

Pet Store 1021

Chapter 1021: Return!

Su Ping tried to open his eyes; there was nothing to see but a sandy fog which stung his eyes. He felt dizzy, and his body seemed to be plummeting fast. Although he didn't have a body, he was feeling colder and colder.

Some time passed until he finally saw a gate.

Infinite light was coming from a place beyond from a place beyond the gate, which enshrouded his body. Su Ping immediately felt warm and cozy, just like returning to his mother's arms.

He relished the sensation, but he quickly forced himself to open his eyes once more and examine the environment.

Su Ping found himself lying in space. Familiar people were waiting around him, including Manager Tan and Loulan Feng. In addition, some other Ascendant State experts of the Loulan family were also there. All of them showed relief after seeing him wake up.

"Great! I didn't think that you would make it back," said Loulan Feng with delight and relief.

Su Ping slowly sat up and gradually accustomed himself to his body. Although vigilant, his tone was calm as he asked, "What happened?"

"Something happened in the Sea of Illusions."

An unknown Ascendant of the Loulan family said gloomily, "The Dark Tide came early and burst out all of a sudden. The ones monitoring inside didn't notice anything. Something seems to have gone wrong deep inside the Sea of Illusions. We retreated in time, but some are still lost there..."

Su Ping's expression had a slight frown. He had indeed encountered a dark tide before he left, which made him wonder whether he was still immersed in an illusion or if he was back in reality.

"I sensed that we weren't there for long. Wasn't that the case?" Su Ping asked Manager Tan.

Manager Tan looked much better after seeing that Su Ping was awake. She looked at him, feeling fortunate. "Your perception of time inside the Sea of Illusions is inaccurate. You can hardly discern the flow of time, even if you master its law. You may spend months there, thinking that you just stepped into the gate."

Su Ping frowned. It was true that he couldn't feel time or space accurately while exploring the place. Nothing was perceived, except his willpower.

"Can you tell me what happened after I went in?" asked Su Ping, "Also, how long did I stay inside?"

He quietly constructed a sword with the path of illusion while he posed the questions, but the sword didn't appear. The construction failed.

Su Ping wasn't at all frustrated; rather, he felt relief. It seemed that he had truly left the Sea of Illusions.

The law of illusion being ineffective was an indication that he had returned to reality, because it was impossible for him to make use of that mysterious power outside of the Sea of Illusions. Not yet at least.

Was it possible that its ineffectiveness was an illusion too? That could also be confirmed with the path of illusion. His mind was unassailable when he made use of the path of illusion. Even if it was, his imagination could become real because of the path. Thankfully, nothing happened. So, he was back in reality!

So to speak, I did encounter a black tide back there. It wasn't an illusion. Su Ping remembered what they said and became wary.

"Just as we went in, I felt that the thought I left in your consciousness was torn, which meant that you were in grave danger. Unfortunately my thought was unable to bring your consciousness back, so it must have been erased by the danger you encountered."

Manager Tan seemed calm, but she was actually shocked.

Her heart felt utterly heavy when the accident happened. In her eyes, the top genius she was responsible for—Lord Supreme's disciple, no less—was likely dead!

If her thought failed to protect him, it meant that the danger was devastating for top Star Lords, not to mention that Su Ping was just a Star State ant.

Even though Su Ping was much more talented and determined than his peers, how strong could he possibly be?

After she took out Su Ping's body, she found that his consciousness wasn't there; it seemed to have been trapped, if not erased, in the Sea of Illusions.

However, none of them dared to give him up that fast; they waited with Su Ping's body. If Su Ping's consciousness didn't return by the time the gate was closed, he would truly be dead.

Su Ping would end in a vegetative state—only his body would remain alive.

The Loulan family would have to face the fury of his Celestial State master.

The family wouldn't be punished; after all, Su Ping's death was accidental. But still, they would still suffer some losses. Manager Tan, who was responsible for his safety, might have to take the blame.

"Your consciousness stayed there for half a month..." Manager Tan glanced at Su Ping and said, "The black tide has yet to ebb. We were planning to look for you once the tide retreated, but then you surprisingly returned on your own."

The other Ascendants of the Loulan family nodded too, while giving Su Ping weird looks.

He was only a Star State warrior, and yet he had managed to survive for half a month in the Sea of Illusions while the Dark Tide was rampant. It was almost a miracle!

Evidently, Su Ping must have been very important to Lord Supreme.

In their opinion, Su Ping couldn't have survived without the protective treasures Lord Supreme had given him. After all, even Ascendants would have to flee from the black tides and could hardly survive them.

"Half a month..."

Su Ping didn't realize that he had stayed there that long; he felt that it had only taken him one day to understand the law of illusion and hunt the spirits.

I was probably too devoted while perceiving the law of illusion. Su Ping's eyes glittered. He rose and stretched his arms, immediately feeling the difference of his body and mind.

His senses were as keen as those of a machine. He could detect every cell inside his body, and his motor abilities were ten times higher than normal.

Besides, the Ascendant experts such as Manager Tan became clearer in his eyes; he could even vaguely see their golden auras.

It seemed to be some sort of special energy, but it was very feeble, as if everybody was trying to hold it in.

My consciousness has indeed been strengthened... Su Ping seemed calm, but he was feeling quite happy. He had almost been killed in the dangerous trip to the Sea of Illusions, but his harvest was tremendous.

Not only had his mind been strengthened; he had also grasped the path of illusion and found a direction for his second small world.

Su Ping felt puzzled as he remembered how he left the place.

They refer to that thing as the Dark Tide. The illusions I met also call it that way... Was it because my subconsciousness inferred from the Loulan family's files that it was indeed the Dark Tide? The illusions pushed me away as I was leaving. How could my subconscious mind know which way to go if I didn't know beforehand?

Noticing Su Ping's expression, Loulan Feng asked curiously, "What's the matter?"

Su Ping glanced at him and shook his head, not intent on disclosing such details.

After all, it had to do with his subconsciousness. Also, the Sea of Illusions was too weird; certain things couldn't be explained. The Loulan's confidential files didn't have detailed descriptions.

"A lot of people must have entered the place before we did. Have they returned?" asked Su Ping.

Manager Tan looked at the distance and said, "Some returned, but some lost their consciousness there, just like it happened to you. They probably won't be able to come back if special steps aren't taken."

Su Ping looked at the distance, only to see a lot of unconscious people lying around the gate. He was among those lying closest to the gate, which may have had something to do with his identity.

The Ascendants accompanying them were openly showing surprise and delight when Su Ping sat up.

Whoosh!

Another Ascendant quickly flew over, only to be blocked by Loulan Feng and Manager Tan.

“Su Ping, Mr. Su, do you know what’s going on in the Sea of Illusions?” The Ascendant State expert was rather excited. Su Ping’s return was a sign that others could also return.

Seeing that many Ascendants were looking at him, he calmly said, “The Dark Tide was already rising when I left. Some sort of accident must have happened, as I only came out while riding the blast of the tide.”

“There was an accident in the Dark Tide?”

The Ascendant State expert was stunned for a moment, looking rather awful.

The other Ascendants also became gloomy. The Dark Tide was already dangerous enough as it was; wouldn’t it be even more dangerous if an accident were to occur?

The explorations inside the Sea of Illusions had thus far been blocked by the Dark Tide; unbelievable things happened when it rose. The most ferocious spirits might also appear.

There were spirits ranging from Class S to Class SSS in the Dark Tide. Even Ascendants could meet their end, as none of their realm could withstand the might of Class SSS spirits!

Someone said with obvious fury just then, “Humph. How did you make it back then?”

The person talking was an Ascendant expert; a mature lady in golden armor and a skirt that showed her long and fair legs. She was indeed beautiful, but she was terribly gloomy at the moment. A Star Lord lay next to her; he seemed to be one of the Divine Lord rankers of a certain star zone.

Once he heard the lady questioning him, Su Ping raised his eyebrows and said angrily, “You have to rely on yourself in order to come back. Why do you care how I made it back?”

“You!”

The lady didn’t expect that Su Ping would dare oppose her in public. She was an Ascendant anyway, and Su Ping was only a Star State warrior, even though he had a Celestial State master. She could kill him with ease.

Loulan Feng stepped up and said calmly, “Mrs. Mei Gui, Mr. Su is a friend of my family and Lord Supreme’s disciple. It’s only natural for him to have a lot of treasures to keep him safe. It couldn’t have been easy for him to return... I hope you won’t blame other people’s misfortune on him.”

All the Ascendants of the Loulan family stared at the woman in silence. Even without saying a thing, it was obvious that they would defend Su Ping if she attacked.

Mei Gui looked rather awful. She was only having difficulty holding back her fury because of her utter grief. She looked at Su Ping who was right at the center made by those experts and could only gnash her teeth. “Lord Supreme’s disciple is truly proud. You will surely have no respect for other Ascendants when you reach our realm!”

Su Ping narrowed his eyes, as the woman was already trying to rouse people against him.

Before he replied, laughter was heard coming from somewhere far in space. “Even if he disrespects the likes of you, so what? You’re just a third-tier Ascendant cultivator. Do you deserve any respect at all?”

After those words were uttered, a brilliant streak of light arrived from the dark universe and stopped right next to Su Ping. Once the brilliance was gone, a magnificent person who stood like a long spear was revealed. He was intimidating, and yet he seemed somehow unrestrained.

Su Ping said in delight, “Brother You Long!”

The person who had arrived was none other than You Long, his seventh senior brother!

You Long turned around and said to Su Ping, laughing, “Master predicted that you would encounter disaster in the Sea of Illusions, so he sent me to rescue you. I didn’t expect that you would return on your own. Haha. As expected of my little brother!”

Feeling enlightened, Su Ping said with a smile, “I couldn’t have survived without Master’s and your blessings.”

You Long looked at Su Ping and smiled. “I wasn’t fully convinced when Elder Yan said that you were already able to challenge the top ten of the Divine Lord Rank, but it seems that he underestimated you. You’ve already surpassed your senior brothers; you’ll probably claim the top place of the Divine Lord Rank in our star zone soon!”

Su Ping coughed and said, “Senior brother, let’s keep a low profile...”

They weren’t talking in whispers; You Long’s voice was rather loud. His bold statement caused a change of expression in all the Ascendants present; they looked at Su Ping in shock.

He’s already this terrifying when he’s only a Star State warrior?

It was extremely difficult for those in the Star State to challenge Star Lords; only geniuses could do that. Wouldn’t Su Ping become the best on the Divine Lord Rank when he became a Star Lord?

Farther away—Mei Gui slightly changed her expression too. She finally realized why the Loulans had offered such privileges to Su Ping, even though he was only in the Star State. As it turned out, the genius’ potential was beyond her expectation. Condensing a small world in the Fate State and rising to the top ten of the Divine Lord Rank while in the Star State were both miracles!

Even some of the Celestials had been unable to achieve that back when they were young!

She suddenly regretted offending such a talent!

“Which star zone are you from? You dared to lay blame for other people’s deaths on my junior brother? I’ll give you a chance to apologize. If you do, I’ll forgive you.”

You Long turned his head; the smile he wore when he talked to Su Ping was completely gone. He looked at Mei Gui casually, giving no place for refusal.

Chapter 1022: Closed For Three Thousand Years

Everybody was stunned after hearing You Long’s bold statement.

Did he just ask an Ascendant State expert to apologize to a Star State junior?

The Ascendants of the Loulan family looked at each other in bewilderment, not expecting You Long to be so protective of Su Ping.

In the distance—Mei Gui was dazed; her eyes widened with disbelief when she snapped out of it. “What did you say? You want me to apologize to him?”

You Long said indifferently, “What’s the matter? You didn’t hear what I said?”

Mei Gui’s expression quickly changed to show fury. She said angrily, “You Long, I respect you as a Heavenly Lord, but this is still beyond outrageous. Even if your master is Lord Supreme, the Federation is still a lawful place; no matter how talented he is, he’s just a Star State warrior. Is he even qualified to accept my apology? Why must I apologize to him? Just because he may grow and become another Heavenly Lord? Who knows what will happen in the future?”

With disdain in his eyes, You Long said, “Because he has a tier-7 identity just like you do! And because he is my junior brother! You took advantage of him because of your identity. Now, I’m commanding you with my identity. Are you going to disobey?”

“You!”

Mei Gui looked rather awful as she glanced at Su Ping; for the latter to have a tier-7 identity came completely out of the blue, as it was a privilege mainly enjoyed by Ascendants.

All of a sudden, an Ascendant State middle-aged man flew out. “Heavenly Lord You Long!”

He was concealing his aura; no one could tell what was on his mind. “Mei Gui never meant to offend Mr. Su; it was just a minor misunderstanding. I hope you can forgive her lack of manners for the sake of the Polaris Palace.”

You Long glanced at him. “Let the master of your palace talk to me. Who might you be?”

The middle-aged man slightly changed his expression, then said in a low voice, “I am Tian Ji.”

“So, one of the Seven Polaris Gods.” You Long chuckled and then stared at Mei Gui again. “Are you dead set on not apologizing?”

Mei Gui’s cheeks shivered ever so slightly; she could tell from You Long’s eyes that he was determined to defend his junior brother. Also, it was obvious that she couldn’t back off anymore without losing face.

Furthermore, Tian Ji had stepped up and offered an excuse, yet You Long simply ignored it.

“Even if he becomes a Heavenly Lord in the future, at least I’m not wrong right now. I am an Ascendant...” Mei Gui gnashed her teeth. Then, she changed her expression, as You Long straight off threw a punch at her, unleashing an infinite golden brilliance that shattered the surrounding space.

A stream of magnificent divine power leaked from his fist aura, shadowing all the laws in the universe.

Mei Gui hurriedly took action. A golden leaf surfaced on her forehead as she activated her Divine Mark. She waved her hand, and countless flowers began flying in the void like butterflies, all of them trying to hold up the golden fist aura.

But the next moment... The golden fist aura pressed down heartlessly, making all the flower butterflies collapse.

Mei Gui grunted as the attack connected and she was flung back, ending pale-faced.

“That punch was a lesson for you.” You Long stood indifferently. “Don’t try to retaliate. If anything happens to my junior brother, I won’t care who’s to blame. I’ll go straight to you!”

Divine power was surging inside Mei Gui’s body; her Divine Mark was shivering and moaning. That punch seemed soft, but her body had almost been squished.

She felt both angry and grieved after hearing what You Long said. The man was too domineering and unreasonable!

Was he that fearless and unrestrained as a Heavenly Lord?

The answer was yes.

She suddenly realized that it would be impossible for her to retaliate.

He was a Heavenly Lord. Who would dare retaliate against him?

As for the kid next to him, he was like the spoiled son of a family. He even escaped from the Dark Tide in the Sea of Illusions; who knew how many lifesaving treasures Lord Supreme had given him?

Mei Gui was so infuriated she almost gritted her teeth into pieces, but she remained silent.

The nearby Tian Ji looked rather gloomy too. It was obvious that You Long had shown zero respect for the Polaris Palace. However, things had already happened, and their own palace lord—although a Heavenly Lord—he wasn’t a Lord Supreme anyway.

Everybody wore an assortment of different expressions as they watched the scene. You Long’s unreasonable attitude was well unknown. Truth be told, very few Heavenly Lords had a good temper; even so, it was still surprising for one of them to be as defensive of a junior brother.

Did he think that his junior brother would surely rise to the Ascendant State and become his equal?

You Long turned around and ignored them. He didn’t consider a normal Ascendant State cultivator a big deal, at all; he would have done the same even if the master of the Polaris Palace were present. After all, Heavenly Lords feared no one, except Celestials!

Actually, Celestials would have a hard time subduing a strong Heavenly Lord such as Su Ping’s first senior brother.

“The Loulan family was really close to causing great trouble!” said You Long as he looked at the Ascendants of the Loulan family, “The Sea of Illusions hasn’t been very tranquil as of late, and the universe is going through fetal movements. These are troubled times. Master asked me to inform you that the Sea of Illusions must be closed for three thousand years. Relay this message to your family leader. I won’t be meeting him.”

All the Ascendants of the Loulan family were all stunned. The Sea of Illusions had to be closed? It seemed that something important had happened back there.

“We will relay the message,” said one of the host Ascendants.

You Long nodded and then smiled at Su Ping. “Junior brother, do you want to return to the Celestial Court with me, or would you rather stay here?”

Su Ping looked at Mei Gui in the distance; given You Long’s threat, she probably wouldn’t try anything. Even if she did, he still had plenty of secret treasures to save his life.

“Thank you, senior brother. I’m planning to return to the Celestial Court later. Please send my regards to Master if you’re going back,” said Su Ping with a smile.

You Long chuckled and replied, “Okay, but try not to get too wild; the universe hasn’t been very peaceful. It’s best to avoid certain mysterious realms; try to break through to the Ascendant State sooner, so that you’ll be able to protect yourself.”

Su Ping understood what he was implying. He nodded and said, “Got it, senior brother.”

“Since you’re fine, I’m going back. See you later.”

You Long left in a rush; he waved at Su Ping and disappeared into the horizon leaving a long streak of light. Then, he glittered like a star and vanished.

Su Ping felt that his senior brother was currently busy with something, seeing how quick the latter had arrived and then left. *All my senior brothers and sisters are running errands for Master; it seems that the universe is truly restless.*

The pervading pressure abated after You Long left, making the remaining Ascendants feel a bit more at ease. It wasn’t until that moment that Mei Gui finally raised her head, giving Su Ping a cold glare. She didn’t say anything, simply returning to a place where an unconscious Star Lord floated in the void, and continued to wait.

Tian Ji also glanced at Su Ping, then slightly shook his head. Things had already happened; he didn’t want to further infuriate the man. After all, Su Ping and You Long were backed by a Celestial State expert!

He was greeted by the Ascendants of the Loulan family who were next to Su Ping. Then, some of them left to relay You Long’s message to the family leader.

Lord Supreme’s command was not to be ignored; the news that the Sea of Illusions would be closed for three thousand years would cause quite the fuss.

That was one of the greatest forbidden lands in the universe, one that only the most powerful forces had access to.

It was also a practice field for top geniuses. If they strengthened their willpower there, they would be able to go beyond their limits.

If the place was to be sealed for three thousand years... The geniuses to be born during that time would never compare to their predecessors in terms of willpower.

“The Sea of Illusions will be closed. Something huge seems to have happened in the universe.”

“I’ve heard some mysterious noises in the deep spaces recently. They sound like whispers from ancient times; I would have gotten lost in them if my pet hadn’t dispersed them.”

“Yes; there’s been talk that a lot of weird things have been happening. I didn’t know they were true.”

“I heard that the Lord Supreme of the Flying Cloud Star Zone has closed multiple mysterious realms too!”

The Ascendant State cultivators around Su Ping started talking and stopped paying attention to him. The closing of their mysterious realm left them distracted; after all, they barely knew Su Ping, even though he had the potential to become a Heavenly Lord. On the other hand, the closure of the Sea of Illusions was a big thing. They were reminded of weird things happening in recent times; all of them had a bad feeling about what was going to happen.

Su Ping frowned as he heard the whispers around and also felt gloomy. He looked at the nearby gate. There was still nothing but a void beyond it.

He waited. Very soon, a few Ascendants of the Loulan family returned. One of them was clearly unlike the others; it was one of their Heavenly Lords.

The latter looked around and saw that Su Ping was fine right after arriving. So, he shifted his attention and looked at the descendants of the Loulan family who were laying in space.

The expert’s face was grim as he saw many of the family’s descendants still unconscious. He quietly stared at the gate for a moment, then suddenly extended his hand into the gate. He withdrew it a few seconds later, with a mass of black mist in his hand.

“The Dark Tide is reaching the gate.”

The old man became even grimmer. He looked around at other Ascendant State experts and said solemnly, “We’ll be closing the gate, in light of Lord Supreme’s order and the special circumstances in the Sea of Illusions. The consciousnesses lingering inside the Sea of Illusions will probably not return. Our family will try to make up for your loss. Please understand us!”

Everybody changed their expressions.

An Ascendant cultivator quickly said, “Heavenly Lord Sheng Shi, there are too many consciousnesses that have yet to return. They’ll be doomed if the gate is closed!”

“Indeed. They represent the new blood of the Federation. Some of them are even geniuses listed on the Divine Lord Rank who may grow to become Heavenly Lords in the future!”

“Isn’t it too hasty if we close the gate right now?”

“There hasn’t been such a genius in my family for a thousand years; I don’t want him to die here. Heavenly Lord Sheng Shi, can’t we wait a bit longer?”

Many Ascendants spoke and begged the old man.

The latter was gloomy as he replied at a slow pace, “Nobody expected such an accident to happen. None of the detectors showed any reaction; it is truly an unforeseen occurrence. I understand your feelings;

however, the Dark Tide has already approached the gate. You should know how dangerous it is; many Class A spirits will appear, even some Class S spirits too.

“If we close the gate, some of the top geniuses of my family will die too, but there’s nothing we can do. It’s just their fate. We are as grieved as you!”

All the experts looked awful. Some tried and begged the old man again, but he simply gave the order to close the gate.

The old man then turned around and left the group of distraught Ascendants, giving one last command to his companions, to bring their junior’s bodies back to the family estate.

The space was overwhelmed with grief once the elder left.

Su Ping saw a few familiar faces in the crowd. Both Six Lives Buddha and Lilian were watching everything in silence next to the Ascendants that came with them.

Elsewhere—Loulan Lin was pale-faced and pained, standing next to a middle-aged man. She seemed to be close to the Loulan descendants lying in front of her.

I probably wouldn’t have made it back if those illusions hadn’t pushed me... Su Ping’s eyes glittered. So far, he was unable to confirm how his subconscious mind had found the right gate. Or, were the voices and things that pushed him in the mist not illusions?

Su Ping shook his head, unable to figure out a reason. He chose not to linger, so he simply asked Loulan Feng to take him to the Loulans’ training holy land.

He didn’t return to the Celestial Court with You Long because he wanted to condense the seventh Astral Painting there.

Loulan Feng was stunned after hearing that Su Ping was about to cultivate. He couldn’t help but suggest, “Why don’t I take you to have a body exam, in case you suffered any unknown injuries back there.”

“Okay.” Su Ping wasn’t stubborn. He nodded and accepted the arrangement.

He followed Loulan Feng to have his body checked. After going through scans with the best equipment, Su Ping’s body produced various abnormal readings. However, such readings weren’t abnormal because they were wrong, but because they exceeded the limits of the Star State by a large margin!

“Mental power waves... 36,289 p-points?”

“Well...”

Not only Loulan Feng, the scientists of the Loulan family were also shocked. They stared at the equipment in a daze, only snapping out of it until a long time later.

“The mental power readings for a normal Star State cultivator ranges between 50 and 100 points. Star Lords range between 500 and 1,000 points. And yet, his reading is... 36 times the maximum of a Star Lord’s?” said a scientist, stunned.

“I checked Princess Lin before. She’s on the Divine Lord Rank, but her mental wave is only slightly over 9,000 points. This is four times greater...” A female scientist was stupefied.

Chapter 1023: The Seventh Astral Painting

Translator: Henyee Translations Editor: Henyee Translations

Loulan Feng found it hard to believe.

Su Ping was only in the Star State, and yet his willpower was four times as much as Loulan Lin's?

It had to be noted that Loulan Lin herself was an extraordinary Star Lord who was on the Divine Lord Rank. She was a monster compared to regular Star Lords!

She had been polished and strengthened in all aspects thanks to the family investment of countless rare resources and the improvement of special training techniques, including acquisition of pets, secret techniques and mental power development.

Thanks to all this nurturing and her own great gifts, she was finally able to reach 30th place in the Divine Lord Rank.

As for the monsters further above her, they either had top constitutions or even more unbelievable talents. But all in all, the gap between them wasn't too far apart!

Su Ping on the other hand, was only a Star State warrior, and yet his willpower was four times stronger than Loulan Lin's!

The most horrifying thing was that Su Ping's willpower was almost reaching the readings of an Ascendant!

The minimal willpower reading for an Ascendant was 50,000 points. Su Ping was already approaching it!

"No wonder so many Star Lords went missing in the Sea of Illusions and only he returned. It wasn't just Lord Supreme's treasures, his own potential also had something to do with it..."

Loulan Feng was shocked and suspicious. He suddenly realized why You Long thought so highly of his junior brother!

In his current phase, Su Ping's performance was already better than many Celestials' exploits from the times when they were young!

"Is there something wrong with the equipment?" asked a scientist, feeling at a loss. He became suspicious of the equipment's performance, even though the whole team knew it had never been wrong. Furthermore, they had been doing regular maintenance.

Loulan Feng didn't say anything. His eyes glittered, and he arranged another test run for Su Ping.

Soon, the reading was out again. It was still around 36,000.

Loulan Feng suddenly took action after the test ended, infusing divine power into the equipment. Soon, the priceless equipment exploded.

"Something must be wrong with the equipment," said Loulan Feng in a low voice, "Write a report and apply for a new one. Mr. Su, let's go back."

All the scientists were taken aback by the explosion. Their faces became pale when they heard what Loulan Feng said, as they would be investigated and held responsible if something was wrong with the equipment.

Loulan Feng had already taken Su Ping away from the place moments after.

“Mr. Su, this is about your own information; I must keep it a secret for now. I can have them test you again with a new equipment set if you want to publicize it,” Loulan Feng said to Su Ping on the way.

Su Ping realized that the man destroyed the equipment to prevent others from plotting against him after learning the information.

“Thanks.” Su Ping nodded. “I don’t need to publicize it. I’m not short of fame as it is.”

Loulan Feng felt relieved. He nodded and said, “Very few people are as gifted as you, Mr. Su. Fame is a burden for you right now. I’m sure that your story will become a legend of the Federation when you rise to the Ascendant State!”

Su Ping had been invited to the Loulan family by him, so he sincerely hoped that the young man could grow up safely and rise to the Ascendant State sooner.

“Sure.”

Su Ping didn’t know how to respond to such a compliment, so he didn’t say anything.

He too wanted to rise to the Ascendant State.

If he did, he would be able to peer into the secrets of the universe.

In particular, after seeing many other worlds, Su Ping was eager to ascertain the Federation’s position in the universe. Were the top cultivation sites beyond the universe?

...

Soon, they reached the Loulans’ holy cultivation land.

There were a lot fewer descendants of the Loulan family. The accident in the Sea of Illusions killed a lot of promising talents. It was a huge loss.

Su Ping’s arrival attracted the attention of many of the Loulans’ descendants.

They paid a lot of attention to the top genius who had returned from the Sea of Illusions, and were quite curious about him.

Su Ping went straight to the best seat. He bid goodbye to Loulan Feng and started training in seclusion.

Loulan Feng watched Su Ping disappear as the protective barriers were being set. He immediately asked Director Yu to take care of Su Ping.

“I’m right outside of the mountain. Why do you need me to be so close to him?” Director Yu, who had just arrived, was puzzled.

Loulan Feng didn't explain. He said, "Mr. Su has just returned from the Sea of Illusions and he pissed off some Ascendants of other star zones. Also, he has a sensitive identity. We would be to blame if other families send anyone to assassinate him. So, please take care of him and don't wander too far."

Director Yu was rather puzzled. "Aren't we being overly prudent? Who would dare to kill anyone here? Who would have such a death wish?"

Loulan Feng slightly shook his head, not bothering to reply. He turned around and left for their headquarters, ready to report the intelligence they had gathered about Su Ping.

Only the Loulans were in control of privileged information for the moment.

Inside the barriers—

Su Ping was completely devoted to cultivation after establishing the barriers.

Intense astral power was being concentrated by the astral array underneath his feet. The barriers around him were similarly absorbing astral dust in the sky and transforming it into pure astral power. Su Ping's cultivation would rise while being seated inside the astral array, even if he wasn't cultivating purposefully.

One star after the other was being gathered inside Su Ping's body.

More and more stars were gathered as time went by. In the blink of an eye, there were already sixty-three of them!

"Gather!"

Su Ping controlled all the stars, making them dance and rearrange according to the seventh Astral Painting of the Chaos Star Chart.

The stars were sent to the openings in the Astral Painting, making it glow even more.

The astral dust was made of deity aura, which felt distant and unpredictable; it seemed to be half real and half illusory.

The last star was fitted in—a brilliant Astral Painting glittered, and the stars flashed as a whole. There were only sixty-three stars, and yet they seemed to have illuminated the entire world!

The momentary picture struck Su Ping, whose head felt dizzy and chaotic.

While he was immersed in such a strange status, he seemed able to see the river of life, the rise and fall of the universe, and the circulation of stars.

The sixty-three stars seemed to have multiplied and turned into billions that dotted the Astral Painting. Each star contained a strong life aura; they were like planets filled with lives.

The lives were glittering!

Su Ping was in a trance. None of his actions were deliberate at that point. Still, many vitality laws surged in his head. Those laws gathered and combined with the law of vitality he knew, bringing about an epiphany.

“Lives take root in hard stones.

“Lives reincarnate from dry bones.

“Lives are reversals and adaptations!”

Su Ping’s consciousness was devoted to a strange world where flowers were blossoming on vast meadows and bones were heaped on high mountains. However, the path of vitality circulated among all those things.

“So, life is not defined from the perspective of humankind.

“A stone has its own life too.

“Even if it’s shattered into a billion pieces, each piece is still an independent life.

“It’s reproduction and separation...”

A long while later—

Su Ping’s consciousness returned to his body; the barriers formed with intense astral power appeared before his eyes. The law of vitality that Shen Huang had taught him was only rudimentary, to be used as a lifesaving method. However, Su Ping had almost mastered the law of vitality in full thanks to the seventh Astral Painting.

“Astral power, separation, birth!”

Su Ping raised his hand, and there was suddenly twice as much astral power inside the barriers; the pure energy was reproducing constantly under the control of the vitality law. Reproduction was only one of the many abstruse features of this law.

The astral power remained as effective as before; therefore, Su Ping’s absorption efficiency was doubled.

Su Ping continued reproducing astral power with the law of vitality. He only started feeling worn out until there were four times as much astral power.

So, manipulating energy is easy and costless. All I need to do is to master the corresponding law...

He was surprised by the law of vitality’s power. Not even Ascendants State experts could change the energy density in the environment without a cost; they had to do that through astral arrays or their own energy. However, he was reproducing energy with the law without being strongly affected by the process.

The only thing of note was that using the law was rather exhausting; he would feel tired if he did it for a long time.

Su Ping summoned his small world, which was compressed to a one meter radius around himself. The desolate views from that world were minimized.

While examining the small world with his mind, Su Ping immediately realized that it was a lot vaster, ready to accommodate much more energy.

Is this the limit of my small world? Su Ping tried to concentrate the power of his small world on his arm, instantly seeing that the space before his arm was collapsing. It could not bear the power of his small world!

The mere concentration of his power had already shattered the primary space!

Su Ping stopped trying, fearing that the energy would leak out and alert the people of the Loulan family.

Vitality, destruction, chaos and time... I've fully mastered the four supreme laws and perfected the first small world! Now, I can finally try to condense a second small world...

Su Ping's eyes glittered. The small world around him vanished, and he focused his attention on his body; it required new strength to establish a second small world.

The first small world was based on the four supreme laws.

The second small world could be absorbed by the first if it was constructed by normal laws, which would be pointless.

While the law of illusion is a law, it is unlike normal laws, founded on mental power...

Su Ping remembered how he condensed the first small world. Very soon, he concentrated his willpower and tried to establish a new small world with the law of illusion.

His deity aura was exhausted at a very fast pace during the world establishment. Meanwhile, Su Ping felt as if his small world was about to be torn apart.

This won't do. The four supreme laws in my first small world are suppressing the second small world. They'll only neutralize each other in the end.

Su Ping gradually slowed down and frowned after lots of effort. He felt it was correct to build a second small world with the law of illusion, but turning the idea into reality was rather hard.

The traits related to the law of illusion are enough to build a small world. Unfortunately, my first small world is too solid and is suppressing it.

The small world made with the law of illusion is in fact illusory; it shouldn't conflict with the first small world. However...

Su Ping closed his eyes and kept trying.

All of a sudden, Su Ping vomited a mouthful of blood. His first small world, which had just been perfected, almost trembled and collapsed. Su Ping was too scared to try again.

"I'm going to try again in the cultivation sites after I return to my store. I should also visit the Heaven Path Institute and see what I can learn."

Su Ping abandoned the idea of condensing a second small world in this place. Although he believed that the idea was feasible, there were still a lot of details that he needed to work on.

Su Ping concealed his aura and began to heal his wounds.

...

Inside the dark universe—

At the edge of a certain galaxy, a spaceship flew closer and eventually stopped on a desolate planet.

“The Loulans’ territory is right ahead of us. They have a lot of scouts and sentries; we’ll just wait for him to come out.”

Inside the spaceship’s main cabin—seven people were seated at a long table. Some were playing with their pets, some were polishing their nails, and others were sitting solemnly.

Among them, the young man playing with his pet had dyed his hair in multiple colors. There was also a crystal adornment at the corner of his eye. “He’s only in the Star State, yet the boss sent all six of us, and even the seniors on the Divine Lord Rank to deal with him. Isn’t it too much?”

“Indeed. He’s not protected by Ascendant anyway; I should be enough to kill such a kid,” said a man who wore a smiling mask in a low voice.

“You’d better drop that thought,” remarked a young man who had only one gigantic eye in the middle of his forehead, which emitted purple light. He belonged to the minority races in the universe; his people were very good at charm skills. They had the highest percentage of assassins among all clans.

“Although he’s only in the Star State, he’s already capable of challenging the top ten of the Divine Lord Rank. He also received the Prime Sky Mirror and an unknown number of treasures from Lord Supreme. He’s as good at saving his life as any Ascendant is. The organization appointed Senior Yin Xing to come with us, just to be safe!”

The one-eyed young man looked at the guy who stood in front of them while showing his back in their direction..

Chapter 1024: Companions

“For someone who was among the top ten assassins in the past, is this the plan that you’ve devised?”

The guy slowly turned around, emitting a cold and dangerous aura, as if he were a viper gazing at the other six people in the cabin. His face was quite plain, while his silver eyes reflected the coldness of sharp blades.

“Senior.”

The other six guys in the cabin changed their expressions. The young man who was playing with his pet held it still, and the beautiful woman who was leaning against the chair gradually sat straight too.

“With you supervising the operation, senior, we should be able to deal with any accidents, don’t you think?”

An old man who was only half a meter tall said in a low voice, “Although that kid is as strong as the top ten holders of the Divine Lord Rank, it’s not like we haven’t assassinated the like in the past. Wasn’t the second place from two thousand years ago brilliant too? The entire universe knew his name. But we finished him off easily, right?”

“Those kids are extraordinarily gifted, but they’re just toddlers who have never seen real cruelty!”

“Indeed; once we join our hands, it won’t matter even if he’s on the Divine Lord Rank. We won’t fight him head-on anyway. Besides, he’s just a Star State kid; even if he can fight opponents beyond his level, he won’t be able to escape from us,” said the young man who wore a smiling mask.

“Haha...”

The middle-aged man chuckled upon hearing that, but his eyes were colder than ever. “I can tell you right now that, should the assassination fail and you’re forced to fight him head-on, all six of you might not be able to defeat that little monster.”

“Huh?”

“Senior, you must be kidding.”

“Senior, you might not know what we’ve been through in the Home of Havoc. We would also be high rankers if we could show up in public!”

None of the six looked very happy. Although their protector was an Ascendant, being despised still gave them discomfort.

“Your files may be outdated.” The middle-aged man snorted, not bothering to argue. “That little monster has been growing fast. According to the latest intelligence, he should be as strong as the top three of the Divine Lord Rank right now. He may be second, or even the best!

“Considering those under the Ascendant State, I don’t even think that Star Lords would be able to kill him in solo battles!

“The Prime Sky Mirror is a treasure he obtained from the Heavenly Star Pavilion. We have a solution for that. However, the treasures Lord Supreme gave him could be just as good! In addition, his willpower is likely to be extraordinary too, which means that your mental contamination won’t work on him!

“Therefore, should the assassination fail and you have to fight head-on, it’ll be four of you against one!

“That little monster hasn’t exposed his strongest pet yet. The one he has shown is in the Star State, but it’s a mutant skeleton as strong as the top hundred warriors of the Divine Lord Rank! Such a pet, aside from his other pets, is enough to hold one of you back!

“How strong do you think his strongest pet may be?”

“Taking that into account, it would be two against one in a head-on clash. Are you confident of slaying a top-ranking genius with only two of you?”

The six of them were surprised by Yin Xing’s revelation.

“He’s only in the Star State, and yet he’s as strong as the top three of the Divine Lord Rank?”

“How is that possible? It’s already a miracle that he made it to the top ten of the Divine Lord Rank. That’s still not his best?”

“Is his mental power as strong as ours?”

The one-eyed young man slightly changed his expression and said, "Senior, you must be well aware of my clan's pupil art. Are you sure he can compete with me?"

Yin Xing looked at him indifferently. "It comes from the latest intelligence. You'd better drop your arrogance. Has our organization's intelligence ever been wrong? It may be outdated, but never wrong!"

The six assassins looked awful after hearing that. Obviously, they knew how reliable the information gathered by the organization was; it had to be correct.

"A Star State kid is this monstrous? We've only spent two thousand years in the Home of Havoc, yet the world has become this terrifying?" mumbled the half-meter-tall old man.

"You will be responsible for your assassination. Don't expect me to watch your backs."

Yin Xing said indifferently, "Although our organization has investigated and confirmed that Lord Supreme's disciples are busy with their own missions and have no time to guard him, a guest invited and invested on by the Loulan family will surely be secretly protected by their Ascendants as he makes his trip back.

"My mission is to distract any Ascendants keeping company. You must know that his master will definitely investigate this area if the assassination succeeds. Therefore, I cannot give you much help. If you want to survive, you must accomplish your assassination plan!

"If the assassination fails, you will surely fail if forced to a head-on clash!"

The assassins had gloomy looks.

It was just until that moment when they realized that the mission wasn't as easy as they thought. No wonder their organization had promised such copious rewards. They thought that the reason for it was because their target was Lord Supreme's disciple and nobody else would have dared to accept the mission. However, it turned out that the mission was truly challenging in itself; killing a horrifying monster who had a lot of defensive treasures would barely be possible!

"You might not be able to return to the Home of Havoc if you underestimate him," said Yin Xing coldly.

All six of them remained silent, feeling burdened by the news.

The atmosphere in the cabin became grim.

...

In the Loulan family territory...

At the top of the holy mountain—a man walked out of the cultivation barriers at the center.

Outside the barrier—Director Yu was relieved to see Su Ping come out. He had a lot of things to do after the gala; however, Loulan Feng had asked him to stay there and look after Su Ping. The family leader had given him the same instruction before Loulan Feng returned.

Come on. The place was the Loulan family's cultivation holy land, which was heavily guarded at all times. Not just flies, even the air was almost filtered out. *Do I really have to protect anyone?*

Director Yu felt baffled, but he didn't dare to disobey. He merely thought that the family was taking Su Ping's safety all too seriously. Not even their own geniuses had ever received such a preferential treatment.

Director Yu glanced at Su Ping, only to find that he was still in the Star State; he had yet to become a Star Lord. He was rather surprised by it, so he mumbled in a low voice, "Mr. Su, you're coming out for a bit of rest?"

He knew how dense the astral power was in that place. Having cultivated there for more than a month, and counting the time Su Ping had spent thus far, he should have become a Star Lord even by mediocre standards.

However, even though there was no breakthrough, the elder felt something strange from the young man; he could hardly see through Su Ping without using Ascendant State power. However, observing one of Lord Supreme's disciples in such a way would be rude.

"Yes. I'm planning to return home." Su Ping was slightly surprised to see Director Yu, but didn't consider it a big deal.

"Return home? You're not going to spend more time here?" Director Yu hurriedly tried to stop him. "You haven't traveled much here, right, Mr. Su? There are a lot of places in our territory that I'm sure you'll enjoy."

"I appreciate your kindness, Director Yu."

Su Ping smiled, yet insisted on leaving.

Seeing Su Ping's determination, Director Yu didn't press further, merely informing the family leader of the matter.

A few men flew over soon after; Loulan Feng was in the lead. Behind him was a cold-looking young man who had a pair of sophisticated eyes.

Next to the young man was a familiar face who seemed young and vigorous. She was none other than Loulan Lin.

"Mr. Su, you're leaving already?" Loulan Feng glanced at Su Ping, and was surprised to see that he hadn't broken through. He didn't overthink the matter, though; a genius such as Su Ping could become a Star Lord anytime he wanted to. He was probably postponing the breakthrough for a good reason.

"Sure."

Loulan Feng took out a badge that had a strange flower pattern, and offered it to Su Ping.

"The family leader asked me to see you off. This badge is from the master of the Loulan family; you may record it in your watch. With this you won't be charged in any of the Loulan family's businesses, and you can issue commands to any of our members under tier 7."

The badge seemed substantial, but it was actually made of energy.

Su Ping recorded it in his pocket watch with Loulan Feng's help. He then activated it and projected the badge to try it out.

"Feel free to visit this place anytime you're free, Mr. Su," said Loulan Feng with a smile.

Su Ping nodded.

"This is Director Xue, Princess Lin's brother. Your way home is a long journey, Mr. Su; we would feel much more at ease if Director Xue protects you on the way," Loulan Feng introduced the cold-looking young man.

The young man had been observing Su Ping. He gave a slight nod in silence.

Su Ping nodded back at him, not refusing the help.

He had a lot of lifesaving methods, but he would be kept absolutely safe from any danger if an Ascendant State cultivator escorted him back to his store.

"I heard that you were leaving. It just so happens that I was planning to visit the Celestial Court. I heard that it's quite splendid. I'd like to take a tour there," said Loulan Lin when Su Ping looked at her in confusion, raising her chin.

Once enlightened, Su Ping shook his head and said, "I'm not going back to the Celestial Court. I'm going somewhere else."

"Huh?" Loulan Lin's face stiffened; her neck and ears quickly turned red. She turned her head and gnashed her teeth, "I'm tired of cultivating, and I want to go out for a tour. Where are you going? Tell me. Maybe I'll be interested!"

"A rather remote ordinary planet," said Su Ping.

"An ordinary planet? Not bad. I've never seen an ordinary planet in my entire life. I wouldn't mind visiting one." Loulan Lin raised her head and looked at Su Ping.

"You've never seen an ordinary planet?" Su Ping was astonished by that remark. He looked at Loulan Feng, who nodded solemnly. He then said with sympathy, "I remember seeing some ordinary planets on my way over. Why don't you go visit them?"

Loulan Lin stared at Su Ping. After seeing the candor in Su Ping's eyes, she struggled to look away and gnash her teeth. "Why are you talking so much? Are you leaving or not? I go wherever I please. Don't mind my business! I'm just coming along the way. Don't consider yourself a big deal!"

Su Ping: "?"

Why did she suddenly snap in the middle of a conversation?

What a weirdo. Su Ping didn't bother her any longer; she was no threat to him anyway. She couldn't beat him even if she wanted to.

"Goodbye then. Send my thanks to your family master," said Su Ping.

Loulan Feng nodded with a weird expression. “I will. Take care of yourself on the way. Director Xue, Mr. Su is yours.”

The young man glanced at Su Ping and nodded. He then waved his hand, establishing a channel through the void. “Let’s go.”

Loulan Lin stomped in fury. “I’ve heard that all the talented cultivators have some brain problems because they know nothing but cultivation. How very true!”

As he followed, Su Ping couldn’t help but remark, “Don’t describe Director Feng like that. He’s your senior anyway.”

The nearby Loulan Feng—who was just about to leave—almost tripped himself over. He looked back at them speechlessly.

Loulan Lin rolled her eyes after hearing what Su Ping’s said, then stepped into the channel without looking back.

Su Ping turned his head and waved at Loulan Feng, before he entered the channel.

“...Thank you for your work in advance,” said Loulan Feng with a bitter smile.

The young man waved his hand and left quickly.

...

The other side of the channel was the sky above the planet, where a shuttle-shaped spaceship was parked; it was silver, which made it look like a sharp dagger.

A Star Lord servant in the spaceship invited Su Ping and Loulan Lin to a lounging room.

“Where are we going?” asked Director Xue.

Su Ping immediately sent the coordinates of Rhea to him. “Here.”

“Okay.”

Director Xue gave the coordinates to a sexy girl who was flying the spaceship. The girl emitted an alluring vibe.

Su Ping looked at her in surprise, “Is this senior a human being?”

“Huh?” Director Xue was surprised that Su Ping had recognized her identity. “She’s my pet and partner.”

Su Ping nodded. *No wonder I felt that her aura was unusual. Are all Ascendant pets this smart?* Su Ping remembered the Ascendant State experts he had seen in the Twilight Deity King’s relics. Their pets could transform into human beings too, and were as smart as human beings.

My pets should be just as smart when they rise to the Ascendant State. It’s time I teach them how to transform, so that I can keep them around all the time, Su Ping thought.

Chapter 1025: Practice

“Make yourselves at home. Ask them if you have any questions.”

Director Xue gave a simple instruction and went to a chamber before he closed the door.

Loulan Lin glanced at the nearby Su Ping and snorted. She waved her hand and summoned a gray beast which she then held in her arms. "Sweetie, we'll be out for fun today. Don't you always want to come out? Do you like it?"

The little beast had soft spines all over its body, but they were curved, and not pointy in the slightest; touching them was rather enjoyable. The pet glanced at Su Ping vigilantly, as it had detected a strange yet dangerous aura coming from him.

"Just ignore him." Loulan Lin snorted and took the pet to the entertainment cabin nearby.

Su Ping also ignored her. He asked a Star Lord servant, "Is there a training room in the spaceship?"

The Star Lord gave him a weird look. The former was about to reply, when he thought of something and shook his head. "No."

"No?" Su Ping thought it was rather suspicious. His instincts told him that the man was lying.

"No!" the Star Lord shook his head and said firmly.

Su Ping stared at him for a while but gave up on the matter in the end. He went to the entertainment cabin and saw that Loulan Lin had thrown herself to a couch and was feeding her pet some snacks.

Su Ping immediately remembered his own pets. He summoned the Little Skeleton, which raised its head and looked at Su Ping in confusion.

He petted its smooth head. The skeleton was completely bald; its head felt as cool and comfortable as a pebble.

The Inferno Dragon and the Dark Dragon Hound were too large, and would likely affect the spaceship if summoned. Su Ping searched the cabin and found a few bags of meatloaf; he opened them and gave the Little Skeleton two pieces of smoked meat.

There was some oil and salt left on the surface of the meat, giving off the fragrance of seasonings; it looked rather delicious.

Obviously, the Little Skeleton had never had such snacks before. It observed the meat for a long time before it finally placed the meat in its mouth and chewed it unhurriedly. Little pieces of meat kept falling from its chin, making Loulan Lin feel lost for words.

"Do all skeletons eat like that?" Loulan Lin couldn't help but ask.

Not realizing a thing, Su Ping said, "Yes."

"...Can the pet really absorb the meat if it eats like that?"

"Why would it want to absorb such junk food? It's just having a taste of the food," said Su Ping casually.

Loulan Lin was again lost for words. She asked stubbornly, "But how can it taste the food when it doesn't even have a tongue?"

"Just because you can't doesn't mean it can't. Little Skeleton, is it delicious?"

The Little Skeleton looked at Su Ping, as if considering. Then, it nodded.

“...You’re forcing your own pet.” Loulan Lin felt sorry for the skeleton pet.

Su Ping picked up the Little Skeleton and ignored her; he made a grabbing motion and remotely picked up the meat bits. “It’s garbage food, but it’s still dragon meat. Don’t waste it.”

The Little Skeleton understood and nodded, then threw the remains back into its mouth. This time, black mist began to form in its mouth, which absorbed all the meat without dropping any.

“This is a famous pet snack, to think you’d call it garbage food.” Loulan Lin felt that Su Ping led an even more luxurious life than her. She snorted and said, “Your pet could make a fortune as a food streamer. It can eat however much food is thrown at it!”

“Excellent idea.”

Loulan Lin was only making a casual remark, but this inspired Su Ping. The Little Skeleton’s inability to talk was mainly because it hadn’t been in touch with many people. It wasn’t a bad idea for it to have some fun while he cultivated.

After all, the Little Skeleton and the Dark Dragon Hound deserved a life of their own.

They had been either fighting in the cultivation sites or waiting in the contract space. Their life shouldn’t be that boring.

They should go out on dates and have fun, to enjoy life.

Elder Yan is my master’s pet; he can teach all of my master’s disciples. He’s very experienced, so he must have traveled a lot, instead of simply staying in the contract space all the time.

Director Xue’s pet can fly the spaceship; she probably knows many other skills too. They’re all very independent; they can live well in the human world despite their different bodies and bloodlines.

Su Ping thought it would be good to have his pets develop other life skills seemingly left out by the system. However, he had an expert for that regard in his store: Joanna.

She knew all sorts of noble skills, such as gardening, and making tea or wine.

Su Ping felt somewhat weird after picturing the Little Skeleton and his other pets enjoying wine gracefully.

“You need to enjoy your lives when you’re not cultivating. I’ll help you develop hobbies!” Su Ping announced in his mind.

His words could be delivered directly into his pets’ heads; they could hear it even while inside the contract space.

“Woof?” replied a confused voice in the summoning area.

Once the Little Skeleton finished the portion of meatloaf, Su Ping sent it to rest in its own cabin.

The Little Skeleton checked the environment and found no threat. Then, it fell apart, turning into a bone mound and stopped moving.

The beast in Loulan Lin's arms was so scared that its spines were rising. It stared at the Little Skeleton with vigilance, creaking at times as if saying, "I've seen through your disguise!"

The Little Skeleton tilted its head, while its eye sockets were empty. It completely ignored the beast.

Loulan Lin felt that the Little Skeleton's aura was stable, yet it looked rather weird. She asked in confusion, "Your pet..."

"It's resting." Su Ping felt somewhat helpless after seeing the Little Skeleton fall to pieces, thinking that the latter would wander about, but it turned out that it preferred staying put and resting.

Loulan Lin didn't say anything else. She went on that trip with Su Ping because her family wanted to know her response.

However, she barely knew Su Ping, so she didn't want to give a response that easily. So, the trip was an opportunity for her to find out more about him. She thought she would have a chance to visit the Celestial Court, but Su Ping wasn't going there this time. She felt slightly regretful.

"Huh? There are virtual combat machines here. Let's have a couple of games, shall we?" Loulan Lin was delighted to find two machines in the corner.

Su Ping was stunned for a moment. He then nodded and said, "Okay."

He didn't have anything else to do anyway; it wasn't a bad choice to practice his own secret techniques with someone.

The two of them entered the virtual combat machines. Loulan Lin said to Su Ping with great interest, "Since you're as strong as the top ten fighters of the Divine Lord Rank, it wouldn't be unfair if we adjust the settings to the Star State, right?"

"Okay."

Su Ping didn't really care.

It was possible to set either party's level in the virtual combat environment, so that the two parties would fight on equal terms.

"Do you need to record your pets?" asked Loulan Lin.

"No, thanks. Feel free to record yours," said Su Ping.

"Have you no respect for me?" Loulan Lin was slightly angry. She would act petty only a few times, but she would never give up in battle!

She didn't record her pets, either. Instead, she quickly put on her helmet.

"Let's begin!"

She entered the virtual battlefield with a great fighting spirit.

Su Ping closed his eyes too. His consciousness sank, as if he would have entered a glittering channel. Cheers suddenly burst out around him. He found himself in the middle of a vast battlefield, surrounded by a massive simulated audience.

“Bring it on!”

Loulan Lin appeared in front of him in tight clothes, completely unlike the usual graceful princess image she had. She was like a Valkyrie about to charge on a battlefield.

Su Ping lowered his head and looked at himself. He merely wore casual clothes, without any battle gear. There were different sets of armor and weapons he could choose; the fancier equipment listed had to be purchased.

Su Ping picked a random sword and simply slashed at Loulan Lin.

“You!”

She didn’t expect Su Ping to attack her without even trying to greet her; she quickly dodged, becoming solemn and cold. She never admitted defeat on the battlefield. She then focused her attention and took a deep breath, considering their practice as a real-life battle. She kept telling herself that failure would mean death!

“Die!”

Loulan Lin moved quickly like a phantom, surrounded by the laws of wind that boosted her motions.

Su Ping reflexively tried to knock her away with the power of his small world. However, he couldn’t sense any of his small worlds. Meanwhile, a notification popped up in his head, which said that he was unable to exert capabilities beyond the Star State.

So, this is how the virtual combat works... Su Ping understood. He dashed and then dodged Loulan Lin’s sword with ease. “I can only make use of the power of laws. Try this then.”

He turned around and stood still, staring at Loulan Lin who was charging at him again.

Once she saw that her tentative attack was easily dodged, Loulan Lin unleashed all her strength in the new attack. Her body was filled with sword auras, which surfaced around her; some of them were even invisible. The sword auras were sent toward Su Ping as a storm as she fought.

But the next moment, Su Ping suddenly vanished right before her eyes.

There was a boom, and all the sword auras collapsed and disappeared. Then, the battlefield in front of Loulan Lin quickly fell apart and turned into data. She found herself back to the entertainment cabin.

“How did you...?”

Loulan Lin’s pupils were like pinpoints. She had felt the pain of death; a sharp blade had cut off her neck just like it would happen in real life. It was quite scary.

She breathed heavily and gnashed her teeth as she looked at Su Ping who had taken off his helmet.

“How did you do it?”

“With the law of time.” Su Ping glanced at her. “It was supposed to be a test; I didn’t expect that you wouldn’t feel a thing. You haven’t mastered the law of time?”

“The law of time...” Loulan Lin swallowed. It was one of the four supreme laws. How could it be mastered that easily? She finally understood why Su Ping was as strong as the top ten warriors of the Divine Lord Rank, even though he was only in the Star State. She might not be a match for him if he had mastered the law of time and his small world was powerful enough.

“Can we have another match without the law of time?” Loulan Lin gritted her teeth, but her face felt hot when she said that. She was a Star Lord fighting against Su Ping, who was a Star State warrior, yet she was asking him to not use his greatest trump card. She wouldn’t feel honored even if she won.

“Okay.” Su Ping didn’t comment on it, merely accepting her request.

Loulan Lin felt dazed for a moment; she glanced at Su Ping, suddenly realizing he wasn’t as petty as she had thought.

“Okay, let’s try again.” Loulan Lin took a deep breath and unconsciously became gentler.

Su Ping nodded.

The two of them entered the virtual battlefield again. To be honest, the previous battle had ended too fast; Su Ping hadn’t fully enjoyed himself yet, and wanted to try more things.

She hasn’t mastered the law of time. She probably hasn’t grasped the laws of destruction, vitality and chaos either. So, I have to defeat her with other laws, Su Ping thought.

Soon, another battle burst out. Su Ping moved with the laws of fire and lightning during their continuous clashes. He attempted to perform the techniques he had created by fusing laws while dodging and fighting back.

Bang.

All of a sudden, a sword aura that contained a mix of features from seven laws sliced the virtual battlefield apart. Loulan Lin—who was at the end of the sword aura—shivered and fell, with an obvious crack on her body.

Loulan Lin looked at Su Ping and said excitedly, “What move was that? My law-based power failed to resist it. I had fully mastered that law!”

“Just a trick.” Su Ping looked at her weirdly. “Did you really try your best? Why don’t you set your realm to the Star Lord State?”

“You...”

Loulan Lin nearly choked with fury.

What’s that supposed to mean? You think I’m too weak?

“No, let’s have another match!” Loulan Lin gnashed her teeth. Even though she was weaker than Su Ping, she didn’t think she would be instantly killed every time. None of her attacks could hit Su Ping, at all!

Very soon, they reappeared in the virtual battlefield.

Loulan Lin angrily turned off the audience special effect and closed the environment.

The virtual cheers were rather noisy in her opinion. Looking at Su Ping, who wore a white T-shirt instead of armor and grabbed an unremarkable sword, Loulan Lin felt uncannily angry.

“Die!”

Loulan Lin attacked again and performed the ultimate secret skills of the Loulan family. She harnessed many laws smoothly and filled the entire battlefield with them.

Dazzling secret techniques were launched too.

Su Ping was like a boat floating in the middle of a tsunami. And yet, he had been moving along with the waves; none of the secret techniques landed a hit.

Half a minute later, a sword aura slashed forth.

Inside the cabin—Loulan Lin suddenly raised her hand with an awful expression.

Chapter 1026: Assault

Translator: Henyee Translations **Editor:** Henyee Translations

“This is not possible!”

Loulan Lin’s faith was collapsing. She found the situation unacceptable.

She tried her best, yet she was completely unable to hurt Su Ping. Even though he had voluntarily stopped using the laws of time, he was still able to slay her with a single attack. The gap between them was devastatingly huge!

It also meant that she still had a very large room for improvement!

However, she had been feeling that she had hit a bottleneck and would hardly improve from then on, unless she found her own path and rose to the Ascendant State!

That was also an indicator that her talent and potential had almost been exhausted!

Is Lord Supreme’s disciple really this monstrous?

Loulan Lin looked at Su Ping with a complicated expression. She gnashed her teeth and said, “Let’s have one more match. You may go all out and I’ll use my real level too. Let’s have a real spar!”

“Okay.” Su Ping nodded readily; he was glad that she listened to his advice.

He would have started to feel bored if they fought again on the same level. After all, the gap between them was too wide.

Su Ping’s quick acceptance made Loulan Lin feel rather frustrated. However—having gauged his strength—she didn’t feel that the guy was underestimating her. She had never suffered such a huge setback since childhood; she felt like a loser now that she had been defeated by a Star State warrior.

The two of them entered the virtual battlefield again.

Su Ping smiled upon looking at Loulan Lin, whose aura had risen to the Star Lord State; he would finally be able to use more of his strength.

Although unable to release his small world, Su Ping had long discovered that Star State cultivators didn't have to use the power of a small world to defeat Star Lords. They could break a Star Lord's world as long as their laws were sharp and powerful enough!

If the world could compare to a hard iron ball, laws would then be like steel needles.

I don't think my deity aura has been recorded. I'm just a regular Star State cultivator right now, only 2% as strong as my original self? Su Ping was rather excited. He had been performing his minor ultimate tricks, which weren't costly and could be powered just a bit of the energy inside his body.

However, he was facing Loulan Lin who was a Star Lord using full strength, and he couldn't make use of his small world. As a result, he felt unusually challenged due to the pressure.

Right before him—Loulan Lin was already prepared. She said solemnly, "This is rather unfair. I won't mock you even if you fail."

She meant it. She wouldn't have challenged Su Ping in such unfair conditions if she hadn't been as eager to prove herself.

She wouldn't feel the least bit proud, even if she won.

Perhaps she simply didn't want to lose, deep down inside, or admit that she was too weak!

"Okay."

Su Ping glanced at her. He saw respect as well as fury in the girl's eyes; so, his attitude also became solemn.

Su Ping intended to use all his strength despite all the restrictions! All to respectfully face his opponent.

Bang!

All restraints were removed as the battle began. Loulan Lin didn't attack first this time; she waited for Su Ping to take action. A beautiful, scenic world popped up around her, with a hazy mist and rare flowers which blossomed all over.

It suggested that the world in her heart was clean and wonderful.

However, wonderful things weren't suitable for battles.

Su Ping's eyes turned deep. He quietly stood where he was, like a predator whose muscles had been warmed up. He calmly assessed his prey's weaknesses.

The aura inside his body was flowing slowly, seemingly unprepared to fight right then.

And yet, all of the aura was concentrated in one direction.

Loulan Lin wasn't in a rush either; after all, she was a Star Lord. It was normal for her realm to pressure Su Ping and make him act prudently. However, having made use of the power of her small world, she

didn't think he could beat her with any laws or skills. She was feeling embarrassed by how that unfair revenge was unfolding.

"Bring it on..."

Hardly had Loulan Lin opened her mouth when all the hairs on her body twitched. Her voice was muffled, and her body tightened; it was an instinctual reaction.

The beautiful world suddenly turned from an illusion to a real entity in front of her.

However, exactly at that moment, a sword aura mixed with the properties of many laws was already approaching.

The law of time!

The sword aura had arrived a second before she saw it.

Her small world blocked some of the sword aura, but not completely.

There was a boom, then Loulan Lin felt that her head had gone blank, as if something had broken and was then digging into her shell.

Following that, she saw that the sword aura turned into the most brilliant light that occupied her world.

"Ahhhh!"

Loulan Lin couldn't help but cry and move back. Then, she nearly fell off. She found herself back in the cabin, and the equipment in front of her was displaying the final image of the battle, when her "body" collapsed on the virtual battlefield. Su Ping was the winner!

Loulan Lin gazed at the scene, not entirely convinced. *How did I fail?*

She enshrouded herself with her small world for protection, considering that Su Ping could ambush her with the law of time. Still, her small world was shattered?

On the other side—Su Ping took off his helmet, feeling satisfied.

The previous experiment had allowed him to discover one thing: unleashing the full strength of a normal Star State cultivator in the advanced phase was precisely enough to penetrate a Star Lord's small world!

Loulan Lin ranked among the top thirty fighters on the Divine Lord Rank, and her small world was much harder than those of normal Star Lords, which meant that only half the energy was required to deal with a normal Star Lord.

Considering proportions, it was merely one percent of his total energy!

The expenditure was so insignificant that he could easily absorb and recover energy right after using it.

That was the advantage of having abundant astral oceans. Not only did they boast a fifty-fold capacity, he was also able to replenish his energy and heal himself much faster than normal Star State cultivators while in real battles!

“This is impossible...” Loulan Lin found the picture rather disorienting. She even suspected that something had gone wrong with the equipment. *Did I sit in the wrong direction?*

Or maybe, was her astral sign not compatible with Su Ping’s?

“How did you do it?” Loulan Lin looked at Su Ping with eagerness overflowing through her eyes. She could not believe what she had just seen.

“I have a secret technique that is called God’s Arrival...”

Su Ping was going to explain further, but then the cabin trembled violently; the ship might have hit something. Loulan Lin’s pet instantly fell from the table; however, it was quick to react. The creature jumped and landed safely, before it looked out of the cabin with vigilant eyes.

The Little Skeleton, at the moment resting on the floor, lost its bones. Some of them slid under the couch, and its skull rolled until it reached one of the cabin’s walls, just like a ball; its eye sockets were emitting red colors, as if blinking.

“What is going on?”

Loulan Lin was stunned.

Su Ping suddenly had a strong sense of danger, so he instantly unfolded his small world. Once his small world appeared, golden light shone and enshrouded Su Ping, Loulan Lin, and the other serving Star Lords in the cabin. After that, a deafening explosion burst out.

A sharp stream of silver light dashed over, and the spaceship was quickly burnt into dust, vanishing into space.

The space vessel was so solid that even Star Lords would have a hard time trying to destroy it; however, it was as vulnerable as paper in the eyes of an Ascendant. The Federation had yet to create spaceships and equipment effective to deal with Ascendant State cultivators.

That was also one of the reasons why Ascendants were so renowned.

They were in a dark area where planets of different sizes could be seen at the moment; however, all those planets seemed desolate.

“Who’s there? Stop hiding and show yourself!” Director Xue appeared in front of Su Ping and Loulan Lin. The girl who flew the spaceship solemnly stood behind them.

There was nobody else in the dark space. A streak of silver light darted again from the void and moved towards Loulan Lin the moment Director Xue said that.

Director Xue’s expression had a slight change of expression. His Divine Mark surfaced on his forehead, and the entire void seemed to be collapsing. He then shattered the silver light.

“Pay a hundred Divine Source Stones if you want to pass!” said a cold voice which echoed in space, spreading in all directions.

“Space bandits?”

Director Xue narrowed his eyes and said, "Are you aware that we are members of the Loulan family? Our family emblem is included in the spaceship's livery. Or, are you indeed aiming at us?"

"What's all that about the Loulan family? You think the Loulans own the universe? I only rob those who are rich. Hurry up! Cough up the Divine Source Stones and your lives will be spared!" declared the voice.

Director Xue squinted a bit, then glanced at Su Ping who was behind him. After a moment of silence, he suddenly manifested a hundred shiny stones. "Are these enough?"

"Yes!"

The voice laughed, and a force was unleashed to collect the loot. "Big families are truly generous!"

The voice sounded delighted. However—witnessing the situation from a place in deep space—the mysterious speaker Yin Xing was feeling quite gloomy. His target succumbed too easily; the group of travelers willingly allowed themselves to be robbed, which was beyond his expectation. One of his speculations was that his target had already realized the robber's true purpose.

Yin Xing laughed and said, "See you later!"

Right when he said that—streaks of silver light burst out of the void, flying from all directions toward Director Xue.

"They're indeed coming for us!" Coldness surfaced in Director Xue's eyes. He summoned his spear, and four Ascendant pets stepped out of the vortices around him.

Considering the beautiful pilot, there were altogether five Ascendant State pets!

All of them looked like human beings, but they then roared and revealed their monstrous, real appearances after being summoned.

Gigantic, horrifying creatures began to appear. Some entered Director Xue's body and merged with him, while others unleashed their abilities and made space collapse.

One of the pets was an eight-armed, hundred-meter tall ape with black fur all over its body. It extended its hands and twisted the void as if it were cloth, in an attempt to locate the enemy hiding there.

Bang!

A fiery pillar suddenly emerged from the void and struck the ape in the chest. The scorching flames on the surface began to disperse, but the sparks contained many laws of fire; even the hardest ores on a planet would have been burnt to ashes by those laws!

Only laws could be used to fight laws!

The eight-armed ape roared, not giving a single step back. Instead, it moved forward and stomped on the void as if standing on solid ground, making the void shake. While feeling exasperated, it then extended its hands into the deep space, breaking the fiery pillar and pulling out a gigantic hand.

However, the head was ten meters in diameter, and the neck behind it was dozens of meters long. Further behind was another hideous head that was unleashing a complete path of lightning towards the ape.

Countless lightning bolts exploded, containing the traits related to the law of lightning. A complete path was tremendously horrifying; it could easily tear a Star Lord's small world apart..

Chapter 1027: Escape

Su Ping had combined multiple laws in the virtual battlefield, to make his attacks carry multiple traits and become much more destructive. However, those laws were apparently not as compatible as the laws in the same path.

A gigantic creature roared and rushed out of the deep space as the eight-armed ape continued pulling. What the primate pulled was only a small head, or rather, a tentacle. The creature's original body was like a turtle covered by a thick shell; there were thick tentacles and a pointy head at the front.

The beast was massive, a thousand meters long. It looked like an interstellar aircraft carrier.

Roar!

Hardly had the giant beast been pulled out when a couple of tentacles tied up the eight-armed ape and released the complete paths of fire and lightning. Meanwhile, heavy rocks appeared on its tentacles and shell, preventing the dark energy on the ape's arm from leaking. That was a complete path too.

A few other beasts dashed out of the deep space towards Su Ping and Loulan Lin while the giant beast held the eight-armed ape back. Overwhelming brilliance was manifested on the beasts, spreading out a unique aura; all of them made use of their Ascendant State power.

"Damn it!"

Director Xue looked rather awful; they were obviously going for Su Ping.

As for Loulan Lin...

Although she was one of the Loulans' core descendants, she didn't deserve an assassination scheme carried out by Ascendant State cultivators. The Loulans had a lot of Heavenly Lords who could pull strings and investigate who the murderer was.

To put it simply, Loulan Lin wasn't worthy of being assassinated by such a powerhouse!

Besides, they were still in the Golden Star Zone. Although far from Loulan territory, the family had plenty of scouts in that star zone. All hostile forces had already been driven away.

"You dare to be distracted? Die!"

Deep inside the void—Yin Xing didn't show up, but he quickly took action when he saw Director Xue's weakness. His Divine Mark became hot and he used all of his strength, hoping to finish the battle as soon as possible.

He didn't intend to spend the rest of his life in the Home of Havoc.

Director Xue roared, having no choice but to fight. He became cold once he saw that all of his enemy's pets were using their maximum power. Then, he said, "Lin, take them away!"

The woman who had been manning the spaceship received the instruction and slightly changed her expression, but she didn't hesitate. She quickly carried Su Ping and Loulan Lin away, revealing her true self: a glowing, bloody phoenix that flapped its wings and broke into the void.

"Where do you think you're going?" Yin Xing roared. His pets dashed out quickly and tried to stop them.

But on the other hand, Director Xue was resisting them with his own pets too. The bloody phoenix took Su Ping away in the end.

"You're asking to be killed!" Yin Xing roared, but he remained calm while being in deep space. He was still going all out with his attacks, aiming to kill his target.

In another place, the bloody phoenix tore the void apart and flew across half a planetary system in the blink of an eye, moving as fast as a phantom.

It only took a few minutes for the phoenix to reach a distance so far that it could no longer detect Director Xue's battle. However, it could still locate its master through the pet contract.

Inside the golden light released by the bloody phoenix—Loulan Lin looked at Su Ping solemnly.

"Are they here for you?"

Even though the enemy's pet had lunged at her as if she were their main target, she had never endured such an attack before. The Ascendant State assassin who ambushed her would be investigated; only Su Ping was enough for them to pay the cost of killing him!

Su Ping frowned hard, as he had thought the same. However, he couldn't figure out who his enemy was.

Who would pay that much to kill him?

He had been training in seclusion, and had not offended anyone.

Was it the guy named Ye Ling he had confronted earlier?

Su Ping wasn't sure, but he didn't think it was that guy. After all, they could talk it over and solve grudges on their own by fighting after reaching the Ascendant State.

My master asked me to be extra careful because I might accidentally offend someone. Have I affected other people's interests? But I haven't received anything except the treasures of the Loulan family, which shouldn't have caught enough attention to warrant this attack. Or maybe, they're not coming for me?"

Su Ping blinked and looked at Loulan Lin, but he shook his head shortly after. She could only reach the Ascendant State at best, and that wasn't certain; nobody would send an Ascendant State cultivator to kill her.

They want me dead only because my existence is an obstacle for them. That's why they pay such a price. Are they... my master's enemies?

The more Su Ping thought about it, the more likely he found it to be.

Such a move was something definitely affordable if another Celestial expert was behind this.

After all, he had great potential; he would surely be on his master's side when he grew up.

In any case, I should do my best to survive first and ask about it later. My master should know his enemies better than I do.

Su Ping concentrated his attention and looked around. He was about to open his mouth, when a dazzling blade abruptly darted forth from a deep space where flashing was supposedly impossible, making the phoenix's chest bleed.

In the deep space—a shadow that was a thousand meters long slithered over. "What a delicious scent. Tsk, tsk. I should be able to mutate again if I eat you."

The creature looked like a gigantic lizard, but the appearance was creepier. It had sharp, poisonous stings from head to tail; the dense scales covering its body reflected a weird light.

The bloody phoenix shrieked due to the pain. It roared after seeing the enemy clearly, and a fiery Divine Mark appeared on its forehead, bursting out with dazzling brilliance. Corruptive flames were spread out in the deep space as if it were a meadow.

The flames weren't entirely made of energy, as they were based on laws!

It was a unique path that the bloody phoenix had created!

Strange whispers and chaotic space blades seemed to be present. However, none of this affected the phoenix; its corruptive flames minced the violent space power and turned it into nutrition.

The beast, like a dragon in the deep sea, wagged its long and sharp tail as it slithered rapidly. It then spurted out a brilliant blade with flowing colorful light. The weapon cut through the bloody flames, then the creature approached the bloody phoenix with a flash to bite at Su Ping and Loulan Lin.

Loulan Lin stared at the bloody mouth, pale and stiffened; the unmasked Ascendant State aura made her every cell quake.

Su Ping couldn't have looked gloomier. He took out a mirror, which produced a reflection of himself—a second Su Ping then walked out of the mirror.

That was a clone made by the Prime Sky Mirror. Su Ping was also able to control it; there was a faint connection between them.

"Senior, let's go to other spaces. We cannot fight it!" said Su Ping quickly, "Find the Loulan family's nearest base and have them inform the family headquarters!"

The bloody phoenix flapped its wings upon hearing that, intending to return to the sixth space. However, the space jump needed time, and the other beast was obviously prepared; it roared and released a daunting pressure. Even Su Ping's heart started to race; he was almost shivering.

However, he had faced countless ferocious beasts in the cultivation sites, and was soon accustomed to the deterrent power. He was going to break the void apart and escape into the eighth space with the bloody phoenix!

Ascendants could only wander in the seventh space, which was an already dangerous place for them, as they could die there at any time!

However, Su Ping could travel there with the Prime Sky Mirror. He would have to travel constantly to avoid disasters in the eighth space.

But then Su Ping felt some resistance the moment the mirror was activated. The void around him was indestructible; it seemed to be blocked!

“Master specifically sent me to ambush you here. You think I wasn’t prepared? Go to hell!” roared the beast, cutting apart the golden light with a brilliant blade, which was about to wipe out both Su Ping and Loulan Lin.

The bloody phoenix immediately shrieked, with bloody flames all over its body. It then flapped one of its wings, raising a flame tide to maul the beast.

The avian pet turned around and spurted a mouthful of flames that caused a hole in the void. Then, it pushed Su Ping and Loulan Lin inside. “Just run. Don’t bother me.”

The phoenix’s voice echoed in Su Ping’s head, determined to sacrifice itself.

Su Ping looked rather awful. He immediately attempted to activate the Prime Sky Mirror when he was pushed into the hole, this time being successful; he sensed that the spatial layers were near at hand.

With just one thought, he and Loulan Lin vanished from that place.

They reappeared in the sixth space.

Su Ping flashed and arrived in the tertiary space.

After that, he flashed once more, switching between spaces again and again; he quickly jumped forward while he did so.

Even Su Ping’s abundant strength had been used up halfway after a hundred times, even when he was quickly replenishing his energy.

We should have left it behind already. Even if it tracks me down, it would have to zigzag a lot. Besides, I even went to the eighth space... Su Ping’s eyes glittered.

He only stayed for one moment in the eighth space before he jumped again. However, during that one moment, he felt an extremely cold aura leaking out and freezing his body.

Whoosh!

In the last flash, Su Ping went to the universe outside.

He found himself in a strange area; there were multiple desolate planets nearby, and a primitive planet devoid of any signs of life.

Su Ping immediately took Loulan Lin to the planet.

He turned on his watch as they traveled, trying to find out where they were.

But weirdly enough, the coordinates on his watch flashed constantly, unable to fix a position in the end.

“Do you know where we are?” Su Ping instantly asked Loulan Lin.

She was in a trance, as the beast had frightened her quite a bit. She might have been killed or ended mentally deranged if her willpower were any lower.

She finally snapped out of it when Su Ping nudged her. After being dazed for a long time, she looked at Su Ping and then her surroundings; she was relieved to find that they were both alive. She shook her head and said, “No. I’ve never been here before. Let me see.”

“It’s useless. I’ve just checked. We can’t find our location here.”

“I have special services,” Loulan Lin said and quickly searched, but then found that she couldn’t find their location, either.

“Your special services might not be better than mine.” Su Ping looked at her watch and found that she was tier-6, although she had more titles behind her name.

In any case, his tier 7 clearance should have granted him more permissions.

Chapter 1028: Spaceship

“...”

Loulan Lin was lost for words, but then she found it understandable, as she recalled that the young man was a Celestial’s disciple, and the champion of the Universe Geniuses’ Contest.

However, was it really the best time to discuss that?

“Let’s go to that planet and ask around. We must inform my family, or my brother may really end up in danger...” Loulan Lin seemed worried.

Su Ping stopped her from leaving the protection of the divine power shield that the bloody phoenix had set for them. “Don’t panic. Your brother will be safe for now; it’s very hard for an Ascendant to kill a peer. Your brother can keep himself safe if he’s in danger. Besides, it’s very unlikely for two Ascendants to have shown up to ambush him.”

Loulan Lin asked suspiciously, “Why are you so sure?”

“I’ve seen plenty of Ascendant cultivators.” Su Ping let go of her hand and stared at the planet before them. It was then that, while still protected by the golden shield, they penetrated the planet’s atmosphere and landed with ease.

Su Ping’s senses probed all over, soon covering a continent. There weren’t many seas on the planet and most lands were desolate; however, there were some primitive buildings. The planet seemed to have no connections to the Federation, just like the Blue Planet in the past; that explained why they couldn’t be located.

“We’ll be in trouble if this is a barbaric planet.”

Su Ping frowned. He had in fact traveled back and forth with the Prime Sky Mirror in order to bewilder his enemy. Although the assassins couldn't catch up with them for the moment, the young pair would still be in danger if they stayed for too long.

Soon, the two of them landed in an enormous city.

That megalopolis was humongous and primitive. Some obsolete cannons had been set in the city; however, several carefully-structured cannons which carried devastating auras could be found in the corners of the city. Su Ping scanned them with his watch and immediately found their information.

They were popular Star State hot weapons found in the Federation.

A mix of primitive and modern... Has this planet just been accepted by the Federation? Su Ping's eyes glittered. The Federation had thus far been expanding every year. Had they escaped to the border of the Golden Star Zone?

Su Ping scanned the desolate lands outside the city; there were plenty of beasts over there, but the strongest among them barely reached the Void State.

The strongest human being in the city was in the Fate State. Su Ping immediately flashed to meet him.

Enshrouded in golden divine power, Loulan Lin and Su Ping landed in front of a building made of hideous bones. Su Ping released some of his aura, shocking the nearby warriors. An old man was at the moment cultivating inside the building; he opened his eyes in shock and went outside.

The old man's pupils shrank the moment he saw the handsome pair in golden light. He then asked in a shivering voice, "W-Who are you?"

Su Ping felt relieved upon hearing that the elder was speaking in the Common Tongue. He then asked, "What's the name of your planet? Where is the strongest person in the city and what is their cultivation?"

The old man was stunned by the sudden burst of questions. He asked suspiciously, "Are you from the Federation? This planet is called Wuqi. Our sovereign is the Continental King; he's far stronger than me, but I'm unaware of his cultivation."

"Where is he right now? Do you have a spaceship?" asked Su Ping again.

"The Continental King is in the kingdom up north. I've never seen a spaceship before."

The old man hesitated. He felt an even greater pressure from those strangers—when comparing how he felt when interacting with the Continental King—so he didn't dare lie. Still, he was also panicking, wondering why experts of the Federation would pay them a visit.

"The north?"

Su Ping raised his head and looked, vaguely detecting a powerful aura somewhere up north. He nodded, then immediately took Loulan Lin to the northern region.

The pressure abated as Su Ping and Loulan Lin vanished. The old man felt utterly exhausted, as if having just crawled out of mud.

“Will there be a disaster?” the old man mumbled.

“The Wuqi Planet...” Su Ping searched for it in the map on his watch. Soon, he located the planet, finding that it wasn’t at the border of the Golden Star Zone, but in a remote planetary system; they would need to travel for half a day to reach the nearest tier-4 galaxy using the Prime Sky Mirror.

Since this planet is connected to the Federation, it’s bound to have spaceships. It seems that the place is too underdeveloped and barren, probably just a lousy tier-5 planet, Su Ping thought.

Loulan Lin stood next to Su Ping without uttering a single word. She had planned to deal with the situation, but then felt safe and reassured after seeing how skillfully Su Ping had handled the whole situation.

Soon, after space jumping with the Prime Sky Mirror, Su Ping appeared on the other side of the planet, immediately detecting a powerful aura somewhere.

He spread out his senses and saw a prosperous planet. The aura was right at the center of the kingdom; there were countless cities and towns around said energy signature. None of the beasts dared to step into the range covered by the aura; they merely stayed in the wilderness further away.

“He’s in the advanced phase of the Star State. Not too bad,” Su Ping mumbled and moved towards him.

Inside a prosperous city located in the very center of the kingdom—Su Ping and Loulan Lin suddenly appeared inside a building made of dragon bones. The barriers set on the place didn’t hinder them in the slightest; after all, the Prime Sky Mirror was an Ascendant treasure which enabled traveling through the void. It couldn’t be stopped by those minor barriers.

“Who’s there?!”

In front of them was a spacious bedroom, in which three girls and a brawny man were engaged in heated physical communication.

Su Ping and Loulan Lin’s sudden arrival shocked the brawny man; the aura he released had almost killed the beautiful women around him.

Near Su Ping—Loulan Lin was stunned for a moment when she saw the live po**. She blushed, then spat and looked away. “Let them put on their clothes!”

Su Ping pulled the curtain with his power and covered the brawny man, leaving only his head exposed. He asked, “Are you the Continental King of this planet?”

The man tried to break free, but the feeble curtain had somehow become extremely tensile, seemingly containing some sort of laws which prevented his escape. He asked in shock, “Are you from the Federation?”

“Yes. Our spaceship is broken and we need a new one. We’re heading to the Blue Castle Planetary System which is not too far,” said Su Ping.

The brawny man struggled but to no avail. Feeling frustrated, he said, “We’re under the protection of federal laws. This is robbery!”

“So, do you want to die?”

Su Ping had no time to explain, as he was in a hurry. If the Ascendant pet tracked them all the way there, it could destroy the entire planet with one breath.

The brawny man realized that the strangers were most likely robbers. Still, if he got killed, who else on the planet could find the murderers to exact justice on his behalf? And what about law enforcers of the Federation? When would they ever come?

He calmed down and immediately said, “I can give you a spaceship for free.”

“We have the money. Don’t worry, we’ll pay for it,” said Su Ping, “Take us to the spaceship right now.”

“Okay,” said the brawny man, secretly relieved to hear that they were willing to pay for the spaceship. He didn’t think that the two strangers were the ferocious kind, or else they would have killed him and kept all the loot for themselves.

They might have even had the ability to destroy the planet.

Having suppressed him that easily, they were undoubtedly Star Lords, and there might even be experts who could reign over the Blue Castle’s Solar System!

“This way, please.”

The brawny man rose and put on a robe, which helped in covering the curtain tying him up; he led the way at the front, while Su Ping and Loulan Lin followed right behind him.

Loulan Lin glanced at the room, only to find that the women on the bed were still shivering in their birthday suits. She looked at Su Ping angrily. “Didn’t I ask you to put some clothes on them? Why is he the only person with clothes on?”

“I’m fine with them being naked; I only offered to dress him up for your sake,” replied Su Ping.

Loulan Lin was almost infuriated to death, but there was nothing else she could say.

Soon after, the pair was led by the brawny man and headed toward an enclosed port. Su Ping immediately detected a spaceship in the port. Right after entering, Su Ping scanned it and found both model and information related to the spaceship. It was a truly old model, but it was still spaceworthy, as it could still perform space jumps.

The distance is so short, yet the journey will take half an hour. What super-short jumps. Su Ping shook his head and sighed, but he could only deal with it for the moment.

“Is this your most advanced spaceship?”

“It is our only spaceship. Our backup spaceship is still under maintenance,” said the brawny man in all honesty.

“Fine. My lady, go on and pay for it.” Su Ping could only accept the situation.

Loulan Lin glanced at him, but she didn’t really mind paying. Besides, the spaceship was so cheap her daily allowance could already cover it.

Once paid, the brawny man was completely relieved. He then said, "You're free to sack the workers on the vessel if you don't need them."

"Okay." Su Ping boarded the spaceship; all the staff running the ship were in the Fate State; he glanced and saw five of them in total. He asked, "Which one of them is the pilot?"

"Me."

A seemingly dutiful and innocent young man stood up.

"Okay. You'll stay; the rest of you may leave." Su Ping fired the rest of the workers.

All the others were stunned. They could only leave in frustration and slowly walk to the door.

"My lord, I'm the spaceship's maintenance engineer. I've worked here for years," said a short old man who was unwilling to leave.

Su Ping stared at him for a while and said, "Okay, you can stay. You'll repair the spaceship if anything goes wrong."

The old man was delighted, so he was quick to express his gratitude. "Thank you, my lord."

Chapter 1029: Assassination

"To the Blue Castle Planetary System," Su Ping said to the pilot.

The young man nodded respectfully and returned to the cockpit.

Su Ping took Loulan Lin to a rest area. Soon, the spaceship shook and soared to the sky. The buildings down below quickly shrank in size, while quickly approaching the blue sky above. Soon, they flew out of the atmosphere and reached the vast space of the universe.

The spaceship shook once more, and the scenes outside of the window immediately turned blurry. They were about to start a space jump.

Su Ping was firmly seated inside the spaceship while he considered something.

Loulan Lin had a slight frown. She looked around, worried about her brother's safety.

Just then, the golden divine power protecting them thus far became shallow and finally dispersed.

Su Ping opened his eyes and frowned.

Loulan Lin changed her expression and looked at Su Ping. "Did something happen to my brother?"

"Not necessarily." Su Ping was quite calm. "That was the protection from senior bloody phoenix; something must have happened to her, since the beast that ambushed us is stronger. She probably can't endure for much longer."

"So to speak, is the beast chasing us right now?"

"In a sense, yes."

Loulan Lin said with a pale face, "If it catches up with us... We won't be able to escape, even if we reach the Blue Castle Planetary System. An Ascendant State expert can destroy a planetary system easily."

"We need another half an hour to reach Blue Castle."

Su Ping frowned. Ascendants were very fast; he wasn't certain about how long it would take for the beast to track them down.

"Why are you still so calm? Have you made other preparations?" Loulan Lin became hopeful again, since she saw how calm Su Ping was.

Su Ping shook his head and looked at her. "You are a core descendant of the Loulan family. Heavenly Lord Jian Lan seems close to you too. Didn't they give you any lifesaving treasures?"

Loulan Lin smiled bitterly. "Heavenly Lord Jian Lan is my grandmother. Although I'm never short of treasures, very few of them can keep me safe from an Ascendant. I'm not qualified to have any of them."

"It seems that your position isn't high enough," Su Ping couldn't help but complain.

Loulan Lin was rather lost for words. After a moment, she said, "Is this really the best time to talk about such matters? Your master is a Celestial. He didn't give you any treasures?"

Su Ping shook his head.

"That's impossible." Unconvinced, Loulan Lin was about to say something else, when she lowered her head and saw that green light was surging from the emerald necklace she was wearing.

"Huh?" Loulan Lin's expression changed a bit.

At that moment, the short, old maintenance engineer arrived with food. He said gratefully, "My lord, these are some local specialties. Thank you for keeping me on your spaceship."

"You're welcome," said Su Ping, accepting the food offered.

But then, Loulan Lin exclaimed exactly at that moment, "Stop!"

She unleashed a powerful force and revealed her small world, smashing the old man.

The old fellow, clad in filthy clothes full of oil stains, was still wearing a grateful smile; however, his eyes had become scary and cruel. He waved his arms, launching black bursts of energy as sharp as blades towards Loulan Lin and Su Ping.

Loulan Lin's expression changed again as she blocked the old man's arm and then tried to knock Su Ping away.

"What are you doing?"

Su Ping's voice was exceptionally calm in such a dangerous moment. He pulled Loulan Lin away, thwarting her attempt to take the attack for him, and then kicked the old man's arm. The old man was flung back and hit one of the spaceship's walls heavily, as if smashed by a hammer.

Loulan Lin was pulled away, dodging the old man's attack. Hardly had she regained her balance when she saw the old man being flung away; she looked at Su Ping in a daze.

"You're really something." Su Ping coldly looked at the old man.

Loulan Lin was stunned. "You knew something was wrong with him?"

"It's hard not to suspect a Star Lord maintenance engineer." Su Ping looked at her. "How did you notice?"

"My necklace is a secret treasure made of gallbladders from powerful poisonous beasts. It will automatically neutralize any nearby poison," said Loulan Lin quickly. Her necklace was still shining like a green lake.

The old man had decisively taken action when he noticed Loulan Lin's necklace. It was also the moment when the divine power protecting Su Ping and Loulan Lin had been dispelled.

"You can sense my cultivation? That's impossible!"

The old man quickly stood up after hearing what Su Ping said, eyes becoming cold and sharp. He was furious, but his head became crystal clear. He was a top assassin, so he was considering what to do next.

"Is there poison here?"

Su Ping sniffed, but he didn't perceive a thing. He filtered his senses with laws, and finally noticed something was wrong. It wasn't a normal poison, it was one of the tremendously lethal kinds that could even deteriorate laws.

"How can you be fine?" Loulan Lin looked at Su Ping in surprise. She had thought that Su Ping had already noticed the poison and taken measures to resist it.

"Maybe because the poison is too normal." Su Ping shook his head and stopped investigating the poison. Although colorless and odorless, it didn't seem to be very effective. He went and examined himself, finding that the poison had already been assimilated.

Su Ping had been to many dangerous places in cultivation sites and encountered all types of beasts; most of those beasts carried lethal poisons. Su Ping had already been tested by them, some among them being Ascendants even. He had already developed a strong resistance to poison.

"Normal?"

The old man became so infuriated by Su Ping's dismissive remark that he almost stopped thinking. They had spent a fortune for the poison, enough to bankrupt a Star Lord!

The substance could have killed a bunch of Star Lords caught unaware!

It was awfully scary, even in the forbidden black market, and was still difficult to procure while using their organization's channels... And yet, Su Ping despised it!

"You're in league with that Ascendant assassin?" Su Ping looked at the old man, biding his time before attacking.

The old man had already been exposed, but he didn't admit a thing. "I have no idea what you're talking about. Good people, you're obviously not poor; hand over your valuables if you're smart!"

"You're pretending to be space bandits?"

Su Ping looked at the cockpit. "Are you buying time for the pilot, so he can take us to the trap you prepared?"

The old man's eyes twitched, but his expression remained the same. "What are you talking about?"

"I think there's only one Ascendant assassin. If there were two, they could have already ambushed and killed us, not giving us a single chance to escape..." Su Ping mumbled and looked at the old man. "So, you're that Ascendant's underlings, and you're responsible for killing me while he keeps our Ascendant protector distracted?"

"Cut the crap. You..." the old man roared.

Su Ping had attacked before he finished. "You still won't admit it? Let me just take a look, then!"

He quickly flew out like an eagle lunging at its prey. He was so intimidating that the spaceship was shaking with the momentum. On the other hand, Loulan Lin realized what was going on and charged at the cockpit.

"You're asking to be killed!" roared the old man and narrowed his eyes upon seeing Su Ping making a move toward him; he unleashed his strength, and a dark small world surfaced behind his back. He also performed strange skills he had acquired in ancient relics; they formed a black and hideous mouth that aimed to chomp Su Ping along with his small world.

The elder would have made a run for it if he ever encountered a genius from the Divine Lord Rank two thousand years prior.

However, they had been through endless suffering over the years in the Home of Havoc, and were no longer what they used to be; all of them were confident of fighting high rankers. Even though Su Ping was said to be incredible, he was well aware of his own strength and would never underestimate himself.

Roar!

The black mouth produced with strange skills carried a strange, intimidating aura that twisted space and affected the mind; countless people were crying deep inside that mouth, as if it led to hell.

However, right when the mouth was about to reach Su Ping, the latter punched so violently that his fist seemed about to penetrate space itself, as it contained infinite strength.

After a boom, the illusory mouth was shattered, and the spaceship's side was smashed through, knocking the vessel out of the space jump.

"You're too weak," said Su Ping indifferently.

He looked down at the old man. When his small world was perfected, Su Ping had already become one of the strongest Star Lords in the Federation!

Adding the deity aura being transformed in his body, he was as strong as the best Star Lord in every aspect!

The old man wasn't at all weak, since he could rank just below the 20th on the Divine Lord Rank, but he was no different from a normal Star Lord in front of Su Ping. The power of laws condensed by the latter was already too much for the assassin!

Su Ping then threw a punch that would cripple the guy.

The old man's expression changed considerably. His mind was also injured when his strange skills were shattered by Su Ping; he spurted a mouthful of blood and ended up with heavy wounds. He looked at the young man, horrified; he was kicked away after the failed assassination earlier on, and a singly punch from Su Ping had destroyed his strongest attack. It was terrifying!

He recalled what Yin Xing had said, finally believing. Even though the young man was in the Star State, he was as strong as the best on the Divine Lord Rank, however unbelievable it might sound!

Furthermore, the man seemed even more horrifying than the second place holder of the Divine Lord Rank they had assassinated two thousand years in the past!

"Night Tiger!" the old man roared. He could only try his luck now that his plan had failed. All his blood was ablaze at the moment; a shadow quickly surfaced behind him and merged with his body. He was about to burn his lifeforce, sacrificing himself to fight with Su Ping.

Chapter 1030: Dark Tower

"Stop!" A roar burst out of the cockpit along with its door exploding, right when the old man was about to use his ultimate skills. The innocent-looking young pilot had put on a mask that had a smiling face. Loulan Lin was fighting him, but she was being suppressed by his small world and was losing.

"I'll kill her if you don't stop!"

"Don't bother me! I can still endure!" cried Loulan Lin.

She didn't expect the pilot to be so horrifying. She was a Star Lord who was listed among the top thirty on the Divine Lord Rank, yet she was being suppressed!

In the boundless territory of the Golden Star Zone, only thirty or so Star Lords were stronger than her, and the pilot was one of them!

"Can you endure? You would be dead already if I wanted to kill you!" said the masked young man with a cold tone. He increased the pressure, and his small world was squishing Loulan Lin.

"Don't bother me!" Loulan Lin shouted. Special secret patterns appeared on her body; it was the secret technique of the Loulans that could provide a temporary strengthening; she didn't want Su Ping to be distracted by her.

"You're asking to be killed!"

The masked young man's eyes were even colder.

“The way I see it, YOU are asking to be killed.” Su Ping’s calm voice was heard up close. It was quite chilling.

A person swooshed from Su Ping’s back; it was the copy created by the Prime Sky Mirror. Although the copy couldn’t compare to himself, it had still inherited half of his strength!

That was the power of an artifact.

“Damn it!”

The masked young man stopped hesitating. Since Su Ping didn’t care about the safety of the Loulan’s scioness, he planned to kill Loulan Lin and then finish Su Ping off along with the old man.

He hadn’t really believed that Su Ping would be threatened with Loulan Lin’s wellbeing. After all, Su Ping was an unparalleled genius in the universe; it was highly unlikely that he cared about anyone else.

That was why they had found all the information about Su Ping, including his hometown and parents, but didn’t dare to capture them to threaten him.

They were afraid that he would be alerted before they could threaten him!

“Huh?”

Hardly had the masked young man attacked when he realized that Loulan Lin, whom he had been suppressing, was gone. His attention had been solely focused on Su Ping. He then discovered that she had reappeared next to Su Ping.

“How did you...?”

The masked young man had yet to figure out what was going on when he saw Su Ping’s clone charging at him. He hurriedly resisted the attack.

“1...”

Loulan Lin was stunned too; she looked at Su Ping in a trance. Soon, she realized that it was the law of time; he had used the law of time without anyone else realizing it.

Had he paused the time, or reversed it?

Or did he use another approach?

Loulan Lin wasn’t sure, but she did realize that Su Ping was very strong, to have rescued her from the horrifying masked young man without making a sound. She even thought that he was as capable as the top three warriors of the Divine Lord Rank!

Bang!

The old man next to Su Ping suddenly took action, seeing that Su Ping was distracted by the masked young man. An unpredictable dagger appeared in his hand; the weapon was of a pure black color, covered in dense scales. The aged assassinating made a stabbing motion, sending it into a deeper space and activating a secret curse technique he knew.

He was going to kill Su Ping with the mysterious curse power he had acquired from an ancient corpse!

He would succeed as long as he could stab Su Ping's body!

Ding!

The next moment, an unexpected noise burst out. A purple shield surfaced on Su Ping's body, blocking the dagger; it was one of his master's gifts, which could resist the attack of the strongest Star Lord. Back then, Su Ping hadn't yet reached the Star State and Star Lords were major threats to him. The treasure had remained unused until that moment.

"Die!!"

The old man's eyes were almost popping out. He had to seize the opportunity! He could not fail!

The dagger penetrated the shield as he exerted his strength, finally stabbing Su Ping. But, it seemed to have hit a hard item.

The old man was stunned. Then, he saw a red feather surfacing from the place his dagger had made contact.

A feather?

The old man was bewildered.

But then, a scorching aura swept out and enshrouded him. An almost complete law of fire raged forth.

Su Ping had mastered the law of fire earlier than other laws. It was almost perfect at the moment, thanks to the memory fragments passed on through the Golden Crow bloodline. They improved and helped Su Ping significantly.

"Soul Sealing!"

Su Ping looked at him indifferently and raised his hand, which turned bigger and bigger in the old man's eyes, as if about to cover the entire sky!

His eyes widened with disbelief.

The law of fire swept out and melted the old man's arm. His hair and clothes were quickly burned, and so was the astral power in his body. He was rapidly losing his cultivation. His consciousness, still in Su Ping's hand, had yet to be corrupted, but it was gradually blocked.

"Let me find out who organized this assault." Su Ping's eyes were cold. He was going to search the guy's memories, which wasn't hard for him to do.

He had obtained all sorts of special secret techniques in the cultivation sites. Mind infiltration was one of them; he had learned it from the undead creatures a long time before.

Many spirits were capable of doing that. The Little Skeleton could too.

"Not a chance!" roared the old man in a scary manner. His face was contorted, although it was unclear whether it was caused by fear or pain. Black fog erupted from his body, as if ghosts were crying.

“You’re cursed?” Su Ping sensed that the black fog was rather weird; there was an aura of a curse that only the horrifying undead creatures would have been able to master. That old man had clearly been deeply corrupted; the curse could even erase the old man at any time and replace his consciousness!

The old man cried miserably and cursed at times. The black fog surged and gathered, before pointing at Su Ping like a black finger.

Su Ping slightly changed his expression and snorted. His eyes turned into a pure golden, just before he spouted Golden Crow flames.

The most dominating flames in the entire world appeared and almost set the entire cabin ablaze. Even laws and the void had been melted.

There were trailing fumes coming from the black finger, as if the finger were being burned; a snort was heard when it was about to be melted.

The snort inflicted a heavy strike on Su Ping’s mind, just like a hammer. Such an attack left him quite shocked; he would have passed out if his willpower hadn’t been significantly improved in the Sea of Illusions!

The finger made of black fog gradually dispersed, along with the creepy and dark aura in the air. Su Ping’s expression showed a slight change again; that old man had obviously contracted something unclean, likely the lingering consciousness of a dead expert. Or maybe an expert was trying to resurrect by using the curse!

Fortunately, it’s just the lingering consciousness... Su Ping was secretly relieved. He looked at the struggling and roaring old man and then suppressed him without granting any mercy.

The old man’s remaining awareness seemed to realize that he was doomed. He immediately planned to blow himself up.

However, Su Ping’s willpower was far greater than that of any Star Lord; he had completely suppressed the old man, and could detect any change in him. He didn’t give the man a chance to kill himself.

“You want to kill yourself? Not yet.” Su Ping coldly looked at the masked young man on the other side after capturing the old man’s soul. He saw that the man had already been heavily wounded by his clone.

Even if his clone was only half as strong as himself, it was still enough for him to suppress his opponent.

“Freeze!”

Su Ping suddenly pointed with a finger, making space and time quake. The still struggling masked young man stiffened for a moment. Su Ping’s clone seized the opportunity and suppressed him, sending him to its small world.

The copy’s world had been perfected too, except that it was only half as powerful as Su Ping’s.

Even so, the masked young man was unable to break free.

The spaceship had been seriously damaged, and everybody was exposed in space at the moment.

Loulan Lin was overwhelmed by disbelief, having seen that Su Ping had finished off the ambushers in the blink of an eye. Her shock increased, leaving her at a loss for words, when she saw the masked young man running about in the copy's small world and trying to break free.

"If you saw that something was wrong with them, why didn't you do anything earlier?" Loulan Lin asked Su Ping after a long while passed.

By then, Su Ping had infiltrated the old man's mind and read all his memories. Once hearing Loulan Lin's question, he replied, "Although they hid their cultivation, I wasn't sure they were against us; what if they were actually good guys?"

"They were too suspicious; how could they not be against us?" Loulan Lin didn't know what else to say.

"I thought only Ascendants would be sent to kill us." Su Ping shook his head. "It's actually unbelievable that they would send such lackeys."

Dumbfounded by the answer, Loulan Lin was planning to argue with him. However, she was rendered speechless upon seeing the old man's lingering soul as Su Ping squeezed it, plus the other assassin who was confined in the small world.

The pair of strong Star Lord assassins had been suppressed by Su Ping with tremendous ease. She too felt that the world was crazy!

"Do you know of the Dark Tower's existence?" asked Su Ping.

Loulan Lin narrowed her eyes, goosebumps forming all over her body. She asked in shock, "They belong to the Dark Tower? How is that possible?"

"Is it a very famous place?" Su Ping almost wanted to search for it on his watch.

"Normal people have never heard about it. However, in terms of assassination, it's the unquestionable No. 1 in the entire universe!"

Loulan Lin couldn't help but explain further, "The Dark Tower's targets have never survived. Also, the Dark Tower's assassins are never scared; it's said that a Celestial expert is behind the group. No wonder they were sent to kill you; it makes sense. Only the Dark Tower would dare to send Ascendants to kill you without worrying about your master's retaliation!"

Loulan Lin understood everything and gasped.

"However, I'm going to be an exception," said Su Ping casually. But he was rather solemn.

The Dark Tower was backed by a Celestial State expert. Did they choose to attack him out of their own initiative, or was it a contract?

Even though the old man had failed to kill himself, he seemed prepared to be caught. His memories had been modified, which prevented Su Ping from acquiring all the information.

However, he had found a lot of things about the assault.

For example, the Ascendant expert's code name was Yin Xing. He committed that to memory!

Furthermore, the Blue Castle Planetary System had already been cleared by the assassins. Four additional assassins had set up a grand trap there, ready to kill Su Ping.

Unfortunately, when they tried to poison Su Ping on the spaceship to weaken him, they didn't expect that Loulan Lin would have a secret treasure that could detect poison.

They felt really confident of the poison they had bought; probably not even experienced assassins may notice it. However, Loulan Lin noticed it and became alert.

I traveled a hundred times in the void and eventually arrived in this region. And yet they had already set up a trap in this place! Su Ping was rather impressed after reading the old man's memories.

The surrounding space had been blocked. The Ascendant named Yin Xing had only planned to keep Su Ping's Ascendant protector distracted, and then push Su Ping into the "bag" they had prepared in advance.

That part of space was the interior of the bag.

If Su Ping was unaware of the arrangement, he would be stuck inside the bag no matter how many times he teleported.