

Chapter 1161: ZENITH

After hearing Arch-Elder Zen's explanation, the Progenitor of Bloodlines sighed. "It's no wonder why you allowed the skies to change and have so many Semi-Progenitors. It seems that we have to thank that little fellow who broke through the Upper Three Gates. If not for him, we would not have learned about all these secrets."

"This has nothing to do with him. Even when the Sixth Mainland invaded our territory, you never truly entered the Neoverse," Arch-Elder Zen said.

"How many slots are there?" the Progenitor of Bloodlines asked.

"Only ten," Arch-Elder Zen reluctantly answered after looking at the other six.

"Understood. We want five," the Progenitor of Bloodlines stated.

Arch-Elder Zen instantly refused. "Of these ten, two belong to the Technocracy, three to the Astral Beast Domain, and five for our Human Domain. Now that your Sixth Mainland is here, we are willing to offer up two of our slots, but no more."

"Even though the Technocracy and Astral Beast Domain had been waging war against you, they still have places on this list?" the Progenitor of Secret Arts exclaimed.

Arch-Elder Zen sighed. "Aside from the racial differences, part of the reason why we wage war is to compete for more slots on this list. This list belongs to the entire Fifth Mainland, not just our Human Domain. However, we hold the majority of the slots. So, Progenitors, please understand our position: we can give up two slots at the most."

The Progenitor of Combat was incensed and roared, "We three are helping you defend your Fifth Mainland, and yet you're only giving us two slots? Do you know who you are speaking to?"

Arch-Elder Zen raised his head. "This concerns the profits of the entire Fifth Mainland, and thus, it cannot be decided by just the seven of us. The Technocracy and the Astral Beast Domain also have their own Semi-Progenitors. Do you want all of us to fight it out with each other?"

The Progenitor of Bloodlines was surprised. "Your mainland still has more Semi-Progenitors? This seems to be the Fifth Mainland's greatest secret, and only now are we learning of it. If time had continued to flow by, then it is indeed possible for the Fifth Mainland to produce a Progenitor without us knowing about it. It seems that we have these monsters to thank."

Arch-Elder Zen felt rather stifled. The Human Domain had always acted with a low profile. Even if they had known where the Neohuman Alliance was based out of, they still would not go all out to eradicate them. This was because they had always been afraid of the Neohuman Alliance's retaliation. Progenitor Hui's scheme had been well thought out, but deviations were bound to occur. The Human Domain did not want to take on the burden of more risks, so they had never gone all out against the Neohuman Alliance. However, at this time, it seemed that another anomaly had appeared.

One could only lament such a life.

“How you decide to divy up the slots is up to you, but no matter what, we will take four slots. You all can leave now. As for the people currently in the Outerverse, those who wish to stay may do so, and we will treat them fairly. However, the Outerverse will be placed under our Sixth Mainland’s jurisdiction.” The Progenitor of Bloodlines seemed to have run out of patience and no longer wished to speak to Arch-Elder Zen and the others.

The seven powerhouses all left. For the moment, they did not have to worry about the breach, but the Progenitors’ words remained in their minds.

There was simply no way to distribute the slots with the addition of the Sixth Mainland.

The seven discussed the matter for several days before reaching out to the Astral Beast Domain’s Skymender as well as someone from the Technocracy. In the end, everyone agreed: since sharing the slots was not easy, the eligible participants would compete for the slots themselves.

After reaching that conclusion, Arch-Elder Zen went to the breach and spoke to the three Progenitors. “We have discussed the matter, and we simply cannot just give away the slots. At the moment, the observation list has more than twenty people, and with those of the Sixth Mainland added in, there simply will not be enough spaces to go around. So...” Arch-Elder Zen paused and looked at the three Progenitors. “Let them compete for the slots with their own strength. We have decided to host a competition, and the top ten will win the right to go to that place and seek their own fates.”

The three Progenitors looked at each other, and the Progenitor of Secret Arts was the first to agree. “Very well, a fair competition to choose the top ten it is. Remember your words, as you cannot go back on them, even if all top ten are from the Sixth Mainland.”

“We definitely will not,” Arch-Elder Zen confidently replied.

At this moment, the three Progenitors laughed, as they had the Daosource Three Skies.

Arch-Elder Zen joined in laughing because he was thinking of Shang Qing and the top talents who had fought atop the golden screens in the Mountain and Seas Zone.

Each side was completely confident in their own people, which formed the foundation of this competition.

Arch-Elder Zen then let the Hall of Honor publicly announce this decision. The time for the competition had not been determined yet, but the number of people who could participate was not limited. Everyone and anyone was allowed to participate. The top members of the Hall of Honor along with the nine overseers were all publicizing this martial competition as an event to ‘unite the Human Domain’ in a bid to boost the morale of the entire Human Domain.

During the competition, live footage of the competition would be broadcasted throughout the entire universe, including the Sixth Mainland’s newly assigned area. The purpose of this competition was to show everyone the strength of the new generation, which was the reason behind its name—ZENITH.

The universe was simply too fragmented. It held the Human Domain, the Astral Beast Domain, and Technocracy. As for the Human Domain, there was the Outerverse, Innerverse, Cosmic Sea, and Neoverse. In the future, they would have to face an invasion from those horrendous creatures, and only

by consolidating the strength of the entire universe would they be able to repel the outsider forces. This competition was the first step towards unification, though it definitely would not be the last.

It was important to first allow everyone to be comfortable with the idea of uniting.

In the past, the three domains of the Fifth Mainland had hosted the Tournament of the Strongest, but many people had considered it child's play. However, this time, ZENITH would be the ultimate stage for the Human Domain's youths, and it would be a once in a lifetime opportunity to compete for a chance that could improve their chances of eventually becoming a Progenitor. This could be considered a true life or death battle.

Hosting ZENITH would not be a simple task as it concerned more than just the Fifth and Sixth Mainlands. First, they had to spread coverage throughout the entire Astral Beast Domain.

The Astral Beast Domain and Human Domain were often locked in war, and even if Skymender and the Celestial Beast Empire agreed to this competition, it would not be easy to spread network coverage across the entire Astral Beast Domain. Such a thing required time, as did relocating the people from the Outerverse.

Overseer Bu Laoweng and his grandson Tian Shao were the ones most affected by these changes.

Arch-Elder Zen had unwillingly given the Outerverse to the Sixth Mainland, and these two people were suffering the most from this decision.

"Grandfather, since we've lost the Outerverse, then does it mean that we no longer control the Great Eastern Alliance? Doesn't this mean that the Hall of Honor's decision to let you take charge was just a farce?" Tian Shao grumbled to the image of Bu Laoweng that had appeared on his gadget.

Bu Laoweng indifferently replied, "Don't panic. There are countless people from the Sixth Mainland. Even if they want to move to the Outerverse, it will take them time. The exact amount of time is uncertain, but it will be a hundred years at the minimum. For now, the Hall of Honor has to move everyone from the western region of the Outerverse into the Innaverse, which will take a long time as well. All of this time will be enough for you to gather the accomplishments that you need."

Tian Shao heaved a heavy sigh of relief. "Then I'll begin packing and making my way to the Outerverse."

"Remember this: you are going on my behalf, so you cannot throw the Hall of Honor's face aside. Still, at the same time, you cannot be too insolent. Although Lu Yin was captured by the Neohuman Alliance, his influence still pervades the entire Outerverse. This is especially true as he has Yuan Shi as well as Eversky Island as his backers. Leon's Armada is no weakling either, so try to avoid any direct confrontations. There are many factions within the Great Eastern Alliance that are only members in name, so you can make good use of those people," Bu Laoweng stated.

"Grandfather, I already know all of this." Tian Shao paid little heed.

Bu Laoweng frowned and continued, saying, "Make sure to remember that not only do you need to accomplish things out there, but you also cannot afford to make even a single mistake. That place is your stepping stone for climbing up the ranks within the Hall of Honor, and you cannot fail at the first step. Don't squander my many years of hard work. Originally, this was all intended for your father, but he passed away too soon. If not for the creation of the Great Eastern Alliance, I wouldn't have been able to

give you this position even after another thousand years of hard work. Now that this lucky opportunity has fallen in your lap, do your best to succeed.”

Tian Shao nodded resolutely. “Don’t worry, grandfather.”

Bu Laoweng still felt rather uneasy, but for the moment, he was unable to leave the Neoverse. He could only send someone else to keep an eye on Tian Shao. However, in a wasteland like the Outerverse, there wasn’t likely to be anyone who would dare to cause trouble for his grandson.

...

The interior of Progenitor Chen’s Mausoleum was dark, and there was no sun there. Just as the name suggested, this place was a sealed space.

It covered an exceptionally vast area. After all, it was the grave of a Progenitor.

The chaos caused by the guardian giant meant that everyone lost track of each other soon after entering. Hui Santong continued to fly away on his golden shooting star trails. He had initially intended to keep an eye on Xia Jiuyou, but he had already lost him. As for Lei Nü, she kept her eyes trained on Hui Santong at all times. The people from the Hall of Honor were not familiar with Progenitor Chen’s Mausoleum, and she had decided that Hui Santong was her best option to tail.

Hui Santong felt rather speechless when he turned around and saw that Lei Nü was still following him.

This woman is planning to follow me to death, huh?

“Second Honor Chosen, can’t you find your own way?” Hui Santong could not stand it anymore and spoke up.

Lei Nü maintained her silence as she continued to follow him.

There was a dark dome above them and a black mountain range below. Each mountain peak looked like a sharp blade, which was rather disturbing. There were also strange bubbling noises coming from a river running below them that was also black.

Hui Santong asked Lei Nü to leave several more times before finally deciding to attack her. However, he was unable to defeat her, and Lei Nü was not too harsh with her fists as she simply continued to follow him. Hui Santong felt utterly suppressed at this time.

Xie Xiaoxian was feeling the exact same thing as Shu Jing followed her.

“Hey, I can’t have any sense of security with you staring at my skimpy clothes like that. Go and ogle someone else!” Xie Xiaoxian said with displeasure.

Shu Jing frowned. “My apologies. I won’t attack you so long as you don’t attack me.”

Xie Xiaoxian was rather infuriated, and she decided to simply stop moving. Suddenly, bones appeared from her hands that took the shape of spikes, and they pierced the ground beneath her as they started drilling a hole. Shu Jing was stupefied and asked, “What are you doing?”

Xie Xiaoxian gave a sly smile. "Don't you like following me? Keep up! Anyways, I won't be going anywhere."

Shu Jing was flabbergasted.

The Neohuman Alliance was definitely more familiar with Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum than the Hall of Honor's participants. And from what Lu Yin could tell, the Neohuman Alliance seemed to have as much knowledge as the Seven Courts.

Silver confidently headed in a certain direction, though he never stopped talking to Lu Yin. "Captain, there's plenty of good stuff here in Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum, but there are three things that stand above everything else. There's Progenitor Chen's secret technique, the Root of Intelligence, and the chance to experience a Progenitor's enlightenment. Right now, we're headed towards the place of enlightenment, and-"

Suddenly, Silver stopped talking.

Lu Yin maintained his zombie-like expression and continued following Silver.

Silver turned around and looked at Lu Yin. "Captain, have you truly been remodeled, or not? I really can't get a read on you any longer."

At this moment, a streak of lightning shot over their heads. It was Ku Lei.

Silver looked up and said, "Is the Ku family's inheritor stupid, or is he just completely arrogant? Doesn't he know that there are guardian giants here?"

As Silver spoke, a horn sounded from afar, and it echoed throughout the entire mausoleum.

The horn had come from a certain direction, and it was where a tribe of guardian giants lived. This sound caused all of the giants in Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum to bellow and rush out from their village and stare up at the sky.

Ku Lei turned into a streak of lightning and flew further away. He narrowly avoided a club swing and looked to the left, where a giant was charging at him. In response, Ku Lei could only slap down with a hand.

Ku Lei's expression grew icy cold as he pointed at the giant: Finger Tap.

Chapter 1162: Big Bro Monkey

The giant's rage immediately quelled when it saw Ku Wei's Finger Tap technique. The technique had drilled a hole into the massive humanoid's palm and knocked it to the ground.

This giant had not fully grown up yet, which was why Ku Wei dared to fight it. However, as more giants continued to run at him, he did not stick around for a moment longer as he quickly dropped to the ground.

Ce Jiu was in the same position as Ku Wei. All of the outsiders were immediately attacked by the giants, aside from Xia Jiuyou who simply moved past the giants.

The Xia family were Progenitor Chen's descendants, which was the only logical explanation for this phenomenon. As for the earlier attack, he had just been unlucky.

Within the Seven Courts, it was common knowledge that the members of the Xia family were able to move about freely within Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum.

Lu Yin's trio had also encountered the guardian giants.

The guardian giants sought out their prey by smell, and the trio was quickly discovered.

A giant smashed down at them with a club, creating a huge pit in the ground.

Silver, Beast, and Lu Yin immediately ducked. The giant roared and followed up with another smash. This time, even the air around the club warped.

A single swing from the guardian giant's club was easily powerful enough to destroy a whole planet. Lu Yin did not want to face such a monstrous strength head on.

The trio did not notice that someone was standing atop this guardian giant's head, hidden within the hair and staring at them in shock. It was Ku Wei.

Upon entering Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum, Ku Wei had been immediately sent flying by a club smash, and when he regained consciousness later on, he had found himself stuck in a random giant's hair. His legs were tangled in the hair, and he was dangling from his legs.

He was actually somewhat grateful that he had been launched into the giant's hair, as otherwise, he would have been discovered and turned into a meat patty.

While Ku Wei's luck had been quite good, he was also a bit worried, as he had no way to escape. He knew that, with his speed, the moment he moved away from the guardian giant's body, he would be immediately caught and smashed to death. There was no way about it.

Originally, he had submitted himself to his fate and had decided to only leave when Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum reopened. However, then, he had noticed these three people.

At this moment, he was fervently hoping that they could kill the guardian giant he was trapped atop.

Ku Wei did not know who these three people were as he had never met Silver, and he also was not able to see Lu Yin, who was wearing heavy black robes. However, a chance was still a chance. Of course, Ku Wei would resign himself to his fate if these three people wanted to kill him instead.

In theory, a mature guardian giant was strong enough to fight against a powerhouse with a power level greater than 100,000. This was because guardian giants fought by using brute force and raw, physical strength. The most important detail was that their bloodline made them strong, but that was not their true fighting potential. A powerhouse with a power level greater than 300,000 was strong enough to kill a mature guardian giant. However, Silver, Beast, and Lu Yin each had the means to unleash attacks with power levels higher than 300,000, though they chose not to do so. They merely sliced open a gash on the giant's leg, bathed in the blood that poured out, let it cover every inch of their bodies, and then quickly escaped. This method kept them from being pursued by the other guardian giants, as the blood was masking their scent.

Ku Wei watched all of this take place, and he was very disappointed that the three people had not chosen to kill the giant. However, he was tempted to copy the method that they had used. The guardian giant half knelt on the ground, and Ku Wei hesitated before the opportunity to bathe in its blood.

What if I get smashed to death?

Due to that moment of hesitation, Ku Wei lost his window of opportunity to escape from the guardian giant. The giant simply picked up a bit of dirt, slapped it on his wounds, and rubbed it around. The blood flow immediately stopped, stumping Ku Wei.

He felt as though destiny was playing a joke on him. It had not been easy for him to enter Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum, but as soon as he entered, he had been forced to spend his time stuck to a giant. If word of this reached the outside, his patriarch would probably skin him alive.

However, no one could really blame Ku Wei. After all, he was simply afraid of dying.

After moving away from the guardian giant, the trio reached an impressive speed as they continued on towards their destination.

Then, a huge droplet of some dark liquid suddenly fell on Beast.

Silver and Lu Yin both instantly dodged aside before turning around to check on Beast after it had been struck.

Beast was unscathed. It growled within the ball of liquid and tried to break out, but to no avail. Its attacks were completely ineffective against the ball of dark liquid.

"Attack it from the outside," Silver ordered.

Lu Yin knew that Silver was speaking to him. So, he raised his hands, formed a sickle with death energy, and then slashed at the liquid ball.

The sickle hacked at the liquid, leaving behind a gash in the droplet. However, nothing dripped or spilled out. This material did not seem to have the normal properties of a liquid.

Silver whipped out his butterfly knife and also slashed at the ball of liquid, but his attempts yielded similar results.

At this moment, more droplets began to fall to the ground. Silver and Lu Yin continuously dodged and evaded them while Beast continued to be hammered.

Yōu Qin was some distance away, also dodging the droplets. However, she was eventually hit and sealed within the liquid.

Ku Lei, Ce Jiu, Hui Santong, and the rest were also being attacked by this rain of strange droplets.

Even Xie Xiaoxian and Shu Jing, who were the closest to the entrance, were suffering from the same attack.

"Strange, when did attacks like this start showing up in Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum?" Xie Xiaoxian was rather confused. The Seven Courts had explored this area for countless years, and as a result, they had found and taken many things from this region, including battle techniques, cultivation techniques,

power vessels, and more. This place was a mass grave that contained many traps and guardian giants. However, massive droplets of liquid had never fallen from the sky before.

Something seemed to have changed within Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum.

The falling of black droplets continued on for nearly ten days, and during this time, everybody did their best to avoid them.

While all of the humans had to evade these droplets, the guardian giants were completely unaffected by them. To the giants, this rain seemed to be normal droplets of water, and there were unaffected when the droplets struck their bodies.

After ten days, the rain gradually vanished.

At that time, Beast was able to use the second corpse king transformation to escape from the droplet that had trapped it.

These droplets were only able to immobilize people, and they had no other effect. They were not very fast either. As long as one paid attention, they would not be struck.

Yōu Qin also managed to escape after using some of her Yōu family's techniques.

After the droplets of dark liquid disappeared, next was gigantic volleys of arrows that flew through the air horizontally.

These arrows were able to pierce and even kill a guardian giant, but due to the creatures' large size, these arrows were not regular arrows to the humans. Rather, they were massive weapons that could blast their bodies to smithereens in a single hit.

These arrows were rather intimidating, and everyone had no choice but to descend to the ground to avoid being struck.

Lu Yin felt somewhat puzzled. These arrows did not seem designed to injure any would-be invaders. Rather, it seemed more like they were meant to damage or kill the guardian giants.

Is it possible that these guardian giants are not actually guarding Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum? Are they also seeking something in Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum? In that case, who put these arrows in place?

Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum was filled with dangers and traps. After the volley of arrows, next was a strange gust of wind, and that was then followed by strange screeching noises. The members of the Seven Courts were all prepared for this. Lei Nü, Shu Jing, and Lu Yin were the only ones experiencing it without any foreknowledge.

At this moment, the first person that Lu Yin thought of was the Ghost Monkey. That damned monkey had raided many tombs and graves in the past, and he definitely had a great deal of experience in this area.

Lu Yin still felt somewhat reluctant about letting the Ghost Monkey go after spending over ten years together with him. He wondered how the Ghost Monkey was doing right now.

Far, far away, in Shaman God's Tower of Darkness that stood tall within Aeternus Nation, the Ghost Monkey was feeling extremely relaxed. He was not a human, and he held no animosity towards the Neohuman Alliance. He was just a shadow, and he had decided that it made no difference to him who he followed.

When he had been with Lu Yin, he had often encountered danger, but now that he was following Shaman God, one of the Seven Skygods, the monkey felt extremely carefree. A powerhouse like Shaman God often trained in seclusion, and thus, he had no time to care about the Ghost Monkey. The monkey had thus decided that he would act more loyal towards Shaman God and gain a better position within the Neohuman Alliance. He would then take command of an army of zombies to attack the Astral Beast Domain and take back "his" concubines—the Celestial Ice Phoenix clan.

The Ghost Monkey felt more excited about his future prospects the longer he thought about it. It was as if he could finally see the light at the end of the tunnel, beckoning him toward a beautiful future.

As for Lu Yin... Forget it. he's just someone I used to know. At the most, I'll let him off next time I see him. Well, so long as he calls me Lord Ghost Monkey. No, Big Bro Monkey instead! How dare he make me call him Seventh Bro? That bastard! I'm getting more pissed the more I think about it. Seventh Bro? Pfft. Call me Big Bro Monkey.

As time passed, the people within Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum gradually moved past the various traps and closer to their destinations. They moved further in, and soon, there was a tall, lofty city wall standing before them.

Xia Jiuyou was the first to spot the city walls. These city walls were like towering mountain peaks, and they resembled sharp, inverted daggers. Upon closer inspection, one could see that there were sharp, bloodstained spikes in front of the walls.

This area had once been the birthplace of a civilization.

The Xia family possessed records showing that, once, there had been a civilization of giants within Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum and that the current guardian giants were nothing more than a certain tribe that did not have much intelligence. However, how had the guardian giants managed to build such tall walls? Also, were there giants patrolling along top of the city walls? Had they given birth to a giant emperor?

Ce Jiu was the next to see the city walls. His usage of the Ce secret technique allowed him to proceed through the mausoleum extremely quickly, and it also helped him evade the guardian giants.

When he saw the city walls, he felt as though his knowledge had been overturned. This was Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum, and the presence of the guardian giants was already considered a bizarre thing. However, after countless years, had the giants finally managed to give birth to a civilization?

Xia Jiuyou saw Ce Jiu, as neither of them had hidden themselves. They would not be able to proceed and make it over these walls by themselves.

Soon after, Hui Santong arrived with Lei Nü tailing him.

Ku Lei and Yōu Qin were the last to arrive, and Yōu Qin looked to be in a rather sorry state.

She was the weakest out of the Seven Courts' inheritors.

"Where's Xie Xiaoxian?" Yōu Qin asked.

"She had a tail, so my guess is that she won't be coming," Ce Jiu replied.

"Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum is littered with treasures for the Xia family, so it's no big deal if she doesn't come," Hui Santong said as he glanced sideways at Lei Nü before looking back at the towering city walls. Suddenly, he felt rather relieved that Lei Nü had managed to follow him. When faced with these massive city walls, the more people they had, the greater their chances of getting over it would be.

Beneath her mask, Lei Nü stared up at the city walls in awe. Even the Hall of Honor's records had mentioned the rare possibility of a civilization emerging from a tribe of giants. It often heralded the birth of a giant emperor, which meant that the guardian giants must have one.

"The giants throughout the universe can be divided into two types: the first are savage giants who use their bodies as weapons and are often brutal warmongers. The second type are intelligent giants, and they lean more towards creativity and technology. Once upon a time, a civilization of intelligent giants armed with amazing technology appeared in the Innerverse and caused a great upheaval. They had created many technological weapons, but they eventually disappeared without any trace. As for savage giants, the only reason why they would form a civilization is when a Giant Emperor is born," Hui Santong explained in a relaxed manner while the rest of the youths listened quietly.

Chapter 1163: Giants And A Pool of Blood

"A Giant Emperor's intelligence isn't inferior to our own, and they are actually smarter than most humans. Once a Giant Emperor appears, the fighting capability of the entire giant tribe will spike, and a Giant Emperor can also control the other giants at will," Hui Santong continued his explanation.

"Stop spouting crap! Everyone here already knows all this. Tell us how we can get over those city walls," Ku Lei interrupted.

Hui Santong indifferently replied, "There's only one method, which is to mask our scent. We are basically ants to the guardian giants, so once we mask our scent, they'll practically ignore whatever us little ants are up to. Do you notice the ants on the ground?"

The group then turned to look at the city walls. Hui Santong's words were quite clear: they had to catch a giant and bathe in its blood to mask their scent.

A trio appeared across the way and also looked up at the giant city walls. Silver was very surprised. "A civilization was actually established here in Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum? It looks like a Giant Emperor was born."

Lu Yin was also surprised, and he remembered what he had experienced on Gigastar Planet in Umbral Butterfly Weave.

The giants on Gigastar Planet had loved smearing mud on their backs and using it as a form of defense. However, those giants had been very weak when compared to the guardian giants in the tomb.

The giants on Gigastar Planet were probably just a branch of the giant race, but their Giant Emperor had been highly intelligent, and it had often left people running about in circles. It also knew how to conceal its strength. If a Giant Emperor appeared in Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum, then its intelligence certainly would not be low, and it had most likely already discovered their presence.

"The Seven Courts' inheritors must be racking up their brains to find a way to cross that wall right now. We'll just sit back and wait. Once they draw the attention of the guardian giants, we'll sneak in from the back. What do you say, captain?" Silver beamed at Lu Yin.

Death energy filled Lu Yin's eyes, and he stared ahead blankly without saying a word.

Silver continued to smile, and he looked over to where Xia Jiuyou and the others were standing.

Before much more time passed, several guardian giants jumped down from the city walls and smashed the spikes erected before the wall. The earth trembled and broke open.

They had picked up the scent of Xia Jiuyou and the others.

"Hide!" Hui Santong urged.

They all masked their scents and began to fan out.

Three of the guardian giants moved out, sniffing the air as they separated into three different directions. As they walked, they smashed their clubs against the ground, as if extremely upset.

Xia Jiuyou and Lei Nü were tasked with luring two of the giants away while the rest of the group would deal with the final giant.

Boom!

The ground trembled as a guardian giant collapsed, its club falling to its side. Ku Lei formed a blade of lightning and cut open a gash on the giant's leg. Fresh blood spilled out onto the land, splattering everywhere as it covered Yōu Qin and the others.

Xia Jiuyou and Lei Nü returned at this moment and also drenched themselves in the blood.

The two other giants rushed over to where the youths were gathered, but Hui Santong said, "That's enough. We'll wait a few days before entering."

The crowd dispersed at his words.

The injured giant stood up after they left. His leg had been cut by Ku Lei, but with the giant's sheer size, this wound was equivalent to its skin being scraped by a tree branch.

The group had masked their scent, and the three guardian giants could only return to the city walls.

As for the injured giant, he was a tad slower than the other two, and he almost fell down when hopping back atop the city wall. Silver nearly erupted with laughter.

“Why wait a few days?” Ku Lei asked.

Hui Santong explained, “There’s a Giant Emperor here, and it’s definitely different from the other giants. We can’t have the Giant Emperor’s focus be on us.”

No one rebuked him. If the Giant Emperor was as smart as a human, then that would make for a truly frightening foe. And as the leader of the giants, its strength would definitely be extraordinary.

No one felt certain of their chances against such a creature, and neither were they fully confident of being able to escape.

Yōu Qin looked at Xia Jiuyou and asked, “Why don’t you go on ahead? For countless years, the Xia family has been fearless within Progenitor Chen’s Mausoleum. Perhaps the giants won’t attack you.”

Xia Jiuyou dryly replied, “It’s difficult to predict how the Giant Emperor will behave.”

“Regular guardian giants respond to scent, and the rumors claim that the Xia family’s home was once the weapon for one of Progenitor Chen’s clones. Thus, it has the same scent as them, which is why they won’t attack Xia family members. However, the Giant Emperor is different,” Hui Santong said.

Xia Jiuyou looked at Hui Santong intently. On the surface, it might sound seemed like Hui Santong was offering an explanation for Xia Jiuyou’s decision, but in truth, Hui Santong was telling everyone that the landmass where the Xia family lived, the one that was shaped like a blade, was actually a weapon that used to belong to one of Progenitor Chen’s clones. The Hui family knew too much.

After two days passed, Xie Xiaoxian and Shu Jing arrived.

“We thought that you weren’t going to come.” Hui Santong looked at Xie Xiaoxian in surprise.

Xie Xiaoxian felt rather suppressed as she looked at Shu Jing. She had assumed that this fellow would not be able to endure for so long, but he had actually waited by the side of the pit for more than a month. What a lunatic.

Shu Jing was not overly concerned. His purpose for coming to this place was to improve his physical body, and the Xie family was filled with experts in that area. Since Xie Xiaoxian had entered Progenitor Chen’s Mausoleum, then there was no reason for her to leave empty handed. Regardless, Shu Jing had almost no knowledge of Progenitor Chen’s Mausoleum, so he had already set his mind on following Xie Xiaoxian the entire time, even if it drove her crazy.

“Hey, did you guys manage to get some giant blood? Is there any left? Give me some,” Xie Xiaoxian said.

Ce Jiu laughed and pointed at the ground.

Xie Xiaoxian saw the puddle of blood that was still on the ground.

She pursed her lips. “What’s that supposed to mean?”

“You should understand what the appearance of these city walls means. We can only lure the giants out once. If we do it again, the Giant Emperor will notice us,” Hui Santong said.

Xie Xiaoxian rolled her eyes. "Oh come on! We should have been discovered as soon as we showed up! Besides, didn't you hear those horns earlier?"

Ce Jiu said, "The Giant Emperor might have thought that it was because of some giants getting restless, not that it was a warning about us."

Xie Xiaoxian bit her lips. "I won't argue with you."

With that, she walked towards that puddle of blood, but just when she was about to use it to cover her body, Shu Jing jumped right in the puddle, and she had to fight him for the last bit of blood.

Soon after, both of them were covered in the giant's blood.

Hui Santong looked up at the black dome above their heads. "Three days. We'll wait three more days before crossing the walls."

Silver, who was observing the group from afar, said, "They shouldn't be able to wait for much longer. We'll follow them when they enter. Captain, if you're still conscious, then run when you can. Don't stab me in the back, as I haven't let you down in any way."

Lu Yin stood rooted in place and stared blankly at the wall in front.

There were no rune lines within Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum, and there was nothing else that he could see either. Despite that, his intuition was telling him that there was a threatening existence on the other side of that wall.

Lu Yin constantly reminded himself that these guardian giants before him were different from the giants that he had seen in the past.

At best, the giants on Gigastar Planet had been capable of destroying planets when their strength reached the limit. On the other hand, these guardian giants each possessed the strength to casually destroy a planet.

Suddenly, Lu Yin recalled that he had once obtained a massive, mechanical right arm from the planetary warehouse that belonged to the border warfront in Southside Weave. It was too large for a human, but it was far too small for any of these true giants to wield.

Three days passed in a flash. Nothing happened among the giants during this time, as everyone present had covered their scents with giant blood. The guardian giants roaming outside the city walls had all returned to the tribe, and the giants atop the city walls remained rather calm.

"Let's go," Hui Santong ordered. Although he wasn't the strongest of the group, it was generally accepted within the Neoverse that, whenever a group headed into battle, a member of the Hui family would be the one to make the calls. Over the course of countless years, the Hui family had shown that their members possessed remarkable wisdom. Even the leader of the Seven Courts, the Xia family, agreed with such an evaluation.

Although the city walls were extremely tall, the present experts were able to easily leap over them. After scaling the walls, they dashed straight to the other side, right beneath the noses of the guardian giants.

What awaited them on the other side shocked them. Even though they had all made various guesses about what they would see, when they saw the civilization that had formed among the giants, they were still flabbergasted.

On the other side of the city wall, there were incomparably massive houses, which were where the giants lived. Even though each house had been shoddily constructed from piles of rocks and gave off an impression of being deserted, they had obviously been designed. The streets were kept clean and perfectly straight. In a sharp contrast to the environment outside the city walls, there was a true civilization inside.

As they climbed the wall, they were first shocked by the city, but all of them soon looked off into the distance and at a building that had been erected in the center of all the other houses. At that location, there was also a truly vast pool filled with blood. The stench of the blood filled the area, and just one look sent the entire group's senses tingling. They felt as though they had seen an incomparably enormous giant standing tall in outer space. One wave of its arm was enough to easily destroy planets and anything nearby.

Their hearts sank as they all collapsed to the ground. Their instincts were driving them to seek cover even as they gasped for air.

Xia Jiuyou tightly squeezed his chest, utterly appalled at the vision.

What in the world is that? Why was there such an unbelievably massive giant? That thing made these guardian giants look like ants. Did such a giant ever exist? The aura and pressure that it gave off made it seem like the ruler of the universe... Could that have been Progenitor Chen's clone?

Xia Jiuyou was not the only one in the group having such thoughts.

Blood trickled down from Hui Santong's lips.

It's no wonder why a civilization was born in this place. Most likely, a giant uncovered this blood from Progenitor Chen's clone and gained intelligence from that, becoming a Giant Emperor. No, not only that. Given the potential and power of this Giant Emperor, it might have even inherited a bit of the strength of Progenitor Chen's clone as well!

Xie Xiaoxian eyed the pool of blood with excitement. This blood most likely came from Progenitor Chen's clone. And since there was blood in this place, then it meant that there were likely to be bones close by as well. What she wanted the most were Progenitor Chen's bones. If she was able to get her hands on those, then her strength would definitely rise by leaps and bounds. Her strength would not just rise by one level, as she might even be able to break through and reach the Enlighter realm with those bones.

So what if you have the Nine Clones Technique? So what if you have the Tri-Yang Technique?

She did not believe that such people were truly invincible. However, first, she had to get her hands on Progenitor Chen's bones.

Lei Nü and Shu Jing looked at each other, both in shock. Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum actually contained Progenitor Chen's blood. The value of this place was much, much higher than the Hall of

Honor had initially assumed. In fact, the corpse of one of Progenitor Chen's clones might be buried in this place.

Everyone remained silent, and they each kept to their own thoughts.

Ku Lei was first to break the silence. "Now that we're over the city wall, everyone's on their own."

Hui Santong looked at Ku Lei, but did not speak.

Ku Lei snorted in derision and left first.

Chapter 1164: Bottom Of The Pool

After Ku Lei took off, Xie Xiaoxian left while Shu Jing followed right behind her. By now, Xie Xiaoxian was starting to wonder if the fellow had actually taken a liking to her, which flustered her slightly. The reason why she wore such skimpy clothing was so that she could use her battle techniques more easily. In truth, she was a rather conservative person, and she felt that it would not be good to have someone like Shu Jing following her around.

Hui Santong subconsciously shifted his attention back over to Lei Nü after seeing that Shu Jing was following Xie Xiaoxian.

Lei Nü looked back at him.

Hui Santong inwardly heaved a sigh. There was no need for him to guess, as her eyes clearly indicated that she would follow him everywhere. What rotten luck.

Xia Jiuyou took his leave, as did Ce Jiu and Yōu Qin. They all shared the same target: the pool of blood in the middle. They slowly left the group.

There was no reason for Hui Santong to ask everyone to join forces again, as the pool was extremely vast. Based on everyone's capabilities, they would all somehow manage to get a piece of the pie.

However, was the pool really filled with Progenitor Chen's blood? That might not necessarily be the case. After all, the blood of a Progenitor was normally very difficult to find.

As for the trio from the Neohuman Alliance, they climbed over the city wall and also saw the giants' civilization and the pool of blood.

Silver's eyes grew feverish as he licked his lips. "Progenitor Chen's blood!"

Silver's words allowed Lu Yin to understand that Progenitor Chen's blood was in this place.

If the Ghost Monkey was here, he would definitely scream for joy. That incomparably huge giant that I saw earlier, the one who could easily destroy planets with just a swing of his arms... Could that have been Progenitor Chen's clone? That thing was simply too enormous!

Silver smiled at Lu Yin. "Captain, you actually don't have to put on an act any longer now that we're here."

Lu Yin still did not move and maintained the behavior of a zombie.

Silver shrugged. "You can't actually be thinking of stabbing me in the back, can you? We're not enemies."

Lu Yin still did not move.

"Let's go." Silver smiled.

The pool of blood was located right in the middle of the giants' village. Everyone looked like ants crawling through a human city, as everything was humongous compared to them.

Silver's little group passed by one stone hut after the next. Suddenly, one of the hut's doors opened in front of them as a guardian giant walked out. Then, the giant slammed the door closed behind him, creating a loud boom and sending a puff of dust through the door. However, each speck of dust looked more like a rock to Silver's trio.

The guardian giant moved away, and the three continued on towards the center of the village.

The others were all in similar situations as they each sought a way to the pool of blood.

The most unfortunate person at this time was Ku Lei. He had transformed into lightning and tried to speed through the village. However, he had been too fast, and he had nearly been stomped to death by a giant. In the end, he narrowly managed to avoid the giant's foot, but he had still been buried by the dust kicked up by the giant's footfall.

As their scent had been covered up, the group slowly moved closer to the pool of blood.

The closer they drew to the pool, the more they could feel the pressure emanating from it. It exuded an aura of supremacy. However, this aura did not come from the power that the blood held, but rather from the will that it contained. This was the natural suppression of a Progenitor. Even if Progenitor Chen had died countless years ago, so long ago that the annals of history barely have records of him, this suppressive aura still existed. This was how a Progenitor should be.

The pool of blood was surrounded by a large fence that had been put up to fend off the other guardian giants. However, for Lu Yin and the others, the poles of this fence were like stone pillars that reached high into the sky.

They easily passed through the fence and then saw the massive pool of blood that was just a thousand meters in front of them.

Everyone was closing in from different directions, and they were all looking at the pool of blood at this time.

Just as Ku Lei was about to dive straight into the pool, a horn blared and echoed through the sky. Ku Lei was so startled that he nearly fell over.

The others all sought cover at this moment.

Silver's trio hid beneath a stone pillar and looked into the distance. They were all wondering if someone else had somehow entered Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum.

However, this horn did not come from outside, but rather from within the city walls.

As the horn continued to blare, one giant after another emerged from the stone huts and dejectedly made their way toward the pool of blood.

The humans in the village all felt their hair stand on end as they watched the giants close in on the pool of blood. The seemingly endless procession of approaching giants would shock anyone witnessing this scene.

They would have to be serious to fight against just one of these guardian giants, but the sound of that horn seemed to have summoned all of the guardian giants within the city walls. If any of the humans were even the slightest bit unlucky, they could very well be stomped to death. So, the humans hid beneath the stone pillars hoping that the giants, who saw it as a simple fence, would not step right to the edge of a fence.

Yōu Qin nervously eyed one of the guardian giants in front of her. It was the one closest to her, and if its foot shifted just slightly, it would crush her.

Suddenly, a nauseating stench overpowered her senses as her face went pale. The giant's foot stank so bad that it almost caused her to vomit right then and there.

This guardian giant's feet were smelly beyond belief.

Ce Jiu caught sight of Yōu Qin's expression far away, and he saw that she was holding her breath while staring at a giant's foot in contempt. He nearly burst out laughing, as the inheritors of the Seven Courts were rarely seen in such a sorry state.

But at that moment, he also caught a whiff of something stinky. It was the feet of an approaching guardian giant, and it was also enough to make him want to run.

He suddenly understood how Yōu Qin was feeling at this moment.

Although everyone was separated by great distances, they were still able to easily see across such a distance. Hui Santong saw Ce Jiu and Yōu Qin caught in a sorry situation, and he could not help but laugh internally.

These two morons, they could have hidden someplace further away. The giants on my side won't get even close to me.

"I'm still the smarter one." Hui Santong bragged to Lei Nü who was beside him, but she just silently stared at the pool of blood.

Suddenly, a loud boom startled the living hell out of everyone. Hui Santong immediately went pale. He slowly turned around to come face to face with the buttocks of the closest guardian giant. Could that explosion actually have been a fart? A fart like thunder, what an apt description! That damn giant actually farted!

The next moment, a revolting stench spread out, accompanied by a yellow sulfurous cloud that filled the air near Hui Santong.

Hui Santong's pupils shrank, and his reflexes screamed at him to run away. He could not accept to suffer such a disgrace.

Lei Nü grabbed his shoulders and pressed down. "Don't move! We don't know where the Giant Emperor is yet, and if you move, we could be discovered."

Hui Santong could only stare on in horror as the yellow cloud gently enveloped him. He tightly shut his eyes.

The elegance I've cultivated for my entire life is now gone...

Yōu Qin and Ce Jiu could see Hui Santong, but the others were standing further away and could not. They only saw the yellow cloud billow out, and they all stared blankly at the area before taking a moment of silence for the unlucky person in that area.

Xie Xiaoxian stared intently at where Hui Santong was. She could not see who was hiding there. Who was that unlucky? I have to see!

On another side, where the others could not see him, Silver stared at Hui Santong, pitying the man's poor luck.

Lu Yin had also seen what had happened. This story was enough to laugh at the Hui scion for his entire life.

If I see Brother Hui Kong in the future, I have to tell him about how I really admire his descendant for his impressive endurance.

Hui Santong felt as though his world had been shrouded in darkness.

I won't be able to get out of this one. A fart has ruined my life!

More giants continued to fill the area, but none of them moved closer to the pool of blood. Then, the horn blared again, and upon hearing it, the first giant walked towards the pool of blood. Under everyone's astonished gazes, the giant picked up a sharpened piece of rock, slit its wrist, and let its fresh blood drip into the pool of blood.

To the giants, only a drop of blood fell out, but to Lu Yin and the others, the amount was like a waterfall.

The humans were appalled. It was no wonder why there was so much blood in this pool; most of it belonged to these giants.

"Now it all makes sense! Although the body of Progenitor Chen's clone was extremely massive, there's no way it could have produced so much blood essence," Hui Santong muttered to himself. Although he had been struck by a thunderous fart, he had not lost his mind. Lei Nü was actually somewhat impressed by the mental fortitude of this Hui family descendant.

Hui Santong was even more impressed at how a girl like Lei Nü was able to maintain her composure even after suffering through such a horrible ordeal.

Xie Xiaoxian was somewhat disappointed when she realized that the pool was not filled with Progenitor Chen's blood. This meant that she likely would not find Progenitor Chen's bones nearby.

What a pity.

The giants all took turns, one by one, to add a drop of their blood to the pool. While they each only donated a single drop, when it was all added together, it was enough to create a huge pool of blood that gave off a murderous aura.

It took the giants two full days to complete the ritual, and after that, they all headed back to their stone huts.

The humans waited around anxiously, as it seemed to be time for the Giant Emperor to appear.

They all assumed that the Giant Emperor would soon appear, but even after several days, there was no movement.

Ku Lei finally could not hold himself back, and he flew towards the pool of blood

The rest of the people all watched him.

Ku Lei leaped over to the stone walls around the pool and stared down at the blood. To the giants, this was just a small pool, but to a human, it seemed like a lake of blood.

Ku Lei nervously stared at the lake of blood and slowly released his aura. He was once again able to see Progenitor Chen's clone roaring in outer space, and Ku Lei became extremely excited. There was definitely some Progenitor's blood in this pool. He stared even more intently at the lake, as if trying to see through to its bottom.

Suddenly, all of his hair stood on end. There was a large pair of eyes watching Ku Lei from beneath the pool, and they looked at him in a toying manner. These eyes contained a mix of mockery, contempt, and cruelty.

Ku Lei's pupils shrank, and he reflexively pulled back. Suddenly, an enormous hand reached out from the pool and smacked the stone walls, creating a crack in it. The wind from this movement blasted Ku Lei a thousand meters back, slamming him into one of the fence's stone pillars.

The humans were all in shock. A guardian giant had risen from the pool and stepped out. This giant was much smaller than the others, but his eyes were bright with intelligence. This was the Giant Emperor.

Nobody had expected the Giant Emperor to be hiding within the pool this entire time. Ku Lei had been blown back, but he had not suffered any severe injuries. Still, the pain caused him to grit his teeth as he glared at the Giant Emperor.

The Giant Emperor's expression remained the same, and he raised a hand to flick the air. Each of his fingers were as large as three men tied together. To Ku Lei, this flick unleashed a powerful gust that shot at him. He immediately ducked, and the wind smashed the stone pillars behind Ku Lei to bits.

The giant continued staring at the youth with mockery in his eyes. He then used his thumb as a springboard to flick all four of his fingers at Ku Lei. The resulting wind was so fierce that the air distorted.

Ku Lei's expression changed, and he transformed into lightning to avoid all of the slicing winds. However, when he lifted his head, he saw the Giant Emperor striking at the air with a fist. The gale produced by this attack sent Ku Lei smashing against the stone pillars.

Ku Lei coughed as blood dripped down. He glared at the Giant Emperor.

The Giant Emperor was different from all the other giants, and he continued to look at Ku Lei like a toy. He then reached out with a hand to grab Ku Lei.

Chapter 1165: Exposed

Ku Lei activated the Ku secret technique to recover from his wounds before gracefully leaping into the void.

The Giant Emperor grabbed at the now empty air, but then he immediately turned to face in a different direction. It was Ce Jiu's direction. The Giant Emperor had long since discovered the Ce family scion, and the giant smashed down at the youth. However, just like with Ku Lei, all the giant managed to hit was air.

Ce Jiu had successfully escaped, and he heaved a sigh of relief far off in the distance. He did not dare to reveal his presence, and he did not want to actually fight against the Giant Emperor. After escaping, Ce Jiu stared at the Giant Emperor in shock, as the giant had actually managed to discover him. That meant that the others had also been discovered.

"Let's team up to fight him! Our covers have already been blown!" Hui Santong shouted. He raised a hand, causing numerous golden meteorites to fall down from the black dome above and hurtle towards the Giant Emperor.

The Giant Emperor casually smacked away the various golden meteorites, despite each of them being powerful enough to threaten Enlighters. The giant did not seem surprised when Hui Santong revealed himself either, immediately readying his next attack. Suddenly, Lei Nü flew past the giant while saying, "Autumn's Sorrow."

The Giant Emperor's body trembled, and it was clear that he had suffered a hit.

Although Lei Nü had lost to Xia Jiuyou, her Autumn's Sorrow technique had not failed even once in battle. Xia Jiuyou and Lu Yin had both suffered from this technique, and the Giant Emperor was no different.

Yōu Qin and Shu Jing both followed up with attacks of their own after Lei Nü made a move.

Yōu Qin's Soulsplitter technique slashed at the Giant Emperor's knee while Shu Jing's straight line attack struck the other kneecap. The two were hoping to bring the Giant Emperor to his knees and restrict his movements.

However, their attacks were severely lacking in power and were unable to penetrate the Giant Emperor's defenses.

The Giant Emperor looked down at Yōu Qin and Shu Jing. He then tried to grab the pair, but they fled right after launching their attacks.

The Giant Emperor's brows furrowed. He had sped up a great deal, but he still had not caught anyone yet.

The Giant Emperor's attacks and defenses were stronger than any other giant, but the humans were not in too bad of a position either. So far, they had managed to evade all of the giant's attacks.

Xia Jiuyou appeared behind the Giant Emperor, and light radiated from his hands that took on the form of a saber that slashed at the Giant Emperor. It was the Triple Blade Will.

The first blade slashed at the Giant Emperor's neck, but it was a futile attempt. The next attack, however, forced the Giant Emperor to be wary. He raised his left hand to block the blade while he clenched a fist and punched at Xia Jiuyou, which prevented Xia Jiuyou from releasing the third blade.

Lu Yin's heart skipped a beat as he watched Xia Jiuyou fight the Giant Emperor in the distance. Lu Yin felt extremely frustrated on Xia Jiuyou's behalf, as this person seemed to always be unable to use the third blade of his Triple Blade Will.

Everyone took turns attacking the Giant Emperor, but no one was successful in causing any damage. Instead, they only managed to infuriate the Giant Emperor even further.

The Giant Emperor roared and punched two fists into the air. A violent gust of wind blasted out in all directions, pushing everyone back. The only two who were unaffected were Xia Jiuyou and Lei Nü.

The Giant Emperor suddenly lashed out and tried to grab Lei Nü. This time, his speed was drastically faster than his previous movements. As a result, Lei Nü was unable to react in time, and she was caught.

The Giant Emperor grinned and squeezed his right hand, causing Lei Nü to vomit blood as his grip tightened. Her eyes turned exceptionally cold, and suddenly, the Giant Emperor released her, as if he had been hurt.

Lei Nü plummeted to the ground and panted heavily. Still prone, she raised a hand and directed it at the giant. "Secret technique: Banishment."

The next moment, just as the Giant Emperor was about to attack her again, he staggered back several steps, tripped over the pool of blood, and fell into it. The blood from the pool splashed out, drenching Lei Nü.

Lei Nü's focus sharpened. Ever since she had successfully comprehended Banishment, very few people had ever managed to take it head on. Out of her peers, Xia Jiuyou was the only one who had managed to forcefully nullify it with the Xia secret technique. As for the Giant Emperor, the discrepancy in their power level meant that he had only retreated a few steps.

The battle pressure was mounting, as the Giant Emperor was far more powerful than anything the youths had anticipated.

At the same time, they were worried that other guardian giants would return. If that happened, then they would be forced to fight against the entire guardian giant civilization, not just the Giant Emperor.

Fortunately, the battle next to the pool of blood did not alert the other guardian giants. This might have been partly because the giants had all given a bit of blood to the pool earlier, but regardless, they had not joined the fight.

The Giant Emperor emerged from the pool, and everyone began attacking him.

He roared in anger and tried to sweep them all away with a palm.

Not only were the humans' attacks nullified, but the wind unleashed by the giant's palm also sent them flying into the air. This time, even Xia Jiuyou and Lei Nü were blown away.

Ce Jiu was the only one who had managed to evade this attack with his Ce secret technique, though he was not much better off than the others. The Giant Emperor glared at Ce Jiu and sent another slap towards him. This time, the gust broke the stone pillar-like fences as Ce Jiu was sent flying.

Ce Jiu crashed to the ground and vomited out a mouthful of blood, his face extremely pale.

The humans were like mere ants to the Giant Emperor, and the gap in their strength was simply too overwhelming.

Fortunately, the Giant Emperor did not have any battle techniques. If he had, then none of the humans would have been able to survive.

From the beginning of the entire event, Xie Xiaoxian had not attacked even once. Instead, she had been stealthily creeping closer to the pool of blood.

However, the Giant Emperor had also kept his eye on her.

Just when Xie Xiaoxian was about to climb over the stone walls surrounding the pool, the Giant Emperor looked straight at her and slapped at her as if she were a fly.

Xie Xiaoxian screamed in terror as her bones covered her and formed a set of body armor right before she was sent flying.

The Giant Emperor stood tall beside the pool and arrogantly looked down upon the humans with contempt clear in his eyes.

Xia Jiuyou huffed in frustration. He knew that the difference in their power levels were too vast and that their attacks could not pierce the Giant Emperor's defenses. It was nearly impossible for them to win. Helpless, Xia Jiuyou looked over at Hui Santong.

Hui Santong had already used his secret technique, Omnibreak. This secret technique was able to break down his enemies' battle techniques and reveal their fatal flaws. However, Hui Santong had unfortunately found that he could not find the Giant Emperor's weakness. All of their attacks were like child's play to the Giant Emperor. It was impossible for them to obtain any of Progenitor Chen's blood from the pool.

Lei Nü's mask had almost cracked open, as she had suffered the most damage so far. If not for her secret technique, Discipline, which had reflected a lot of damage that she would have otherwise suffered back to the Giant Emperor and caused him to release her, then she would have died.

"Any ideas?" Ku Lei pressed Hui Santong.

Hui Santong shook his head. "There's no way to deal with his offence and defense."

Ku Lei cursed. Progenitor Chen's blood was extremely important to all of them here. Even worse, it was right in front of them, but they could not touch it.

Ce Jiu was extremely frustrated; they would rather face any of the dumb guardian giants than this Giant Emperor.

The Giant Emperor lumbered towards the humans, his towering body giving off a tremendous amount of pressure. He clenched his two fists together to form a hammer fist, and everyone started to panic.

Suddenly, the Giant Emperor smashed a different place than before.

The place that the giant had attacked was precisely where Silver, Lu Yin, and Beast had been hiding.

The Giant Emperor had been able to discover Xia Jiuyou and the others, so he had naturally noticed the trio as well.

Xia Jiuyou was rather confused; everyone was standing together, so what was the Giant Emperor targeting?

Ku Lei considered the chances Ku Wei had shown up.

Actually, no. With his strength, he could never make it here.

Everyone was stunned when Silver and two others appeared.

The Neohuman Alliance?

The Giant Emperor's attack slammed into the ground and split the earth open, causing the blood in the pool to churn violently.

The trio dodged the attack, after which Silver looked at the others and smiled brightly at them. "Hello everyone! We meet again."

Lei Nü's pupils shrank, and she instantly attacked Silver.

Silver could only dodge, and he exclaimed, "Guys, our enemy's the Giant Emperor!"

Shu Jing raised his hands and also attacked Silver, who managed to evade yet again.

Shu Jing coldly declared, "To us, you're a worse enemy than that Giant Emperor."

Silver was left with no choice and said, "That's why you guys are a bunch of blockheads. Oh right, I brought someone along." He pointed to a figure off in the distance, and everyone turned to look.

Lu Yin had evaded the Giant Emperor's attack, but the resulting shockwave had blown back his black robes, revealing his appearance.

Everyone was shocked. "Lu Yin?!"

Lu Yin landed on the ground with death energy obviously filling his eyes. He stood motionlessly where he landed near Beast.

Hui Santong stared at Lu Yin.

That's...

Xie Xiaoxian saw it as well. She glared at Silver with hatred.

Death energy? These damned Specter bastards...

Silver beamed at everyone. Even his eyes smiled as he said, "I'll give you a choice: either deal with the Giant Emperor, or..."

His expression instantly grew extremely cold as his eyes opened wider. "I'll have Beast eliminate you all first."

Xia Jiuyou and the others clenched their fists, and they all recalled the fight in the Mountain and Seas Zone. Back then, they had joined hands with Yuhua Mavis and Qiu Shi, but they still hadn't been able to defeat Beast. Currently, they did not stand the slightest chance of victory.

"Wrong, we have a third choice: join forces with the Giant Emperor to deal with you," Hui Santong shouted in reply. "Move!"

Everyone immediately began to attack Beast.

Their actions took the Giant Emperor's attention away from Lu Yin, and the giant raised his hands to attack all the humans.

Silver's expression remained extremely cold as he watched everyone attack.

The Giant Emperor slammed a fist down, and everyone separated to dodge the attack before dashing forward towards Beast once again.

Beast immediately underwent the third corpse king transformation, and its crimson eyes put a huge amount of pressure on the attackers. The corpse king's increased physical strength caught the attention of the Giant Emperor, so the giant smacked at Beast, sending it crashing into the ground and leaving a large crater behind.

Silver frowned and reevaluated the Giant Emperor. He had underestimated the giant's powers, and the Giant Emperor was clearly more powerful than he initially appeared to be.

Is it because the Giant Emperor absorbed Progenitor Chen's blood?

Lu Yin was rather shocked to see that, even after undergoing a corpse king transformation, Beast was still unable to fight against the Giant Emperor head on.

The Giant Emperor reached out for Beast.

Silver's butterfly knife flickered as he slashed at the Giant Emperor's body, but the Giant Emperor did not care about his attack in the least. Right when the giant was about to grab ahold of Beast, which was lying in the pit, Beast opened its eyes and punched at the Giant Emperor's nose. The Giant Emperor was caught off guard by this sudden attack, and he staggered back as blood dripped down from his nose.

Everyone was stupefied, as Beast's first attack had managed to harm the Giant Emperor in a direct confrontation. And the corpse king didn't even have a technique like Lei Nü's unblockable Discipline or Autumn's Sorrow.

The Giant Emperor roared with rage, and he slapped at Beast once again. This time, he was even faster than before. However, Beast evaded this blow.

Death energy flowed out from Silver's body and into Beast. Before, the influx of death energy had allowed Beast to crush the universe's most powerful youths atop the golden screen. Now, that same power had appeared once again.

Chapter 1166: Breakthrough

At this moment, Ce Jiu appeared at Silver's side with a forcefield shaped like a giant ruler and slammed it down on Silver.

Silver casually waved a hand to destroy Ce Jiu's forcefield, sending the youth fleeing backwards. The next moment, Xia Jiuyou appeared and unleashed the first will blade.

Silver's body flashed as he rejoined Lu Yin. "Captain, take care of them."

Lu Yin was still putting on an act. So, as he turned to receive Xia Jiuyou's attack, death energy flowed out from his body to take the form of a sickle that hacked at the will blade.

After breaking through and becoming a ninth cycle Cruiser, Lu Yin's strength had increased once again. The hacking motion of his sickle managed to stop Xia Jiuyou's attack, rather surprising him as he slashed out with the second will blade.

Lu Yin once again used the sickle to block. Suddenly, lightning shot down from over Lu Yin's head. Ku Lei had made a move against Lu Yin.

More death energy flowed out from Lu Yin's body. Not only did he manage to block Ku Lei's attack, but Lu Yin also took Xia Jiuyou's will blade head on. However, Xia Jiuyou did not wait to see if Lu Yin had blocked his second blade; he immediately whirled around to unleash the third blade.

The third blade was the strongest attack in the Xia family's Triple Blade Will, and it was multiple times stronger than the first one. This blade was something that even Lei Nü feared, and it was the same attack that had broken Ling Gong's Skycastle. Its strength was to be feared.

Lu Yin's power had grown after he had absorbed so much death energy, and he had become strong enough to fight a twice but not thrice transformed Beast. Xia Jiuyou's third blade was rather threatening to Lu Yin, and he knew that he was not yet as durable as Beast. Although Lu Yin was still putting on an act, since he had made it to Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum, there was no longer much more of a need to continue with these pretenses.

As the third blade drew close, the death energy left Lu Yin's eyes, and an Astral Chessboard appeared beneath his feet. Ce secret technique: Astral Chessboard.

Silver had been watching Lu Yin, and his eyes went wide as Xia Jiuyou's attack neared Lu Yin.

If Lu Yin had been successfully remodeled, then he would have faced the attack head on, no matter his chances of success, not even if it meant him dying.

When the death energy left Lu Yin's eyes, Silver felt rather exasperated. So it was all just an act after all.

Lu Yin vanished, and the third blade missed its target.

Silver slowly turned to his right, where Lu Yin had reappeared. Silver grinned and said, "Captain, congratulations on leaving hell!"

Lu Yin looked back at Silver and answered, "I'll have to thank you. Without you, I wouldn't have made it out."

Silver's smile reached his eyes as he continued, "Captain, have you ever wondered why, even when I suspected that you were putting on an act, I still brought you here?"

Lu Yin's expression changed. "You're confident in taking me back."

"Maybe." Silver smiled in a disturbing fashion as his gaze swept past Lu Yin. Silver then raised his hands, and a puppet appeared in his grasp.

Lu Yin's scalp tingled the moment he saw the puppet, Shaman God?

There was probably no one present aside from Lu Yin who had seen the real Shaman God before.

At the same moment that Silver took out Shaman God's puppet, Lei Nü attacked Silver.

Lu Yin roared, "Be careful! That's one of the Seven Skygods!"

Before Lei Nü could react, Silver moved the puppet in front of her face. Lei Nü instantly dropped to the ground, and no one knew what had happened except for Lu Yin. Lei Nü's senses had been mixed up. This was the power that Shaman God possessed: loss of sensation.

Silver looked at Lu Yin. "Captain, come with me."

Lu Yin shivered and waved a hand. Silver was immediately thrown into the distance.

Silver had a backup plan, but so did Lu Yin. When Xia Jiuyou had attacked Lu Yin, Silver had dodged the attack and hidden behind Lu Yin. At that moment, Lu Yin had set up the Teleportation Formation. Although he had not had enough time to make one that could teleport Silver too far away, a hastily made one still had its uses when timed correctly. At this moment, it had given Lu Yin a chance to catch his breath.

Silver was launched towards the Giant Emperor.

The Giant Emperor was focused on chasing after Beast, as the corpse king was the only one who had been able to do any physical damage to the giant so far.

Silver slammed into the Giant Emperor's back, and the Giant Emperor shivered before turning around to smack Silver away.

Silver did not move while Beast leaped up to punch at the Giant Emperor's hand, causing the giant's hand to divert from its course.

At the same time, Yōu Qin attacked Lu Yin and slashed at him with her blade. "Soulsplitter."

Lu Yin evaded the attack and glared at her. "Don't hit me! We're on the same team."

“Who’s on the same team as a monster like you?” Yōu Qin felt rather insulted and began to assault Lu Yin with even more powerful attacks.

Lu Yin remained patient, and 726 orbiting stars appeared around his body before exploding. The force of the explosion sent Yōu Qin staggering back as she coughed up blood. She was not even at Ku Lei’s level, let alone Lu Yin’s.

Ku Lei’s lightning flashed towards Lu Yin once again.

Lu Yin held back when retaliating against Yōu Qin, but against Ku Lei, he used a Vacuum Palm straight away, who crashed into the stone pillars that made up the fence.

Xia Jiuyou stared at Lu Yin. “Were you controlled?”

Lu Yin was growing rather exasperated. “Do I look like I am?”

Xia Jiuyou felt rather confused at this point. Nobody had ever managed to remain the same after being captured by one of the Seven Skygods.

Lei Nū regained her senses and panted heavily. She looked at her surroundings and soon focused on Lu Yin. What’s going on? He warned me earlier.

A black figure hurtled towards Lu Yin from the distance. It was Beast, who had been slapped away by the Giant Emperor.

Even after being attacked by the Giant Emperor, Beast had not been injured very seriously. It turned around and threw a punch at Lu Yin.

Lu Yin’s left hand moved as he activated the Yu secret technique to divert Beast’s punch while his right hand launched a Vacuum Palm to attack Beast. His Vacuum Palm was powerful enough to threaten the others here, but it could not do much to Beast. At best, it could stall the creature for a brief moment.

Lu Yin did not actually want to fight against Beast.

At this moment, the Giant Emperor leaped into the sky before landing while punching at the air before him. This attack was targeting everyone due to the size of the Giant Emperor’s fists.

Everyone scrambled to flee, and Lu Yin immediately used the Astral Chessboard to escape. However, he caught sight of Ce Jiu and noticed that the Ce family scion had not used the Ce secret technique to evade. Lu Yin’s heart immediately sank.

Boom!

The Giant Emperor hammered the ground with his fists and caused the earth to explode. Lu Yin had used the Ce secret technique to turn everyone within its range into chess pieces, even the Giant Emperor. However, the secret technique was not invincible, and the Giant Emperor’s strength exceeded the limits of a chess piece. Hence, the Astral Chessboard was destroyed by one blow from the Giant Emperor’s fist.

Everyone else had tried to retreat by relying on speed, but Lu Yin had relied on the Ce secret technique, only for it to fail. This meant that Lu Yin was the closest to the giant, and he was struck by the fist's strongest aftershocks.

The Giant Emperor glared lividly at Lu Yin. The shockwave had torn space apart and opened cracks in the void.

Lu Yin only felt a surging sensation in his chest, and he was unable to stop himself from spitting out a mouthful of blood as he went flying into the pool with a splash.

No matter how intense the battle had become, the Giant Emperor had always kept an eye on the pool. He would never let anyone get anywhere close to it at all. However, when he attacked Lu Yin just now, Silver had also attacked the giant with the Shaman God puppet. Silver had been worried that the Giant Emperor would be able to kill Beast in one blow, so he had borrowed Shaman God's strength to overload the Giant Emperor's senses.

The power of Shaman God's puppet was similar to a strong power vessel, and the Giant Emperor had not been able to resist its effects. After attacking Lu Yin, the giant's senses were scrambled, and he gradually collapsed.

This happened right before Lu Yin fell into the pool, which was why the Giant Emperor did not notice Lu Yin falling in.

Everyone else had been sent flying by the shockwave, so none of them had noticed Lu Yin either.

Only Silver saw what had just happened. Lu Yin was even more useful to Silver than Beast, and Silver had been attentively watching as Lu Yin fell into the pool.

After the Giant Emperor's punch, a deafening boom rang out as dust filled the sky. Everyone seemed to be injured to some degree, so Silver took advantage of this opportunity to move towards the pool in a bid to deal with Lu Yin.

However, at this moment, the Giant Emperor regained his senses, stunning Silver. How can he regain his senses so quickly?

The Giant Emperor roared in rage when he saw Silver moving towards the pool. He immediately slapped out, releasing a fierce gust of wind that swept Silver off of his feet and sent him tumbling through the air.

Nobody could get close to the pool, as that was the Giant Emperor's territory.

Silver retreated a thousand meters and stared intently at the pool that he believed held some of Progenitor Chen's blood. Forget it. If Lu Yin can get Progenitor Chen's blood out of there, then I'll take both of them away.

Silver believed that he was invincible inside Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum as long as he had Shaman God's puppet. However, he had failed to take into account the fact that the Seven Courts' inheritors also had power vessels of their own.

Lu Yin was the only one who had taken a direct attack. Everyone else had managed to pull out their power vessels in time. For example, Yōu Qin had a water stream that allowed her to instantly move

more than ten kilometers away. Ku Lei, after being struck by Lu Yin's Vacuum Palm, had encased himself within a Withered Bark.

Lu Yin's cosmic ring had been taken away before he had entered the Mountain and Seas Zone, and he had not managed to get it back. However, everyone else had recovered their rings, and the inheritors of the Seven Courts did not lack extraordinary power vessels.

Lu Yin had no idea what was happening in the outside world. After being struck by the Giant Emperor, the black and white mist within Lu Yin's body that was formed from death energy and the Daynight Restoration Technique trembled. After that, the previous equilibrium shattered, and death energy surged out of his heart and into his veins, following along the path that his star energy had once cycled through.

To others, death energy was similar to a poisonous drug, but Lu Yin was able to cultivate with death energy as if it were star energy.

The massive amount of death energy that he had absorbed before and had stored in his heart was suddenly released, and it replaced star energy as it cycled through his body. In just an instant, Lu Yin completed his ninth cycle.

When Lu Yin opened his eyes, he noticed that there were traces of blood at the corner of his mouth, but he did not care about that at all. He could tell that he was about to break through, and since he had completed his ninth cycle, it meant that his formcast model was going to melt. He needed to break through.

Originally, he had planned to raise his formcast model one more grade before breaking through to the Hunter realm. Still, things could not always go according to plan.

Nobody had expected Lu Yin to use death energy as a replacement for star energy. The flood of death energy that had been unleashed had instantly rocketed him to the verge of breaking through, forcing him to go along with it. He either had to act immediately or fail.

Lu Yin had no other choice. He gritted his teeth, determined to break through here and now.

Chapter 1167: The Second Innate Gift

Lu Yin's body was still falling into the deep pool of blood, and it was unclear just how far down the pool went.

However, he was in no mood to care about such things, as he was currently suffering from an excruciating pain that started from his back. Lu Yin had experienced the same feeling when he broke through to the Melder realm and the Explorer realm. Now that he was breaking through to the Hunter realm, it had appeared once again.

Behind Lu Yin, multiple seals filled with an arcane runic script appeared in the form of chains that pierced his body, abruptly stopping him from moving past his ninth cycle as they worked to stop him from breaking through.

At the same time, Lu Yin's formcast model melted and seeped deep into his bones, unleashing a pain so intense that he felt as though his body had been crushed to pieces and then built back up molecule by molecule.

He had suffered through this experience in every major breakthrough so far, but it was particularly strong this time.

Not just everyone was able to break through to the Hunter realm with a formcast model. After all, just how many six-stage formcast models could exist in the entire universe?

Part of the reason why Yuhua Mavis, Shang Qing, and a few others were so powerful might precisely be because they had broken through with six-stage formcast models. However, how many of the Ten Arbiters had been able to use a six-stage formcast model?

Lu Yin gritted his teeth in silence. He wanted to break through and become a Hunter, but the excruciating pain from his back was a constant reminder that it would be impossible for him to succeed.

Back when he had broken through to the Melder realm, Astral-10's crazy headmaster had helped him break the seal.

Then, the desiccated corpse had helped break the seal during his breakthrough to the Explorer realm.

But at this moment, there was no one around who could help Lu Yin with his breakthrough.

The ninth cycle gradually stalled after the seal manifested, and Lu Yin's heart sank. He tried to circulate the death energy in his body, hoping that they would break the chains, but it was to no avail. The seal was not something that he could break.

Lu Yin had benefited from many lucky encounters thus far, and he had also mastered numerous battle techniques and skills, including even two secret arts. But at this moment, there was simply nothing that he could do about his situation.

Lu Yin yearned endlessly to see Mister Mu, Yuan Shi, or even one of the Neohuman Alliance's Seven Skygods at this moment. Those people were definitely strong enough to help him break this seal.

His ninth cycle gradually ground to a halt, and Lu Yin was left with a helpless feeling. He had failed.

At this moment, his body fell to the bottom of the pool of blood. There, a distinct ball of crimson blood floated in the midst of the blood, and it constantly emanated a mighty aura. The pressure coming from this blood sphere felt like it came from a massive giant roaring in space. This was Progenitor Chen's blood.

Lu Yin's body fell right on top of Progenitor Chen's blood, and this drop of blood came into direct contact with the seal on his back.

Right when Lu Yin's ninth cycle came to a complete halt, the seal on his back touched the drop of Progenitor Chen's blood. The mighty aura of a giant fiercely punching out landed on the seal. Somewhere, far away in outer space, a pair of beautiful eyes opened and sparkled, the owner clearly shocked. "The strength of a Progenitor?"

Behind Lu Yin, a giant formed from blood and the seal on his back wore each other down by consuming the other's strength.

The moment after Lu Yin gave up, the chains shattered.

As if the floodgates had opened, death energy burst out to circulate through Lu Yin's body in the blink of an eye instead of star energy. Lu Yin's eyes suddenly shot open, and a terrifying aura rose up from the bottom of the pool, and along with it, a phenomenon appeared.

When Lu Yin had broken through to the Explorer realm, a phenomenon had also appeared, and at this moment, another phenomenon manifested as he broke through to the Hunter realm. This time, the phenomenon was less ethereal than before and seemed to be even more complete.

At the bottom of the pool of blood, the void fluctuated as a small sapling slowly grew out from the top of Lu Yin's head. It quickly flourished and grew past the pool of blood before overshadowing the guardian giants' various stone huts. Still, the tree continued to grow until it spread across the entirety of Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum, and even beyond that. Eventually, the tree broke through the void and appeared in the space outside the tomb.

What the hell? The patriarchs of the Seven Courts were all stupefied.

This tree had drooping branches, but it distorted the void and exuded a strange gaseous substance that seemed capable of creating anything and everything. Beneath one branch, there was an orb, and under another branch, there was a sword. Under yet another branch, there was some four-sided object. The observers could even see a card along with many other items...

It seemed that this tree was the source of everything as more and more things were birthed under this tree that had come from Lu Yin. As it grew, the tree gradually covered the starry sky. Even with its size, the phenomena was still clearer than when Lu Yin had broken through to the Explorer realm.

Everyone stared at the scene developing in front of them, dumbfounded.

Hui Zhi was surprised. "It's a phenomenon caused by someone breaking through. Who could it be?"

Xia Yi solemnly stared at the scene. Breakthroughs with phenomena were extremely rare, and though the inheritors of the Seven Courts all enjoyed bountiful resources and powerful inheritances, they were not guaranteed to generate phenomena when they broke through. Given the aura of this phenomena, it seemed that the person breaking through was a Hunter. However, just who was becoming a Hunter? Everyone who had gone in had already become Hunters. Actually, that second boy from the Ku family had not been a Hunter.

Mu En was surprised that someone was breaking through to the Hunter realm within Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum and that they were capable of creating a phenomenon that seemed to cover the entire starry sky. This was simply too unbelievable.

The tree was still growing, and it eventually reached a size that covered nearly half of the Seven Courts' territory.

The shock stirred up by this phenomenon was simply too astounding.

Even if the Seven Courts had powerhouses with power levels that exceeded a million, people were still stunned by the sight of this phenomena.

Above the Great Abyss, the old man in the rowboat lifted his head. "An absolute talent."

An old man within the Xia family's territory opened his eyes and looked in the direction of Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum. "Whose child is that? For them to generate such a phenomenon, they will be unrivaled throughout the universe."

Everyone was stunned upon seeing the phenomenon, and that even included the Giant Emperor, who was, at this moment, staring at the pool of blood in stupefaction. The Giant Emperor was very intelligent, but his intelligence was not enough to comprehend what was happening within the pool. The only thing that the giant was certain of was that this phenomena had something to do with Progenitor Chen's blood. However, in his eyes, nobody had entered the pool, and all of the intruders were right before him.

Silver stared at the pool intently; Lu Yin had broken through and become a Hunter.

With just the strength of a Cruiser, Lu Yin had already been fighting on par with many of the Neoverse's top talents, and he had even stepped upon the Astral Tower and fought against Yuhua Mavis with his pitiful cultivation realm, shocking everyone. However, he had just broken through to the Hunter realm, and at this moment, not even Silver could judge just how powerful Lu Yin had become.

Silver's eyes showed his excitement as he licked his lips. A breakthrough! The stronger the better!

The stronger Lu Yin became, the greater Silver's harvest would be. In the entire universe, this person had the best potential to become the perfect weapon.

The Giant Emperor had even forgotten to attack as he stared at the pool of blood, slack-jawed. But despite his vulnerability, no one moved to attack him, as they all seemed to be waiting for something to emerge from the blood pool.

At the bottom of the blood pool, Lu Yin's body glowed; he had finally broken through and become a Hunter. His power had been drastically enhanced, and when he unleashed his domain, it instantly exceeded the limits of the blood pool as it enveloped the city and even spread beyond the city walls. It continued to spread further and further away, to the point where not even Lu Yin could judge how far its range was.

For a moment, Lu Yin felt as though he was in control of everything.

Death energy was still circulating through his body, but even this tremendous amount was not able to affect Lu Yin at this moment.

Lu Yin started circulating the Daynight Restoration Technique, which restrained the death energy and concentrated it into a ball of black and white mist that stayed within his heart. At this moment, there was only a small amount of star energy left in Lu Yin's body, and he needed to absorb more to complete a cycle.

Right now, the biggest difference that Lu Yin could feel was that he seemed to have activated a new innate gift.

That's right, an innate gift! He now had a second gift.

There were very few people in the universe who were able to develop an innate gift, and there were many different kinds of gifts. Some allowed one to transform into a giant beast, control ice and fire, or even give mutated vision or hearing. Generally speaking, innate gifts could be divided into three categories: natural gifts, acquired gifts, and mysterious gifts.

Lu Yin's die belonged to the mysterious gift category.

Only one out of countless people would be able to awaken an innate gift, and out of the few people who were able to awaken their innate gifts, only a tiny percentage of people possessed two. In short, such people were extremely few and far between.

But at this moment, when Lu Yin broke through to the Hunter realm, a second gift had appeared. Additionally, it was a gift that seemed so familiar that he was shocked and unable to comprehend it—the Champions' Stage.

That's right, the innate gift that Lu Yin awakened was none other than the Champions' Stage.

He had not expected to awaken a second innate gift, and what's more, he definitely had not expected to receive the Champions' Stage as his gift.

When the Sixth Mainland had invaded the Fifth Mainland, in order to inspire their youths to fight to the death, the Hall of Honor, had revealed the Champions' Stage and conferred titles upon the most outstanding youths. Those who had received a title of King had also received the right to join the contest for the Cosmic Five.

At that time, everyone's eyes had been focused on those handful of talented individuals who had received titles, and no one had paid any attention to the Champions' Stage itself. In fact, Lu Yin had been the same. He had only thought of the stage as a very tough artifact.

However, at this moment, his second innate gift had awakened, and it was actually identical to the Champions' Stage, which was incomprehensible to him. Was this thing actually a weapon? Or was it a construct? Just how was this an innate gift?

After looking at the Champions' Stage for a moment, Lu Yin's expression slowly changed from one of confusion to one of pure excitement. Even though he did not know if his innate gift of the Champions' Stage that he had just awakened was the same as the Champions' Stage that the Hall of Honor had used, Lu Yin had an understanding of what his innate gift did. Thus, he knew that it was powerful—very powerful—and that it was also very suited for him.

Although he was still at the bottom of the blood pool at this moment, Lu Yin was perfectly aware of everything that was happening outside. His domain had undergone a complete transformation, and it was possible that it was no longer inferior to Unseen Light's!

Xia Jiuyou and the others outside the pool were all rather perplexed. Was this feeling a domain? Several people present had comprehended a domain, and the one who used it the most was Ce Jiu. However,

this domain clearly did not belong to Ce Jiu, so who could it belong to? Even scarier, this domain was actually making Xia Jiuyou feel a bit pressured.

Xia Jiuyou was not the only one pondering this question, as Ku Lei had also reacted. He looked around but could not see Lu Yin anywhere. Where is he?

Everyone present had impressive vision, but none of them could find Lu Yin, and so, they finally focused on the pool of blood. Could he have fallen in? If so, then did that mean that the phenomenon just now had been real? Had Lu Yin broken through to the Hunter realm within the blood pool?

The Giant Emperor was still staring blankly at the blood pool. Since he had been born and raised in Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum, he did not have any knowledge of battle techniques or even cultivation realms.

At the bottom of the blood pool, Lu Yin clenched a fist. It was now time for him to come out. With one smooth motion, he moved up and leaped out of the blood pool. I wonder how strong I am now. Maybe I even stand a chance against Beast.

Everyone present saw as Lu Yin emerged from the blood pool, including the Giant Emperor. The Giant Emperor's pupils immediately constricted as he grew enraged with crimson flushed eyes. Progenitor Chen's blood was gone! This intruder had absorbed Progenitor Chen's blood!

The giant was unbearably furious as he roared at the sky and reached out to slap Lu Yin.

Lu Yin's eyes focused. His feet tapped, and the void rippled as his body disappeared. He had easily avoided the Giant Emperor's attack, and as for the shockwave from the passing hand, it had no effect on Lu Yin.

At that instant, Beast appeared behind Lu Yin and punched at him

This was an order from Silver, as he wanted to probe Lu Yin's strength after his breakthrough. And if possible, Silver wanted to recapture Lu Yin in one move.

Lu Yin turned around, clenching his right fist. His nine lined battle force glowed as he met Beast's punch with one of his own.

Chapter 1168: Group Tactics

Boom!

The void tore apart as a loud explosion rattled everyone's eardrums.

Lu Yin and Beast faced off against each, each wielding nothing more than their own fists. However, the shockwave from their exchange swept out and shattered the void as both of them stepped back at the same time.

The crowd was baffled. This should be impossible. Had Lu Yin actually forced Beast back after the corpse king underwent its third corpse king transformation?

Not only were the people from the Seven Courts shaken, but Silver was shocked as well. Lu Yin becoming much more powerful after breaking through to the Hunter realm was well within his expectations, but Silver had never thought that Lu Yin's power would increase by so much.

In the past, Lu Yin had just barely managed to stand up to the corpse king after its second transformation with the help of death energy. However, Beast had already undergone its third transformation, and it had even absorbed Silver's death energy, which meant that it was just as strong as it had been atop the golden platform.

Yuhua Mavis, Unseen Light, Xia Jiuyou, and other elites had all failed to defeat Beast even when they teamed up. However, was Lu Yin actually able to fight it on his own?

The increase in Lu Yin's strength was just a bit too absurd. Silver was not the only one with such thoughts, and even Lu Yin himself was thinking this.

Originally, Lu Yin had not thought that his strength would be able to match up to Beast's; rather, he had just wanted to test how much his strength had increased by since his body had been surging with power. However, he had not expected his nine lined battle force to be strong enough to force Beast back, and even though Lu Yin had retreated more steps than Beast, if Lu Yin had also utilized death energy or Truesight, he might actually be able to fight against the corpse king.

A regular human was actually fighting melee against a corpse king that had undergone three transformations; this was something that even Yuhua Mavis had failed to do. At this moment, it was apparent that Lu Yin was no worse than Yuhua Mavis when it came to pure strength.

Beast let out a fierce roar after being knocked back, and its blood-red eyes stared at Lu Yin before it rushed forward once again. It was punching out like before, though this one carried more power than the first.

Lu Yin had already tested his strength, so he had no intention of fighting the corpse king head on. Additionally, there was still the Giant Emperor behind him as well.

Beast missed its target. It was no longer a threat to Lu Yin. Instead, Lu Yin's main priority target was now the Giant Emperor behind him.

Lu Yin evaded Beast's and the Giant Emperor's attacks. Then, he looked over at Xia Jiuyou and the others. "Are you all just going to watch?"

Hui Santong frowned. "Is there any of Progenitor Chen's blood still left in the blood pool?"

"Of course there is!" Lu Yin shouted.

Hui Santong pursed his lips. "So it's empty? Then we no longer need to fight the Giant Emperor. See you later!"

He was the first to fly away, and he did so without any hesitation.

Lu Yin was shocked. He had clearly said that there was still some of Progenitor Chen's blood in the pool! The Hui family's inheritor was truly intelligent.

Xie Xiaoxian glared over at Lu Yin. After the appearance of that gigantic phenomenon, only a fool would believe that any of Progenitor Chen's blood still remained.

You can just go and play with yourself.

With that thought, she also left.

The others all looked at Lu Yin before leaving, one after another.

Lu Yin grew extremely anxious, as the Giant Emperor's focus was completely on him right now. Even if he were alone, he would not be a match for the giant while Silver was still close by right now.

The people who had gathered here were not going to fight Silver, and even Lei Nü and Shu Jing had given up. In fact, Lu Yin was also able to leave, but he was unwilling to do so since he had just awakened his second innate gift. Right now, he wanted to test his newfound powers out on the Giant Emperor.

As his thoughts reached this point, Lu Yin shouted, "The bottom of the blood pool leads to Progenitor Chen's corpse!"

Upon hearing this, Xie Xiaoxian froze in place before abruptly turning around with an incredulous expression on her face.

Xia Jiuyou and the others also all halted in their tracks.

Even Hui Santong, who had moved the furthest away, stopped and turned to stare at Lu Yin.

"Progenitor Chen's corpse? Really?" Ku Lei shouted.

Lu Yin replied, "Of course! Where else would you find so much of Progenitor Chen's blood? I absorbed enough blood to fill a big bowl, and at the very least, the corpse still has enough blood to fill another bowl."

Despite using such a crude description, Lu Yin had managed to convince everyone to stay, and even Silver, who had intended to attack Lu Yin with Shaman God's doll, hesitated. If Silver was actually able to find Progenitor Chen's corpse, then that would be of immense value. Progenitor Chen's blood simply could not compare.

Besides, there was indeed a high probability of finding the corpse of Progenitor Chen's clone in this place, as how else could the Giant Emperor have gotten ahold of Progenitor Chen's blood? The more everyone thought about Lu Yin's words, the more likely it seemed. The group of humans began to turn unfriendly eyes upon the Giant Emperor. This creature was a rock in their way, and it had to be kicked aside.

How strong exactly was the Giant Emperor? So far, aside from Lei Nü's Discipline and Autumn's Sorrow, only Beast had managed to force the giant back in any way at all. An ordinary adult guardian giant was strong enough to threaten an Enlightener whose power level was higher than 400,000, and this Giant Emperor was clearly much stronger than an ordinary adult guardian giant.

Of course, that was only true in the outside world. The guardian giants inside Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum had never been exposed to battle techniques before, so their fighting style was very savage

and unrefined, which greatly reduced their fighting power. Despite that, the Giant Emperor's physical strength was not something that the youths could overcome.

However, they were not in the Mountain and Seas Zone. They could use power vessels in this place, and there were times when fights were entirely about power vessels.

At this moment, their enemy was not only the Giant Emperor, but also Silver and Beast. To the humans, the Neohuman Alliance pair posed a threat in no way inferior to the Giant Emperor.

Lu Yin was still dodging the Giant Emperor's attacks. It would not be difficult for him to leave, but why should he? The ability of his new innate gift of the Champions' Stage made him long for the Giant Emperor, and he wanted to appoint the Giant Emperor as his champion.

Beast struck at Lu Yin once again. Silver knew Lu Yin very well, which was why Silver did not believe that the corpse of Progenitor Chen's clone could be found at the bottom of the pool of blood. Instead, Silver's foremost priority was still to capture Lu Yin.

Silver raised Shaman God's doll. Lu Yin had become someone who Beast could no longer capture. Thus, Silver made a move of his own.

Suddenly, Silver's gaze trembled. An exceptional cold feeling caused him to look in another direction, and his expression slightly changed.

Far away, Xie Xiaoxian was covered with a layer of white bone. In addition to that, there was also a black skeleton covering and protecting her, which gave her an extremely dark and sinister appearance. Ghostly and obscure, the black skeleton had clearly once belonged to a Specter Clan member, and there was still some faint death energy twining around the dark bones. This was a mighty power vessel that belonged to the Xie family.

"Scum of the Specter Clan, die!" Xie Xiaoxian shouted as she fiercely charged at Silver. She raised her right hand that was protected by two layers of bone and slashed down with a clawed hand.

Silver's expression grew icy, as the Xie family was the Specter Clan's arch-enemy. Any member of either group would kill the other on sight.

Bang!

The earth shattered, and a silver light flashed before Xie Xiaoxian's eyes as Silver's butterfly knife slashed through the air. Xie Xiaoxian easily parried the knife and then clawed at Silver once again.

Xie Xiaoxian's powers had drastically improved after she started using power vessels. Apart from Lu Yin, she was the most suitable person to deal with Silver here, and it was precisely because she had a skeleton from a Specter Clan member. This skeleton rendered her immune to death energy, and Hui Santong had actually tasked her with dealing with Silver. She had to prevent Silver from having any opportunity to use Shaman God's doll.

Beast was left for Ce Jiu to handle, as the Ce family could easily avoid such crude attacks with their secret technique, and he also had their Immovable Chessboard. The combination of the Ce family's secret technique and power vessel was enough to stop Beast from advancing even an inch.

The Immovable Chessboard was small and therefore ineffective against the Giant Emperor, but it was perfect for dealing with Beast.

As for the rest of the youths, their target was the Giant Emperor.

Lu Yin narrowly evaded another attack from the Giant Emperor, but his face showed no sign of exertion. After breaking through, his strength had increased multiple times over. If he was being honest, then not even he knew how much his strength had improved by, especially if he included his new innate gift, the Champions' Stage. Regardless, at this moment, Lu Yin was confident in his chances in competing against Yuhua Mavis in pure physical strength, and he also believed that his domain was in no way inferior to Unseen Light's.

Hui Santong appeared at Lu Yin's side and threateningly demanded, "You haven't lied to us, right? If the corpse of Progenitor Chen's clone isn't down there, then the way we deal with the Giant Emperor right now is how we'll deal with you later."

Lu Yin hated it when people threatened him. "Then just leave now, and when the Giant Emperor falls asleep, I'll have Progenitor Chen's corpse all to myself."

Hui Santong glared ferociously at Lu Yin, but then he removed a pot of water from his cosmic ring and took a sip. In front of them, the giant emperor launched an attack at Hui Santong.

Lu Yin stared at Hui Santong in awe. You're still in the mood to drink some water at a time like this?

The two youths evaded the Giant Emperor's attack, and the giant grew more agitated as it began to attack faster and faster. Hui Santong's gaze quickly swept past Silver and Beast before finally settling onto Xia Jiuyou. "Brother Xia, it's up to you."

A blade appeared in Xia Jiuyou hand. He was using the Xia family's Triple Blade Will.

The first blade was useless, and the second proved to be equally useless. When the third blade finally appeared, it did not look solid, but it did contain a supreme and overpowering aura.

The moment the third blade appeared, the Giant Emperor hesitated and turned around to look at the blade in fear.

Hui Santong then shouted, "Brother Lu, beat him senseless!"

The moment after Lu Yin received Hui Santong's words, he appeared before the Giant Emperor's face with a flash: Vacuum Palm!

This Vacuum Palm was completely different from all the previous ones. Lu Yin's strength had spiked, and when he hit the Giant Emperor's nose, the giant took two steps back as blood spurted out.

Just like with Beast, Lu Yin was also able to injure the Giant Emperor with nothing more than pure, physical strength.

The Giant Emperor looked like he had been beaten senseless by Lu Yin, and Xia Jiuyou took advantage of the opportunity to release his third will blade. The power emanating from the blade gave Lu Yin chills.

The blade swept out and opened up a huge gash on the Giant Emperor's thighs. Blood streamed out like a waterfall.

"Ku Lei!" Hui Santong shouted.

From off in the distance, thunder flashed as Ku Lei appeared, charging straight towards the Giant Emperor's wound. When he came in contact with the wound, Ku Lei brought out a Withered Bark, one of the Ku family's power vessels, and hid within it.

When Lu Yin had been ambushed, Ku Wei had similarly hidden within a Withered Bark, as the defenses of that power vessel were quite incredible.

Ku Lei hid within the Withered Bark that had landed in the Giant Emperor's wound while lightning crackled and coursed through the giant's entire body.

The Giant Emperor had not cared about any of Ku Lei's earlier lightning attacks, but this time, it was different. The lightning had bypassed the Giant Emperor's defenses since it originated from within a wound, and the electricity left the Giant Emperor wailing in pain.

The Giant Emperor slapped a hand against his wounded thigh, but Ku Lei was unfazed since the Withered Bark was able to protect him.

With a tremendous bang, the Giant Emperor slapped at the gash on his leg again, but the impact was followed by another burst of lightning that connected the sky and the earth. The attack caused the Giant Emperor to suffer while also slowing his movements.

Elsewhere, Ce Jiu and Beast had both become pieces on a chessboard. Beast howled, and the chessboard began to tremble unsteadily.

As Beast lifted his head and threw out a punch, a river appeared beneath Ce Jiu's feet, sweeping him away. Then, just when Beast was about to attack Lu Yin once again, the chessboard reappeared beneath his feet.

Ce Jiu was not able to deal with Beast alone, so he needed Yōu Qin's assistance.

The fight between Xie Xiaoxian and Silver was equally intense, though Silver had yet to use any power vessels. Still, Xie Xiaoxian had held Silver back so far, as she had also comprehended a secret technique.

Just a moment ago, she had used her family's secret technique to borrow the power of Triple Blade Will, which had forced Silver to retreat.

The Giant Emperor had been hindered by Ku Lei's lightning. At this moment, Lei Nü and Shu Jing struck and attacked the Giant Emperor's neck. This was the second place that Hui Santong wanted to attack, as it was the only place where they could guarantee landing a fatal blow.

Chapter 1169: Anointing A Champion

At the same time that Ku Lei's lightning was rampaging through the Giant Emperor's body, Lu Yin repeatedly unleashed Vacuum Palms at the Giant Emperor's neck. Under the barrage of attacks, the Giant Emperor's neck was severely wounded, and the Giant Emperor was feeling extremely stifled and unable to breathe.

Every time the Giant Emperor tried to retaliate, another burst of lightning would be released, slowing his movements.

Lu Yin paused for a moment and could not stop himself from looking over at Hui Santong. This guy had actually instantly grasped everyone's techniques and given out commands that gave them the upper hand in the battle. Was this what the Hui family's inheritor was capable of? Brother Huikong's descendents seem to be pretty decent. Should we acknowledge each other?

Hui Santong took another sip of water, and his eyes grew brighter.

Lu Yin's heart trembled as he thought of something. He then looked at Hui Santong's pot of water, his eyes burning fervently.

"What are you looking at? Attack!" Hui Santong shouted at Lu Yin as he raised a hand of his own. A golden meteor smashed down onto the Giant Emperor's head, but this attack was nearly useless against the Giant Emperor.

Lu Yin did not have any time to think about it any further, and he raised a hand to unleash another Vacuum Palm.

The palm shockwave swept past Lei Nü and struck the Giant Emperor's neck.

Lei Nü was taken aback. Although she had not come into direct contact with the shockwave, she could still tell how terrifying that attack was as it passed by her. She could not help but take another look at Lu Yin. After this man had broken through to the Hunter realm, his strength had completely transformed. It was no wonder why Shang Qing thought so highly of Lu Yin, and Lu Yin's victory over Yōu Qin in the Mountain and Seas Zone clearly had not been a fluke.

The Giant Emperor had been able to suppress the youths at the beginning, but at this moment, he was the one being suppressed. Although they were heavily relying on their various power vessels, the humans had managed to reverse the situation.

Finally, after Xia Jiuyou launched another third blade of his Triple Blade Will, a huge gash opened up on the Giant Emperor's neck.

As all of the attacks landed on the Giant Emperor, he finally was unable to endure the barrage, and he collapsed, half kneeling on the ground. Even now, his massive eyes glared at his attackers with hatred.

Although he could not speak, the humans were all able to see his resignation.

Lightning flashed once again.

Lu Yin looked down at the Giant Emperor's thigh, where Ku Lei was like a poison. If not for him, the wound on the giant's leg would have had little to no effect on the Giant Emperor. It was all because of Ku Lei that the Giant Emperor had been unable to block the flurry of attacks.

The Giant Emperor abruptly raised his head and released a shocking roar, which caused horns to blare off in the distance.

Hui Santong's expression changed. "Oh no, he's summoning the other giants! Quickly, kill the Giant Emperor!"

As soon as he spoke, everyone moved. Lu Yin's nine lined battle force flared brightly as he gradually clenched a fist. He then raised both of his hands and violently lashed out.

The Giant Emperor wanted to escape, and he tried to move his body away. However, another flash of lightning paralyzed his body and stopped him in his tracks. At the same time, Lei Nü used Discipline to reflect her injuries onto the Giant Emperor, causing him to vomit blood for the first time. The Giant Emperor growled as he endured the heavy attacks before trying to move again.

"Secret art: Banishment!" Lei Nü shouted, forcing the Giant Emperor several steps back. In response, the giant swung his arm, sending Shu Jing flying with a bang.

Lu Yin set up the Teleportation Formation so that, after the Giant Emperor moved, he was shifted around by the sourcebox array and returned to his original position.

Off in the distance, many guardian giants waddled out of their stone huts and started making their way toward the blood pool.

The Giant Emperor roared, and the crowd of guardian giants roared back in unison before rushing forward.

As Lu Yin turned around to face the incoming horde, he retracted his domain and formed a forcefield shaped like an enormous tree that enveloped the surrounding area.

Numerous guardian giants started smashing against the forcefield.

Xia Jiuyou looked extremely solemn as he took out a blade and unleashed the third blade of his family's battle technique again. At the same time, Xie Xiaoxian borrowed the powers of the third blade for herself and launched an attack at Silver.

The Giant Emperor and Silver simultaneously faced the threat of the third will blade.

Silver dodged the attack. So far, he still had not started fighting seriously yet, and even atop the golden platform within the Mountain and Seas Zone, he had only been playing around.

The Giant Emperor was not as lucky, as Ku Lei's lightning was still paralyzing him. As a result, his wounded neck was struck yet again. This time, the blade managed to cut a third of the way through the bone in the giant's neck, snapping the head to the side. Lu Yin took advantage of this opportunity to lift a hand and pointed a finger at the Giant Emperor: Seventh Bro Finger.

Seventh Bro Finger was still Lu Yin's strongest attack after breaking through. As he pointed at the giant, his forcefield shaped like a tree disintegrated and merged with the power contained within his finger, the Overlaying Stacks Path, and with his newly improved strength as a Hunter. The energy from this finger drilled a hole through the Giant Emperor's neck and forced out a hint of dark blood that was colored differently than the rest of the blood flowing from the Giant Emperor's wounds.

This dark blood fell into the blood pool, and it did not disperse into the blood. Rather, it floated in it instead.

The Giant Emperor's eyes grew dull, and he slowly knelt down, his knees causing the earth to tremble.

Everyone stared at the Giant Emperor, but he was deadlier than dead. He had not been able to escape.

Lu Yin's figure flashed and he appeared atop the Giant Emperor's shoulders. With his back to the crowd, he took out his Champion's Stage and muttered, "By my name, I appoint you as my champion."

As his words fell, a gust of wind blew past, and a brand of the Giant Emperor appeared on the Champion's Stage. The image was then engraved onto the stage in exquisite detail.

Lu Yin was elated.

At this moment, numerous guardian giants angrily rushed inside the fence from all directions and punched at the humans.

Hui Santong stared at the pool of blood before quickly leaping in, and the rest of the humans immediately followed behind him as well.

Lu Yin pursed his lips, and his gaze swept over Silver and Beast before he turned around to leave.

There was no time for Silver to take out Shaman God's doll, as there were quite a few guardian giants blocking his path to Lu Yin. Silver felt quite exasperated.

"Captain, good luck," he said before leaving.

The guardian giants let out angry roars; they were clearly lamenting the death of the Giant Emperor.

Lu Yin looked back. He was secretly lamenting as well, but at the same time, he was also feeling a bit excited. If he could take all of these guardian giants back to the Great Yu Empire, then he might have enough power to fight against factions from the Inniverse.

Wait, this was Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum. Did that mean that all of the guardian giants here actually belonged to the Seven Courts?

Once Lu Yin was far away enough from the blood pool, he surveyed his surroundings, only to discover that he was lost.

The truth was that he knew nothing about Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum as Silver had always been the one leading the way. This place was so massive that Lu Yin might not be able to find anything good.

Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum was only open for a limited amount of time, and Lu Yin did not want to leave empty-handed. Still, he had already received tremendous benefits from this visit.

Lu Yin remembered seeing Hui Santong drink a bit of water, and Lu Yin was confident that a Root of Intelligence had been steeped in the water. He wanted some of that water for himself, so he decided to wait for Hui Santong.

Before long, Xia Jiuyou and the others emerged from the pool, each and every one of them radiating a murderous aura.

Ku Lei was particularly heated. "I'm going to skin Lu Yin alive if I see him again."

Xie Xiaoxian rolled her eyes. "You can't even beat him."

Ku Lei glared at Xie Xiaoxian and simply grunted without speaking.

Numerous guardian giants saw the humans around and raised their hammers to smash them.

The crowd scattered, and everyone left.

Off in the distance, Lu Yin's eyes lit up as he moved out.

He saw lightning flash off in the distance, and he knew that Ku Lei had to be there.

Lu Yin also saw Ce Jiu; the immovable chessboard underneath the young man's feet was rather eye-grabbing.

Soon, Lu Yin also saw a river carrying Yōu Qin away.

Their power vessels were truly amazing.

Finally, he saw Hui Santong, and there was a golden light that shone brightly at the bottom of his feet.

Hmm? Behind Hui San Tong was... Lei Nü?

At this moment, Hui Santong was feeling quite frustrated, and he turned around. "Why are you still following me?"

Lei Nü did not say a single word and simply continued to follow Hui Santong.

He was quite frustrated, as Lei Nü was basically treating him as her tour guide, but there was no way he would stop searching the tomb just because Lei Nü was following along behind him.

How can I get rid of this woman? Hui Santong thought, and he could not resist taking a sip of water.

"Sorry, but I'm rather thirsty. Can I have a sip too?" A voice spoke up from nearby.

An incredulous look appeared on Hui Santong's face. How had he actually failed to notice someone so close to him? Was it Lu Yin?

Lei Nü was also unable to find Lu Yin, and her eyes narrowed.

This person was rather powerful.

Lu Yin looked at Hui Santong with a faint smile. "I'll have a sip of that water."

Hui Santong's expression darkened. "Brother Lu, it's not a good habit to borrow a knife to kill."

Lu Yin shrugged. "I'm also helping the Seven Courts, because the next time your inheritors visit this place, they won't meet up with that Giant Emperor, will they?"

Hui Santong put away his pot of water "I told you—if you lied to us, then we'll deal with you the same way we dealt with the Giant Emperor."

Lu Yin was helpless. "Brother Hui, the fact is that you and I are closer than anyone else here. If we want to talk about specifics, you should be calling me 'ancestor.'"

Hui San Tong grew furious. "Lu Yin, your words are extremely insulting! This is Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum and outside are the Seven Courts. My Hui family's experts are here."

Lu Yin quickly explained, "Brother Hui, listen to me. When the Sixth Mainland invaded, and after Nightking Zhenwu almost killed me, I went to the Technocracy. There, I met someone who I became fast friends and then brothers with. That person is called Hui Kong."

Hui Santong pupils shrank, and his voice involuntarily turned hoarse. "Who?"

"Hui Kong." Lu Yin laughed.

Hui Santong stared at Lu Yin intently. "Lu Yin, I hope that you're not joking. Are you sure you're telling the truth? If you lie to me, I swear that my Hui family will hunt you down and kill you."

Lu Yin seriously answered, "It's true. Hui Kong told me to call him Big Brother, and he also said that if something happens to me, Lu Yin, in the future, he will definitely have his children and grandchildren help me get revenge. At that time, Big Brother Hui Kong didn't tell me that he came from the Seven Courts' Hui family. But from what I could tell, judging by the strength that he possesses, he could only come from the Hui family."

Hui Santong inhaled sharply and approached Lu Yin. "Did you really see Ancestor Hui Kong? Where is he?"

"As I said, the Technocracy."

"Why is he there? How long has he been there for?"

"He said that he's there to find the truth," Lu Yin said.

Hui Santong's expression changed yet again. If he had been a bit uncertain before, then this answer had confirmed that Lu Yin had truly met the Hui family's old ancestor.

Lei Nü stared at Lu Yin in amazement. Was this person making things up, or was it true? Just now, Lu Yin had managed to hoodwink the entire group into helping him deal with the Giant Emperor by using the irresistible temptation of Progenitor Chen's corpse, and now, Lu Yin was able to pacify Hui Santong. This was Hui Santong, someone from the Hui family. Tricking the Hui family's inheritor twice in a row was not something that just anyone could do. Even if one used deceit, the story had to be nearly perfect. It was no wonder that Lu Yin had managed to unite the Outerverse.

Lu Yin did not make a sound, and instead, he just looked around, especially back towards the blood pool. Without the Giant Emperor, the guardian giants were all just stumbling about.

Giants might look like large humans, but they were actually savage creatures that were more similar to beasts than humans. Lu Yin still had not forgotten what he had seen on Gigastar Planet, when those giants had eaten humans.

Lu Yin had not hesitated to kill the Giant Emperor because the Giant Emperor definitely would have killed Lu Yin even if Lu Yin stayed passive.

Now that the Giant Emperor was dead and the guardian giants had fallen into chaos, the huge city walls were meaningless.

Just as Lu Yin's thoughts reached this point, there was a loud sound in the distance. A corner of the city wall had collapsed, revealing a hole in the wall. Whether this had been done by a giant outside or inside the walls was something that Lu Yin did not care about.

Chapter 1170: Lead The Way

Hui Santong lowered his head, his expression complicated.

Compared to the other inheritors of the Seven Courts, Hui Santong knew far more, not only about his Hui family, but also about the rest of the Court of Seven Names.

The more one knew, the more there was for one to think about.

"I will not pursue the matter of the Giant Emperor, so draw a map of where you encountered Ancestor Hui Kong," Hui Santong growled.

Lu Yin replied, "Sorry, but I have no knowledge of the Technocracy, so I can't make a map for you."

Hui Santong sighed, but then he suddenly remembered something. He looked at Lu Yin solemnly. "Are you being controlled by the Neohuman Alliance?"

Lu Yin had already thought of this issue, and he replied, "If I tell you that I'm not being controlled, do the Seven Courts have any way to verify it?"

Hui Santong shook his head. "It's not important if we have a method or not, as the only authority that can genuinely recognize your situation is the Hall of Honor. Even if we accept what you say as true, you will still be hunted down by the entire universe. It will be impossible for you to live like before."

Lu Yin also thought of this, and he turned to look at Lei Nü.

Lei Nü indifferently replied, "Judicial Commissioner Mu En is outside Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum. When we leave, he'll take you to the Honor Zone. Nothing will happen to you if you are proven to be clean."

Lu Yin nodded, outwardly showing his relief, but deep down, he was worried about the black and white mist inside his heart. Who knew what would happen if that was detected and taken as the Neohuman Alliance's method of controlling him. Lu Yin would not be able to argue his way out of anything at that time.

Still, he needed to be tested, and Yuan Shi and Eversky Island would not be able to back him up this time. It was a matter of principle.

After visiting Aeternus Nation, Lu Yin finally understood why the Hall of Honor was so adamant about eradicating the Neohuman Alliance. If he were given the choice, he would issue the same command.

However, a test was another issue altogether. He did not want to surrender his fate to the hands of others and be wrongly accused.

Of the Hall of Honor's nine overseers, one of them was from the Daynight clan, and there were also others among them who were eager to benefit from the Daynight clan. Lu Yin would never believe that those people would treat him justly.

"The Hui family's patriarch will contact you after we leave," Hui Santong said. He believed that Lu Yin had met Hui Kong, but Hui Santong did not believe that Lu Yin and Hui Kong referred to each other 'brothers,' as the age difference between them was simply too extreme. Hui Santong then hesitated for a moment before adding, "I really hope that you aren't being controlled by the Neohuman Alliance."

Hui Santong looked off into the distance. Due to the commotion caused by the Giant Emperor, all of the guardian giants had been lured over to the pool of blood, which meant that none of them were blocking the way out. The humans quickly left and fanned out in various directions.

Hui Santong was the first of the trio to leave, immediately followed by Lei Nü. Lu Yin chased right after them.

When Hui Santong noticed Lu Yin, he turned around and stared at Lu Yin in confusion. "Why are you following me?"

Suddenly, he seemed to understand something, and his expression soured. "What do you want?"

Lu Yin chuckled. "I'm lost, so can you lead the way?"

Hui Santong's eyes widened. "You want to follow me too?"

Lu Yin nodded and looked at Lei Nü, who was staring back at him.

Hui Santong was left speechless.

Why does everyone want to follow me?

"What do you want?"

"The Root of Intelligence." Lu Yin did not conceal his intentions.

Hui Santong frowned. "We might not be able to find it. After all, that comes from our ancestor, Progenitor Hui."

"Come on, don't say that. Progenitor Hui is also an ancestor of all of humanity. It'll be up to our own luck whether or not we can find it," Lu Yin replied with a smile. He really wanted to get his hands on another Root of Intelligence so that he could deduce more of the Overlaying Stacks Path. With his current physical strength, he was definitely able to use more stacks, and his strength would greatly increase if he fused more stacks into his Vacuum Palm. If he succeeded, his Vacuum Palm would become a technique that could strike fear even in the hearts of Enlighteners like Xia Jiuyou.

Hui Santong felt rather helpless. It was actually a bit absurd that there were two people following him. Never in the history of the Seven Courts had outsiders had entered Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum, except for Burial Garden, who knew the tomb as well as the Seven Courts. Also, never before had anyone from the Seven Courts acted as a guide for outsiders.

"Just keep walking. You're not going to give up on finding anything just because there's two of us here, right?" Lu Yin asked without any confidence. He was truly a bit concerned.

Hui Santong looked at Lu Yin, and then he looked at Lei Nü. "I won't look for the Root of Intelligence any longer," he said as he flew off.

Lei Nü frowned and glared at Lu Yin.

Lu Yin didn't expect Hui Santong to decisively give up on the root just like that. But since the youth did not want to look for the root, Lu Yin could not force the matter. Lu Yin and Lei Nü were both more powerful than Hui Santong, so even if he did manage to find a Root of Intelligence, it would never belong to him. Someone as intelligent as Hui Santong would have instantly realized this.

This meant that Hui Santong was now headed somewhere everyone was aware of.

There was no way for Lu Yin to change Hui Santong's mind, so he could only follow in silence.

Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum was indeed vast. After half an hour, Hui Santong turned around and saw that Lu Yin and Lei Nü were still following him, so he said, "I heard that you were captured by one of the Seven Skygods, Shaman God. Where did he take you?"

"Aeternus Nation," Lu Yin replied.

Hui Santong trembled and stared at Lu Yin in shock. "You were captured and taken to Aeternus Nation?"

Lei Nü was also stunned to hear Lu Yin's answer, and she even stared at Lu Yin and began to carefully examine him.

Lu Yin said, "It seems like you guys have heard of it before. That's right, that Aeternus Nation."

"Where is it?" Lei Nü asked.

Lu Yin shook his head. "I don't know. I only know that it's in a separate dimension and that it has seven Towers of Darkness, with each one representing one of the Seven Skygods."

"You were taken to Aeternus Nation, but you were able to escape? Honestly, I don't buy it," Hui Santong said.

Lu Yin replied, "That's why I need to undergo some testing. Otherwise, nobody will ever believe me."

"What's Aeternus Nation like? I've heard that it's a paradise created by the Neohuman Alliance where they research ways to have people live forever," Lei Nü asked.

Lu Yin's expression darkened. "It's hell, a place that should be destroyed immediately if discovered."

Lei Nü no longer spoke, and Hui Santong also remained silent as they continued moving forward.

Before long, they felt star energy fluctuations off in the distant horizon. Soon after that, the trio saw tens of enormous earthworms, each more than a thousand meters long, floating in midair. Xie Xiaoxian and Shu Jing were flying above the worms and were attacking the creatures.

Hui Santong averted his gaze, clearly having absolutely no intention of helping the two out, and he began to take a detour around them.

"What are those things?" Lu Yin asked.

"What happens to a human corpse after it dies?" Hui Santong countered.

Lu Yin immediately understood, and he thought back to the creatures that he had seen in Northline Flowzone. They actually looked somewhat similar to the giant earthworms currently before him.

However, these worms were definitely more powerful, as they were attempting to devour Progenitor Chen's corpse.

While there were many worms here, each one was not that powerful. Thus, Shu Jing was able to handle them on his own, as could Xie Xiaoxian.

Lei Nü looked down, and her pupils shrank. Seeing all these worms coiled together in a writhing mass was rather revolting.

These were simply parasitic worms, much like the tiny parasitic worms that lived within the hair follicles of common people. However, in this mausoleum, they had been blown out of proportion due to the massive size of Progenitor Chen's clone.

"If these worms have appeared, then does that mean that the corpse of Progenitor Chen's clone is down there?" Lu Yin asked.

Hui Santong explained, "Not really. These worms have no effect on Progenitor Chen's corpse. With their strength, how could they possibly devour the corpse of Progenitor Chen? They're merely parasitic worms, though they're also a source of food for the guardian giants."

"That's food?" Lu Yin was surprised.

Hui Santong said, "Why don't you go have a bite? They're supposed to be pretty tasty."

Lu Yin felt disgusted. "Have any of you ever tasted them before?"

Hui Santong did not reply, instead speeding up and continuing forward.

Xie Xiaoxian and Shu Jing had both noticed the trio, and they were both focused on Lu Yin.

That despicable bastard.

"Hey guys, don't leave!" Xie Xiaoxian shouted as she quickly chased after the three youths.

Everyone who had entered Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum had moved on from the pool of blood and headed deeper into the mausoleum, all except for one person: Ku Wei. Everyone seemed to have forgotten about him, and in some sense, he had even forgotten about himself. During this entire time, he had been hiding in a guardian giant's hair while praying not to be discovered.

After the giant crossed the broken city walls, Ku Wei blinked in amazement.

Really? A giant civilization formed here?

He was clearly a tad slower than the rest of the participants. If the guardian giant that he was riding on had not crossed the walls, then Ku Wei might have never found out what was going on.

Guardian giants were more like beasts than humans, and they acted purely on instinct. Ku Wei's particular guardian giant had been drawn to the pool of blood.

There were many other guardian giants who had left after circling the pool of blood once or twice. The guardian giant that Ku Wei was riding upon seemed a little bit off, however, as it actually instead bent down and stuck its head into the pool, possibly to wash its face. However, this action essentially tossed Ku Wei straight into the pool.

Kui Wei was caught off guard, and he fell into the pool of blood. As soon as he fell off the giant, the guardian giant caught sight of the youth.

Although guardian giants relied heavily on their sense of smell, they were also able to see if something was not too far away. At this moment, Ku Wei and the guardian giant locked eyes with one another.

The guardian giant naturally reached out for Ku Wei, who felt as though a mountain was falling down on him.

Kui Wei was terribly alarmed, and he used the Ku family's Finger Tap technique.

The giant's palm was simply too massive, and Ku Wei could only break off a single finger of the giant, but he was still slapped by the hand, and the force of the impact nearly crushed him to death. Ku Wei could not help himself from spitting out a mouthful of blood. However, as he did so, the blood in the pool flowed into his body. This was the blood of the guardian giants as well as the Giant Emperor, but mixed in among all the giant blood was also the tiniest traces of Progenitor Chen's blood.

Lu Yin had absorbed the majority of Progenitor Chen's blood, but since the blood had laid within the pool for an unknown length of time, some of it had eventually dissolved into the general blood pool.

The concentration of Progenitor Chen's blood within the pool was insignificant, but Ku Wei had swallowed enough blood to absorb some of Progenitor Chen's blood as well.

The guardian giant scooped Ku Wei out of the pool, picked him up, and brought him closer to its eyes to examine him. After a moment, the giant glared at Ku Wei before tossing him away.