sect had joined together to deal with a perceived enemy. If anything, this news will spread that the True Element Sect might be fractured internally and decaying externally, but they were still a World Sect that couldn't be underestimated!

If...

If they had succeeded.

SZOOOOOOOM!!!

The speed of the elemental beam was abnormally swift. It locked onto the hundredth pearl that trapped Wu Yu in a Worldscape, intending to inundate it in a fiery brilliance. The wake of the fiery beam caused the Dark Void's strange chill to crystallize! It was so powerful that its release sent Origin back ten thousand miles off orbit. If it wasn't for the protective formations, the sheer speed of this blowback would've eviscerated all mortal-level life on the planet!

Crack! Crack! CRACK!

The pearl had been endlessly cracking under the intense pressure of Wu Yu's aura, but Zhang Ziyi had reinforced it with the ninety-nine pearls in a last-ditch attempt to keep Wu Yu there. Her actions hadn't just led to her arms being lost, her Mystic-graded scepter shattering, but the planets and two secret realms to suffer disastrous losses.

They were drained almost entirely dry. Those worlds experienced turmoil to which they've never known, suffering from a severely depleted core. The chaos there was hectic to say the least, some simple-minded cultivators even thought the world was ending as the Sky Layers thinned, the quality of refined essence dipped to the lowest level.

Was their world dying?!

Yes!

Wu Yu was trapped in a Worldscape empowered by several worlds! The cost was atrociously high. The objective? Completed.

The beam impacted the pearl. The crack was flooded with white elemental light, and it was instantly invaded, unable to hold on despite the external reinforcements. It breached any defenses, pushing through like an unstoppable force.

There was no explosion.

There was no unwilling scream of the enemy.

The beam enveloped the pearl entirely, only emitting the sounds of its existence. It took less than a fraction of a fraction of a second for the entire pearl to be annihilated. The beam passed through it, traveling until it reached the edge of the Elementus Domain. It smashed against the barrier as if it met an unbreakable force. It splashed, sending out white elemental radiance that scattered throughout the barrier. The lights coursed through the entire barrier, lightning up the Elementus Domain in a gorgeous sight in all directions.

The panic that those worlds felt. When they looked at the sky, seeing those white lights swimming across their skies like an artistic lightshow accompanied by the flickering of ninety-nine gorgeous pearls. They calmed down. They pointed. They felt awed. It was truly, undeniably beautiful.

"It's over..." Han Yuhei felt those memories of his begin to ease his thoughts. All the pain, the hatred, and all that fear...it was gone in but a single moment. While the beam was only at seventy percent, it was enough to kill every Earthly Saint in the stellar region.

Zhang Ziyi's back slouched. An exhaustion overwhelmed her. "...". She couldn't say anything. Her emotions were overly complex. Wei Wuyin was a figure with boundless potential, and had the visage of

a literal god in myth, even her aged heart had moved with a single sight. A talented young man like that...dead.

A woe for the entire world.

Gong Lau sighed depressingly. The Fire Phoenix! If only Wu Yu had just sent them to the side. Wei Wuyin would've still died, but the fire phoenix would still be alive. He could only hope one of their shattered spatial dimensions contained a bottle of its blood essence.

"Wow."

"...!" All three Earthly Saints. Their eyes widened, lifting their heads at such speeds that they almost snapped off their necks. Han Yuhei's eyes contracted to the utmost limits, revisited and bombarded by all of his greatest fears.

"Mhm," the voice cleared their throat, it sounded dry and pissed. Absolutely pissed.

"Impossible!" Han Yuhei shouted aloud, his fingers trembling and his eyes quaking so intensely that they seemed to become two pupils in one eye.

"I told you when you were younger not to say impossible, it'll only limit your future," the voice sneered. "But I guess you never listen, do you?"

Above the three Earthly Saints, Wu Yu stood with arms folded. His irises and pupils had become black, reflecting the endless void as it swirled about animatedly as if watching the passing of endless time. It was as if the heavens itself aged through his gaze.

His skin had a healthy, rosy glow, his body was slimmer, yet every muscle seemed to contain an abnormal, outrageous amount of power. His hair had changed, growing so long that it exceeded his feet. Every strand was like his eyes, reflecting the endless night sky and boundless stars that littered it.

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Fortunately, his royale moustache remained unchanged.

Around his body, mana condensed to such an intense state that Sky World Lightning circulated around him like electricity. It was golden and chaotic. The crackling sound instilled the heart and Spirit of Cultivation with an irregular rhythm.

This was his 3rd Grand Transformation!

The full extent of the Imperial Heaven Physique!

There wasn't a single Mystic Rune surrounding Wu Yu. They had been entirely absorbed, coursing through his physical body. It was almost as if he embodied the Mystic Dao!

"How?!" Han Yuhei demanded to know. The Nine-Divine Elemental Array and Paramount Jade, Ultimate Elementus Array were both extremely powerful, incredibly compatible. They sensed Wu Yu was still trapped when the pearl was hit by its power! How did he escape?

Wu Yu's stellar eyes flashed with derision as he revealed an abused grin. But inside his body, his heart trembled with concealed despair from remembering that outrageous power.

Zhang Ziyi and Gong Lau were rendered absolutely speechless. The fights between experts at any level rarely lasted long, with most going all out to deal with their opponent using their maximal amount of power, and this was true here. They had exhausted a lot of their power handling the various arrays, directing its power, executing its means, yet they were a spent force so swiftly.

This was why the Blood Origin Method's second dantian was so advantageous. Unfortunately, none of them cultivated a method similar to that. They only had their life-preserving means.

Gong Lau brought out a vial of high Mystic-Earth grade elixir meant for recovery, imbibing it immediately. He was just about to make a move to retreat, but a flash of multicolored starlight appeared before him, accompanied by the crackling of electricity that caused his entire being to tense.

"You, I-" Gong Lau was about to send a spiritual transmission to the man before him, but he couldn't. A wave of aggressively stifling Imperial Pressure restricted his spiritual strength. Aghast, he felt a hand clasp around his throat. In his vision, it felt slow. So incredibly slow...

But it still grasped his throat with unerring accuracy. He felt his body lift, his eyes bulged as his airways were constricted. He saw those eyes that reflected the endless aging of the world, as if showing him the heavens and its movements. He could feel a power, like molten lead, enter his body without mercy.

His eyes swam within his eye sockets; he hoped that the other two Earthly Saints would come to his aid. The pleading look was unbecoming of an Earthly Saint, but he didn't care. He felt like his life was ripped out of his hands, no longer his to decide. A fear that he hadn't felt since he was a mortal emerged in his heart.

He wanted to wail. He wanted to scream. He wanted to beg, fight, or just resist. But his Mystic Soul's rebellious attempts were viciously halted by that foreign power. He could feel it being sealed off, his Mystic Runes dissipating from the world as his thoughts slowed to a crawl.

Soon, his Sea of Consciousness met a foreign force that pounded from outside, invading without mercy. His own consciousness began to grow dark. Gong Lau's fleeting memories of his life flashed wildly as he tried to drum up some last minute resistance to no avail.

CRACK!

Wu Yu's grip twisted Gong Lau's neck in an abnormal, unnatural angle as he recalled this man's killing intent towards Wei Wuyin. While he wouldn't die from such wounds, he would certainly feel that sting of horrendous pain at the end. With that, Gong Lau's legs and arms became like wet noodles. In the eyes of a mortal, this Earthly Saint would be as dead as a doormat.

While this took time to describe, it happened in less than a second.

Zhang Ziyi helplessly watched this all go on. She was frozen with surprise, shock, and incredulity. She didn't need to breathe as an Ascended being, but she felt her lungs constrict and her breath was caught in her chest. It was incredibly uncomfortable.

Unfortunately, Wu Yu's Imperial Pressure had enveloped her entirely. In her exhausted state, she was worse than a live fish on a cutting board. At least the fish could flop about in defiance.

Wu Yu gave her a brief look, but swiftly turned his attention towards Han Yuhei. The man was currently gathering his remaining power, seemingly ready to put his life on the line and bet it all. He still had the support of two secret realms, an entire array of planets, and Origin. If he decided to, he could bring Wu Yu down with him.

He could bring this entire Elementus Domain down with him!

But Wu Yu shook his head, causing Han Yuhei's eyes to uncontrollably widen. "If I wanted to kill you little Yu, you'd have died a few times over. You've always been a child, reckless and thoughtless. Seems like your cousin hasn't taught you anything."

"..." Han Yuhei gritted his teeth, the animosity rippled through his gaze. "I'll kill you!" He roared thunderously, forming a hand-seal. The ninety-nine pearls, Origin, and the planets began to experience aggressive changes. The Dark Void began to rumble. Suddenly, streams of various forces and energies began to funnel into Han Yuhei, engulfing his figure in multicolor brilliance.

The Mystic Aura of his increased far beyond his original power, enhanced by nine Elemental Intents. But when compared to the current Wu Yu, there was a severe disparity that couldn't be closed so simply.

Wu Yu sighed softly.

The distance between him and Han Yuhei wasn't great, roughly a few dozen meters, so with a single movement, Wu Yu arrived in front of Han Yuhei with an open palm.

POW!

A resounding slap rippled through the Dark Void. Even those in the secret realms heard it. The growing power within Han Yuhei ceased instantly. His eyes bulged, one side of his face reddened, and his expression revealed his confusion, he looked at Wu Yu with total disbelief.

Han Yuhei felt his power slipping away from his control, a wave of mystic power had invaded him alongside the Imperial Heaven Aura, enveloping his Mystic Soul and sealing it outright.

Was the difference between them so great?

Was it always so massive?

At the sides of his eyes was some wetness. He felt like time had reversed all those years ago, when he was just a prideful youth with his cousin's backing. He felt invincible and his future was boundless, but at every turn, he was reminded of his inferiority from Wu Yu. A scolding comment here, a punishment there, and a lot more.

He thought he'd left that young version of himself behind, exceeded all standards, and became one of the strongest in the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region. He commanded respect with his own power, not his cousin's! Why did he feel like this?

Han Yuhei lost consciousness.

Wu Yu looked at the youngster that he watched grow from a toddler to an Ascended being, all under the cuddled protection of his selfish cousin. If he knew the truth...

Wu Yu kept his thoughts from running down memory lane, turning to the last remaining Earthly Saint—Zhang Ziyi. Her armless form seemed particularly helpless. She hadn't even tried to run. Her spatial ring was destroyed too, so she couldn't even pull out any life-preserving items.

Wu Yu faintly smiled, "How about we talk?"

Chapter 842: The 3rd Earthly Saint

The ninety-nine pearls vanished; the white flowing light that danced beautifully on the inner shell of the barrier faded; the white glossy layer on planet Origin dissipated. The entire situation began to de-escalate into normalcy. The various Ascended beings holding the reins of various formations, restocking depleted resources or fueling it with their own power, were freed as these formations wind down into inactivity.

Gleeful exclamations and several exhalations of relief resounded throughout planet Origin, the Paramount Jade Realm, Ultimate Elementus Realm, and the several dozen of planets within the Elementus Domain. The Ascended beings tasked with opening and maintaining the planet's core energies for the Paramount Jade, Ultimate Elementus Array felt unimaginable emotions of thankfulness. It had ended!

These cultivators were natives of these planets, considering it their homes. To see it suffer from exhaustion was heart-breaking, and their spirits were drained from the intensity of every use. Some planets, especially the tiny-sized ones, suffered the worst. They were nascent; all of them formed for various purposes of cultivating certain specific materials. This process could take centuries to millennia to complete, yet now all their hard work had been eradicated.

A single moment was all it took.

The battle between Wu Yu and the three Earthly Saints had occurred in an extremely short period in relation to the eyes of mortals, especially lower-ranked cultivators. A mere twelve or so seconds.

"It's finally over!" A sweaty farmer, just a Second Stage Astral Core Realm cultivator, shouted with relief. He looked at his fields, seeing yellowing and signs of decay. The fruits of his three-year long effort to grow these crops had amounted to nothing, yet besides a brief frown, he wasn't too bothered.

"Who do you think it was? The Imperial Clan?" A young girl with fair skin, opulent attire, and a cultivation base at the Spatial Resonance Phase, asked her merchant father. Her father was a heavy-set male, his belly slightly larger than normal, and he had beady-like eyes.

"Of course not; it was certainly one of the Noble Clans. Maybe the Jiang Clan, those sword maniacs. Or those evil bastards." The merchant sighed, reeling in his Worldly Domain.

"You think? Well, they'll know not to mess with our True Element Sect now, right father?" The girl giggled in excitement. The reputation of the True Element Sect will skyrocket.

"..." The merchant remained silent, only looking at the greying skies of their planet. He could feel the severely considerably weakened Sky Layers, a direct result of planetary core energies exhaustion. The filtered essence would be far more impure and in less quantities. Their planet will have some dark days ahead.

'Let's hope the True Element Sect upkeeps their promises of compensating us...can they?' He frowned, feeling a headache arise.

In the eyes of the average cultivator, the True Element Sect had just fought against a Domain-threatening force and won. Why did these cultivators see this as a win? Because the array had stopped naturally, clearly under the direction of an Earthly Saint being that they revered to the highest limits.

The only ones who could do such a thing was the True Element Sect's Earthly Saints, likely their legendary Guardian of the Elements, Han Yuhei. To the vast, vast majority of cultivators, Han Yuhei was their pillar of confidence and strength. As long as he was there, no other Earthly Saint could threaten them.

On some planets, even before an official announcement was sent out to explain the situation, they celebrated their victory with parties of all varieties, including the lustful indulgent type. They had survived an assault, so it was fair to celebrate, right? Perhaps a baby boom would happen nine months from today.

While the planets sighed with relief, partied to exhaustion, or had various wicked schemes ongoing to steal stored, secure resources to sustain their cultivations for the dark days ahead, on planet Origin, Wu Yu stood before three kneeling Earthly Saints.

Gong Lau's broken neck hadn't been fully fixed, so his head leaned unnaturally to the side, and cracks resounded from time to time alongside a gurgle or two of the throat.

Zhang Ziyi's arms were healed; Wu Yu had allowed her to exhaust her lifespan to do so using Time Reversion. If she didn't do so now, if time passed a little longer, the cost would be horrifically high. She could be an armless woman for life if not handled swiftly. After all, the bodies of Earthly Saints were notoriously difficult to repair. Even an Ever-Rebirth Pill wouldn't work. They would need a genuine Mystic-Earth grade equivalent.

As for the reason for all this, Han Yuhei, he had already awakened earlier. At the moment, he kept his head completely down with his facial expression hidden.

Since the resounding defeat, roughly ten minutes had passed as Wu Yu had taken over the arrays and formations of the planet, directly turning them off. He had only kept the barrier aspect active, concealing from the other Earthly Saints from other Domains of the embarrassing outcome of Han Yuhei's reckless and demented act of vengeance. This was a lot harder than he expected. If it wasn't for Zhang Ziyi's cooperation, it would be much harder.

Despite her position being the weakest, her knowledge of these formations and arrays were extensive. She belonged to the Shattered Elements Faction that originated from the Jade Element Sect before the Lin Clan's desperate merger, so she was thoroughly aware of these arrays which had the groundwork of her ancestors forged within.

The three with their kneeling postures and Wu Yu's upright stance, arms folded at his chest, and his eyes carrying wisps of judgment formed a strange scene resembling a teacher scolding their students.

Wu Yu felt an urge to shake his head. He had already ended his 3rd Grand Transformation, reverting back to his normal appearance. While he seemed perfectly okay, his Mystic Soul and physique was extremely stressed.

As an Earthly Saint, Wu Yu was in a state of a perpetual Mystic State, a result of his Mystic Runes merging with his physique. There was no need to summon its power, because he was always using it. This costless advantage was one of the vital differences between Demi-Mortal Lords and Earthly Saints. It made their difference almost insurmountable.

However, the Grand Transformations using the Imperial Heaven Aura fostered in his Mystic Soul to execute unique states. The 1st Grand Transformation merged his Imperial Heaven Aura with his World Pressure, changing it into Imperial Pressure, a stronger variation with terrifying suppressive powers.

The 2nd Grand Transformation merged the Imperial Heaven Aura with his dantian, the center for all his energies and reversed itself, affecting all four types of his innate energies. He received a hefty boost to his mystic power. It could be referred to as mystic-graded Imperial Power.

If his body hadn't been refined to a sufficient point, he could undergo cultivation deviation due to the vast power of his energies and go boom. This was why each Grand Transformation had strict requirements.

As for the terrifyingly powerful 3rd Grand Transformation, it was merging one's Mystic Runes with the Imperial Heaven Aura, then infusing them into various areas of one's physique. It required a Demi-Mortal Lord Phase cultivation base to even initiate, but an Earthly Saint Phase cultivation base to bring out the fullest extent of its power.

When Wu Yu entered the 3rd Grand Transformation, tens of thousands of his external runes had merged inside him, then infused with his Imperial Heaven Aura, and elevated his Imperial Heaven Physique to the utmost limits of its potential, at least the limit that his current foundation allowed. It exhausted an incredible amount of mystic energy and Imperial Heaven Aura to sustain.

However, he had only tested it out before, and feeling danger, he did something he hadn't before—infused ALL of his Mystic Runes into his Imperial Heaven Physique. Normally, he would only send one or two types of Mystic Runes to activate the 3rd Grand Transformation. This time? He used all eight types.

He had never felt much power before.

Yet it wasn't enough; he faced that beam of absolute death in that state and felt certain that it was over. When the pearl was breached, he was a sitting duck at a shooting range. The sheer aura emitted from the beam prevented him from moving.

He was absolutely, totally, completely certain, beyond a shadow of a fucking doubt, dead if hit. The elemental beam might have been 70% charged, but it could injure or outright kill a careless Worldly Saint. It was the accumulation of millennia of concentrated effort and boundless resources of Earthly Saints. That couldn't be underestimated. Facing his impending death, the only thing he could think about was how he grossly underestimated the strength of these formations and arrays, so severely that it cost him his life.

He was once again reminded, no, outright humbled by his overconfidence. He swore to never belittle an opponent again. Ever. Fortunately, he was saved again at the last moment.

Wei Wuyin had opened a Void Gate that enveloped him just short of being struck, sending him outside the Worldscape, to the edge of the Starfield. A Void Anchor had been set prior to arriving, for safety sake. It was Wen Mingna who felt her death incoming, being a Heavenly Seer, and Wei Wuyin acted without any hesitation.

Wen Mingna had saved their lives twice. And while those both involved her life being threatened too, it was enough to bail them out of a very, very dangerous situation. Thankfully, almost every spatial restrictive array in the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region only targeted Spatial Shifting, a fixed space ability. His Void Powers were a godly advantage that could shatter expectations.

Right after, Wu Yu swore to never let his guard down again. He would conclude any battle with the swiftest, merciless means. If he had outright used his full power, none of this would've happened. He was far stronger than Han Yuhei, even empowered by his arrays, especially in the 3rd Grand Transformation.

"Don't kill me," Gong Lau's voice squeaked out of his broken throat, causing his neck to break a little more. Despite his lofty status as an Earthly Saint, he begged for his life as pathetically as any mortal.

He wasn't begging to save them all, just himself. Considering Han Yuhei seemed to have a relationship with Wu Yu, still alive despite using every means available to him, then Wu Yu would definitely not kill him. And Zhang Ziyi was a beautiful female Earthly Saint, her use for a male counterpart was incredibly apparent. All she had to do was spread her legs, and her life would be spared. She might even experience boosts in her cultivation if Wu Yu was kind to mutually dual cultivation.

This was how it went for mortals. When he was younger, Gong Lau didn't hesitate to slaughter males and take women, stealing, plundering, and scheming. He didn't reach the Earthly Saint Phase from being kind-hearted.

Wu Yu gave Gong Lau a cursory glance. Out of the three, he was the only one who wanted to kill Wei Wuyin. His thoughts and character were obvious. If it wasn't for Wei Wuyin's order, he would slaughter this parasite.

Oh right! Wasn't he the Earthly Saint that handled the True Element Sect's parasitic factions that fed off the World Sect's protective oath? He had no idea why Han Xei and little Yu would keep them alive, but considering the theme of this stellar region, mythical oaths must've been sworn.

Fortunately, he had none of those oaths.

"Hm? Where's your other Earthly Saint?" A thought shot into Wu Yu's mind. He recalled from Ma Zheng that the True Element Sect might have three official Earthly Saints, but those parasites had two. One handled the True Element Sect, keeping them in line, ensuring their resources were properly given and maintained, and the other led the various clans that sucked the sect dry.

"...!" Gong Lau gurgled unnaturally.

Wu Yu furrowed his brows, killing intent flickering within his eyes. Gong Lau's heart was racing, cold sweat littered his brow, and his fingers felt numb. If his cultivation base wasn't sealed, none of this could happen, yet he felt as weak as a mortal.

"He's injured. I think they're recuperating in the Golden Life Pavilion's healing realm." Zhang Ziyi answered. She had kept active tabs of the various Earthly Saints of the parasites outside. The absence of that Earthly Saint as of late was quite curious, so she delved into it. She learned from a member of the Ma Clan that they were healing at another Golden Life Pavilion's branch.

"Injured? When?" Suddenly, a figure flew over on the back of Bai Lin. With the three Earthly Saints suppressed, he could enter any location on planet Origin as freely as he wanted. He had left earlier to find that familiar aura, but Wen Mingna had discovered that one of the Earthly Saints might be key to finding what he was searching for. So he returned, deciding to put it off for now.

Zhang Ziyi gave Wei Wuyin an odd look as she looked at the Fire Phoenix. "I don't know the exact date, but it was definitely after the Fire Phoenix's failed capture."

"You're saying?" Wu Yu was taken aback, intrigued.

"I'm not saying anything, just stating a timeline." Despite her current predicament, she adamantly denied any suggestions towards any conclusion. Her reluctance to be associated was apparent.

Wei Wuyin, however, caught it loud and clear. He gave Wu Yu a 'look', turning his focus to Gong Lau.

Wei Wuyin indifferently said, "Kill him." His voice wasn't cold, but the way he said those two words so indifferently made one's heart grow incredibly cold.

Wu Yu grinned. He didn't hesitate as Gong Lau's frantic gurgles became hectic and pleading, he struggled against his internal seals but to no avail. Wu Yu simply placed his hand on his head, and then, a surge of chaotic mystic power surged into his body without mercy. Gong Lau's eyes violently bulged, popping out of his skull before his blood gushed profusely out of his seven orifices.

His body was dead.

But Wu Yu had learned from his mistakes, sending a burst of spiritual power to assault Gong Lau's Mystic Soul. It squealed pathetically before a shattering sound echoed for tens of thousands of miles. It unnaturally caused one to feel a painful urge to cringe.

BOOM!

His body, blood, bones, and cranial fluid exploded, disintegrating under the immense power.

Gong Lau was truly dead.

Zhang Ziyi was horrified. Han Yuhei's head snapped upward as he watched everything unfold! Seeing the death of an Earthly Saint was a harsh reminder of their current reality!

Wei Wuyin didn't bother with their intense reactions, touching Wu Yu's shoulder.

Suddenly, the world froze.

Chapter 843: Eighty-Three Oaths & A Clue

Karmic Luck Value: 44,122.9.

First Calamity: Survived - 7/7.

Second Calamity: Claimed - 1/1.

Third Calamity: Suppressed - 15 Years.

Karmic Luck Value: 44,659.9.

First Calamity: Survived - 7/7.

Second Calamity: Claimed - 1/1.

Third Calamity: Suppressed - 15 Years.

The temporal flow of the world normalized. Along with it, the two Earthly Saints' facial expressions were ashen. There wasn't a speck of Gong Lau's existence remaining, body or spirit, and this was a terrifying reality. Their shock swiftly became panicked fear.

Zhang Ziyi gulped. While they might be Ascended beings that wielded powers that exceeded Mortal Limits, reigning as some of the strongest in their world, this event had regressed their thoughts and reminded them of their vulnerability to those with true power.

Han Yuhei clenched his teeth, looking at Wu Yu who wore a faint satisfied smile. That satisfied smile that he had seen numerous times before. He felt as if he had become thousands of years younger, when he was forced to bow his head and acquiesce to another's will. He couldn't help but tighten his hands into trembling fists.

"Why did..." Zhang Ziyi started to speak in a disbelieving voice, seeking an explanation, but she stopped herself from continuing as a strike of lightning crashed into her mind. This lightning was one of realization!

Gong Lau, the leader of the True Origin Faction, the spy of those parasites, had met his untimely end. Due to a variety of mythical oaths constraining them, the Earthly Saints were unable to act against each other, each other's factions, or those parasitic clans outside the True Element Sect. But Wu Yu wasn't subjected to any oath or restraints.

Was this an opportunity?

While the two Earthly Saints experienced their own mental booms, Wu Yu stared at his palm. The sensation of ending an Earthly Saint's life lingered. However, that growing confidence was doused as he was reminded of that elemental beam of death. He couldn't allow himself to grow complacent or satisfied, so his smile slowly vanished from his face.

'537.' Wei Wuyin's verified his various thoughts after this development. While this wasn't enough to have indisputable proof that Gong Lau was a member of Trueborn, he was definitely a Sinner. However, from his assumed reduction of Karmic Luck off second-hand kills, this Gong Lau was certainly a heavy sinner. This large quantity of Karmic Luck could be attributed to his Ascended being status rather than Karmic Sin earned. Unfortunately, Wei Wuyin didn't have an exact calculation sheet.

'Since this is the case, the third Earthly Saint that escaped from the Legion Commander is the Elementus Domain's multi-clan leader. The timing would be too coincidental otherwise. Also, for fear of being noticed or tracked down, they likely hid in another Domain in secrecy.' When he recalled the World Prison True Queen's death after escaping from the Legion Commander, he felt that the Earthly Saint had gone into hiding in fear for their life. If Zhang Ziyi was correct, then he was at the Golden Life Pavilion, a notorious neutral force in the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region.

Wei Wuyin's thoughts kept circulating; this discovery and theory was bringing him all sorts of fresh ideas. 'Are Trueborn members being hunted by something or someone?' This thought couldn't help but emerge after some consideration. There was some evidence that may be the case.

The Soul-Rising Saint's vanishing act after the failed Trueborn assault in her domain was quite strange. Was there more to it?

A shadow war behind the scenes?

Wei Wuyin decided to get a more detailed report of the stellar region when possible, preferably by purchasing it from the Golden Gate Pavilion. Ma Zheng might have access to more answers. With his goals set, he had to ensure that operating with ignorance wasn't his go-to.

As such, Wei Wuyin was quite familiar with the overall detail of the True Element Sect's internal politics and crisis. He didn't expect for Gong Lau to have killing intent for him considering the nature of his faction and interests. In fact, he didn't mind Gong Lau existing alongside him, which is why he hadn't given Wu Yu orders to act freely before. Gong Lau had some uses.

But after learning that he might be a member of Trueborn, and considering they might act against him after Bai Lin's existence was connected to him, he decided to verify his theories, eliminate a potential threat, and soothe his thoughts.

"Young Lord, what about these two?" Wu Yu asked.

Wei Wuyin's train of thought came to a conclusion, and he heaved a heavy sigh. His reaction caused both Han Yuhei and Zhang Ziyi to tense up. The latter wanted to speak, but Wu Yu sealed her throat with a wave of his hand. Besides some choking noises, she couldn't say anything to plead her case.

Wu Yu knew what Zhang Ziyi wanted to say. He decided to save her the embarrassment. She was an Earthly Saint, while she was kneeling before a mortal, her life decided by his whim, it would be endlessly humiliating for her to beg like Gong Lau. Whatever concessions she was intending to make or deals, there was no need.

After all, if Wei Wuyin wanted them dead, he wouldn't have ordered him to avoid slaughtering them. Gong Lau's folly was showing his killing intent and suspicions of being a part of Trueborn, an organization that Wei Wuyin had mercilessly dealt with several times. Of course, Wu Yu had no way of knowing all of Wei Wuyin's motivations.

As for offering wealth, Wei Wuyin could loot this entire Domain without anyone capable of stopping him.

"First," Wei Wuyin 'looked' to Han Yuhei, "I want to first apologize for my heavy-handed manner of dealing with all this. It was only in self-defense after Gong Lau had decided to act against me, lying to

you two. Since you two had learned of his betrayal and manipulation early, dealt with Gong Lau, deactivated the array, sparing and saving my life as a result, I am forever thankful.

"It was just unfortunate that I had Wu Yu act after you suffered weakness. That was a major mistake of mine."

"..." Han Yuhei.

"...?" Zhang Ziyi.

Wu Yu couldn't hold his smile, clearly unable to conceal his amusement. A story was being sewed together, weaved with a fabric of twisted lies. At the moment, the majority of the population was unaware of various details that happened in the Elementus Domain, just that they fought a great enemy. Those on Origin, however, were deeply aware of what happened. Those high-level cultivators might be aware of the end-result.

There might even be recording jades being used.

But Wei Wuyin was fabricating a story to explain it all away, putting the blame on Gong Lau and suggesting that he betrayed the sect. The True Element Sect and the Elementus Domain had exhausted themselves thoroughly, so if they laid this at Gong Lau's feet, then his faction would be responsible for the misuse of the formation. All responsibility laid at their feet.

Wei Wuyin was clearly aware of the financial instability the sect faced, and Gong Lau's faction held tremendous wealth.

"...Why?" Han Yuhei was silent for a long while. This was his decision. In fact, he had calmed down after Gong Lau's death. He felt that he was certainly next. After all, he used an entire domain to assault Wu Yu. It didn't make sense why such a tyrannical cultivator would spare his life.

Wei Wuyin turned to Wu Yu. "Trust me, I'm baffled too. If it wasn't for Wu Yu, I would kill all three of you without a blink of an eye, collapsing the True Element Sect today, and scavenging the remains for myself. But since he seems to care about you, I'm fine with this result too. As long as..." Wei Wuyin returned his focus to Han Yuhei, continuing: "As long as you're willing to accept it and swear a mythical oath."

"..." Han Yuhei was stunned. Care? He couldn't help but look at Wu Yu. Han Yuhei wanted nothing more than to kill Wu Yu, yet Wu Yu cared for him? He was incredibly confused, in complete and utter disbelief. He couldn't accept that statement. How could he?

There was only hate, vengeance, repressed anger, and a sense of inferiority born in his heart when he thought of Wu Yu. He didn't have so much as a single good memory in his mind relating to this abhorrently arrogant man! Yet he cared?

It would be an understatement to say confused at this point, he felt as if the world wasn't the same as it was a minute ago. Wu Yu had killed people for far less than trying to kill him.

"Little Yu, don't overthink it. If you want, I can still kill you." Wu Yu said, a cold chill in his eyes.

The feeling splashed Han Yuhei awake. He hastily responded, "I'll do it...I'll swear that oath." This was a blessing, a gift that couldn't be understood, but it didn't matter. If the alternative was death, he much rather choose life. He was still so young, having over twenty-thousand years of life left.

Wei Wuyin nodded. While the story might have to be refined a little, this was for the best. Zhang Ziyi didn't even have a say in this, she just had to agree. Wu Yu had indeed saved her from making any embarrassing attempts basing her dignity, since the choice wasn't in her hands.

The mythical oaths were sworn, covering many details, especially concerning Wei Wuyin's safety and protection. While in the Aeternal Sky Starfield, the two swore to assist Wei Wuyin with any objective he had, as long as it didn't infringe on certain liberties, principles, or threaten their lives. The oaths were extremely reasonable and airtight, but only lasted for three thousand years. To Earthly Saints, three thousand years was short.

They weren't his subordinates or slaves, but just helpers if needed. Furthermore, information regarding certain topics couldn't be disclosed. Even if discovered later on, this would remain strong.

The two were thoroughly shocked by the contents of these oaths. They weren't very restrictive. This was the punishment for their act of trying to kill them? Wei Wuyin saw their shock and attributed it to Wu Yu's personal request, once again causing Han Yuhei's stomach to grow uneasy and his thoughts to feel messy.

While Han Yuhei was unable to know that Wu Yu had never asked for any of this, Wei Wuyin merely said these things in the hopes of easing relations for now, to better suit his purpose. Moreover, killing them would actually negatively affect his plans. He needed at least one of them alive, but two made it seem less deliberate and honest.

Once again, Wu Yu was reminded of Wei Wuyin's scariness. He could visibly see the aggression in Han Yuhei's eyes lessen, feeling guilt even, likely questioning everything. Of course, if it was up to him, Wu Yu would've unhesitatingly crippled them both and taken over the sect.

As long as the Lin Clan survived, the True Element Sect's oaths would remain strong. As such, this would be an amazing base of operations, especially with the Imperial Clan held back by their old mistakes. But this worked too. Wei Wuyin had kept two guardians to maintain this safe house of his.

Furthermore, he learned thoroughly about all those restrictive oaths the two swore with the various mystic-tier forces and Imperial Clan. When he learned that more than a hundred different oaths were sworn, he was absolutely staggered by all of this, even more so by the contents of the oaths.

He now knew why the parasites decided to be parasites.

Holy fuck!

Not only were those territories in the Elementus Domain essentially lost forever, it was the True Element Sect's responsibility to protect it from all sorts of invaders. And those oaths affected every member of the True Element Sect, former or otherwise, so leaving the sect didn't help. Even if you did, and found a way to free yourself from the oaths, intending to eliminate the parasites, the True Element Sect was the first line of defense!

Yet the external clans had no real obligation or oaths in place to force them to act. If they decided, they could abandon the True Element Sect without any repercussions. For example, if the Imperial Clan freed themselves from all oaths and came knocking. The True Element Sect must defend while those clans could escape.

If it wasn't for Gong Lau being considered a member of the True Element Sect, not the external clans, Wei Wuyin would've been forced to kill these two Earthly Saints right now.

It was extremely depressing.

Wei Wuyin couldn't help but think about what other oaths were sworn by the various forces, and why was this a rampant part of their culture? Or was this a way to handle matters with absolute certainty? Especially in times of weakness?

Eventually, Wei Wuyin and Wu Yu shrugged off their astonishment. The latter had thought about eliminating those parasitic clans, but with how these oaths were worded, the True Element Sect wouldn't regain their territories as long as one person from these clans remained anywhere in the Aeternal Sky Starfield. Any violation would invoke punishment from the oath.

Perhaps it would be better to disband the True Element Sect, but doing so meant being open for assault from all sides, especially from the Lin Clan, and they would have no resources to use. They would never escape.

Wei Wuyin decided to ignore this. The abyss-like hole of the True Element Sect was dug unless the King of Everlore's conditions were met or his oath-breaking product was concocted. There was no other alternative.

"Have any of you heard of the Everlasting Spirit of the Nine Flames Spell?" This was the ocular spell that Ai Shenwu, the elf from the Four Extreme Continent, had mentioned. It had a similar structural foundation as the Eye of Immortality. Since the Everlore Starfield was long gone alongside the Four Extreme Continent and Myriad Monarch Sect, he could only hope these two knew of it.

If not, he intended to use Wen Mingna to scour for any information since the answer was here.

Zhang Ziyi was confused, clearly ignorant. But Han Yuhei's eyes had some reaction.

"Why?" He asked.

Wei Wuyin's heart leapt with anticipation.

Chapter 844: Other Versions

"I'm searching for it and its origins," Wei Wuyin explained. The Everlasting Spirit of the Nine Flames Spell was his only real clue to finding another copy of the Celestial Eyes of Spiritual Divinity Method. Hopefully, it was more detailed and contained an avenue for a solution to his ocular problems.

"Its origins?" Han Yuhei gave Wei Wuyin an inspective look. It seems he carried a hint of suspicion for some odd reason. Wu Yu frowned, "Little Yu, the Young Lord asked you a question. Answer it." There was a glint of dissatisfaction within.

Han Yuhei had to take a deep breath, tightening his fists to the point they shook. The name 'Little Yu' tugged at his patience and mental state. He never liked that nickname, even if Wu Yu had called him that since he was a kid. It didn't hold the endearing tone that others might think it did. At least, not to him.

Still, when he thought of his intense dislike towards Wu Yu, he recalled that his life and death was decided by Wei Wuyin, and Wu Yu was the only reason he could live. This caused tremendous conflict in his heart, but it was enough to calm his aggression. His fists loosened and he took a breath.

If anyone knew three Earthly Saints were being controlled to varying extents by a mere mortal, they would find this situation absolutely ridiculous. Thinking about it, his eyebrow lifted as he observed the handsome, closed-eyed Wei Wuyin.

How did a mortal help Wu Yu? There were rumors of Wei Wuyin being a Grand Alchemic Mortal Sovereign, but that was an unverified claim at best. There was no one who could attest to his ability as one. Wu Yu wasn't evidence of his status, he was a freakish talent in his own right. The Neo-Dawn Eclipse Pill legitimate creation by Wei Wuyin was up to much debate.

"Little Yu!" Wu Yu deeply exclaimed, snapping Han Yuhei out of his thoughts.

"Alright. I remember that spell, it was cultivated by one of Han Xei's Elementus Knights named Desi." Han Yuhei answered, recalling the nine Elementus Knights that Divine King Han Xei nurtured, a way to replicate his cousin's success. Unfortunately, none of them succeeded, ending at the Mystic Star Phase, at most. But only four had done so, the other five fail at the Temporal Eye Phase.

"Desi?" Wei Wuyin instantly remembered this name. It was the so-called Divinity of the Desolate Lands, worshiped by humans and elves alike. Si De, the Grand Priestess of the Desolate Lands, had named herself after it.

Han Yuhei continued after a curt nod, "Desi was a Starlord that cultivated a powerful Ocular-type Spiritual Spell. It could nurture and expel nine types of elemental flames, all mid-level in grade. It was rather destructive and could achieve Permanence without reaching the Zenith Mortal State."

Wei Wuyin listened attentively. But he was confused, why would such a spell have similarities to the Eye of Immortality? It did nothing...

Wait!

"Achieve Permanence without the Zenith Mortal State?" Wei Wuyin focused heavily on this aspect. He added, "Are you sure its Permanence?"

Han Yuhei felt somewhat offended that a mortal was questioning his judgment, but when he turned to see Wu Yu's steely gaze, he sighed and nodded. "It couldn't be extinguished without a strength far more powerful than it, otherwise it'll stay burning without end. It's why I recall it so acutely, I hated training against him. Unfortunately, it couldn't be cultivated alongside other Ocular Methods."

"..." Wei Wuyin's mind was stirring like a storm.

Wu Yu timely added through spiritual transmission, "It seems to contain similarities to the Everlore Eyes of Endlessness." That ocular spell could nurture external essences and materials of a certain type for its

own usage. Considering endlessness was a synonym of Permanence, perhaps the link was there. While the Everlasting Spirit of Nine Flames used flames for battle and the Everlore Eyes of Endlessness used wood materials for concoctions, they had strong similarities, but also strong differences.

Wei Wuyin felt as if a lightning bolt had struck in his mind. Those two spells seemed to be cut from the same cloth but of different types. He steadied his thoughts, turning to Han Yuhei and asking: "Do you recall any other spells of that characteristic? Nurturing for usage? Gaining Permanence?"

Han Yuhei shook his head without hesitation. He wasn't familiar with the King of Everlore like Wu Yu, so. His cousin ensured that they had very, very little contact. He didn't know why but he always felt a strong degree of separation enforced by his cousin towards the King of Everlore.

Wei Wuyin felt that those two spells were deviated from the Eye of Immortality. He recalled the Celestial Eyes of Spiritual Divinity's details, including how dangerous it was to cultivate. According to it, one had to inscribe unique Spiritual Formations inside their Eye, Sea of Consciousness, and Mind's Eye.

These formations acted as the basis for the Eye of Immortality, Eye of Truth, and Eye of Illusion. The cultivation method was absurd, requiring simultaneous inscription of three Spiritual Formations on three sensitive areas at the same time alongside having an absurd amount of Spiritual Energies that vastly exceeded the norm. It felt ludicrous thinking of cultivating something so complicated, and the cost for the slightest failure was outright blindness forever, likely permanent damage to one's Sea of Consciousness and the Mind's Eye, the Doorway to the Soul and how cultivators extract their soul to form their Spirits of Cultivation.

If he was to meet that, his first instinct would be to burn it. It was...

Wait.

Wei Wuyin recalled that time accurately. He had seen the imagery of Fuxi, and even then, he intended to burn the book! He really did! Why? It was ridiculously impossible to cultivate it.

But he reasoned it out, thinking his current state of Four Spirits of Cultivation, eyes refined by True Dragon Bloodline Energies, and his Mind's Eye had fully strengthened thanks to two factors: his enlightenment towards the Soul after meeting the Black Skeleton and absorbing several of 'himself' after he lost his memories.

He had the qualifications to cultivate all three spells.

'How unlikely is that?' When Wei Wuyin finally delved into it, he had always thought that since his silver eyes linked himself to the King of Everlore from Tuo Bihan's words, which he now knew was very shady, that the King of Everlore had cultivated all three of these spells. He believed the King of Everlore legend was indomitable, and even such a risky spell was not capable of halting him.

What if he was wrong?

Shortly before finding the Celestial Eyes of Spiritual Divinity Method in the Martial King Dao Palace, he was talking to Tuo Bihan and lost twenty karmic luck after the method was mentioned. It was why he went to search for it.

What if he wasn't meant to cultivate the spell method directly? What if the King of Everlore didn't cultivate the Eye of Immortality, but created a derivative with less risk? What if this Desi did the same? Or found a method that had been derived from it?

"...!" Wei Wuyin felt his mind spin. The bow that tied it all together?

The Bloodline of Sin prevented the Heavenly Daos from perceiving his true abilities and limits, concealing a large portion of himself from it! How did it know he could cultivate the Celestial Eyes of Spiritual Divinity?! IT COULDN'T!

Wei Wuyin's inward reaction was intense, heart racing, blood pumping, and muscle tightening, but his outward reaction was calm, only a slightly raised set of eyebrows. He calmly asked, his voice a little deeper than before, "Did Desi create the spell?"

Han Yuhei scoffed, "No, he didn't. My cousin gave it to him. He found it amongst...he found it elsewhere after exploring an ancient ruin." Han Yuhei's sudden shift was suspicious. Wu Yu was about to force it out of him, but Wei Wuyin halted him with a raised hand.

"Was this before or after he became an Ascended being?" Wei Wuyin didn't delve into Divine King Han Xei's secrets, he just cared about the details surrounding it.

"After. And he gave the method out after he arrived in the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region. Why does the timeline matter?" Han Yuhei grew curious.

"Did the King of Everlore ever see the spell before?" Wei Wuyin asked.

"The Everlasting Spirit of Nine Flames? It's highly possible." Han Yuhei couldn't be certain, but considering the close relationship between the two, his cousin could've shown him the spell during their years or the King of Everlore could've gained interest in its abilities.

Wu Yu caught on, he sent spiritually: "You think the Everlore Eyes of Endlessness was devised from the Everlasting Spirit of Nine Flames?"

Wei Wuyin hesitatingly responded with, "Maybe."

"Would that mean it's unrelated to your ocular spell? The timeline is all wrong. After all, the King of Everlore cultivated his spell before arriving in the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region, not after." Wu Yu was skeptical.

Wei Wuyin shook his head, "Not if the Everlasting Spirit of Nine Flames was derived from the Celestial Eyes of Spiritual Divinity, taking qualities of the Eye of Immortality." Wei Wuyin kept pondering it all. He couldn't help but feel that he was missing something, something extremely vital.

"That doesn't make sense. Not only is the timeline wrong, the connection is impossible. Could it be that you're wrong? The two spells might have some similarities, but what if that's it? After all, I don't think the Everlore Eyes of Endlessness granted Permanence. I've seen two spell formations with similar foundations yet totally unrelated with their respective creators having no connections with each other. It can be a coincidence." Wu Yu suggested.

Wei Wuyin didn't reject this possibility. It was a reasonable conclusion. Suddenly, a spark ignited in his mind. "You said they were a coincidence? Then, those two creators, where did they learn spell

formation design? Regardless of how it navigated it, everything has an origin. Creativity is inspired by experience. Those two will certainly have a connection, the progenitor of that type of formation."

"..." Wu Yu was astonished. Wei Wuyin was reaching far, but he was right. Even if you have ten thousand degrees of separation, the connection was undeniable. Of course, since he met those two creators, then their degrees of separation wasn't so exaggerated.

"I think the Celestial Eyes of Spiritual Divinity is the progenitor of both spells. If so, then there's something missing." Wei Wuyin stated, feeling more certain as he continued. Their connection was undeniable, both nurtured their respective elements, but the ways they did so was different, like two different spells were introduced. For the Everlasting Spirit of Nine Flames, the Eye of Immortality. He just wasn't certain about the Everlore Eyes of Endlessness.

As for his Karmic Fortune, it was to devise an alternative spell out of the three sets of Celestial Eyes of Spiritual Divinity he found!

"Missing?"

"Yes." Wei Wuyin asserted.

"Are you're saying?" Wu Yu could see it now. The reason why the method was in his sect, how the timelines could connect, and how multiple cultivators from different areas devised similar techniques. It could only indicate copies, and divergent copies with different versions.

Wei Wuyin turned to Han Yuhei, saying something that made Kratos growl with dissatisfaction, "I need to talk to Divine King Han Xei."

Han Yuhei jolted in surprise.

Wei Wuyin felt more certain that the Celestial Eyes of Spiritual Divinity Method he obtained was incomplete!

Chapter 845: The Uncertain Location of the Divine King

"..." The atmosphere instantly shifted in tone upon the simple mention of Divine King Han Xei. Zhang Ziyi's reaction was to turn to Han Yuhei, her eyes and facial expressions gleaming with endless interest. Divine King Han Xei was a legendary member of the True Element Sect, but he hadn't made a public appearance in over a thousand years. He didn't have a life talisman established either, so his life-and-death was incredibly uncertain.

If it wasn't for Han Yuhei's constant reassurance of him living elsewhere, still present within the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region, they would've announced his removal as an active member on various councils and tributes. While it might be beneficial to falsely rep an additional Earthly Saint towards the outsiders, it hurt a lot of their official proceedings and diverted a portion of their resources.

Furthermore, these resources supposedly reserved for Divine King Han Xei were sent and delivered to his disciple, Lin Xianxian. Neither of the two factions wanted the Lin Clan to become stronger, especially the Shattered Elements Faction that hated them with an aggrieved passion. Yet these resources greatly contributed to the Lin Clan having multiple Ascended beings, including their Clan Master, Lin Xianxian.

If it wasn't for Divine King Han Xei's mandatory share, and Han Yuhei's guarantee, the Lin Clan would still be mulling about as a non-Mystic Clan. It was only this generation that the Lin Clan thrived beyond their years. The last three generations never became 'genuine' Ascended cultivators, entering the Soul of Mysticism Phase.

They were easier to control then, reduced to true puppets meant to be what they were—shields against the Imperial Clan.

Han Yuhei's surprise soon ended, replaced by an unsettling calm. Those nine-colored eyes of his were almost emotionless, and he responded dryly, "I have no way to contact the Nine-Divine Elementus King."

"..." Both Wu Yu and Wei Wuyin exchanged 'looks' before returning their focus onto Han Yuhei. Wei Wuyin asked, "Is he dead?"

Han Yuhei sighed. By this point, the two Earthly Saints had long since ended kneeling, and stood before Wei Wuyin and Wu Yu as if they were having a normal conversation. "He's not," he answered.

"How can you be certain of this if you have no way to contact him?" Wei Wuyin continued his line of questioning. He needed to find Divine King Han Xei for answers regarding the Celestial Eyes of Spiritual Divinity, including the Everlasting Spirit of Nine Flames. The other alternative was to find the King of Everlore, and that was an extremely difficult goal.

Han Yuhei looked at Wu Yu. Wu Yu warned, "Little Yu, it's best if you explain it all. I don't want to have to rip through the entire domain until I find him."

"You think he's here?" Zhang Ziyi couldn't help but ask. They had tried many means to locate Divine King Han Xei, even using the Golden Gate Pavilion, but they discovered nothing useful.

"I know he's here," Wu Yu stated confidently. Han Yuhei's eyebrows twitched slightly, but he hurriedly regained his calm. Yet this was enough to reveal the truth. Wu Yu added while staring at Han Yuhei, "If there's one thing I know about him, Divine King Han Xei doesn't abandon family."

"..." Wu Yu's incredible confidence caused all eyes to look at Han Yuhei. Witnessing his unfazed reaction, it was impossible for doubts not to pop into Zhang Ziyi's mind.

"I can't," Han Yuhei answered, his voice absolutely firm and unyielding. He didn't seem like anything would force him to speak. Wei Wuyin was considering everything at this moment, even weighing torture, or risking it by using Eden to sift through his memories after being subjugated. He would normally never resort to it, but it was a clue that could lead to more answers regarding the Celestial Eyes of Spiritual Divinity.

"Don't," Eden interjected. This wasn't the first time. He had wanted to delve into the mind of Ascended beings for a long time, but Eden kept refusing to do so. While he felt that his foundation and powers might be enough to enter, Eden was vehemently against trying it at all. Unfortunately, it couldn't explain the reason why with any sort of clarity, simply that it was a terrible idea.

Eden was far more aware of its limitations than he was, so he never tried it. Still, Han Yuhei seemed to be held back by more than loyalty.

"A Mythical Oath?" Wei Wuyin asked.

"Several," Han Yuhei admitted. He didn't hide the fact that he swore to keep certain details a secret, so even if he wanted to speak, which he wouldn't even if tortured, he couldn't without suffering terrifying consequences.

"How bothersome," Wu Yu scoffed. He sent to Wei Wuyin spiritually: "Do you need him?" If Wei Wuyin gave the order, he would search through the entire Elementus Domain without any hesitation, dragging him out of wherever he's hiding. It's not like they could stop him.

Wei Wuyin pondered for a long moment, asking spiritually: "If he's hiding, injured or in a precarious state, your actions could lead to his death or a forceful retaliation. What I'm really concerned about is if he's recovering from an injury, heavily protected by formations, tools, or pellets which could lead to our deaths."

"Pellets?" Wu Yu's eyes brightened instantly, suffused with a little bit of weariness. He recalled how the King of Everlore had bestowed them protective pellets to face off against the rampaging beasts during their growth period. At that time, those pellets were devastating. If after the King of Everlore became a Worldly Saint Alchemist, he left behind some protective pellets for those in his entourage, then finding Divine King Han Xei could lead to disastrous consequences.

"I might not need him," Wei Wuyin carefully considered his options. Wen Mingna might be able to help do this with her various divination powers as long as he knew what he was trying to find.

"Little Yu, do you have a copy of the Everlasting Spirit of Nine Flames?" Wei Wuyin asked Han Yuhei, but he immediately realized that he had called Han Yuhei 'little Yu' after the expressions of the two Earthly Saints changed. Wu Yu chuckled loudly, clearly amused.

"...The sect does." Han Yuhei's eyes narrowed as he sent a scathing gaze towards Wu Yu. To be called 'Little Yu' by a mortal that was a hundred of times younger than him was as humiliating as it sounded. "It should be in the sect's library. I'll send someone to get it."

Han Yuhei and Zhang Ziyi's cultivation bases were unsealed after swearing their oaths, but they were still greatly drained. As for their spatial rings, they were claimed by Wu Yu earlier, offered to Wei Wuyin. Shockingly, Han Yuhei did not have an Internal World of his own. But the wealth within these rings were insignificant to Wei Wuyin, besides carefully sealed mystic-graded armaments, everything else was below mystic-grade.

The true wealth of the sect belonged inside a specially-crafted vault protected by so many layers and redundancies that Earthly Saints would find it impossible to breach safely without years of arduous effort. It was similar to the Soul-Rising Domain's vault that was robbed by the Soul-Rising Saint, it stored the majority of the sect's mystic-graded resources.

While they waited, Zhang Ziyi was quite talkative. She engaged with Wu Yu in a few topics regarding mysticism, and Wu Yu had snagged her interest. Before long, she was avidly listening to him with a starstruck gaze.

Han Yuhei was silent, but from the faint light sparking from time to time in his eyes, one could tell he was listening from the side. Wei Wuyin was quite surprised by Wu Yu. Even the United Source True Queen had been intrigued and amazed by his words. Of course, Wei Wuyin couldn't understand 99% of it, as they spoke in Mysticism.

'Could it be that the Language of Mysticism helps or does comprehending a Mystic Rune bears a similarity to ascending beyond a realm?' Of course, if Wei Wuyin knew that Wu Yu was just talking loose details about the Blood Origin Method, he wouldn't know whether to laugh or cry. After all, the cultivation methods of the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region were clearly insufficient in terms of profoundness and grade.

Suddenly, Zhang Ziyi asked as if enlightened: "Alchemic Sovereign Wei, while Han Yuhei has no way to contact the Nine-Divine Elementus King, your fiancée is his disciple. She's bound to have a way."

Han Yuhei's expression changed.

Wei Wuyin lifted his brows. Fiancée? Na Xinyi is in the Dark Yin Palace. Wait. There shouldn't be anyone besides those in Na Xinyi's close friendship, mostly Valkyries, that were aware of their relationship. She should be developing with just a friendly association, not with that label. Only Xue Yifei was well-known as his concubine.

Wu Yu reminded, "The Saintess of this sect, Young Lord."

"Oh, right." Wei Wuyin recalled the rumor that was used to better the True Element Sect's relations with others, creating a further connection beyond Chosen. He knew that the rumor was circulating, but he didn't think the Earthly Saint of the sect would genuinely think that would be the case. Wasn't it a scheme by them? Why did Zhang Ziyi truly seem genuine in her reminder?

Han Yuhei was also strange, as if he was trying to read Wei Wuyin's expressions.

"Well, we have time. Let's do that," Wei Wuyin didn't expect anything out of it, because if Han Yuhei had oaths, there's no way the other wouldn't have oaths to protect her. However, towards this Saintess that he never met or seen, he was extremely curious about her.

"If she's a mortal, let's search her memories," Eden outright suggested without any hesitation. It had no issues sifting through mortal beings' minds.

Wei Wuyin faintly smiled, "Sure." He gestured towards Zhang Ziyi, "Lead the way to this fiancée of mine."

Kree!

Bai Lin's wings unfurled with excitement. She wanted to know who had the audacity to think they were worthy enough to pretend to be Wei Wuyin's fiancée!

Chapter 846: Life & The Fiancée

The Elementus Domain's inhabitants had settled down with the powering down of the arrays and formations, heaving sighs of relief as their homes were no longer drained of their core energies, yet there was something that drew concern from those who could see beyond the Sky Layers of their planets.

The Domain-sealing formation hadn't dissipated! The entire Elementus Domain was sealed by this barrier, and many travelers and tourists were stuck in the Elementus Domain without a way to go home or communicate with their loved ones. While only a short while had passed, the True Element Sect was barraged by spiritually transmitted requests to drop the barrier.

Those operating the formation were most tense. The resources were drawn from the True Element Sect's already strained reserves, but since orders hadn't come down to cease, they could only grit their teeth and persist.

The Mystic Star Phase cultivator, a middle-aged man with a bald head, stern eyes, and round belly, who was in charge of this formation was sweating bullets. There was a continuous stream of transmitted messages from other departments, all demanding answers when or if the formation would be ended. Some of these came from powerful experts with high backing, and he was stressed to provide an answer.

Unfortunately, he could only politely explain and tell others to simply be patient.

He looked to the sky, his eyes solemn as he gauged their remaining resources, such as the astral stones and mystic stones. "We can only keep it open for three more days...then, we're..." He didn't want to say it, but those assisting him all understood.

The True Element Sect wouldn't just be in financial crisis, they would bottom out to nothing. They would be the first World Sect in history to become broke!

While panic and impatience was setting in at various locations, fear and horror was being felt in two places: the True Element Sect's Life-Viewing Palace and the Gong Clan. They both contained Life Talismans of Gong Lau, and simultaneously, they experienced the same world-shaking event! The Life Talisman of Gong Lau had shattered!!!

The Life-Viewing Palace's Soul of Mysticism expert in charge paled, hurriedly sending messages to Zhang Ziyi and Han Yuhei informing them of this event. After checking to ensure that both of their Life Talismans were stable, he sighed with relief. But when he received simultaneous messages from those Earthly Saints, his expression grew unbearably odd.

"The criminal Gong Lau has been executed."

"That traitor has been removed from his position; resume your duties."

The first was obviously from Zhang Ziyi, while the latter was from Han Yuhei. The first revealed far more information than the second, and the Soul of Mysticism expert felt like he was being forced to play a role. Considering his previous allegiance, he couldn't help but grab a transmission jade and sent a message to the Nansi Clan, the leader of the external forces.

It read: "Gong Lau has been deemed a traitor and executed!"

The waves this caused for those external clans...unimaginably massive.

The Aeternal Sky Starfield wasn't blind; the vast majority of mystic forces realized the Elementus Domain had been sealed off. This was the second time a Domain had been sealed in under a year, so this event brought along numerous questions. The neighbors of the Elementus Domain, the Everlore Domain and Skyrend Domain were the first to notice, but neither reacted in any meaningful way.

At first, there were some cursory investigations, but with the domain sealed, there was little they could do without breaching the barrier and causing additional conflict. This degree of response, however, was

very short-lived. The barrier stayed open for an hour, and then this drew concern and interest from all over.

What was happening?

The Mystic Tier forces didn't hesitate to have their Seers calculate and divinate the events within or its outcome. Unfortunately, they were stumped and widely inconsistent. Some were certain with their responses: Nothing was happening!

Others were absolutely baffled: The Elementus Domain is being protected against Heavenly Sight!

The conflict was egregiously random. Some powerful Seers of similar skill had two different responses, while weaker ones saw something that led to nothing, and stronger ones saw absolutely nothing due to being blocked! This drew confusion and escalated interest to the absolute limit.

Of course, the reason they all had such different divinations was due to their subject to search rather than power or ability. With Wu Yu involved, those who inspected the True Element Sect couldn't calculate anything while being blocked off due to Wu Yu's own strength. With Wei Wuyin involved, if they calculated the Elementus Domain, they would see everything as normal.

With their Seers' senses scrambled, the Elementus Domain garnered greater interest in an extremely short period of time. With enough motivation and energy, the intelligent and astute cultivators and Seers worked together to form a theory, and it was then that a conclusion was reached.

Wu Yu was in the True Element Sect!

While conflict or not was unable to be determined, this was the working theory as to why the True Element Sect was blocked from sight. There was no genuine proof of this being the case, so it was but one of a thousand theories. The Everlore Domain, however, didn't react to this possibility. They had agreed to openly stop any aggression toward Wu Yu and Wei Wuyin, so they didn't take action, but a force that no one expected began to see organized, swift movement!

The Imperial Clan!

Three gigantic-sized Voidships with full combat-type modifications had begun to be fueled and stocked. They were seemingly preparing to make their way through the Aeternal Sky Starfield and to the Elementus Domain! No one knew how many experts were fielded in this or why they were being sent, but the Imperial Clan hadn't made any active moves like this in centuries! It drew the curiosity of all!

In the Ma Clan's Grand Horse Domain, Ma Zheng and Ma Sujiang were standing together by a beautiful, scenic lakeside. The water was fresh and clear, the air was sweet, and the environment had faint chirping of birds.

The source of this content is Freewebnovel.com.

Ma Zheng's complexion was infused with a darker shade of yellow, and there were a few darkened spots at his neck. His eyes were languidly observing the lake's surface, and his breathing was long, heavy, and fragile.

"Father..." Ma Sujiang called out softly. It was rare for her to refer to Ma Zheng as father, but her emotions were swelling within her heart. She clenched her fists, viciously cursing those of the Main Life Branch of the Golden Life Pavilion in her mind.

Ma Zheng lifted his eyes and looked to the beautiful sky of their Grand Horse Domain. Since meeting Wei Wuyin, so many things had changed wildly, cascading with torrential floods of uncertainty. At first, he was just a talented junior that he wanted to invest in.

Then, he became the youngest Grand Mortal Sovereign Alchemist. The invention and introduction of the Neo-Dawn Eclipse Pill was revolutionary, and the standards of the entire Grand Cyclic Stellar Region would soon be overturned from it.

The potential and talent of this young man had infused him with enough confidence to take strides in regaining the Ma Clan's rightful position as the Head Branch Clan, and he was already seeing stellar results. Everything was going as planned, and with them lulled into a false sense of security, he would soon obtain the leverage to retake his position.

But this fortunate star had also induced desperation into others. So much so that their reactions had completely changed, removing their complacency and instilling outright fear.

It all started with informing the Ninestar Sainthall about the possible connection that Wei Wuyin had with the Fire Phoenix. This was meant to halt them from offending him, hopefully saving Wei Wuyin some trouble or ensuring the Fire Phoenix wasn't killed by accident. The information worked, but it eventually leaked out, and the situation hadn't gone as expected.

A foreign Earthly Saint arrived via a Rainbow Bridge and outright devastated the Tang Clan, killing an Earthly Saint, offending Trueborn, and left without issue. A good result then, but the waves that followed smashed against the shores of his plans.

The Main Life Branch had started to become nervous. How could he be the only one that sees faint shifts in worldly dynamics? They urged him to reveal Wei Wuyin's location or the means to communicate with him. He refused. For one, he was ignorant of where Wei Wuyin was and didn't have any way to communicate with him. Even if he could find a way, he wouldn't give it up.

Yet panic went into full-blown fear all due to one person: Wu Yu!

The newly ascended Earthly Saint without any tethers was born, and he wasn't weak. Just after ascending, he fought two Ever-Knights which could be considered elites with strong foundations and powerful armaments, and one was severely injured while the other lost their physical body—a partial death. He later escaped the Everlore Association.

Wei Wuyin had already formed a strong relationship with the Ma Clan in the eyes of everyone, and with his subtle movements of trying to inch for more power and authority with the upcoming contest, what was just a laughable attempt to them before had become a serious, terrifying threat that they couldn't ignore. The thought of a future Alchemic Saint and an unchained Earthly Saint aligning with the ambitious Ma Clan was too scary.

So the Main Life Branch acted. Or to be clear, Trueborn acted. They ambushed him after he was drawn out for a meeting by the 1st Branch, his so-called allies, and they severely injured him. While he had

means to protect himself and escape, he suffered damage that reduced his remaining Lifespan and Soulspan. He had already pushed his life to the limits that he could and nothing else worked.

His time was coming to an end...

"A shining star burns bright and hot," Ma Zheng softly stated. Ma Sujiang clenched her fists so tightly that blood leaked from her palms. Ma Zheng once said that when Wei Wuyin arrived, all these troubles would be like dust in the wind. But he was here now, and his actions ruined everything!

Ma Sujiang was angry, and she knew she was being unreasonable. No one told Ma Zheng to act to seize more power, setting a foundation to eventually regain the Golden Life Pavilion. But she still felt that Wei Wuyin was to blame!

Since his name was known, he'd caused far too many changes! She found it unbelievable that a mere mortal that wasn't even a hundred years old was causing all sorts of events and changes. The originally clam Grand Cyclic Stellar Region had been jumping up and down like fucking rabbits on drugs since.

Suddenly, her spatial ring glowed with spiritual light. It wasn't just hers, but Ma Zheng's. They read the information reports instinctively despite their emotions, and when they read it all, their eyes widened.

Ma Sujiang looked at Ma Zheng, seeing his fragile and dying state. She gritted her teeth, "If his backing is as amazing as you think, he should have a way to help you."

Ma Zheng closed his eyes. "The Imperial Clan is taking action; there isn't any time."

"They can't invade the Elementus Domain, so what does it matter?" Ma Sujiang didn't feel it was relevant. The Mythical Oaths established prevented the Imperial Clan from invading a territory without first being provoked or betrayed, and with the Lin Clan still present, the oaths were still in effect.

"No, they can't. But they can send reinforcements if they believe, within reason, that the Elementus Domain is under attack by a foreign force. In fact, they must." Ma Zheng reminded her with a slow verbal cadence.

"...But..." Ma Sujiang's beautiful eyes widened abruptly, remembering a few details of the Mythical Oaths. She couldn't help but give Ma Zheng a deep look, her emotions changing to righteous indignation.

"Who cares?! No matter what, we have to tell him about his fiancée and the Main Life Branch! We're going!" Ma Sujiang grabbed Ma Zheng. The once grand Demi-Mortal Lord couldn't resist as his daughter took him into the skies, vanishing in a flash of silver light.

"She's fine, so we-" Ma Zheng's voice lingered before abruptly cutting off.

Back at the True Element Sect, Wei Wuyin and Wen Mingna rode Bai Lin as they flew towards the True Element Sect. Wu Yu, Han Yuhei, and Zhang Ziyi flew on their own power, guiding the way to the sect.

Zhang Ziyi had a neutral expression, but her inner heart was entirely different. There was a brilliant light of joy and schadenfreude within her heart, fueled by anticipation.

'Finally, the Lin Clan will finally end, and how befitting it'll be at your own hands.'

Chapter 847: Meeting Again

Zhang Ziyi looked at Wei Wuyin; this person was far, far more incredible than she originally assumed. It was unlikely that his reputation as a Grand Mortal Sovereign Alchemist was fake when an Earthly Saint like Wu Yu, an 8th Runic Ascendant with the ability to face a World Sect, was his Alchemic Knight.

Furthermore, the Fire Phoenix suggested that he didn't just have one elite Earthly Saint as a subordinate, but two, and the Fire Phoenix was already a powerful and extraordinarily rare beast that had Demi-Mortal Lord combat prowess. Additionally, that girl beside him had an extremely stable and robust cultivation base, and her innate aura was lined deeply with the essence of fate and time, so she was undoubtedly a Heavenly Seer and definitely not an ordinary one.

The traces of time energies at her cultivation stage indicated a link to the upper echelon of the Grand Gate Pavilion or an abnormally strong independent backing. Only a few Heavenly Seers had cultivation methods with such qualities.

While she didn't expect Gong Lau's death or Wu Yu trouncing them all so ferociously, this still worked in the Shattered Elements Faction's favor. A slight, sly smile couldn't help but lift on her lips.

The rumor about the Lin Xianxei's engagement was as fragile as it was untrue—incredibly. Others might think of it as real due to the long stay of Lin Xianxei inside the Everlore Starfield, or because of her capacity as the Overseer for the trial that Wei Wuyin was decided as a Chosen, or even because she was a wanted nation-toppling beauty by all, but how could she not know?

The mother-daughter duo were liars that sought to capitalize on Wei Wuyin's elusiveness, reluctance to enter the True Element Sect, and aversion to making any statements about all the various rumors spreading, hoping to play on this for their own benefit. All for the sake of that Archaic Chosen, a loser who's already lost to Wei Wuyin, not once, not twice, but three times.

The first time that so-called Chosen lost was a draw with Wei Wuyin's subordinate! The second time he lost to Wei Wuyin was a fair contest of battle, and thus, the Archaic Chosen's qualification to become a genuine Chosen was effectively taken from him. Then, even despite being stacked and cheated against by unfair methods, Wei Wuyin exhibited exceptional talent at the last moment, gaining an exception and becoming a Chosen, claiming the entire Elementus Cache for himself.

With her means and status, how could she not know about all these details?

But Wei Wuyin seemed to be unconcerned about this rumor, so all Zhang Ziyi had to do was find a time to bring it up, and she did! Zhang Ziyi was teeming with endless anticipation. The Lin Clan had sunken the True Element Sect to the lowest depths, forced with all sorts of internalized conflicts and financial crises due to their idiotic decisions.

While Zhang Ziyi was in her thoughts, Wei Wuyin and Wu Yu were exchanging messages spiritually. The contents of their conversation were a brief overview of the True Element Sect's situation.

"The entire sect is at its wit's end. That fight has cost them an absurdly high price that they could barely afford. Their planets were drained, setting them back centuries if not reversing millennia of arduous efforts of those who lived in them." Wu Yu commented, discussing what they could loot from this

decaying corpse of a sect. But it was truly lacking in every way. The only saving grace might be the vault, but considering how horrible the situation was, that might not be enough to pick their teeth.

Wei Wuyin surmised his thoughts: "If what's said is true, and from the look of it, it seems so, then the majority of their resources should belong to the external clans."

Wu Yu agreed, adding: "You're likely right. But if their Earthly Saint from the Nansi Clan has an Internal World, they might keep it with them." An Internal World was a spatial dimension within an Ascended's body that could be used to contain mystic-graded materials. Without one or a specially crafted packaging carrier, it was impossible to transport them spatially. However, it was extremely difficult to cultivate, and most Earthly Saints lacked one.

One of the main reasons was that cultivators had to comprehend four out of the nine Mystic Runes—Mana, Spatial, Temporal, and Oceanic—to naturally generate one. There were a few cultivation methods that could overcome this stringent requirement, allowing certain Demi-Mortal Lords to cultivate one as well if they've reached a certain Rune Ascension involving these four Mystic Runes.

Wei Wuyin frowned slightly, "Your Internal World didn't seem very big."

Wu Yu's expression couldn't help but become a little strange, "It can get bigger. I'm still adjusting."

Wei Wuyin didn't know whether to laugh or cry hearing that very familiar tone, "I meant the size didn't seem to be able to contain a lot. Furthermore, shouldn't there be a limit to its spatial stability?"

Wu Yu hurriedly corrected his thinking. "Right. There is a limit to the amount of mystic-graded materials I can place within it or living beings. It's not an unlimited space. Are you suggesting...?"

"Yes. If they have a vault, find it. You know what to do after," Wei Wuyin sternly said. Wu Yu's eyes brightened. It's been a while since he last went on a heist. With a joyful grin, he looked toward Zhang Ziyi, who tried to hide her gleeful emotions, and Han Yuhei, who was stone-faced. He said, "I'll be right back."

With that, his body emitted a faint silver light, exuding dense spatial energies as he vanished as a streak of light with a cosmic trail glowing with multicolored stars. His movement shocked the two Earthly Saints, sending them into a brief confusion.

Han Yuhei halted mid-flight, contemplating following him, but at that moment, Wei Wuyin shouted: "Leave him be, let's hurry along." With that, Bai Lin released a cry and flew faster with a heavy flap of her wings. Zhang Ziyi was stumped for a moment. The Alchemic Knight was leaving Wei Wuyin?

Her first thought was: what if they decided to act against him? But then she recalled those Mythical Oath that prevented that and the fact that Wu Yu would've likely left behind several protective means that couldn't be breached in a short time. Considering Wu Yu's power, they would be hard-pressed to break through them to seize Wei Wuyin before he returned.

A feeling of inferiority swelled within her heart.

Han Yuhei looked at the disappearing Wu Yu, heavily frowning, but he could only heave a helpless sigh in the end. Since Wei Wuyin was leading this after their defeat, he could only comply. Whatever Wu Yu was up to, it wasn't something he could stop, so why bother?

He chased after Wei Wuyin and Zhang Ziyi.

In an idyllic courtyard, beautiful and calming, four cultivators were gathered, their eyes looking at the Sky Layer above with varying expressions. They were none other than Lin Xianxian, her mother—Lin Xianxian, Lin Ming, and the blind Si De. They were observing the Sky Layer, how it was currently thinner, a little gloomy, and without any activities beyond its limits.

It's been this way since the array had been deactivated. When it was activated, the white gloss of elemental power that encapsulated the planet had blocked their senses, visual and spiritual, and it felt like peering into the radiance of a Solar Star.

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"Is there no news?" Lin Ming asked the Sect Master of the True Element Sect, Lin Xianxian, who held a transmission jade in her hand. She had sent messages to many departments, acting upon her authority as Sect Master and what little power afforded to her. They were all waiting for her to receive further word.

The events were deeply unexpected. First, Wei Wuyin arrived alongside his Alchemic Knight, announcing his presence, and then the various arrays and formations began whirling into full activity as if facing a great enemy. The sect's experts mobilized into position and handled their duties with a sharp focus.

Yet it lasted for only a dozen or so seconds, then the booms and rippling waves that they felt from various collisions of vast, unfathomable power ceased at roughly the same time. It was surprisingly quick, but the outcome left them baffled.

"There's no word from the Grand Elders..." Lin Xianxian tensed, folding her arms against her stomach, lifting her ample chest slightly. She would be lying if she said she was calm!

"What about Wei Wuyin? Is he okay?" Si De's anxiety was at a ten relative to everyone who was at a solid five. She was fidgeting in place; her facial expression was painted with worry and concern. She was aware that Wei Wuyin was a mere mortal, and the True Element Sect was a grand World Sect. If they intended to harm him, chances were that he might not make it out alive. The fact she could feel the waves from combat while on a planet shielded by an entire array left her feeling all sorts of emotions.

She bit her lower lip anxiously, looking at Lin Xianxian with her sightless eyes.

"..." Lin Ming gave this blind woman another curious look, shocked by her frantic reaction. Why was she so worried?

"I don't know; there's no word except that the Domain-sealing formation is still active," Lin Xianxian answered truthfully. "Wait," she suddenly blurted out, causing all their expressions to shift. "The Earthly Saints' auras are approaching!"

Her heart was racing. She used her Soul of Mysticism level spiritual sense, catching a glimpse of the individuals approaching along with the Earthly Saints, and her thoughts grew still. She turned to Lin Xianxian, "Wei Wuyin is with them." The panic in her eyes was growing increasingly greater, and when she felt Zhang Ziyi's aura, her heart knew that that bitch wasn't going to let them have peace.

Lin Xianxue's slender fingers clenched into fists for a short moment before she relaxed completely, her face significantly eased, revealing a faint smile. It was clear that she thought this through, likely having some sort of plan.

Si De's expression similarly grew relieved; a slight smile formed on her expression.

Kree!

Bai Lin arrived at the airspace above the courtyard, and with a beautiful arc, she perfectly landed at an empty space, lowering her wings to the ground, and then lifted her body to flourish her wings.

The two Earthly Saints landed to Bai Lin's right and left; their unfathomable aura added to her already impressive appearance. They were forced to serve as side characters for this. Wei Wuyin floated upwards, the edges of his robes and hair fluttering about from the winds. Paired with his otherworldly handsome visage, he established an mythological Immortal's presence.

When he rose above Bai Lin's head, looking down at the four, they lifted their heads to observe him.

"You're here?!" Wei Wuyin spoke, his voice's presence as impressive as his countenance, causing the four of their expressions to change.

Furthermore, Zhang Ziyi's eyes began to change. She turned to see the shock and elation on Wei Wuyin's face, and her heart dropped a few degrees in the depths of her unwanted thoughts. 'Does he actually know Lin Xianxue?'

She began to panic. If the rumors held any truth, then...

Lin Xianxue, however, was even more panicked. Wei Wuyin's presence for a mortal fit his identity perfectly, and even she couldn't help but be moved! If she was just a few centuries younger, she might...

Unfortunately, their house of cards was about to crumble, and seeing Zhang Ziyi arrive with a satisfied and hateful glare hidden behind a small smile, she knew the situation was about to turn for the worse!

Lin Xianxue remained calm, facing Wei Wuyin with a steady gaze. She had seen Wei Wuyin a few times, so his handsomeness hadn't shaken her. That aside, she couldn't help but think of the words from the Grand Seer on that day:

"You should not want to find this man. He is everything you seek, foolish girl. All your dreams turned into reality, aspirations fulfilled, and even your future will be abundantly rich in happiness as long as you're with him; there is nothing you can't achieve. But..."

She didn't think about the latter half, looking at Lin Ming, who was seemingly calm, staring at Wei Wuyin directly as if in direct challenge. It was hard to resist clenching her fists or showing a reaction. She just kept repeating in her heart: 'Remain calm. Remain smart. Remain flexible.'

Lin Ming, on the other hand, was indeed staring at Wei Wuyin directly, and when he heard those words from him, that he was here, he faintly smiled. Damn right he was here! And he was determined to prove that Grand Seer wrong! They would have their rematch, proper and fair.

"HOLY SON!" A voice filled with an emotional overflow of excitement, yearning, and happiness resounded. A figure moved with extraordinary swiftness, traveling the courtyard and approaching the voice at incredible speeds!

The Earthly Saints and Lin Xianxei clearly saw it, but those at the Astral Core Realm only saw a blur. As they focused their eyes, they finally knew who that blur was!

Wei Wuyin held Si De, the blind woman, in his arms, her head resting on his chest as she clenched his robes with her arms. "So it was you," Wei Wuyin gently caressed her hair, feeling her heavy breathing that revealed so much pent-up emotional stress.

That familiar aura that he felt before? That was none other than the Grand Priestess Si De!

"..." Everyone.

Chapter 848: Relieved

An emotionally-fueled embrace that no one expected occurred, leaving everyone speechless. Whether it was Han Yuhei, Zhang Ziyi, Lin Xianxian, or Lin Ming, they all were besieged by confusion. The only individual that had some inkling of an idea of this development and why it happened was Lin Xianxei, yet her heart was still taken by surprise. The facade of calmness of hers broke a little.

Si De was her caretaker assigned to her by the sect during her horrid and tortuous stay in the Traceless Regret Valley, and she had mentioned that she knew Wei Wuyin to some degree, but the extent of their relationship she was told was completely different than what she was witnessing. They seemed more like long-lost lovers reunited than just a trusted subordinate of his during the War Devil Realm's Elementus Chosen Trial.

A corner of her upper lip twitched slightly. 'She lied to me?' The thought stabbed inside her mind as she recalled their conversations they had in the Traceless Regret Valley.

As the Overseer of the Elementus Chosen Trial, she was aware of Si De's original position and responsibilities. She was essentially a byproduct of her master's design, meant to upkeep the principles and purpose of the Chosen Trial through her predecessor's teachings. The so-called Divinities were merely his Elementus Knights masquerading as gods to instill the belief that foreign Chosen Candidates were like prophesied demi-gods selected by fate. They were meant to worship and heed their orders, helping them in their fights against the other Chosen Candidates.

Wei Wuyin's involvement in the trial had minimized their need, dominating the competition during the Season of Regression and capitalizing on the political environment and sociological flaws, systematically developed mistrust and built up grievances to turn the world against those in power. Si De was awed by this, fascinated even. She spoke about Wei Wuyin's actions, his stellar results and talented showing as a Holy Son, lauding his brilliance and dominating might along every step. When it was compared to what was told by Bai Yuxi, Lin Xianxei was deeply shaken by the utter shamelessness of Lin Ming and Bai Yuxi.

She didn't know how to react to all this, but she took Si De's view as biased to some degree and only believed some of it.

Regardless of how useful these religious groups were at the end of the Elementus Chosen Trial, they served their purpose and the True Element Sect refused to abandon the human race that they had left behind.

While the elves within the Four Extreme Continent were illegally brought into the World Realm, left to their own devices after, the humans were descendants of subordinates who followed the Divine King Han Xei. When the grand exodus of the Everlore Starfield was planned by the Everlore Association, the True Element Sect and Liu Clan had agreed to lend their Domains to these forced emigrants, and one of the conditions were to take the humans with the War Devil Realm's aura as their own.

Si De had become a member of the True Element Sect, later taking the position as a Traceless Regret Valley caretaker. As a fellow female, a Timelord, and having no relations with any of the three factions, she was most suitable to be trusted with taking care of the Saintess.

However, Lin Xianxei felt conflicted. Why? Because Si De's detailed tellings of Wei Wuyin's nature and meticulousness had given her the confidence to manufacture the rumor. It had worked; she was released from the Traceless Regret Valley and Lin Ming was enjoying various benefits that he otherwise would've been blocked from. When she told Si De about her plan, seeing how viable it was, the blind woman happily reinforced it, even helping her refine some of the finer details and sending out word to her mother.

When she saw how Si De clutched at Wei Wuyin, hugging him so tightly, she realized that she might've been used. No, she was definitely used by this woman. The fact she asked to remain as a caretaker, stayed by her side this entire time, and kept watch reeked of a conniving plan. 'Did she do this to get Wei Wuyin's attention, bringing him to the True Element Sect to address it?'

Lin Xianxei's thoughts were right; Si De had used her as a lighthouse. Wei Wuyin was clearly avoiding the True Element Sect, hiding from the rest of the world, but if his reputation was being harmed by possible rumors of being turned into a cuckold, he would certainly arrive to address it. There wasn't a single man in existence who could accept such rumors circulating. Even if it suited their tastes, they didn't wish for it to be known to the world.

While Lin Xianxei was making this connection, Wei Wuyin was feeling greatly relieved while holding Si De. When Wu Yu had given him updates on all the various Ascendants and those he left rings for, the native humans of the War Devil Realm were unknown. He had grossly miscalculated, believing that the War Devil Realm's humans and elves would remain together, so he designated the spatial ring for Ai Yin. The world's belief that the Elven Race were considered as lesser beings, isolated mostly to a single area of the entire Grand Cyclic Stellar Region, he couldn't have predicted any of it.

The vast majority of the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region's population were humans, and 99.9% of their top-tier experts were human. Beastmen were almost non-existent from their populace and Demons didn't have a stage to grow, discriminated against due to their toxic emissions of Demonic Essence that were incredibly harmful to humans. The elves were the only intelligent race that had a home, and they were protected by the Everlore Association, unable to escape the shackles of their 'lesser race' title as no genuine Ascended being had risen from them since their arrival.

Si De's confirmed safety had lifted a heavy boulder of worry off Wei Wuyin's chest. She hadn't been killed or worse. The cultivators of the War Devil Realm might have a high cultivation base, but their

standards were incredibly low. They were third-rate at best, and Si De hadn't received the resources he left behind for her, so her situation was precarious. She could've been schemed against, killed, or isolated due to her religious beliefs.

The most harrowing possibility for her fate was being held by a Shadow Egg somewhere, abused or left decaying in some dark, damp, and dreadful cage.

"Holy Son..." Si De softly muttered. The Grand Priestess of the Desolate Lands was indoctrinated to believe in the Divinities and the Holy Children, their destined arrivals, and their destined excellence. She was tasked by her ancestors to fight and protect the Holy Child to their ascension, but she wasn't actually supposed to get directly involved with them. While there was indeed a portion of their temple that was dedicated to nurturing beautiful women and talented men to help continue the Holy Child's bloodline, she wasn't meant to be one of them.

Yet she still was drawn into Wei Wuyin's orbit, becoming not just his Grand Priestess but his woman in every manner of speaking. He was her first and only. The nights they spent together had trimmed that barrier of Grand Priestess and Holy Son, becoming something more. When the grand exodus of trillions happened, she was absolutely baffled by it all. She felt lost after learning that her religion was based on experts, not true gods, and the entire thing was merely a trial designed to choose a Chosen of a sect.

It shattered her worldview for a long, long time. She had volunteered to be isolated, entering the Traceless Regret Valley to avoid associating with all these foreign beings with different principles, cultures, traditions, and beliefs.

But Wei Wuyin's brilliance hadn't fallen; he was still her Holy Son, destined for excellence. He was her beacon of normality, a sign that her lifetime wasn't a lie. So holding him, hearing the powerful heartbeat that she often slept to, she felt assured of her life's purpose.

"I-I'm sorry, I-" Si De wanted to tell Wei Wuyin about how she helped propagate the rumor, selfishly trying to lure him to her. The vastness of the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region and the continuous news of his elusiveness left her helpless. If those Ascended beings who were like gods were unable to find him, how could she?

"It's okay," Wei Wuyin didn't know what she wanted to tell him, but her guilt leaked through every syllable, so he simply comforted her. In a way, whatever she wanted to say, it was all his fault to begin with. His limited time led to this. Unlike the rest of his lovers, she hadn't heard his letter. Considering her beliefs and personality, brought to an entirely different world with different sets of rules, it must've been incredibly difficult without any assurances.

That letter contained the truth of her world and all sorts of words to help her and those from the Desolate Land's Temple transition, but it had never reached her, left with Ai Yin.

Han Yuhei decided to interrupt, "Who is she to you?"

"Someone important," Wei Wuyin answered without looking at him. He revealed a warm smile, bringing Si De over to Bai Lin. The phoenix cocked her head to the side as she observed Si De, seeing her eyes that seemed without focus or light. She was new.

"This is Bai Lin, my partner in the sky. Bai Lin, this is Si De, she's the Grand Priestess of the Desolate Lands. She helped me in the Four Extreme Continent," Wei Wuyin introduced openly. The others were shocked by this information. Lin Ming had never met the Grand Priestess of the Desolate Lands, but he was aware of her existence because he had his own! While it was a priest, he understood her significance.

"Si De?" Bai Lin mentally sent, causing Si De to jolt. The mental transmission felt completely different from a spiritual transmission. One felt as if it invaded the Sea of Consciousness, and the other was translated through the spirit, sent to the Sea of Consciousness to be understood by the cultivator.

Wei Wuyin had told Bai Lin about all his adventures during her transformation period, including about Si De, Ai Yin, and Ai Juling, and she had always been wanting to meet them.

Bai Lin moved her head towards Si De, eyeing her with a scrutinizing light. While Si De was blind, she felt Bai Lin's incredible presence, shape, and power through her spiritual sense. She was awed by the fiery emissions she felt. It was warm, comforting, and full of life. She felt at peace. She reached out to Bai Lin's neck. Bai Lin moved slightly, causing Si De to cautiously pull back her hand. She looked to Wei Wuyin, only to see him gesturing towards Bai Lin.

Si De gathered her courage and reached out again. This time, Bai Lin allowed her to caress her.

"I like her," Bai Lin smilingly stated.

"I do too," Wei Wuyin chuckled. "So," he turned his attention back to the others, "you're my fiancée?"

Chapter 849: Clearing It All Up

'Here it is,' Lin Xianxei told herself, preparing her heart for what was to come. Despite the realization her trusted caretaker might have used her, the fact that Wei Wuyin was here was an unchangeable reality. A reality she must face, and from the Earthly Saints' passive stances, likely alone.

"I-"

Step!

"She's not," a voice loudly proclaimed. It belonged to none other than Lin Ming, who stood before Lin Xianxei with his eyes settled on Wei Wuyin. There was an intense light of resistance within those grey eyes of his. As the attention focused on him, he added, "It was merely an unfounded rumor propagated and exaggerated by busybodies. Do you have nothing else to do but seek out rumors? Or perhaps you were hoping that Senior Sister Lin was your fiancée?"

Wei Wuyin was taken aback by Lin Ming's sudden declaration. He couldn't help but give Lin Xianxei, who stood behind Lin Ming, another look. She was similarly shaken by Lin Ming's actions. However, there was a distinct warmth permeating her gaze.

"I remember you," Wei Wuyin said.

Lin Ming frowned, "As if you wouldn't. I'm the one you tried-"

"Not you, her." Wei Wuyin interrupted Lin Ming and pointed at Lin Xianxei. He honestly did remember her. He had seen her before, and it had etched itself in his memory for decades. She was the gorgeous

woman that traveled with Lin Ming during the Myriad Yore Continent's gathering of geniuses. She had scarlet hair before, but his senses had caught a glimpse of her true form.

Right now, Lin Xianxue was in her undisguised state. She had golden-blond hair, a resplendently alluring pair of golden eyes and a beauty that could draw one's soul from afar—unforgettable for a thousand years with but a single glance. Sensing her wearing that sundress, Wei Wuyin's heart was moved.

"..." Lin Xianxue remained silent. While Wei Wuyin's eyes were closed, she felt as if she was being thoroughly inspected by his spiritual sense. It was overwhelmingly invasive, grasping every contour, every delicate curve, slender limb, and every detail of her physical appearance.

"You're just as beautiful as the day I saw you," Wei Wuyin couldn't help but comment earnestly from his heart. She was indeed moving, and as a male, he couldn't hold back his innate desire. Furthermore, she was talented, sufficiently so to become a Saintess of her sect and generation.

"...!" Lin Ming's fists clenched. Suddenly, those words from the Grand Seer of the Golden Gate Pavilion uncontrollably spurred into his heart. Like an infestation in his Sea of Consciousness, it began to corrode his thoughts and taint his perspective. He felt threatened.

When Lin Ming looked at Lin Xianxue, hoping to see repulsion or disgust in her eyes, he saw her speechless appearance instead. His heart sank.

All this while, Zhang Ziyi and Lin Xianxian were blown away. Wei Wuyin actually knew Lin Xianxue?! They weren't the only ones shaken to their cores because Lin Xianxue had never met Wei Wuyin personally or exchanged a single word with him in her entire life. She had no recollection of ever revealing her true appearance to anyone in the Myriad Yore Continent before, especially not to this silver-eyed young man.

Wei Wuyin heaved a soft sigh of wonderment. He didn't know whether it was the Bloodline of Sin or just a laughable coincidence, but it seemed inescapable to interact with those cherished by Blessed. Whether it was Long Chen or Yuan Longshi, he had taken what they wanted the most in this world. Moreover, he had never done so forcefully.

Whether it was Na Xinyi, Lin Ziyang, or Xue Yifei, they were all exposed to him in some form, making their own conscious choice to abandon their Blessed. Whatever the reason, these Blessed companions sought to escape. Almost all of Long Chen's entourage had left of their own free will, with Lian Yu dying in the Four Extreme Continent.

Were these women being brainwashed, guided to be these male Blessed lovers? When introduced with a foreign element that stimulated their right of choice, did it subtly allow them to regain their freedom? Was this Lin Xianxue the same? A mere puppet of the Heavenly Daos established to benefit Lin Ming?

If it wasn't for their circumstances, would Jing Jiu's cherished person—Cai Liuyang—have slowly broken free from all the Heavenly Daos' influence after meeting him? Well, there was still free will. If not, Lian Yu might not have stayed with Long Chen.

Or maybe, just maybe, Lian Yu was the only one not influenced by the Heavenly Daos to meet Long Chen. Her love was genuine and untainted by all external influences. That seemed unlikely considering her unique physique, but it was a possibility.

"What do you want, Wei Wuyin? She isn't your fiancée, so you better not try to force her!" Lin Ming bitingly said.

Wei Wuyin faintly smiled, "What if I intend to do just that? A beautiful woman like this, immensely talented, filled with endless potential and teeming with intelligence—she'll make the perfect wife and partner to conquer the entire world with."

Wei Wuyin began to walk slowly toward Lin Ming, his smile deepened to a grin.

Lin Ming didn't shrink back, his aura growing more active. His voice was glacially intense, "Then I'll—"

"Kill me?" Wei Wuyin once again interrupted, laughing with amusement. "Careful, Lin Ming, your insecurity is showing. She isn't mine, but I don't think she's yours either, right? In fact, she's not anyone's." At this point, the two were just a few feet from each other.

"..." Lin Ming's eyes were almost growling with ferocity. He stared Wei Wuyin down with open aggression. Since they last met six years ago, he had been cultivating intensely throughout, so he wouldn't back down to someone of his age. He had dominated those hundreds of years old experts and geniuses with better environmental conditions from birth, so Wei Wuyin was far less scary.

Wei Wuyin couldn't help but be amused by this attitude of his. While he never intended to take Lin Xianxei as his fiancée, he cared less about this rumor, even less about Lin Ming, the urge to teach Lin Ming a lesson surfaced in his heart. However, he held back.

That was reserved for someone else.

He relented with raised hands and a shrug, "Fine. I have no intention of forcing her into anything. I didn't come here for that anyways, just curious about who the world thought was my fiancée."

Zhang Ziyi's heart experienced a wave of relief after hearing Wei Wuyin's last sentence. Since Wei Wuyin said those words about Lin Xianxei, she was incredibly tense. There was a serious doubt about whether the rumor was true or not. If it was, the Lin Clan that should suffer would experience an unreasonable, unfair rise.

"So she's not your fiancée?" Zhang Ziyi sought further clarification.

Wei Wuyin turned around, giving this Earthly Saint of the True Element Sect another look. She was the one who brought up Lin Xianxei, and, at the time, she looked as innocent as a puppy at the side of the road. But hearing the relief in her tone, he knew she wanted him more than just confirmation.

He heard that the True Element Sect was benefitting from his reputation due to the Chosen announcement; this fiancée nonsense generated a layer of protection for their interests again. It now seemed the internal complexities of the sect were quite deep, with some wanting to shred this layer.

Suddenly, Wei Wuyin was besieged by a bout of confusion. He asked: "Couldn't you have just asked her if you wanted to know? She certainly should know whether I'm her fiancée or not; even this man here is absolutely confident that it wasn't the case." He found it hard to believe that this Earthly Saint wasn't aware of the sheer bullshit of it all.

"..." Those in the know remained silent.

"Why do we have to clear up a rumor for you? Is that our responsibility?" Lin Ming defended.

"For me?" Wei Wuyin couldn't help but return his focus to Lin Ming. For him? What was this?

"Oh! I see. She was the one who started this rumor, making use of my name for her own benefit. That's what you want to slyly reveal to me, right?" Wei Wuyin straight out blasted open Zhang Ziyi's intentions.

"You must want to hurt her, huh?"

That was indeed Zhang Ziyi's intent! She didn't have the slightest guilt in her eyes. As long as it wasn't true, then she could unleash all sorts of punishments and restrictions. The Lin Clan would be unquestionably finished.

"..." Han Yuhei found this situation a little tedious. He couldn't help but look in the direction of Wu Yu's aura, ignoring all of this. Whether Zhang Ziyi or Wei Wuyin punished Lin Xianxian for using him as a tool or not had little to do with him. He didn't care if the entire Lin Clan was brought down by this.

Wei Wuyin shook his head, "I once had a woman who used my name to escape from a difficult situation. Back then, I told her that I'd kill her if she did it again." At the end, his tone grew icy-cold.

Lin Ming stepped forward again, "She didn't spread any rum-"

"It was me," a voice abruptly spoke. It belonged to Lin Xianxian! "It was me who released that rumor to the world. I did it so that my daughter could escape from that hell hole. I apologize if it offended you, but she was punished unreasonably because of your actions."

"My actions?"

Lin Xianxian didn't speak like someone apologizing, and she was quite antagonistic. She wanted to bear it all herself. Lin Xianxian's fist tightened slightly. She had the urge to reveal the truth, but she knew how it would look to Lin Ming, so she hesitated. Moreover, her mother was involved regardless.

Si De, however, had no hesitation in her heart, especially since Wei Wuyin was being unfairly blamed for Lin Xianxian's situation. "It wasn't just Sect Master Lin, Holy Son. All three of us had a hand in it. I'm sorry..."

Lin Ming felt his mind rumble. Lin Xianxian was the one who created the rumor? But she...

Zhang Ziyi's excitement grew, but she remained outwardly calm. "So you released this lie out, told the entire world, then allowed everyone to think this Archaic Chosen was stealing Wei Wuyin's fiancée? Was this your intent? To humiliate him?"

"What?!" Lin Xianxian jolted violently. She hadn't expected this. She stammered as she looked at Lin Xianxian and Lin Ming, unsure what to say or how to say it.

"Enough, enough." Wei Wuyin waved his hands dismissively. To be honest, Wei Wuyin was slightly irked by this. He didn't like being someone's chess piece to checkmate or manipulate others, whether it was Zhang Ziyi, Lin Xianxian, or Na Xinyi.

"I just have two questions," Wei Wuyin stated.

Questions? They were all intrigued.

"Lin Xianxei, you haven't spoken at all. So I want to ask, without any interruption," Wei Wuyin gave Lin Ming a 'look', "if you want to be my fiancée?"

"..." Everyone turned their eyes to Lin Xianxei. Surprisingly to all, she didn't hesitate in her reply: "I don't know you well enough to give that answer right now." This was her carefully calculated, open-ended reply to secure that inkling of a possibility. She didn't look at Zhang Ziyi, but she knew the woman was likely not calm. As long as there was a possibility left, she wouldn't dare act aggressively.

But to Lin Ming's ears, this was music to the soul. When those words from the Grand Seer infested his thoughts, he dreaded her saying yes. While he would've preferred an outright never, this was better than a yes. He wasn't ignorant of Wei Wuyin's extreme reputation right now.

Wei Wuyin calmly nodded, "Then, do you know where the Divine King Han Xei is?"

This time, Lin Xianxei's serene expression shifted!

Chapter 850: Taking Her Away

"Divine King Han Xei?" Lin Ming's shambled mind perked, focusing heavily on this question. This was his so-called master, more elusive and mysterious than Wei Wuyin. Since he met Lin Xianxei, he had taken the path designed by Divine King Han Xei, from his cultivation method, arts, spells, and various inheritances.

Zhang Ziyi was similarly interested in the Nine-Divine Elementus King's location. While she had merely used this as a segue to breaking the rumor, it didn't represent that she didn't wish to know. The True Element Sect had four Earthly Saints, and while Gong Lau belonged to the external clans, Han Yuhei and Han Xei were the pillars that allowed them to retain the World Sect title. The former had acted as their sole pillar for the last thousand years.

No one knew where Han Xei was or why he vanished from the public eye. Early on, there was heavy speculation surrounding his disappearance. Han Xei striving for the Worldly Saint Phase was one, but this felt increasingly unlikely as the cultivation session went on for centuries. If that was the goal, chances were he had failed.

"...Why?" Lin Xianxei hesitatingly asked.

"Does it matter why? I asked you if you knew, not to tell me. You don't have to worry about breaking any Mythical Oaths of yours; I have no intention of forcing you to tell me." Wei Wuyin honestly explained his intent.

Just if you knew!

It was a world of difference in questioning, and Lin Xianxei was dazed by this question. No one had ever said these things before! She was indeed boggled by oaths. This was why Han Yuhei wasn't interested in this inquisition. He was fully aware that she couldn't say anything either, so it was a waste of time.

At the moment, he was just curious about Wu Yu's whereabouts and wondering when that ocular spell would be brought over. The domain-sealing formation was still active, and this caused him to feel some concern. His actions had already caused the True Element Sect to experience a drastic depletion of their wealth.

"I do," Lin Xianxei admitted after pondering it over. She was Divine King Han Xei's disciple, so saying this might alleviate some of the Lin Clan's growing issues. And it did work a little. Zhang Ziyi's expression changed slightly as a result. The only reason the Lin Clan was experiencing any decent lifestyle was due to the Divine King Han Xei's backing.

"Good," Wei Wuyin smilingly remarked.

KREE!!!

Bai Lin's aura began to rise rapidly.

"What?!" Lin Xianxian was an Ascended being at the Soul of Mysticism Phase and wielded power that exceeded Mortal Limits, but when Bai Lin's aura permeated the world, she felt stifled to the maximum. She could barely breathe. When she did, it felt as if she was breathing scorching embers into her lungs.

The Earthly Saints started. Unsurprisingly, they weren't that affected by Bai Lin's aura. They were in a constant Demi-Mystic State, so they resisting it wasn't an issue.

The mortals were also unaffected but by deliberate design. Bai Lin targeted Lin Xianxian, forcing her to be unable to act.

"What is...?" Lin Xianxei was baffled. She turned to her mother, who had a strained look on her face. Suddenly, her thoughts and soul froze. She began to collapse powerlessly.

The Fixed Soul Spell!

Woosh!

Wei Wuyin moved with extreme swiftness. In a blink of an eye, he arrived beside Lin Xianxei and grabbed her by the waist, lifting her frozen, seemingly lifeless body into a bridal carry.

Lin Ming just barely reacted at this moment. His thoughts were a little too slow, but he felt an instinctual sensation of danger. Wei Wuyin vanished before his very eyes, and Bai Lin unleashed her aura! He snapped his head towards Lin Xianxei, seeing Wei Wuyin lift her with ease.

"Stop! Don't you touch her!" Lin Ming ferociously shouted, but his movements were too slow. He rushed forward to seize Lin Xianxei from the clutches of Wei Wuyin. But when he thought he touched her, he felt nothing as the visual image lowered in opacity, then vanished without warning.

An afterimage!

Kree!

"I'll bring her back," Wei Wuyin was already on Bai Lin's back alongside Si De and Wen Mingna. Bai Lin unfurled her wings, and with graceful movements, she shot upwards at alarming speeds. In the blink of a mortal's eye, she vanished into the distance.

Lin Ming stood there, hand outstretched, stunned by this development. He turned to the two Earthly Saints, who were also taken by surprise, "Stop him!" They were the leaders of the sect! Were they going to allow Wei Wuyin to take their Saintess and do heaven knows what to her?

Han Yuhei and Zhang Ziyi exchanged glances. The former slowly floated upwards and took off towards Wei Wuyin at a leisurely pace. The latter looked at Lin Ming and Lin Xianxian, "If he wanted to do her harm, neither of you could stop him. That said, do try."

Zhang Ziyi's dislike fully revealed itself at this moment. Seeing the exasperated Lin Ming and struggling Lin Xianxian, she revealed a grim smile: "This isn't over." She followed Han Yuhei.

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"..." A few minutes passed, and Lin Xianxian finally regained her breath, feeling relieved after this. She had never faced such terrifying suppression before. Lin Ming stood upright, white spear in hand, and he looked in the direction Wei Wuyin took off. He didn't follow because the Fire Phoenix was far beyond his means to face. He would only get in the way if the two Earthly Saints tried to save Lin Xianxian.

Lin Xianxian looked in that direction as well, her expression incredibly ashen. "I don't think he'll hurt her," she said. Whether it was to comfort herself or Lin Ming, she didn't really know.

Lin Ming clutched the shaft of his spear tightly. He didn't understand Wei Wuyin. Moreover, he still felt baffled as to why Lin Xianxian would release that rumor herself, and the words of the Grand Seer kept flashing in his mind without end. His Senior Sister was the ignition that restarted his life. He was but a young man with a chip on his shoulder, tired of being so weak and helpless all the time, accepting the filth of the world, and she came along and helped him forge his own path, gain true strength, and see sights he had only dreamed of.

She was his light.

"He better not," Lin Ming's tone was chilly to the apex.

Lin Xianxian heavily sighed, looking at Lin Ming with a wisp of complex emotions. "You really do love her, don't you?"

"..." Lin Ming only tightened his grip in response.

Lin Xianxian nodded her head slightly, "Don't blame her for the rumor, okay? She did this with your interests in mind."

"...Why does Grand Elder Zhang hate you?" Lin Ming decided to change the topic, not wanting to dwell on that. The lingering words of the Grand Seer kept searing his brain with all sorts of thoughts. He just couldn't think about those things right now.

"...Hate me?" Lin Xianxian straightened her posture, revealing her exceptional curves. She looked to the sky, her golden eyes rippling with all sorts of emotions. "She doesn't hate me—she hates the Lin Clan. Her faction consists of the remnants of the Jade Element Sect, the losers and those who suffered the greatest losses in the civil war of our Domain because of our decision to merge."

The Lin Clan had tried to game the Mythical Oaths, breaking their connection with those parasites by merging with the Divine King Han Xei. While they merged, their plans were seen through and resisted. A civil war of terrifying proportions was waged, and the newly-created True Element Sect lost.

The Lin Clan was forced to remain as leaders of the sect to keep their oaths alive, to protect the interests of those external clans and forces.

"She lost everything during this. They were forced to stay together with the Lin Clan or be exterminated to the last. She was merely a little Astral Core Realm cultivator at the time, but she lost her status, her entire family, and her freedom. She lost everything. All because we regretted making a decision that her family, the Zhang Clan, had vehemently pleaded against.

"Unfortunately, we didn't listen then, and they paid the price. The Lin Clan was relatively untouched during the war, both sides needing them to be alive for the oaths to be in effect. So we suffered very little. Our top experts were sealed away in the Traceless Regret Valley, but theirs were slaughtered, not even given proper burials." Lin Xianxian closed her eyes.

Zhang Ziyi's hatred was justified. It fueled her to become an Earthly Saint, regaining some dignity for the broken remnants of the Jade Element Sect. She wanted them to suffer.

"..."

In the lower Sky Layer, Bai Lin glided while having a mental conversation with Si De. Wei Wuyin held Lin Xianxian in his arms, his hand placed on her head.

Wen Mingna watched with interest. What was Wei Wuyin doing? Trying to enter her Sea of Consciousness? Even if he did, he wouldn't gain anything. The concept of trying to search memories had always been a desire among cultivators, but even Evil Cultivators couldn't do so. Not even an Ascended being could inspect the memories and thoughts of a mortal.

While the Sea of Consciousness might seem simple, it was an extremely complex existence that was exceptionally profound. It didn't just contain their memories, but their insights, every last thought they've ever had, every dream, imaginary thought, and that's not even considering the depth that memories possessed.

There were some who cultivated unique Mental Cultivation Methods, their mental energies reaching absolutely terrifying levels of power, and their understanding of the Sea of Consciousness was far more thorough, yet they still failed to do so with any substantial success.

It was easier to reverse time than to inspect memories.

Wen Mingna's thoughts were right; the act of entering another's mind was insidiously difficult, a harrowing experience with all sorts of complications that could arise. Whether it was the mind's natural resistance towards intruders or the cultivators' innately stronger minds, it was too difficult.

It was only because of Eden, a combination of the Alchemic Dao and Mind Dao, that Wei Wuyin could do this. The Alchemic Dao embodied the seven aspects—Extraction, Growth, Containment, Refinement, Creation, Transformation, and Fusion—and was capable of harmless integration with very little resistance from every type of energy, making the most volatile energy source docile. Furthermore, his Alchemic Energies purity rivaled Mystic Ascendants.

Wei Wuyin searched through Lin Xianxian's memories. Since Eden warned him about searching an Ascended being's mind, he had already settled on searching Lin Xianxian's. He didn't know her, and he didn't care about the invasion of privacy. She was a clue to finding Divine King Han Xian and finding a solution to his eyes, beauty be damned.

'Oh...wait, what? That's interesting!' As he delved into her memories, observing from birth to the present, his mind was incredibly shaken. He avoided incredibly complex thoughts, like cultivation insights, focusing on memories related to Divine King Han Xei.

'Wait...is this?'

Wei Wuyin delved deeper into a particular memory.