

Chapter 1211: Sword Qi Barrier

Clang!

A loud ringing sound filled the room, closely followed by a few more light noises that sounded like metal hitting the floor.

Everyone stared blankly at the scene.

Long Yun stood frozen in place, stunned. The sword in his hand had shattered with only the hilt remaining. The fragments of the sword that had fallen to the floor still contained traces of eight lined battle force that had yet to dissipate.

Right in front of Long Yun's neck, just millimeters away from touching him, there was a finger that he was staring at. It was wrapped in glaring red lines, the characteristic sign of nine lined battle force.

With just one finger, Lu Yin had managed to destroy Long Yun's Sword Slash along with his eight lined battle force. After that, Lu Yin had suddenly moved right in front of Long Yun, and if he had even taken one more step, Long Yun would have been killed.

Everyone had expected Long Yun to lose, but no one had thought that Long Yun would be unable to withstand even a single move from Lu Yin, as that was just too absurd.

An extraordinary light shone in Li Zimo's eyes. Lu Yin was still the same as ever, as invincible as ever.

The disciples of the Liu family were all shocked to the core, as they simply could not believe their eyes.

Numbness covered Liu Ling's scalp. She had just witnessed the power of the person that she had wanted to challenge. Arbiter Lu was incredibly powerful and seemed unsurpassable; could even their Grand Senior Sister defeat him? After all, Lu Yin had already defeated two of the Ten Arbiters.

Liu Shen nervously swallowed. Despite being an Enlighter, he still felt chills run down his spine after witnessing Lu Yin's finger attack. Liu Shen knew that he would not be able to handle such an attack. Despite his unwillingness to admit it, he knew that he could not stand up to a single finger from Lu Yin.

Elder Li gasped and stared intently at Lu Yin. "As expected of nine lined battle force. Alliance Leader Lu is quite impressive."

Lu Yin withdrew his finger, and the battle force twined around it vanished. He smiled at Long Yun and then looked over at Elder Li. "Thank you for your compliment, Senior."

Elder Li calmly replied, "It's no wonder why you asked to have a match with me. You are indeed qualified to do so."

Lu Yin said, "You flatter me, Senior."

"Since you're visiting the Sword Sect, feel free to take a good look around." After speaking, Elder Li turned and left.

Lu Yin's eyes followed Elder Li as he left. For some reason, Lu Yin felt that Elder Li had something against him, and the Sword Sect trying to warn Lu Yin by showing him the battlefield had given him the impression that something was up.

Long Yun bitterly put away the remaining hilt of his sword. "Brother Lu, you're very impressive. One finger really was all you needed."

Lu Yin told Long Yun, "That's the power of nine lined battle force. Once you improve, you'll be capable of doing the same thing."

Long Yun helplessly replied, "It's already been eight years, but I haven't even found a shadow of how I can improve. It's far too difficult."

He shook his head as he spoke and moved to leave. He felt utterly crushed.

The remaining Sword Sect disciples also left after being chided by Liu Shen.

Before Liu Ling left, she stared straight into Lu Yin's eyes for a bit, as if trying to engrave his image deep into her memory.

With a smile, Liu Shen told Lu Yin, "As expected of Arbiter Lu. It seems that invincible aura you radiate will command the respect of an entire era in the future."

Lu Yin chuckled. "You're embarrassing me, Elder Liu. No matter how powerful I am, even I can't resist the Thirteen Swords, especially the Thirteenth Sword."

During the battle atop the golden stage in the Mountain and Seas Zone, Lu Yin had watched Liu Tianmo unleash the Thirteenth Sword in person. Lu Yin was speaking honestly, as he still had no idea how he could face that technique that did not even reveal anything about the principle behind that sword technique.

In the past, Liu Feng, the captain of Leon's Armada's Lightning Sword Regiment, had mentioned that the Thirteenth Sword was a technique that could not be dodged. Rather, it had to be endured. Lu Yin still believed that.

Lu Yin's praises of the Thirteen Swords was music to Liu Shen's ears, and he was all smiles as he led Lu Yin to his accommodations. They were now just waiting to return to the Sword Sect.

The trip was a dull affair, as First Flowzone was simply massive. With the speed of the battleship that they were traveling on, it would take quite a few more days to arrive at the Sword Sect's Swords Peak.

After the initial incident, there were no further conflicts aboard the ship. All of the disciples seemed to have been shocked into passivity after witnessing Lu Yin's power. Elder Li never appeared again, and neither did Long Yun.

Even Elder Liu Shen only occasionally stopped by to say hello.

Many days later, the vessel finally arrived at the Sword Sect.

As Lu Yin looked at the faraway mountain that resembled the sharp tip of a sword, he was spellbound even though he had personally gazed upon the beauty of the Cosmic Sect and even Mt. Microcosms.

This was the headquarters of the Sword Sect, the most powerful organization in both the Inverse and Outerverse. It was home to many sword users and Swords Peak, which housed invincible sword arts.

From a distance, Swords Peak was immense, and there were even stars revolving around it. It exuded a peculiar sharp aura that was not merely a sensation, but reality.

Swords Peak was the place where the Sword Sect had first settled and established their sect, making it their ancestral grounds as well as a training ground. The mountain was surrounded by endless sword qi, and a constant flow of sword qi fell from the mountain, almost like some sort of waterfall. Anyone who wished to enter or leave Swords Peak would have to endure a wave of sword qi penetrating through their body.

Ku Wei was shocked by the sight. "Seventh Bro, the Sword Sect is insane!"

Lu Yin had the same thought. Were they not afraid that the sword qi might go out of control and annihilate all of their disciples?

All of a sudden, hundreds of millions of sword qi strands shot up into the sky above Swords Peak. They brushed past the spacecraft and then slashed out in another direction.

Lu Yin was astonished. What he had just witnessed was not something that came from just one individual, as that flurry of sword qi had come from a combination of many sword cultivators. It actually felt quite similar to the combined arrow technique shot out by countless disciples of the Neo-Vestige Sect. However, the key difference was that the sword qi was much more powerful.

The number of rune lines he had seen in the united sword qi had definitely exceeded a power level of 300,000. Who knew just how many disciples had to contribute to form a joint attack of such strength.

Liu Shen arrived and begged for Lu Yin's pardon, "I apologize, Alliance Leader Lu, for giving you such a shock just now."

Ku Wei was upset by the apology. "How could that mere bit of sword qi be capable of shocking Seventh Bro? Even if that sword qi was multiple times stronger, or even tens of times stronger, Seventh Bro would still be able to disintegrate it with one breath! Let alone something of that power."

Lu Yin quietly grunted, "Zip it!"

He suddenly felt as though Ku Wei's body had been possessed by a ghost.

Displeased, Liu Shen sized Ku Wei up before again speaking to Lu Yin. "The Sword Sect disciples cultivate their sword techniques daily, and they often combine their sword qi as a part of that routine. Please pay them no mind, Alliance Leader Lu."

Lu Yin smiled. "As expected of the Sword Sect, that was quite impressive. There is no place in the entire universe that can compare to the Sword Sect when it comes to sword arts."

Liu Shen laughed. "We've arrived at Swords Peak, Alliance Leader Lu. Please prepare yourself, as the falling sword qi has little to do with the level of one's cultivation. The amount of sword qi that each individual is capable of withstanding can be quite different. It's possible that Alliance Leader Lu might shock the Sword Sect when entering."

“What do you mean?” Lu Yin wondered.

Liu Shen explained, “Sword Peak’s protective barrier comes from a single source, which is the falling waterfall of sword qi. It’s capable of detecting a person’s true strength, and the greater the cultivator’s power, the more sword qi that will be drawn to them. For instance, an Enlighter might only attract a small strand from the barrier of sword qi, but for someone like Elder Li, the amount of sword qi that will be attracted will be much greater.”

Lu Yin’s eyes flickered. “Doesn’t that mean that the sword qi barrier decides the battle power and strength of anyone who passes through it?”

Liu Shen replied, “Well, that’s not completely true either. I’m not exactly sure what kind of power the barrier of sword qi is drawn to, but generally speaking, sword cultivators seem to attract the most sword qi. Alliance Leader Lu has never practiced sword arts, so the barrier should not be too extreme, but it will likely still be much more than what an average person would attract. With your cultivation, it’s possible that you might startle the entire Sword Sect.”

Lu Yin nodded and continued to stare ahead at the distant Swords Peak in anticipation.

Soon, the vessel docked, and the passengers lined up to exit.

“Alliance Leader Lu, please follow me into Swords Peak,” Liu Shen requested.

Lu Yin nodded.

At the same time, another spacecraft had docked rather nearby, and the first person to emerge from it was someone familiar to Lu Yin: Liu Shaoqiu.

Lu Yin had not expected to run into Liu Shaoqiu so soon during this visit.

Liu Shaoqiu seemed to have also sensed Lu Yin’s presence. Right after disembarking from the spacecraft, his eyes met Lu Yin’s, and he said in a surprised voice, “Why are you here?”

Lu Yin replied, “I’m a guest of the Sword Sect. It’s been a long time.”

Liu Shaoqiu stared at Lu Yin. “I see a lot about you on the network.”

People continued exiting from both vessels, and aside from Liu Shaoqiu, two more familiar faces appeared: Liu Xiaoyun and Yan Hua.

Liu Xiaoyun had not expected to see Lu Yin upon returning to the sect. They could be said to be old friends, as they had both been members of the Astral Academy Council.

“I haven’t seen you in a long time, Brother Lu,” Liu Xiaoyun immediately greeted Lu Yin.

Lu Yin smiled. “It has been a long time. Have you already graduated?”

“A long time ago. You guys are the only leftovers who aren’t willing to graduate,” Liu Xiaoyun said.

Lu Yin chuckled. “I just don’t have the time.”

“Alright, let’s go. You’ll have many more chances to reminisce about old times later on,” an elderly man coldly said from behind Liu Xiaoyun and the others. After speaking, he glanced sideways at Lu Yin, clearly not happy to see the youth.

Liu Shen politely gestured to the front with an arm and said, “After you, Alliance Leader Lu.”

Lu Yin nodded.

Only after reaching the foot of Swords Peak was it possible to fully appreciate the majesty of the mountain.

The peak was not visible no matter how far back one tilted their heads and looked up.

An endless amount of sword qi formed the descending waterfall that connected the heavens to earth.

Sword Sect disciples rushed into the sword qi barrier one after another. Some drew ten or so rays of sword qi into their body while others drew hundreds. The amount of sword qi that responded differed with each person.

Liu Shaoqiu and the other disciples did not rush to enter first. Instead, they all looked over at Lu Yin, curious to see just how much of the sword qi Lu Yin would attract.

Lu Yin was also curious about how much sword qi his friends would attract, so he turned to look at them. “Are you guys not going?”

“Please go first, Brother Lu,” Liu Xiaoyun encouraged.

Lu Yin pursed his lips.

Just above them, Elder Li dashed into the sword qi barrier. Instantly, the entire waterfall split open. From the bottom up, a large sheet of sword qi within the barrier was attracted to Elder Li and surged into his body. The sight looked as though the entire mountain had cracked open, and it was a truly impressive to behold.

Elder Li quickly disappeared, and a large number of people looked at Lu Yin.

Even Ku Wei was curious.

Lu Yin stared at Ku Wei and said, “You go first.”

Feeling offended, Ku Wei begged, “Seventh Bro, you ought to go first. Little Wei is merely your obedient servant.”

Lu Yin warned Ku Wei in a low voice, “If I tell you to go, then go.”

Ku Wei had no choice but to obey, and he dashed straight towards the waterfall to enter Swords Peak. A sheet of sword qi was drawn over and immediately absorbed into his body, and right after that, more of the sword qi was pulled towards him.

The watching crowd of Sword Sect disciples exclaimed, “How can that be? Only an Enlighter can draw that much sword qi!”

Liu Shen was also shocked, as he had never really paid much attention to Ku Wei, assuming that Ku Wei's strength was not worthy of notice.

Even Lu Yin was surprised; was Ku Wei that good? It seemed that Ku Wei's strength was on a similar level as an Enlighter's.

"What are you surprised about? The amount of sword qi that enters one's body is not necessarily indicative of their combat strength. It can also be due to some sort of affinity for all you know. A restless heart is disdained by all sword cultivators. Everyone who made a commotion just now will circle the mountain barefoot for a month after returning to Swords Peak!" barked the elderly man who had been Liu Shaoqiu and the others' chaperone.

Many of the Sword Sect disciples acknowledged their punishment.

Liu Shen once again gestured for Lu Yin to move forward.

Lu Yin was no longer able to refuse, so he leaped forward and shot towards Swords Peak at a moderate speed.

As he drew closer to the sword qi waterfall, Lu Yin felt an endless stream of piercing power drawing closer to him. The more he approached the waterfall, the more clearly he felt its power. It was as though he was going against heaven and earth.

Soon, he moved into the sword qi barrier, and right after that, the waterfall burst open above him as countless strands of sword qi entered his body. His nerves ached from the sword qi, but there was no real damage.

He continued forward into Swords Peak.

Lu Yin forced his way inside, but little did he know the extent of shock that he had created outside.

The amount of sword qi that he had drawn in had been even more than Elder Li, and it had split open the waterfall of sword qi. Just as Liu Shen had mentioned, Lu Yin had indeed shaken up the Sword Sect, and he had even caused Swords Peak itself to quake.

Liu Shen, Liu Shaoqiu, and Long Yun all nervously gasped as they stared at the waterfall of sword qi as it slowly merged back together again. All of them were in utter disbelief.

Chapter 1212: Lu Yin And Liu Qianjue

"How could he attract so much sword qi? Who is that?"

"Lu Yin. That was Arbiter Lu. Didn't you see him?"

"That's Lu Yin? He's too much! Not even Elder Li attracted as much sword qi as that kid. Did he break the sword qi barrier?"

"That was ridiculous! What a freak."

"Elder Li is an expert whose power level exceeds 400,000, so how did Lu Yin draw in even more sword qi than Elder Li?"

"That's impossible! Not even our senior sister can do that."

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Long Yun felt bitter; just how much was Lu Yin keeping hidden?

Liu Shaoqiu's eyes flickered, and the hint of competitiveness that had been rising was instantly lit ablaze.

Liu Shen had a bitter taste in his mouth. After all, he was also still a young man.

Even the old man who had just scolded the Sword Sect disciples was left shocked and speechless.

Although everyone was aware that strength was not the sole factor in how much sword qi was drawn to a person, strength still absolutely accounted for the majority of sword qi that was drawn to a person. Lu Yin had attracted so much sword qi that he had even surpassed Li Elder. This was unbelievable; how was such a thing possible?

They all felt that Lu Yin must have cheated somehow.

On the other side, Lu Yin entered Swords Peak, and just as he landed, he felt the soles of his feet tingle. The sensation startled him, and he looked down at the ground.

"This is Swords Peak, so sword qi is ubiquitous here. It can appear anywhere from the earth to the houses, and even the food. So, don't be too surprised." a middle-aged man nearby smiled as he introduced Swords Peak to Lu Yin.

Lu Yin nodded. "Thank you, Senior, for clarifying the confusion."

The middle-aged man hurriedly said, "Alliance Leader Lu is too polite. I'm just someone who cleans up around the mountain, so there's no need to be so polite."

"Senior is too modest," Lu Yin countered. The middle-aged man was an Enlightener.

Ku Wei approached Lu Yin's side and began to complain, "Seventh Bro, this place isn't fit for people to live. Sword qi can appear anywhere!"

Lu Yin glared at Ku Wei. "Don't be rude."

The middle-aged man merely smiled and did not rebuke Ku Wei.

It did not take long for Liu Shen and the others to also enter Swords Peak, and although shock was still shining through their eyes, none of them said much.

"Alliance Leader Lu, let me lead you to our sect master, as he has been waiting for a while," Liu Shen said.

Lu Yin grew solemn as he nodded. The master of the Sword Sect was a major figure in both the Inverse and the Outerverse.

Although the Hall of Honor's overseers were seen as the masters of the Human Domain, that was merely how things appeared to be. There were still various powers standing behind each of those overseers. For example, Nightking Zheng was from the Daynight clan while one of the other overseers was from the Sword Sect. Of course, that overseer would listen to the sect leader of the Sword Sect.

Two of the Hall of Honor's overseers came from the Innerverse, and they were from the Daynight clan and the Sword Sect. This was one of the main reasons why the two powers were the most powerful organizations in the Innerverse.

In other words, the sect master of the Sword Sect was also someone who stood at the pinnacle of humanity.

Of course, this referred to not only his cultivation, but also his status.

The Sword Sect's current leader was named Liu Qianjue. Not only was he the leader of the current generation's Sword Sect, but he had also been the leader of the previous generation. He was an existence whose strength could not be estimated.

Lu Yin had met Liu Qiuyu in Ironblood Weave before, and he was the current generation's sect master of the Sword Sect, but he was merely a transitional figure. In fact, he was actually known as the embarrassing person from the Sword Sect's Liu family.

It could be said that the Sword Sect's recent history was inseparable from its current leader, Liu Qianjue, whose hand had constantly governed the sect.

On his way to the Sword Sect, Lu Yin had considered what would happen when he met the leader of the Sword Sect, and he had also thought about what status he should use to speak with the sect leader.

Lu Yin had pictured this meeting taking place in a conference hall or a training room, and he had never considered that he would meet the sect leader next to a pond.

Sword qi occasionally rose out of the earth and pierced the soles of his feet, and the sword qi also permeated the air and pricked his lungs whenever he inhaled.

Sword qi was an offensive energy, and it did not match the scene of the tranquil pond. Still, this was the place that Lu Yin had been led to, and when he arrived, he saw an old man fishing in the pond.

Right before Lu Yin arrived, the old man caught a lively fish. It had a strange shape to its body and fins, but it was very beautiful.

"It's a fish from Planet Gan. I haven't caught anything else yet, but these don't really taste good." After that comment, the man threw the fish back into the pond and resumed fishing.

No one else was nearby.

Lu Yin walked up to the old man and stood a few meters behind the fisherman. It was unclear if Lu Yin had stopped because he did not want to move any further or if he was actually incapable of doing so. The sword qi surrounding the old man was terrifying and unfathomable.

"Junior Lu Yin greets Senior."

The old fisherman turned his head to look back at Lu Yin. The man's face had a gentle look, giving him the appearance of a kind elder. The moment the man turned around, all of the sword qi surrounding his body vanished, and he patted the spot on the grass next to him. "Come, sit and talk."

Lu Yin nodded and casually sat down next to the old man.

After everything that Lu Yin had experienced—not to mention the sect leader of the Sword Sect—but even if he was speaking with an elder from the Hall of Honor, Lu Yin would be able to behave in neither a servile nor arrogant manner. He knew that members of the younger generation could meet their elders in a respectful manner without needing to be afraid.

The old man kept smiling as he looked at Lu Yin.

"Alliance Leader Lu, I've heard many impressive things about you for a long time," the old man said softly.

Lu Yin smiled and replied, "This junior has also admired the master of the Sword Sect for a long time. It is an honor for this junior to meet you today."

"Haha, what kind of honor? I'm just a rotten old man." The old man laughed. He was indeed Liu Qianjue, the sect leader of the Sword Sect.

Lu Yin began by speaking of his admiration. "The Sword Sect is the most powerful sect in both the Inverse and Outerverse, and they are the undisputed king of swords. Not even in the Neoverse is there a power that dares to claim that their swordsmanship surpasses that of the Sword Sect. It's amazing how the name of the Sword Sect has been known by everyone for eons."

The old man shook his head. "Don't say such things about my Sword Sect. Even those giants from the Neoverse are nothing but ripples along the long river of time. No one can remain a blazing light forever, and the Daynight clan is the best example of that."

Lu Yin glanced at the pond in surprise. "I just heard Senior mention that the fish that you just caught was from Planet Gan?"

Liu Qianjue replied, "Yes. This pond is connected to all of the mountains and rivers in this particular flowzone. This old man enjoys fishing."

Lu Yin was amazed; fishing throughout an entire flowzone? This was certainly ambitious, but the sheer fact that this existed was a clear indication of the Sword Sect's absolute dominance over the First Flowzone.

"Could I ask, Senior, how did you manage to create such a thing? This junior also enjoys fishing, and when I return, I would like to build a pond connected to the entire Outerverse," Lu Yin asked.

Liu Qianjue looked over at Lu Yin with a strange glint in his eyes. "You should really punish the people below, and punish them heavily at that."

Lu Yin was confused.

"Back during the Astral Combat Tournament, you fought with Shaoqiu, and this old man watched your fight. At that time, this old man ordered some people to recruit you, but unfortunately, they failed," Liu Qianjue said.

Lu Yin suddenly remembered that when he had returned to Astral-10 after the Astral Combat Tournament, Old Cai had mentioned that the Sword Sect had asked Lu Yin to join them and become a

direct disciple of the Sword Sect's master. Additionally, Lu Yin's status would be equal to Liu Shaoqiu's. But with his ability, Lu Yin had known that he would not have been able to develop successfully within the Sword Sect.

There were countless geniuses throughout the universe. Lu Yin did not use the sword, so there had been no reason for him to enter the Sword Sect just to receive the status that went along with just a position. Lu Yin had actually been confident that the Sword Sect would reach out to him again, but various incidents had occurred after that, and the Sword Sect had eventually lost its appeal to Lu Yin. He had not expected the sect leader to remember such an incident from years ago.

Lu Yin had once been invited to become the direct disciple of the Sword Sect's sect master, who was Liu Qianjue. Lu Yin had nearly become the disciple of the old man in front of him.

"If that recruitment had succeeded, you would have become my disciple, and my Sword Sect would have gained another genius. What a pity." Liu Qianjue sighed.

Lu Yin smiled bitterly. "This junior is the one to have lost out on such luck."

The truth was that, even with Lu Yin's current strength, Liu Qianjue was still qualified to accept Lu Yin as a disciple. However, Liu Qianjue did not attempt to do so. Lu Yin had become a shining star throughout the entire universe, and there was no point in trying to recruit such a person.

"Alliance Leader Lu, what do you think of my Sword Sect?" Liu Qianjue asked. He looked back at the pond. The water was very calm.

Lu Yin answered, "This junior already mentioned his views. The Sword Sect is the ruler of the sword and has been famous throughout eons."

Liu Qianjue shook his head. "Those exaggerations are meaningless. My Sword Sect does indeed have some accomplishments when it comes to the sword, and we are also the master of First Flowzone. Throughout the Inniverse and Outerverse, we have long since been unmatched with the exception of the Daynight clan. But now that they have gone silent, my Sword Sect has become unrivaled. Does Alliance Leader Lu agree with this assessment?"

Lu Yin grew serious. "Of course I would agree to such facts."

"My Sword Sect has thousands of disciples, and their sword qi allows them to leave this place and roam the universe without any peer. Does Alliance Leader Lu disagree?"

"I naturally agree to this as well."

"My Sword Sect has been passed down for countless generations, and we have a powerful background as well as a widespread influence. Our Thirteen Swords are a peerless sword technique, and it is capable of shattering the sky. Does Alliance Leader Lu disagree?"

"I still agree with everything that you have said."

"In that case, this old man has some advice for you." Liu Qianjue somberly stared at the surface of the pond. "Break up the Great Eastern Alliance."

Ever since Liu Qianjue had asked his first question, Lu Yin had already guessed what was coming. Lu Yin had been shown the destruction of the Charm Mountain Sect as well as the conflict between the two groups of disciples aboard the battleship. And at this moment, Lu Yin was personally meeting with the Sword Sect's master. Everything had been done to intimidate Lu Yin with the goal of encouraging him to dissolve the Great Eastern Alliance. After all, a united Outerverse was not in the best interests of the Innerverse.

The Innerverse had always surpassed the Outerverse, and of the various organizations in the Innerverse, was there a single one that did not profit from the Outerverse? Was there anyone who did not expect to harvest resources from the Outerverse? This was particularly true within the eight great flowzones, and of the top Innerverse powers, the Sword Sect, the Daynight clan, the Wen family, and a few others gained the most from the Outerverse. So, the Great Eastern Alliance harmed those powers the most.

After the Innerverse had reconnected to the Outerverse, the Blaze Realm's attempt to overwhelm the Outerverse had failed, but many people had believed that the Sword Sect and the Daynight clan would eventually move out to suppress the Outerverse. However, Lu Yin had moved first and suppressed the Daynight clan, making it seem as if things had fallen to the Sword Sect now.

The Sword Sect and the Daynight clan were known as the top powers of the Innerverse, and they mutually restricted each other. This had worked out fine when the Daynight clan had been active, but after they went into isolation, the Sword Sect had become even more overbearing than before, and they had clearly locked onto the Great Eastern Alliance as their next target.

"If this junior hadn't come back, and the Great Eastern Alliance had continued to be supervised by that old overseer, then what would the Sword Sect's attitude have been?" Lu Yin asked. There was a hint of provocation to his words.

Liu Qianjue smiled, completely ignoring Lu Yin's attitude. "The same."

Lu Yin's eyes narrowed. "You would fight against one of the Hall of Honor's overseers?"

Chapter 1213: The Purge

Liu Qianjue had a rather amused expression on his face as he looked at Lu Yin. "Fight? Why would there be a fight? That old man thinks too highly of himself, and he does not actually hold that much power. Even if the overseers are used as a checks and balances system against each other, a mere overseer cannot alter the course of the universe.

"No actions were taken back then, but that was simply because it was not time yet."

"So is now the time?" Lu Yin retorted.

Liu Qianjue shook his head. "No matter if this is the right time or not, the Great Eastern Alliance must be broken up. Alliance Leader Lu, do you know how much damage the Great Eastern Alliance has caused the Innerverse since its establishment? Even if we ignore the other Innerverse powers, just my Sword Sect has already lost millions of star essence."

Lu Yin frowned. "Is Senior calculating this starting from when the Outerverse was cut off from the Innerverse?"

"This is just the period after the Outerverse reconnected to the Innerverse," Liu Qianjue said.

Lu Yin remained silent.

"Cultivation is something that lasts for a long time, and a year is nothing. It is normal for any sect to exist for tens of thousands of years, hundreds of thousands, millions, or even longer. With this, you should be able to estimate just how much the Innerverse powers will lose."

"Senior, there's no need to make these sorts of calculations. Those resources did not originally come from you. Otherwise, after so many years, Swords Peak would not even be able to exist without the Outerverse's support. The Outerverse is not so rich that it can support all this."

"That's true, but it is still a great loss. What I mentioned was just the star essence. If you include the various other resources, talents, and materials that have also been lost, then our losses are incalculable. The Great Eastern Alliance cannot afford to cause such a loss for the Innerverse."

Lu Yin looked at the calm water of the pond. "Has Senior ever considered that, when you catch a fish from this pond, there is one less fish on the planet that it came from?"

Liu Qianjue laughed. "So what? Does this old man even need to think about such things?"

"True. Senior has no need to consider such things, as these fish are no different from ants that have no ability to resist. Even if Senior fishes for planets while being frugal and throwing back what is caught, those planets can't resist," Lu Yin spoke emotionally as he stood up. "Does Senior think that I, Lu Yin, am one of those ants without any means to resist?"

Liu Qianjue set his fishing rod down and replied, "The reason why this old man is telling you this story is proof that I see you as a human. You even have support within the Hall of Honor, as well as a master and Eversky Island. Without that level of backing, you would have never been able to wreck Daynight Flowzone. I am not treating you as a junior, which is why I am speaking to you. However, everyone has their own bottom line, and that is also true of the Innerverse. You cannot cross this line."

Lu Yin's eyes grew dark. "Coincidentally, this is also my bottom line."

Liu Qianjue sighed. "Few people are able to see something like the flow of time, including that old overseer. You know how to unite the Outerverse and exert a tremendous power, and you were even able to stand up to the Daynight clan, but have you thought of this? If the Innerverse also unites, then just what kind of power would it wield?"

Lu Yin's eyes narrowed, and he waved goodbye to Liu Qianjue. "Junior bids you farewell."

With that, Lu Yin turned around and left.

Liu Qianjue did not turn around and continued to calmly fish.

Once Lu Yin was completely out of sight, a person appeared behind the sect master. He was Elder Li, and he was still wearing his crimson robes.

"Sect Master, how should we deal with this?" Elder Li asked without any sign of emotion.

Liu Qianjue felt helpless. "There is someone big standing behind this child, and it's not as simple as just Eversky Island. Do nothing to him, but reach out to the Blaze Realm and let them take the lead. We will agree to their plan."

"Yes, Sect Master."

"Have Shaoqiu escort him as he visits the Swords Peak."

"Understood."

After finishing speaking, Liu Qianjue calmly resumed fishing.

Elsewhere, a Sword Sect disciple led Lu Yin to a pavilion close to a waterfall. There was a disciple cultivating beneath the waterfall, and they were enduring the heavy pressure of the waterfall along with the continuous assault of sword qi.

That disciple was not even a Melder yet, but his eyes remained firm and persistent.

Anyone who was able to join the Sword Sect was an elite, and if any one of them was placed on Earth, then they would be able to become the strongest person on the planet.

Upon thinking of Earth, Lu Yin also thought of Jupiter. As soon as he had time, he really needed to visit Jupiter and discover what secrets that planet held.

He expected the situation within the Outerverse to not be very peaceful at the moment. Liu Qianjue's attitude had revealed that the Sword Sect would soon take action against the Outerverse. The Great Eastern Alliance was too appealing a prize, and everyone in the Innaverse seemed to either covet and want to seize control of it or destroy the alliance in its entirety.

Lu Yin often felt that it would have been better for the Outerverse to have remained cut off from the Innaverse.

"Seventh Bro!" Ku Wei arrived from somewhere far away, and he carefully glanced around before whispering to Lu Yin like a thief, "Seventh Bro, guess who I saw in Swords Peak!"

"Who?" Lu Yin wondered.

"I actually don't know," Ku Wei said.

Lu Yin's expression grew hostile. "Are you messing with me?"

Ku Wei quickly explained, "No! Seventh Bro, listen for a second. I really don't know who that person is, but I've seen him before, and he was at the first alliance meeting of the Great Eastern Alliance that you held on Zhenyu Star. He was also there when you were elected as the leader of the alliance."

Lu Yin was surprised. "Someone from the Great Eastern Alliance? Are you sure?"

"Absolutely! That guy has too much personality, and he's also rather ugly. I've never seen an uglier person in my life! It might just be his race, but he's even uglier than your doorman, Kayze," Ku Wei said.

Lu Yin began to consider the implication of someone from the Great Eastern Alliance visiting Swords Peak. If this was true, then someone from the alliance had already defected to the Innaverse.

This was not a surprise. The Great Eastern Alliance had originally been established after Lu Yin threatened multiple parties into joining. During the Alliance Convention, Tian Shao had easily won over many people, and the prestige of the Inniverse was something that had been ingrained into the denizens of the Outerverse for far too many years. So, a single word would be able to attract an entire group of people from the Outerverse.

The Great Eastern Alliance had never been stable, and the only reason why it had not fallen apart yet was because of Lu Yin's skills as well as the various bits of sensitive information that he had used to coerce many of the involved parties. Also, there was the ever present threat of Aegis and Leon's Armada.

Still, despite everything, the Great Eastern Alliance would still easily fall apart at the seams.

Liu Qianjue had said as much just earlier. While it sounded as if the sect master had been attempting to persuade Lu Yin to break the alliance apart, he had actually been warning Lu Yin to not interfere when it naturally collapsed, as the sect leader was concerned about the powers standing behind Lu Yin. However, those powers were not overly concerned with whether or not Lu Yin kept the Great Eastern Alliance, so it could fracture at any moment.

Were these people not concerned about the Hall of Honor? The fact that Bu Laoweng had been ordered to supervise the Great Eastern Alliance by the other nine overseers was enough to prove that the Hall of Honor had already accepted the existence of the Great Eastern Alliance.

Lu Yin grew solemn when he remembered Liu Qianjue's words: how much power could a unified Inniverse wield?

There were two people from the Inniverse among the Hall of Honor's nine overseers. Although the Inniverse was not nearly as powerful as the Neoverse, the power of the Inniverse was still something that the Neoverse could not simply ignore. If the Inniverse really did unite and destroy the Great Eastern Alliance, then it would not be easy for the Hall of Honor to intervene.

The situation had become a little tricky.

After thinking about this, Lu Yin turned around to go speak to Liu Qianjue again in hopes of learning some more useful information.

However, before he arrived at the pond, Lu Yin did not find Liu Qianjue. Instead he only saw Elder Li.

"Sect Master said to rest, Alliance Leader Lu. Please come back next time." Elder Li treated Lu Yin with a completely indifferent attitude.

Lu Yin understood that Liu Qianjue had no intentions of speaking with him again.

"Shaoqiu will arrive soon, and he will show Alliance Leader Lu around our Swords Peak," Elder Li said lightly.

Lu Yin felt helpless. Looking off into the distance, he seemed to see the old man fishing with his back to Lu Yin. The sect master may have a kind appearance, but he was very overbearing with his actions.

"Elder Li, please share with the sect master that I, Lu Yin, am able of suppressing the old generation without relying on Eversky Island," Lu Yin said.

Elder Li's eyes grew sharp. "Are you threatening my Sword Sect?"

In a low tone, Lu Yin replied, "A gambler who's lost everything is completely fearless. If I was able to overturn Daynight Flowzone, then I can do the same to your First Flowzone."

Elder Li's eyes narrowed as he radiated a strong killing intent.

Lu Yin was not afraid. If the Sword Sect was compared to the Daynight clan, then the Sword Sect was more reasonable. The Nightking clan held too deep a hatred for Lu Yin, and no matter who stood behind him, either they or Lu Yin had to die. However, the Sword Sect was different. They could not afford to offend others by killing Lu Yin. There was Yuan Shi and Eversky Island behind Lu Yin, and he was also not that easily dealt with himself.

Elder Li enjoyed a special status within the Sword Sect. Although he did not care about many matters, he was the one in charge of the sect's war efforts. Whenever the Sword Sect went to war, Elder Li was always the vanguard.

The elder's thoughts were very pure: if someone threatened the Sword Sect's master, then he would kill them without mercy. Elder Li truly wanted to kill Lu Yin there and then, but Lu Yin looked back at the older man without any fear.

Elder Li's expression suddenly changed, as though he had just heard something, and the killing intent filling his eyes disappeared. "Alliance Leader Lu, you should know that the major powers of the Inniverse have their own interests in the Outerverse, especially the eight major flowzones. The Daynight clan, for example, have historically maintained control over no fewer than ten weaves in the center of the Outerverse, and those weaves were only allowed to trade with the Daynight clan. Blazing Mist Flowzone is the same, and there are weaves such as Darkmist Weave and a few others that will only trade with that flowzone."

Lu Yin grew confused, as he did not know where Elder Li was going.

"When the Outerverse was first isolated from the Inniverse, those weaves had no choice but to join the Great Eastern Alliance. The Inniverse wasn't able to say anything, but the connection has been restored, and those weaves are still a part of the Great Eastern Alliance. That is no less than a betrayal to the Inniverse. They are our forces in the Outerverse. Since they have betrayed us, then they must be cleaned up. I might as well tell you that there is a purge that has been planned, and it's called 'The Purge,'" Elder Li continued to explain.

Lu Yin's eyes instantly went wide. "So the Inniverse wants to eliminate the top people in the Great Eastern Alliance?"

"This is an internal matter where those leaders who are unwilling to withdraw from the Great Eastern Alliance and resume their relationship with the Inniverse will be eliminated. The list has already been finalized: 409 people," Elder Li said.

Lu Yin clenched his fist. This was a threat, a blatant threat. 409 people. Each of them was a leader of a major Outerverse power, and they were also all willing to remain as a part of the Great Eastern Alliance.

Although this number did not account for too much of the Great Eastern Alliance, it showed that the others had already entered negotiations with the Innerverse.

"I shared this with Alliance Leader Lu just to clarify an issue. The collapse of the Great Eastern Alliance is already in motion. Even without considering the Great Eastern Alliance itself, not even the Hall of Honor can stop this. We can even give this list over to Alliance Leader Lu. Does Alliance Leader Lu have enough experts to protect all of these people? Even if there are, what about the others? They all want to leave the Great Eastern Alliance, so can Alliance Leader Lu force them to remain?" Elder Li asked lightly.

"The entire Innerverse is behind The Purge, though it is mostly being supported by the eight great flowzones. How many people can Alliance Leader Lu handle? The plan has already started, and the execution date is only a few days away. How can Alliance Leader Lu prevent this?"

"Why are you telling me now?" Lu Yin asked.

Elder Li continued, "The Sword Sect has no desire to become mortal enemies with Alliance Leader Lu. Rather, we simply wish to demonstrate the Innerverse's bottom line to Alliance Leader Lu and show that you have violated this bottom line. Of course, The purge list does not include people from the Great Yu Empire or anyone who is close to Alliance Leader Lu. So, for Alliance Leader Lu, there will be no losses with the exception of the Great Eastern Alliance's dissolution. This is the goodwill of my Sword Sect."

Lu Yin felt that this was funny; they were obviously threatening him while presenting it as a kindness.

Chapter 1214: Sword Formation

Lu Yin had known for a long time that the Innerverse could not allow the Great Eastern Alliance to remain. No actions had been made for a long time, and he was now finding out that it had been peaceful while this list was being determined. There were 409 people on this list, and with the strength of the Innerverse, all who were sent out to assassinate the people on the list would be powerhouses. Lu Yin did not have so many experts who he could field, not even with the assistance of Leon's Armada, the people from the Sea King's Dome and the Lan family, or even with the Dayking clan. There was no way to create a lineup that could protect 409 people.

Even if everyone was sent out, it would still be useless. The Innerverse could send out enough experts to assassinate twice that number of targets. The Purge was also not considered something top secret, which actually meant it was an even greater threat.

Compared with the assassinations themselves, the knowledge of them produced even greater fear. This fear could cause people to change their positions or choose to leave the Great Eastern Alliance, and this was something that Lu Yin could not stop.

No one wanted to live under a butcher's knife.

This Purge could easily destroy the Great Eastern Alliance. It was no wonder Liu Qianjue had said that even if Lu Baoweng had taken over the Great Eastern Alliance, it would not have mattered.

The only way out was if the Hall of Honor stepped forward to restrain the Innerverse.

"How bold! You dare to threaten Alliance Leader Lu like this? Your Sword Sect doesn't want to make enemies? Sure, and all of these swords are rusted. Forget something small like your Sword Sect, even

the Seven Courts have to bow low before our Alliance Leader Lu! Do you know..." Ku Wei started making pompous threats.

Elder Li completely ignored Ku Wei, and even ignored Lu Yin.

He had simply been ordered to tell Lu Yin about The Purge. This was the Sword Sect's attempt to demonstrate their good will towards Lu Yin, as they were wary of the forces behind Lu Yin and did not want to sever all cordiality with Lu Yin.

"Alliance Leader Lu, the sect master asked me to tell you that if you wish, you are welcome to be a friend of my Sword Sect at any time. If you need help, you can directly reach out to the Sword Sect. I have a connection with you, which you should be aware of," Elder Li said.

Lu Yin stared off into the distance. There was a certain fate to things, and this connection between Lu Yin and Elder Li was likely Madam Nalan, as her given name was Liu Fuxue. She was a member of the Sword Sect's Liu family, and she had given Lu Yin quite a bit of assistance.

It had taken Lu Yin 12 years to go from being the lowest of cultivators to his present level. Even the revered master of the Sword Sect had taken the initiative to express his goodwill towards Lu Yin. It had only taken Lu Yin 12 years to reach such a height. This was something to be proud of, but Lu Yin did not feel the slightest bit proud, as he was still being threatened.

Ku Wei continued to spout venom at Lu Yin's side, and threatened Elder Li non-stop.

At this moment, Liu Shaoqiu arrived and gave Ku Wei an odd look. "Brother Lu, the sect master asked me to show you around Swords Peak."

Lu Yin nodded, and then led Ku Wei to follow Liu Shaoqiu away without saying another word to Elder Li.

Elder Li's eyes were locked on Lu Yin's back as the youths left. The elder's character pushed him to kill the youth right away. Although The Purge did not target the Great Yu Empire, there was no way that Lu Yin did not harbor some resentment for the Inniverse's actions, and that could hurt the Sword Sect in the future.

Still, the master of the sect had his own thoughts and concerns on these matters.

The Sword Sect's master, Liu Qianjue, remained calmly fishing, but he began to grow uncomfortable. How many years had it been since he had felt such a sensation? How should he describe it? Fear of potential damage, yes, that's exactly what it was.

Liu Qianjue was afraid of a child.

Laughing, Liu Qianjue emotionally sighed. "Times have truly changed. The appearance of the Ten Arbiters symbolizes the future, yet this child has already surpassed the Ten Arbiters, which also shows the trend of the times. The children of today are really incredible."

Swords Peak was famous throughout the universe. Star revolved around it, and it was a famous sight.

While walking along Swords Peak, Lu Yin remained thinking about The Purge.

Liu Shaoqiu did not speak, but simply walked up ahead. He was considering whether or not he should challenge Lu Yin to learn of the difference in their strength.

Lu Yin thought about calling Wang Wen to brainstorm options to deal with The Purge, but despite considering the call, Lu Yin did not do so. Wang Wen was highly intelligent, as were Wei Rong and Qiong Xi'er, but when it came to facing the united front of the entire Innerverse, their intelligence would not mean much.

They possessed the courage to go against the Innerverse, but they were not capable of seeing past the Innerverse. This was an important difference, and with the Sword Sect's position and attitude, what they could consider far exceeded what the three geniuses from the Outerverse could come up with.

Lu Yin suddenly thought of the Root of Intelligence, as drinking that tea again would greatly boost his intelligence and would make it easier to find a path forward.

It was not that Lu Yin did not consider asking Eversky Island or Leon's Armada for help, but this was the desire of the entire Innerverse. Eversky Island could threaten the Sword Sect, but not the entire Innerverse.

The hatred between the various powers of the Innerverse ran deep, but when it came to the Great Eastern Alliance, the opinions were surprisingly consistent, which made it difficult for Lu Yin to deal with.

"Brother Liu, where is Arbiter Liu? Why haven't I seen her?" Lu Yin asked suspiciously.

Liu Shaoqiu said, "Training in isolation."

"Preparing ZENITH?" Lu Yin asked.

Liu Shaoqiu nodded.

"Brother Liu, I'm not sure if it's proper to ask you something." Lu Yin hesitated.

Liu Shaoqiu looked over at him. "You can at least ask."

Lu Yin was curious. "How old is Arbiter Liu?"

Liu Shaoqiu was taken aback and thought for a moment. "Almost forty."

"Almost forty?" Lu Yin wondered.

Liu Shaoqiu nodded. "Very close. Actually, there's not much of an age difference among the Ten Arbiters, and they're about ten years older than us. Talent combined with resources to create the Ten Arbiters, and if we had been born just ten years earlier, they might not be any better than us, but they are still powerful."

After saying this much, Liu Shaoqiu returned to his senses. Despite the fact that Lu Yin was about the same age as Liu Shaoqiu, Lu Yin had become one of the Ten Arbiters, and even more impressive was that he had defeated two of the Ten Arbiters in one-on-one fights.

After this realization, Liu Shaoqiu lost all desire to challenge Lu Yin. After all, Liu Shaoqiu already had a reasonable comparison; if he challenged Liu Tianmu, what would the result be? It would be a miserable defeat. Lu Yin was someone on the same level as Liu Tianmu.

"Brother Lu, you are a real freak," Liu Shaoqiu finally choked out that much.

Ku Wei grew arrogant. "Of course! My Seventh Bro is a genius! Don't you know that in the Neoverse, Seventh Bro stood alone against many heirs of the top powers? He was absolutely invincible while in Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum..."

Lu Yin interrupted Ku Wei. He was looking into the distance where sword qi shot high into the sky, and each strand resonated with the rest of the sword qi to form a strange battle technique.

Lu Yin has seen a similar type of battle technique before. This was a combined battle technique, which could also be referred to as a battle formation. What he was looking at should be from a sword formation.

Swordsmen would combine their skills to form a sword array to multiply the power.

Lu Yin, Liu Shaoqiu, and Ku Wei arrived at the top of a mountain that was near the impressive sword qi, and they looked down.

They saw hundreds of Sword Sect disciples gathered in a massive square. They were training together to combine their sword techniques. Each person would walk in a different direction and would use their sword qi in a different direction as well, yet it all worked together to form a powerful formation. They let out a roar, and the sound waves were powerful enough to distort the void.

These Sword Sect disciples were not very powerful individually, yet Lu Yin could see that the formation they were executing seemed to be powerful enough to threaten even a Cruiser.

"What a powerful combination technique. As expected of the Sword Sect, the individual technique of the Thirteen Swords is invincible, and the sect's formation techniques are even more exquisite," Lu Yin praised.

Ku Wei was surprised by what they were looking at. "I didn't expect the Sword Sect to have this kind of a sword formation. I've only seen similar combination battle techniques in the Neoverse, and I don't think they exist in the Outerverse."

"There are some. The Neo-Vestige Sect has some combination techniques for their archery, but the power is not this impressive, and they also need more people," Lu Yin commented.

Liu Shaoqiu said, "The power of a sword formation depends not only on the strength of the individuals setting it up, but also on their coordination with each other. My Sword Sect has a formation for hundreds of people to execute. They are powerful."

Lu Yin's heart moved. "Where could I see that? Or are outsiders not allowed to see it?"

Liu Shaoqiu replied, "Anyone can see it. The Sword Sect tries to be open-minded and also has its own training methods. Even if outsiders see the formation, they can't learn it."

After saying this, Liu Shaoqiu led Lu Yin somewhere else.

Before long, they arrived at the foot of another mountain. There was another square at this place, but it was ten times larger than the previous one, and there were hundreds of Sword Sect disciples sitting cross-legged across the square.

Lu Yin was surprised to see that most of them were Cruisers.

This was the strength of the Sword Sect. Originally, only the captains of the Great Yu Empire's Thirteen Squadrons had been Cruisers, yet in the Sword Sect, Cruisers were ordinary disciples, though they were a bit older.

The disciples of the Sword Sect were elites, and Cruisers from the sect were capable of challenging average Hunters. Though the Cruisers might not be able to win, they at least stood a chance. This was the strength of the Sword Sect.

If hundreds of elite Cruiser realm disciples united, it would not be impossible for them to challenge an Enlightener if they used a sword formation.

Just outside the square, there was a massive slab of stone with some writing engraved on it: Those who succeed in entering the Hunter realm can make requests.

Lu Yin grew curious. "Brother Liu, what does that mean?"

Liu Shaoqiu answered, "There's a rule in my Sword Sect that's been passed down from ancient times. Anyone who's a Hunter can challenge the sword formation, and if they succeed, they can meet with the sect master and make a reasonable request."

Lu Yin's eyes lit up. "Has anyone succeeded?"

Liu Shaoqiu nodded. "If I remember correctly, Senior Sister succeeded, as did Nightking Zhenwu when he climbed Swords Peak, and so did Wen Sansi."

Lu Yin's eyes flickered and he looked towards the square.

Liu Shaoqiu glanced over at Lu Yin. "It looks like Brother Lu is interested."

Lu Yin smiled and raised a hand to pat Ku Wei on the shoulder. "Give it a shot."

Ku Wei was momentarily stunned, but did not respond.

Lu Yin grabbed Ku Wei's shoulder and tossed him straight into the square.

Ku Wei was shocked, and a majestic flow of sword qi crashed down towards him. He wailed, and his body flickered as he evaded the sword qi. It attacked his back, his head, and from every single direction, including even the soles of his feet. Every attack was from the sword formation, and it was not ordinary sword qi.

Ku Wei, as a member of the Seven Court's Ku family, was powerful enough to fend against someone of a stronger realm than himself, but his hair stood on end even after using his abilities as a three star Intermediate Lockbreaker. The attacks were dangerous and unavoidable, and his scalp was almost sliced off.

There was no time at all to react once within the sword formation. The endless sword qi was like the sky suppressing everything beneath it. Ku Wei successfully evaded a few times, but his arms and thighs were stabbed by the sword qi, and he began bleeding. He grew enraged, and shouted, "I will go all out now!"

After shouting, he pointed a finger and attacked the sword qi head-on.

The sword qi suddenly transformed and disappeared into the void. This was the power of the Ku family's Finger Tap. It was able to give a person a feeling of tranquility and cause them to lose all desire to fight.

Despite the success of his Finger Tap, Ku Wei was not facing a single opponent, but hundreds of them, and they were all elite, Cruiser realm disciples from the Sword Sect. Ku Wei's face went pale. "Seventh Bro, help!"

In a flash, Lu Yin appeared beside Ku Wei. Looking at the surrounding sword qi, Lu Yin raised a hand and flicked his fingers. There was a popping sound, and an overwhelming power shattered the sword qi as Ku Wei was tossed away by Lu Yin with a single hand. The sword qi then converged and cut off the void before enveloping Lu Yin.

Chapter 1215: A Request

Lu Yin twisted to the side and easily evaded the sword qi. Lu Yin's speed was incomparable to Ku Wei's, and even if the sword formation had locked down the void, Lu Yin was still able to easily avoid all of the attacks. He even had room to look at the faces of the Sword Sect disciples who were controlling the sword formation, and saw that they looked rather numb.

Elder Li appeared outside the square, and after his arrival, the Sword Sect's other experts began to appear one after another to watch as Lu Yin forced his way into the sword formation.

"Who is that? It takes courage to challenge the sword formation while only a Hunter."

"He's the Ten Arbiters' Lu Yin."

"What? That's Lu Yin? No wonder he's able to break through. He's the one who defeated both Arbiter Zhenwu and Divine Fist. When Zhenwu entered this sword formation ten years ago, he was definitely worse than Lu Yin is right now. Much worse."

"It looks like he's able to easily handle it, and the sword formation can't lock him down."

...

Everyone was able to see that the sword formation was useless against Lu Yin and that the only reason that he had not broken the formation was because he wanted to test it out a bit.

Liu Shaoqiu tightly clenched his right fist, as he could see the discrepancy in strength was incredibly large.

At this moment, an old man rushed into the square and traded places with one of the Cruiser realm disciples. The old man was a Hunter, and his participation instantly caused the power of the formation to spike.

Lu Yin wondered if the sword formation required a clear mind. Even if the old man was a Hunter, it was impossible for him to cooperate with all of the other disciples creating the sword formation, and trying to do so would not have actually improved the power of the formation, but likely would have weakened the whole thing. So why had the power suddenly spiked?

Lu Yin looked at the old man as the Hunter thrust his longsword forward. From next to the old man, dozens of strands of sword qi merged into a terrifying strand of sword qi that had a power level that surpassed 200,000. It shot straight towards Lu Yin.

Lu Yin smiled gently, but still raised a hand and flicked his fingers. That was all it took for Lu Yin to disintegrate the sword qi. He reached out a hand towards the old man and casually tapped a finger as the old man watched in horror. The delicate move sent the old man flying out of the sword formation.

Dozens of strands of sword qi slashed across the sky behind Lu Yin.

He instantly disappeared, and then swung his right hand through the air. A powerful wind carried an unstoppable force that forced dozens of Sword Sect disciples back, and they all spat out blood.

Lu Yin's strength had reached a level where not only was an early Enlightener not his opponent, but not even an Enlightener with a power level of 300,000 would be able to stand up against Lu Yin.

Xia Jiuyou, Yuhua Mavis, Qiu Shi, and the other inheritors from the Neoverse were all Enlighteners, yet none of them had been able to stand up to the corpse king Beast after it had transformed, whereas Lu Yin had reached a level where he was able to directly confront Beast.

This sword formation could not threaten Lu Yin in any way at all.

Another of the Sword Sect's Hunters moved to take a disciple's place within the sword formation. After that, one disciple after another was replaced, yet the result remained the same. Lu Yin did not use a single battle technique, nor did he use battle force, spirit force, his domain, or anything else. He used nothing aside from his physical strength and speed, yet was still able to prove the sword formation useless.

Ku Wei praised Lu Yin's efforts, "Seventh Bro is mighty and invincible!"

The sword formation was an important part of the Sword Sect's heritage. Some people had challenged the sword formation in the past, and each one was famous enough to attract the attention of countless Sword Sect disciples.

More and more Sword Sect disciples gathered to watch, and soon more than 10,000 people were watching.

Lu Shen, Liu Ling, Yan Hua, Long Yun, Li Zimo, and many others were all watching.

Even the Sword Sect's master, Liu Qianjue, looked around the pond where he was fishing, and the surface of the pond was showing the scene of Lu Yin fighting against the sword formation.

With a bang, another strand of sword qi shattered, and off in the distance, Elder Li glanced over at Liu Shen.

Liu Shen nodded and rushed into the sword formation and replaced a disciple.

Liu Shen was someone who always had a smile on his face, but Lu Yin had always felt that there was a knife hidden behind Liu Shen's smile. Still, the man was not weak and was actually an Enlightener.

An Enlightener had finally joined the sword formation, and his participation immediately transformed the entire formation.

The numerous Sword Sect disciples watching from the side all went silent.

Lu Yin was only a Hunter, so sending out an Enlightener to deal with such a person could already be considered bullying, yet Liu Shen had still moved to join the sword formation. Even if the sword formation managed to defeat Lu Yin, Liu Shen would still have lost.

Ku Wei became upset. "Your Sword Sect is too shameless! Seventh Bro, just stop fighting and expose them so people can just humiliate them to death!"

Liu Shaoqiu helplessly shook his head from next to Ku Wei, but kept silent.

Lu Yin suddenly disappeared, but only after Liu Shen stabbed a sword forward that was accompanied by a fusion of dozens of strands of sword qi. By using the sword formation, Liu Shen's attacks were able to far exceed a power level of 200,000, and even exceeded 300,000.

Lu Yin's eyes narrowed. "Elder Liu, isn't this a bit much?"

"It would seem I've offended Alliance Leader Lu," Liu Shen replied with a smile. Despite the man's words, his movements did not slow. With one move of his sword, the void was sealed off.

Lu Yin's eyes grew sharp. "I'll also need to offend Elder Liu."

After Lu Yin's comment, despite no one seeing Lu Yin move a muscle, Liu Shen's attack was completely shattered. Liu Shen and dozens of Sword Sect who sat near him were sent flying, and they all spat out blood as they flew through the air.

Lu Yin moved around with light steps, surrounded by more than 700 stars. There was a loud bang as the stars exploded: Cosmic Palm.

Hundreds of people participating in the sword formation vomited blood and collapsed to the ground. None of them were able to block even a single Cosmic Palm from Lu Yin.

Only Lu Yin remained standing in the square, and he looked down at the crowd.

All of the Sword Sect disciples in the area stayed silent as they simply stared at Lu Yin. He had instantly seized victory.

He had used Cosmic Palm. The Cosmic Sect deserved their status as a giant in the Neoverse, and an attack like Cosmic Palm also happened to be the nemesis of the Sword Sect's sword formation; not only did Cosmic Palm ignore speed, it was also able to be used as a ranged attack.

Liu Shen's sword had shattered, and blood leaked from the corner of his mouth as he stared at Lu Yin in shock. He had felt a peerlessly fierce attack just a moment ago, yet the attack itself had been invisible. Could that have been Arbiter Lan Si's Vacuum Palm? Lu Yin had fought against Arbiter Zhenwu and had used that same Vacuum Palm to overpower Zhenwu throughout the entire fight. Lu Yin's attack against

Liu Shen did indeed seem to have been a Vacuum Palm, and the power of the attack truly was unparalleled.

Elder Li's eyes held a wary light, and he suddenly remembered that Lu Yin had asked for a match on the battleship. The child truly was unfathomable.

No one more clearly understood the power of the sword formation than the Sword Sect's disciples. Naturally, the shock that Lu Yin had given them by his actions had produced a memory that would never be forgotten by the Sword Sect.

Liu Ling stared at Lu Yin in disbelief as he stood alone within the square. His attitude of being invincible caused her to tremble. This was a truly domineering person.

Lu Yin looked around before finally focusing on Liu Shen. "It would seem I've offended Elder Liu."

Liu Shen wryly smiled as he stood up and shook his head. He looked down at his shattered sword and sighed. "Thank you for showing mercy, Alliance Leader Lu."

Lu Yin smiled and walked out of the square. He lifted his head to look up at Elder Li. "According to the rules of challenging the sword formation, I can meet with the sect master and make a request, right?"

Many people looked up at Elder Li.

Elder Li remained silent for a long time, but finally nodded. "Follow me."

Lu Yin smiled. "Thank you."

Back at the same pond, Liu Qianjue was still quietly fishing as Lu Yin approached from behind.

"Alliance Leader Lu, you've already said whatever you need to say, so there is no reason for us to meet again. Why bother?" Liu Qianjue spoke lightly. As he spoke, his fishing rod twitched. He grew overjoyed and suddenly lifted the fishing rod to pull a huge, strange fish from the water.

This weird fish was ferocious, and it opened its mouth to produce a sound that warped the void.

This strange fish was at least as strong as a Hunter.

Liu Qianjue just laughed and said, "Naughty."

Lu Yin did not see any movement, but the fish was instantly torn to shreds. All of the blood and internal organs just disappeared, leaving nothing but the meat of the fish.

"If you don't resist, you live to return. What a pity." Liu Qianjue sighed, but then continued to fish.

Lu Yin stared at Liu Qianjue's back. "Senior, when will The Purge start?"

Liu Qianjue indifferently replied, "My Sword Sect is not the mastermind behind The Purge, but rather the entire Inniverse, so why ask me such a thing?"

Lu Yin's eyes grew hard. "Can this junior make a request?"

"If your request from defeating the sword formation is for my Sword Sect to withdraw The Purge, just forget it," Liu Qianjue said.

Lu Yin answered in a low tone, "Of course not, this junior is not so stupid. Even if the Sword Sect pulled out of The Purge, the rest of the Inniverse would still be able to successfully complete the plan without any issue."

Liu Qianjue became curious. "Then what is your request?"

Lu Yin looked up. "Junior would like the names of the leaders of the eight great flowzones."

Liu Qianjue stood up and turned to look at Lu Yin with a solemn expression. "Do you want to talk to them?"

Lu Yin nodded.

Liu Qianjue laughed. "You can't even convince the old man, so how do you expect to convince them?"

"Trying is still better than doing nothing." Lu Yin shrugged.

Liu Qianjue looked at Lu Yin and thought back to the youth's accomplishments. Although he was young, Lu Yin was decisive and bold with his actions.

"Senior won't agree to even such a small request?" Lu Yin asked.

Liu Qianjue nodded. "Very well, this old man agrees. Let's contact them and see if you are able to convince them. You must already know that the mere existence of the Great Eastern Alliance has caused them all to suffer terrible losses, and that is not something you can make up for."

Lu Yin smiled lightly. He was not confident, but he still needed to try.

The eight great flowzone's dominated the Inniverse, and the true masters of the Inniverse were the Wen family of Erudite Flowzone, the Beast Tamers Hall of Beast Tamers Flowzone, the Sword Sect of First Flowzone, the Daynight clan from Daynight Flowzone, the Divine Venom Dynasty from Venom Flowzone, the Lingling clan from Souseal Flowzone, and Chaosgod Mountain from Chaos Flowzone. As for Blazing Mist Flowzone, there was the Blaze Realm, the sylvan dragons, and the Ross Empire, so the power was actually split three ways in that flowzone.

Daynight Flowzone was also home to the Phoenix clan, but the Phoenix clan only held control of a portion of Daynight Flowzone and were unable to affect the entire flowzone. Similarly, Souseal Flowzone also had the Souldream tribe and the Dire Barbarian clan, but the Lingling clan was the absolute master of the flowzone.

At this moment, Lu Yin saw one of the Inniverse leaders who was qualified to speak to Liu Qianjue on nearly equal terms.

The surface of the pond was calm, and the fishing rods had been laid flat. A gentle breeze peacefully swept through the area.

Lu Yin stood beside Liu Qianjue, and in front of them, a screen appeared showing a flame. After a moment, a man emerged from the fire. Despite it just being an image, Lu Yin still had the impression of feeling the heat from the blaze.

"Senior Liu, could I ask why you called this junior?" The man looked rough, and had strong muscles, and a ruddy complexion. His skin had marks that looked like flames, and his eyes were sharp. Even the man's pupils seem to have flames within them. He gave the impression of being able to burn the sky.

This man was the leader of the Blaze Realm: the Leader Hong.

"We'll talk about this once everyone has gathered," Liu Qianjue lightly replied. Although the Blaze Realm was one of the three major powers from Blazing Mist Flowzone, they were still considered one of the most powerful organizations in the Inniverse. Still, Leader Hong's status could not compare to the master of the Sword Sect, and if not for the uniqueness of the location of the Blaze Realm, Liu Qianjue would never even speak to Leader Hong.

Leader Hong responded in a respectful manner. He was clear on his own status, and he did not dare be disrespectful to Liu Qianjue.

At this moment, when Leader Hong noticed Lu Yin, he first felt confused, and then surprised. He went from looking confused to radiating a cold light as he stared at Lu Yin.

Knowing that the man recognized him, Lu Yin clasped his hands behind his back and his eyes also grew cold.

Chapter 1216: Altercation

Leader Hong's eyes narrowed, and he glanced over at Liu Qianjue, a little suspicious. Leader Hong had no idea about what sort of relationship might exist between Lu Yin and the Sword Sect. Could the Sword Sect be behind Lu Yin? No—Leader Hong instantly rejected that possibility. If the Sword Sect was behind Lu Yin, then Lu Yin's situation would have been much better as the Sword Sect would have never agreed to The Purge in the first place. Since Liu Qianjue had already agreed to the plan, this was obviously not the case.

The next moment, another screen appeared, and it showed a woman in white armor with long hair, but with her features were hidden.

Upon seeing her outfit, Lu Yin instantly realized that this person as someone from the Lingling clan.

"Senior Liu, did you need me for something?" the woman asked. She had a soft voice, but there was a hint of coldness to it, though it was still very pleasant to hear. She was Ling Qiu, the Lingling clan's matriarch.

Liu Qianjue casually responded, "Just wait a moment."

Ling Qiu frowned. If Leader Hong possessed both respect and awe for Liu Qianjue, then Ling Qiu merely respected the master of the Sword Sect. She had no fear of the man or his sect; her Lingling clan was not the Blaze Realm.

"Huh? Lu Yin?" Ling Qiu commented in surprise.

Lu Yin was not surprised that the woman had recognized him, and he calmly replied, "This junior is Lu Yin, and you must be the Lingling clan's matriarch."

Ling Qiu was surprised to see Lu Yin. "Why are you at the Sword Sect?"

She looked over at Liu Qianjue. "What sort of relationship is there between you two?"

Liu Qianjue replied, "We'll talk once everyone has gathered."

Ling Qiu was dissatisfied, but she said nothing further. She looked over at Leader Hong, who smiled and nodded to the matriarch.

Ling Qiu did not care about Leader Hong. In her eyes, the master of the Blaze Realm was not as important as Lu Yin. Although Leader Hong acted like he led Blazing Mist Flowzone's three powers, the truth was that he only postured and made small moves.

Leader Hong's eyes grew cold, but he did not speak.

The next person to appear was a lanky old man.

Upon seeing the old man, Liu Qianjue's attitude grew much more serious. This old man was the master of Chaosgod Mountain, Cang Zhou.

"What has caused Sect Master Liu to contact me at Chaosgod Mountain?" the old man asked in a strange tone. "Are there any changes to The Purge?"

Lu Yin's heart leaped, and he listened carefully.

Liu Qianjue replied, "There's a junior who wishes to speak with you. Let's talk about this once everyone arrives."

Cang Zhou's eyes fell onto Lu Yin. "You look familiar. Little guy, who are you?"

Lu Yin smiled lightly. "This junior is Lu Yin."

Cang Zhou was caught off guard. "I remember you. You're Lu Yin, the Arbiter who replaced that Nightking Zhenwu and is the leader of the Great Eastern Alliance in the Outerverse. How interesting to see that you're in the Sword Sect. So you're already aware of The Purge?"

"Let's talk once everyone arrives. Isn't it rather tiring to repeat everything for each person?" Liu Qianjue commented.

Cang Zhou sneered, "I've never grown tired of cultivating in Chaosgod Mountain, and I only do what I wish to do."

Liu Qianjue no longer spoke.

Cang Zhou looked back at Lu Yin. "Little guy, what are you doing in the Sword Sect? Did you persuade their sect master to help your Great Eastern Alliance? What did you promise them?"

Lu Yin answered, "Senior, please wait."

Cang Zhou snorted coldly. "I don't like to wait. I'm an old man."

From her own screen, Ling Qiu indifferently said, "His status as the master of the Outerverse is enough for you to wait for him."

Cang Zhou was unhappy to hear this response, and his eyes snapped over to Ling Qiu. "Girl, why are you talking to your senior? You were still dreaming of your first crush when this old man was roaming the universe."

Lu Yin's eye twitched, as those words were quite overbearing.

Ling Qiu glared at Cang Zhou. "I have no respect for the elderly, as they will just die eventually."

Cang Zhou laughed.

At this time, another screen appeared. However, it did not show a person, but rather a mountain.

Lu Yin was stunned. A mountain? Could a mountain actually use a gadget?

"It's so lively. Everyone's here," the mountain said.

Lu Yin was shocked. Yes, the mountain had spoken. The mountain could actually speak. What the hell was going on?

Liu Qianjue seemed to notice Lu Yin's confusion, and he quietly said, "This is the tamed beast of the master of Beast Tamers Flowzone's Divine Hall, Bai Wanshan. He is the guardian of the mountain."

How did that work? Lu Yin was confused.

"Senior Liu, why did you call for me?" Bai Wanshan asked.

To the side, Cang Zhou was still fighting with Ling Qiu.

Ling Qiu was unable to win the argument against the old man, and she ended the argument by saying, "Old bastard."

Cang Zhou laughed arrogantly, acting as though he had won the fight. His strength made it clear that Ling Qiu was absolutely not the old man's opponent, as there was not merely a single generation of difference between the two leaders.

Liu Qianjue grew dissatisfied. "Alright, stop arguing. The Wen family is about to join."

He then turned to the mountain. "Wait for a bit, and we will discuss things once everyone joins."

The mountain seemed rather straightforward and did not speak.

Cang Zhou twitched the most out of those gathered. Still, it was clear that his status was just as high as Liu Qianjue's while the others were all his juniors.

Soon, another screen appeared, and it revealed an old man with a broom. "Senior Liu, what are your orders?"

This old man was Wen Zizai, the Wen family's patriarch.

Lu Yin realized that the masters of the eight great flowzones were not necessarily dignified experts, and actually, the more powerful the person, the more inconspicuous they tended to become.

Liu Qianjue was a fisherman.

Cang Zhou was a rogue.

As for the Wen patriarch, he was just a janitor.

By appearances, Leader Hong and Ling Qiu behaved more like typical powerhouses, though while the mountain was incredibly impressive, he was not human.

"Everyone is here now." Liu Qianjue looked at Lu Yin. "If you have something to say, you can say it now."

Cang Zhou asked, "Everyone's here? What about Dijiang? And also, that kid Shen Shaohuang hasn't arrived."

Liu Qianjue casually replied, "The Daynight clan has almost entirely isolated themselves and are not a part of The Purge. As for the Venom Flowzone, they have no connection to the Outerverse and are also not a part of our plans."

When Ling Qiu, the Mountain God, Wen Zizai, and Leader Hong heard The Purge being mentioned, they gave Lu Yin and Liu Qianjue strange looks.

The Purge had been formulated to destroy the Great Eastern Alliance, and Lu Yin was the founder and leader of that alliance.

This was basically having someone present while making plans to eliminate them. What was this all about? Everyone was stunned.

"He is already aware of our Purge, and he asked me to call everyone for a meeting, as he wishes to say something," Liu Qianjue said.

Lu Yin faced the gathered people. "This junior asked Senior Liu to call you all."

Cang Zhou smiled. "Little guy, if you have something to say, then just say it. No matter what you say, The Purge won't change, and the Great Eastern Alliance will be destroyed, haha."

Ling Qiu indifferently commented, "We will not touch the Great Yu Empire, but the Great Eastern Alliance cannot continue to exist."

Wen Zizai stared at Lu Yin with some excitement in his eyes. "You are Lu Yin, and I have long since admired you. You soundly dealt with the Daynight clan, and they've even sealed themselves off. You're very young to have such accomplishments."

Leader Hong snorted coldly.

The mountain simply stared at Lu Yin.

Lu Yin was facing a great deal of pressure. It could be said that this group of people represented most of the Innaverse. Even the Hall of Honor needed to tread somewhat lightly when dealing with them. This had nothing to do with these people's strength, but rather how their influence had spread too far and had permeated the Innaverse too thoroughly.

The Innerverse did not have a single expert whose power level exceeded a million while the Hall of Honor had more than just one such powerhouse. However, this did not mean that the Hall of Honor could act however it wished. If that were the case, then the Hall of Honor would have united the Human Domain long ago, and the Innerverse would have been united with the Outerverse.

Lu Yin took a deep breath, raised his head, and looked up at everyone. "This junior knows of your Purge, and I wanted to speak with you all to discuss the future with you."

His words left everyone confused.

"What about the future? Have you joined the Starsibyl Sect?" Ling Qiu asked.

Lu Yin smiled and replied, "It is indeed said that the Starsibyl Sect can predict the future. However, I want to speak to you about the future that I see. To put it another way, I want to fight against the future."

"What do you mean by that?" Leader Hong asked quietly.

Lu Yin looked at the older man. "I, Lu Yin, created the Great Eastern Alliance that you are working to destroy. For this reason, you put your Purge together. This junior is not one to sit and wait. I can see the future, and if you seniors insist on carrying out your Purge, then this junior can also see your future, and to be blunt, it's not good."

"This is what you wanted to say? Threats? What a joke! You're but a child—who gave you the balls to threaten us?" Leader Hong shouted angrily.

Everyone else simply stared at Lu Yin.

If another person were in Lu Yin's place, they would be terrified, but Lu Yin had already encountered many such situations before, and he had even had the courage to mock a Judicial Commissioner during a trial. Thus, there was no need to even consider someone threatening him from a video transmission.

Lu Yin stared back at Leader Hong. "The Blaze Realm lies right next to the Outerverse. When the Innerverse and Outerverse first reconnected, your Blaze Realm sent Monster Chi along with an entire armada to destroy my Great Eastern Alliance. That didn't end well for you, did it, Leader Hong? Do you feel that you can compare to the Daynight clan? Or do you actually believe that your Blaze Realm surpasses the Daynight clan?"

The arrogant Leader Hong grew furious, and flames billowed up behind him and shot into the sky to eventually shatter a distant planet. At the same time, waves of lava shot into the sky, turning everything red-hot.

Lu Yin simply ignored the man and directed his attention to the others. "What do you seniors think?"

Cang Zhou laughed. The mountain also laughed, followed by Wen Zizai, and finally, Liu Qianjue.

"No doubt, this is quite the unique experience! No junior has ever dared to provoke and threaten all of us at the same time. The times really have changed." The mountain's voice was deafening, though he also sounded as though he was speaking quietly.

"Very well, go ahead and deliver your threat," Wen Zizai said with a smile.

Liu Qianjue calmly sat and began fishing again, apparently ignoring Lu Yin.

Lu Yin's face grew solemn. "The goal of your Purge is to slaughter many of the top leaders of the Outerverse who are unwilling to cooperate with the Innaverse. There are a total of 409 people, and the plan is simple. Honestly, I have no way of dealing with this. Despite having the support of Leon's Armada, as well as Yuan Shi, Eversky Island, the Lan family, and the Sea King's Dome, I still cannot field a lineup to protect those 409 people. Each of the assassins will be a powerhouse, and I cannot stop so many experts. Once your Purge commences, it is guaranteed to succeed. Even if I do ask Leon's Armada and Eversky Island to help me, it's impossible to stand up to the entire Innaverse at the same time."

Leader Hong smiled contemptuously.

Wen Zizai calmly stared at Lu Yin.

No one spoke.

There were rules to the universe. A few disciples from Eversky Island were powerful enough to threaten the Innaverse, but that did not mean that they could actually deliver on those threats. There were rules in place to maintain a certain balance, and if that balance broke, then even the Hall of Honor would be affected, and that was not something that would be tolerated.

Lu Yin's eyes narrowed. "I have to admit that the mastermind who designed this plan is highly intelligent. This junior also believes that, even if it were possible to arrange enough powerhouses to protect all 409 people, it would still be useless, as they can't be protected continuously. It's impossible to forever remain vigilant, and although you might be able to stop a thief for a thousand days, he only needs to succeed once, and this is a plan that can be executed at any moment.

"However, you seniors have forgotten something." At this moment, Lu Yin's eyes suddenly grew cold and filled with killing intent. His murderous aura caused the surface of the nearby pond to begin boiling even as the air froze over.

Chapter 1217: Mutual Destruction*

Even though Lu Yin was only a Hunter, at this moment, his towering killing intent was enough to surprise even these leaders of the Innaverse.

"Everyone considers the people of the Outerverse to be nothing more than sheep, and even I see them as nothing but sheep. How many people control the major powers of the Outerverse? Those 409 are only a handful among the minority, and most of the other leaders have already reached an agreement with you. They have agreed to cooperate with you after your Purge starts and will immediately withdraw from the Great Eastern Alliance! However, can they truly leave?"

Lu Yin's eyes rose and swept across the experts before him. "You were able to come up with this Purge, but I, Lu Yin, can also create a plan. A master wants to kill an ordinary person, and I can't protect them. However, what if I also want to kill an ordinary person? You all see these leaders of the Outerverse organizations as ordinary people, and to me, they are also ordinary people."

Cang Zhou's eyes went wide, and he stared at Lu Yin in surprise. This kid was quite ruthless.

Liu Qianjue's expression sank, and his rage burned hot enough in his heart to burn jade and incinerate stones.

Wen Zizai stared intently at Lu Yin. Others had spoken about how Lu Yin had only managed to unite the Outerverse due to an ideal timing and his background, but at this moment, Wen Zizai became absolutely certain that Lu Yin had the ability, boldness, and decisiveness to dominate the Outerverse.

It was clear that Lu Yin was planning to simply shuffle the cards. While all of the leaders for the factions that had joined the Great Eastern Alliance against the Innerverse would die, another group would be chosen to take their places.

"Hmph. Junior, you really think this can scare us? You're talking about people from the Outerverse. If you do this, then it will just cause the Great Eastern Alliance to collapse even quicker. Additionally, you will be seen as an enemy by all of those people," Leader Hong quietly retorted.

Lu Yin looked up. "Naturally. However, I, Lu Yin, have never been afraid of anything. You can ask around and see how many dissenting voices spoke up after I established the Great Eastern Alliance. However, those voices are still there, and their descendants are also still alive. If I, Lu Yin, dare to do this, then I will take on all of it."

"Is this how you plan to threaten us into negotiating?" Ling Qiu asked.

Lu Yin looked over at her.

Ling Qiu shook her head. "What you're saying is useless. Even after the current targets are all eliminated, we can target their replacements just as easily and reenact our Purge. We don't care, but how many can you watch be killed? Do you think that this is just between you and us? Even if this is the choice that you make, what about the people themselves? If you allow too many to die, the resistance will grow endlessly, and things might even escalate to the point where your Great Yu Empire is dragged into the fray. Then, no one will be able to save you."

Cang Zhou found the entire matter to be amusing. This child was determined, but unfortunately, he was not thoughtful.

The corners of Lu Yin's mouth curled up. "Senior Ling Qiu is right. Once again, I, Lu Yin, will have to be hated by hundreds of millions of people. Compared to dissolving the Great Eastern Alliance, this is something that is much more difficult to accept, which means that I'm unlucky, as I will not let you all be comfortable.

"You all want the Great Eastern Alliance to disappear so that you can continue profiting off of the Outerverse, whether by plundering, trading, or deception. To be blunt, the Innerverse wants to gain riches from the Outerverse. However, what if those profits become unreliable? For example, the shipments might be raided by pirates, some insider information concerning various transactions might be leaked, or some recently discovered resources might end up being destroyed. Could you still rest easy?"

Everyone's expressions instantly changed. The pirates that Lu Yin was referring to were not ordinary pirates, or even a group of pirates. Rather, he was talking Leon's Armada that was led by the Pirate King

himself. One sentence from that man could summon most of the pirates in the entire universe, and he had even been able to overwhelm Daynight Flowzone. His pirates were amazingly powerful.

"Junior, are you threatening us?" The mountain's voice had gone cold.

Lu Yin smiled and replied, "This junior said from the beginning that we should fight it out."

Wen Zizai said, "Pirates can't act openly, and the only reason why they succeeded against the Daynight clan was because the clan was not prepared for such a thing and because they never expected it. If Alliance Leader Lu believes that some pirates are enough to make us step back, then your thoughts are too simple."

Lu Yin nodded. "This junior admits that is true, and honestly, I'm facing incredible pressure by standing up to you seniors. No matter what happens, it seems useless to go against you seniors. There might be only six of you, but you represent the majority of the Inniverse and can even direct the direction that the Inniverse moves. Not to mention me, Senior Liu mentioned that not even one of the Hall of Honor's overseers can stop all of you.

"The things I just mentioned were only intended to be used as an example to entertain you seniors. If you all don't take this seriously and insist on following through with your Purge, then this junior will be forced into a dead end. If that happens, then you can't blame this junior for his actions. For example—" Lu Yin's eyes sharpened as he looked at Ling Qiu. "I might visit you one by one and challenge all the best cultivators within my generation."

Ling Qiu's expression changed.

Wen Zizai and Liu Qianjue's expressions also changed.

"This junior has always been curious about the innate gifts of the Lingling clan as well as the Wen family's Literary Prison and the Sword Sect's Thirteen Swords. Of course, I'm also very curious about Chaosgod Mountain's hand-to-hand combat as well as the strange creatures that the Beast Tamers control. This junior is fascinated, and I have decided to challenge my peers as ZENITH approaches and make sure that the best of them all fail to enter ZENITH." Lu Yin's voice was loud and confident.

His words left everyone silent, but everyone's expressions had changed.

If ZENITH was just an ordinary competition, then none of them would care, but they were all privy to certain secrets, and thus, they were all aware that the importance of ZENITH far exceeded what most people thought it to be. Even if these six did not know what rewards would ultimately be given to the top ten finalists, they had an idea and were aware that this was an opportunity for the contestants to change their destinies.

Other than ZENITH, their youths would never receive another opportunity to even compete for such an opportunity.

This was not merely a chance for the contestants to change their fates, but also for the powers standing behind each of them to change.

The Daynight clan had always wished to enter the Neoverse, so when Nightking Zhenwu had stepped onto the path of becoming one of the Cosmic Five, the entire clan had celebrated and, Zhenwu had instantly become the first in line to become the next clan patriarch.

The Sword Sect also wanted to enter the Neoverse, as did the Lingling clan and Chaosgod Mountain. Honestly, was there anyone who did not want to move into the Neoverse? Was there anyone who did not want to alter their destiny?

ZENITH was precisely that opportunity to change their destiny.

When news of ZENITH had been released, and when these six had received some private information, all of them had prepared themselves to spend all of their organization's best resources to prepare their most outstanding youths in an attempt to take one of the top ten places.

However, at this moment, Lu Yin stood as an obstacle in their path.

Others could not threaten them in such a manner, but Lu Yin absolutely could. His list of accomplishments was too impressive, and his strength was too overpowering.

If he really did move out to challenge his peers, even if their youths were able to match up to Lu Yin, they would still be unable to qualify for ZENITH in the end.

This was a price that they could not afford to pay.

This was not a matter of profit, but rather a matter of destiny.

"You don't want to participate in ZENITH?" Ling Qiu challenged.

Lu Yin smiled. "It doesn't really matter. I am quite satisfied with progressing from an ordinary person to my current level of strength, and the Great Eastern Alliance is more important to me than a competition. If you want to destroy my Great Eastern Alliance, then I will destroy that which you hold dear: Ling Gong's Skycastle is amazing, and I would love to face it."

"Is the Great Eastern Alliance really so important to you? Whether or not it exists has little impact on you, and as far as the Neoverse is concerned, you can be replaced as the master of the Outerverse at any time," Wen Zizai inquired.

Lu Yin replied, "It's very important. I see that you seniors don't believe me. In that case, let me add that Eversky Island's Highsage Grandmaster has nominated me to be a gatekeeper of Zenith Mountain. If you seniors don't understand what that means, then please ask, as it's a very important bit of news."

"You've been nominated to be a gatekeeper?!" Cang Zhou finally lost his demeanor.

Liu Qianjue also stared at Lu Yin in complete shock.

Lu Yin smiled. "It would seem that you seniors are already aware of what that means, so you should also know what will happen when your juniors show up for the challenge."

The six people looked at each other.

As the masters of the Inniverse's eight great flowzones, they had received a lot of secret information after ZENITH had been announced. Of course, that information included the role of the gatekeepers.

The people known as gatekeepers would be tasked with limiting the number of participants in ZENITH. Only the most powerful participants qualified to become gatekeepers, and there would only be five gatekeepers. To put it more simply, gatekeepers were seeded contestants who were preemptively recognized as the strongest contenders for the final ten contestants.

Ling Qiu was quite confident in Ling Gong. She would be invincible until the final ten, but despite the matriarch's confidence, she had never even considered the possibility of Ling Gong being nominated as a gatekeeper, as it was too difficult to qualify.

The only gatekeeper that had been identified so far was Shang Qing, the undefeatable user of the Tri-Yang Technique. He was the only person who was clearly qualified to be a gatekeeper.

None of the six elders had considered that Lu Yin had been nominated for such a role, especially by someone like the Highsage Grandmaster.

Eversky Island's master was someone who stood at the pinnacle of humanity, and his vision could not be doubted. Was Lu Yin really able to compare with Shang Qing?

There was nothing else that Lu Yin could say to threaten these six except for this. This threat was aimed at their sole chance to alter their fate, and any price was worth it to obtain such an opportunity.

Regardless of whether or not they believed that their juniors could make it to the final ten in ZENITH, they would not dare to take such a risk at this time.

Lu Yin was the type of person who would follow through on what he had said.

"Battles help to improve one's battle strength, and young cultivators grow the fastest while fighting. The more you fight, the faster you improve. I'm looking forward to fighting against the others for the final ten," Lu Yin commented with a sigh as he threatened everyone once again.

"Junior, don't think that defeating two of the Ten Arbiters makes you invincible. Ling Gong, Wen Sansi, and Liu Tianmu have all become Enlighters, so how could you possibly deal with any of them? Any of them could easily deal with you. You want to use this to coerce us into canceling our Purge? Impossible!" Leader Hong shouted angrily. At this moment, he wished that he could personally strike Lu Yin down.

Lu Yin looked at the older man with contempt and disdain. "In the Blaze Realm, there is no one who can do such a thing, and you don't even qualify for me to challenge any of your youths. Actually, challenging you would just flatter you and humiliate me."

The arrogant Leader Hong grew furious, and he stared at Lu Yin as though he were about to devour the youth.

Liu Qianjue casually asked, "Are you confident that you can deal with the Thirteen Swords?"

Lu Yin lightly replied, "It doesn't matter. Regardless, I'm absolutely certain that I won't die to the Thirteenth Sword, and as long as I don't die, I can drag my enemy down."

Liu Qianjue went silent.

Cang Zhou sneered, "Go ahead. After all, you can only challenge the other Arbiters."

Lu Yin looked at him. "Even if the Ten Arbiters don't participate, your youths will still have to face the people from the Neoverse. Don't forget—the Cosmic Five are all from the Neoverse, and only the Ten Arbiters can help deal with them."

Wen Zizai sighed. "I'm actually being threatened by a child. It's more comfortable to sweep the floor."

The mountain stared at Lu Yin, as did everyone else. They had all been placed in a very difficult position.

If a junior, one of the Ten Arbiters, or even someone who was actually peerless within their generation dared to threaten these six powerhouses, then they simply would not care. They could be completely confident that the youth would never even be able to get close to experts at their level. However, Lu Yin was different. His backing was simply too terrifying, and any one of the many powerhouses who backed him left the six people feeling helpless.

Chapter 1218: Unexpected Aid

To these six Innerverse leaders, Lu Yin was holding a heavy stone. He could not move his hand, but if he began to smash something, they would not be able to stop the stone. Even if the stone shattered, he would still be able to smash their heads in.

When had they ever encountered such a youth before? Typically, youths who had become Hunters had been carefully raised by an organization pouring resources into them. Thus, they would behave in a civilized manner and have a rather refined quality. In contrast, Lu Yin was brash and seemed rather wild.

"Everyone, just ignore the child's nonsense. I don't believe that he will truly dare to challenge our youths one by one, and we can instantly carry out our Purge anyway. Just wait to see if he issues any challenges or will race back to save the Great Eastern Alliance," Leader Hong angrily pressed.

Lu Yin was resolute. "I'll be at your door with a challenge. Anyways, based on what you just said, the Great Eastern Alliance is already dead. So, I will just break your trap and send someone to do what I just told you. Then we'll see who ends up suffering the greater losses between you and I."

As he spoke, Lu Yin grew increasingly confident. "Believe it or not, after dealing with your youths, I'll still be able to participate in ZENITH, as these challenges won't harm me."

Ling Qiu and Liu Qianjue both stared at Lu Yin; just how confident was this child?

They then remembered that Eversky Island's Highsage Grandmaster had nominated Lu Yin to be a gatekeeper. Could this child's power really be that impressive? Was he truly peerless among this generation?

"I know that you seniors are facing trouble. The truth is that the Great Eastern Alliance is not a closed organization, and neither does it wish to seal off the Outerverse. If you wish to trade with the Outerverse, then you can proceed normally, though it will change how you've normally done things. Still, it should not greatly affect your gains from the Outerverse," Lu Yin said.

The mountain loudly said, "Such profits are a powerful motivator, and a unified Outerverse could force things out of our control."

Lu Yin smiled and said, "I'm not trying to negotiate this matter with you seniors, as I am merely offering you a way forward. You are welcome to proceed however you wish."

Leader Hong looked at others with uncertainty. He was still eager to implement The Purge, as he had been the one to initially propose the scheme. Not only would the success of this plan mean a destroyed Great Eastern Alliance, but it would also allow the Blaze Realm to return to its original status and allow him to step into the ranks of these masters of the Innaverse and solidify his relationship with them.

"Junior, I don't know how vast the universe might be, but how could those of us here be tricked by a child like you, let alone threatened? You must be dreaming!" Leader Hong shouted sharply.

Lu Yin laughed. "Seniors, he's trying to force you with his words so that you will continue with his plan. I'm surprised, has the Blaze Realm already reached the same level of power as the rest of you?"

Ling Qiu shot an unhappy look over at Leader Hong. "We will consider how to proceed ourselves. There's no need for you to speak."

Cang Zhou was also irritated with Leader Hong. "Shut up."

Liu Qianjue was even more direct—he dismissed Leader Hong's screen so that only the other five Innaverse leaders were left to speak with each other and Lu Yin.

Lu Yin heaved a sigh of relief and calmed himself down.

"Alliance Leader Lu, well done. You've won. My Sword Sect will not participate in The Purge," Liu Qianjue stated.

Ling Qiu agreed, "My Lingling clan will not participate either."

"We're not participating," Cang Zhou agreed.

Ling Qiu looked at the old man. "You're free to participate. After all, you don't have any juniors who you can use to take advantage of ZENITH."

Cang Zhou sneered. "One of my juniors can just marry your junior, so won't that make your kid a part of my Chaosgod Mountain?"

"Bastard!" Ling Qiu shouted angrily before she quickly disconnected from the call.

Cang Zhou laughed arrogantly.

Wen Zizai shook his head. "The Wen family will withdraw as well."

After that, he disconnected.

The mountain did not say a single word, and he simply closed his screen, making his attitude clear.

Lu Yin calmly stood there until only he and Liu Qianjue were left.

Liu Qianjue turned back around and resumed fishing. "Alliance Leader Lu, you are young but tough. You sought out a path forward and then saw things through to the end. You have this old man's admiration."

Lu Yin helplessly replied, "I was just acting out of self-defense, so please forgive me, senior."

Liu Qianjue smiled and said, "It is my privilege to meet such a junior. If the disciples from my Sword Sect could be half as good as you, then this old man could die happy."

"The Sword Sect's Thirteen Swords are able to shake the universe, and this junior admires the technique greatly," Lu Yin said.

Liu Qianjue helplessly shook his head. "What benefit is there to only knowing how to cultivate?"

Liu Qianjue suddenly thought back to the bit of conversation between Cang Zhou and Ling Qiu, and an odd glint entered the old man's eyes as he looked back at Lu Yin. "Alliance Leader Lu is still single. Have you seen Arbiter Liu yet?"

Lu Yin was caught off guard. "What are you saying, senior?"

"I think that you and Tianmu would make a good couple, and then there'll be a possibility of us enjoying each other's company for the future," Liu Qianjue mentioned with a smile.

Lu Yin grew embarrassed and quickly retreated. "This junior accepts senior's kindness, but I need to quickly return to the Outerverse, so I must take my leave."

After saying that, Lu Yin fled.

Liu Qianjue did not stop Lu Yin from leaving, and he simply watched the youth depart with a lingering smile on the old man's face. "That old man Cang Zhou was right. There are still ways to tie this child to my Sword Sect in the future."

...

Lu Yin let out a long breath after leaving the pond. He had finally managed to stop The Purge for the moment, but he felt no pride in this accomplishment.

The reason why Lu Yin had managed to put a stop to The Purge had been entirely due to ZENITH. Once the tournament was over, Lu Yin would no longer have any cards to play against the Innaverse, and at that point, The Purge would definitely recommence.

The top powers of the Innaverse were not easily dealt with, and Lu Yin had slapped their faces just now. Thus, they would definitely get revenge in the future.

Lu Yin did not have much time left.

"Seventh Bro, what were you doing for so long? Did that old man embarrass you? Would you like to call Leon's Armada over to take down the Sword Sect?" Ku Wei asked, eager to make such an attempt.

To the side, Elder Li stared at Ku Wei with murder in his eyes.

Lu Yin quietly told Ku Wei to shut up before nodding apologetically to Elder Li. "I need to go and head back to the Outerverse."

"You're done visiting the Sword Sect already?" Ku Wei was taken aback.

Lu Yin replied, "There'll be more opportunities in the future."

He then looked back at Elder Li. "Please tell the Sect Master that this junior bids him farewell. The Sword Sect and the people that the sect master invited over have opened this junior's eyes. I know that there will be more opportunities to come back in the future."

Elder Li nodded. "Lord Lu, tread cautiously."

...

In the darkness of outer space, Lu Yin and Ku Wei flew towards the Outerverse in a spacecraft.

Ku Wei was very curious about what Lu Yin had talked about with the Sword Sect's master, but Lu Yin did not mention anything.

Lu Yin spent this time thinking about how he could completely resolve the threat of The Purge, as temporary measures were ultimately pointless.

After returning, he knew that he needed to discuss the matter with Wang Wen and Wei Rong.

After crossing one of the Astral River's tributaries, the two young men entered a small flowzone, and they quickly passed through this flowzone before entering yet another one.

Many of the Innaverse's flowzones were separated by the Astral River's tributaries, and the sizes of these flowzones all varied greatly.

After a few days, Lu Yin looked out and saw that Venom Flowzone was on their left.

Venom Flowzone was not particularly large, though it was very long, and its length covered nearly a quarter of the entire Innaverse. The entire flowzone was filled with poisonous astral beasts that resembled insects and all other sorts of creatures. The flowzone was almost completely isolated from the rest of the Innaverse.

Although it was also one of the eight great flowzones, Venom Flowzone was the least famous.

No one dared to casually enter Venom Flowzone, and even when the Sixth Mainland had invaded the Innaverse, they had avoided Venom Flowzone in fear of suffering heavy losses.

Lu Yin was very curious about Venom Flowzone and the Divine Venom Dynasty.

After passing through the current flowzone, Lu Yin and Ku Wei would enter Blazing Mist Flowzone.

Out of the entire Innaverse, the Great Eastern Alliance needed to deal with Blazing Mist Flowzone the most. Lu Yin suspected that this flowzone was the true mastermind behind The Purge, and the Blaze Realm was most likely the driving force behind the plan as well. There was no other reason why Liu Qianjue would have been in contact with Leader Hong.

The size of the Blaze Realm did not qualify Leader Hong to be in direct contact with Liu Qianjue.

The Blaze Realm was the closest organization to the Outerverse. Thus, the Blaze Realm wanted to deal with the Outerverse the most, while the Outerverse felt the same way about the Blaze Realm.

Their vessel continued its flight towards the Outerverse, but at this moment, they were in Blazing Mist Flowzone; a flowzone that could be said to be full of Lu Yin's enemies.

The Blaze Realm, the Ross Empire, and even the sylvan dragons all wanted him dead.

Beep beep beep!

His gadget rang, and Lu Yin was surprised by the caller; it was Yan Yan, but wasn't Yan Yan supposed to be missing?

As the captain of the Great Yu Empire's 13th Imperial Squadron, Yan Yan had the right to contact Lu Yin, but he had never done so on his own. Additionally, Wei Rong had told Lu Yin that Yan Yan had disappeared some time ago, which made this call very strange. Yan Yan's disappearance was already something that Lu Yin had been planning to investigate after he arrived in the Outerverse. Yan Yan was quite powerful, and it was impossible for him to vanish into thin air.

After accepting the incoming call, Lu Yin heard Yan Yan's voice. "Your Highness, my memory has completely returned."

Lu Yin's eyes flashed, and next to him, Ku Wei grew curious; Yan Yan's memory had returned?

"Are you telling me that you voluntarily left the Great Yu Empire?" Lu Yin asked.

"Yes. My apologies, Your Highness, for not informing you. The truth is that my name is Shao Yangxun, and I am the commanding general of Subzero City in the Royal Frost Continent." Yan Yan immediately informed Lu Yin of his origins.

Lu Yin had met Yan Yan during the destruction of Firesmelt Planet. To be more accurate, Lu Yin had recognized Yan Yan—no, Shao Yangxun, was someone from the Royal Frost Continent due to the pattern of interlocking snowflakes rings on his body. However, Lu Yin had never expected that Shao Yangxun would have such an important background. It sounded like Shao Yangxun was quite an important figure in his home.

"Now that you've recovered your memory, what is it that you want? Do you want to leave the Great Yu Empire? You've already left," Lu Yin asked.

Yan Yan remained silent for a long time. "I wish to beg Your Highness to save the Royal Frost Continent."

Lu Yin was puzzled.

"The reason why several of us subjects left the Royal Frost Continent was to go and seek help..." Shao Yangxun slowly explained as he informed Lu Yin of the situation on the Royal Frost Continent.

Lu Yin slowly understood that the Royal Frost Continent was literally a continent that lay atop glaciers.

"I don't know when it started, but the climate of the Royal Frost Continent has quickly become colder. Even those of us who were born on the glacier and excel at ice battle techniques are becoming unable to endure such frigid temperatures, and the temperature keeps dropping lower and lower. It won't be long

before the entire Royal Frost Continent is completely frozen over, along with the hundred of millions of people living in Subzero City.”

The vessel came to a halt as Lu Yin listened quietly to Shao Yangxun. The more Lu Yin heard, the more confused he became. “It’s said that the Royal Frost Continent is unafraid of even the Blaze Realm, which indicates that there must be at least an Envoy on the continent. However, you’re telling me that your continent needs help. It’s just a continent while an Envoy should be able to save even an entire weave.”

"The Frost Emperor, the lord of Subzero City, is a powerhouse even among Envoys, but not even he can save us," Shao Yangxun said.

"Then have your people leave and immigrate to the Outerverse. I will find a place for all of you," Lu Yin offered.

Shao Yangxun remained silent for a while. "Your Highness, there is special meaning in the Royal Frost Continent’s existence, and we cannot leave it. Subzero City can’t disappear."

Lu Yin laughed. "Then what do you want me to do? You just said that not even an Envoy can help you, and my strength can’t compare to an Envoy’s. There’s no way for me to help you."

"Your Highness can help us. When the city lord asked us to find help, we were not sent to find powerhouses, but rather Lockbreakers," Shao Yangxun explained.

Chapter 1219: Royal Frost Continent

Shao Yangxun's words caught Lu Yin completely by surprise. "A Lockbreaker?"

"The city lord's words were that only a powerful Lockbreaker can help the Royal Frost Continent, and it must be a Lockbreaker who has comprehended a sourcebox array. Your Highness is a Lockbreaker, and you must also know other powerful Lockbreakers as well, which is why I am begging Your Highness to find a powerful Lockbreaker to enter the Royal Frost Continent and save Subzero City.

Lu Yin shook his head. "Don't simply assume that I know a Lockbreaker strong enough to help an Envoy. Even if I did, they wouldn't agree to go to such a strange place, especially if it's a place that not even an Envoy can protect. Do you understand?"

Shao Yangxun eagerly replied, "Your Highness, you can! You saved the Outerverse Lockbreaker Society, and you can ask President Geoffrey! You can report this situation to the Lockbreaker Society."

"Alright, there’s nothing more to say. All I can do is help you all find a place to live in the Outerverse and make sure that you get settled in safely. I can’t help you with the rest.” Lu Yin bluntly refused Shao Yangxun’s request. Lu Yin had many things that he needed to do, and not even an Envoy could resolve this situation, which meant that it would be too rash for Lu Yin to just jump in. Shao Yangxun had been Lu Yin’s subordinate, not Lu Yin’s boss. Thus, Lu Yin was not indebted to the man in any way.

After refusing to help, Lu Yin wanted to end the call, but two words from Shao Yangxun made Lu Yin hesitate for a moment. "I'm sorry."

Lu Yin felt this was quite strange. An apology?

Suddenly, Lu Yin's expression changed. This was not good. He instantly ended the call, but it was already too late. The darkness of space had been replaced with white. This was not sunlight, but rather ice. The spacecraft had been completely frozen through, and Lu Yin and Ku Wei tried to fight in vain as the starry sky disappeared from their sight.

It did not take long for the layer of ice in space to melt away, but all that remained was a bit of cold air.

...

Wind blew a flurry of snow across the ground. The snow drifted over, floated across the ice, and was blown over mountains before finally settling above a city.

It was a very rural city, and its architecture seemed to draw heavily from a more primitive era, and there were even many buildings with thatched roofs.

The cold wind froze the city. The urban area was surrounded by a curtain light that could be seen with the naked eye, and a thick layer of solid ice had accumulated outside the barrier.

This was Subzero City. It was located at the center of the Royal Frost Continent, and it was actually the only city on the entire continent.

Subzero City spread out to cover a large area, and although the city was not very tall and its construction was limited to the most basic types of houses in many places, it was still home to hundreds of millions of people. However, due to the extreme cold, people rarely walked about.

There was a building at the center of the city with a slightly more modern design. It was a beautiful building, but it was also completely different from all of the others. This was the city lord's mansion, and it was home to the most powerful man on the Royal Frost Continent: the Frost Emperor.

The city lord's mansion covered a vast area, and it even included some mountains and plains, though everything was colored white by the freezing wind.

Inside the city lord's mansion, there was a silent, unmoving spacecraft that was surrounded by many curious onlookers. One person looked at the spaceship with an apologetic expression and complicated emotions in his eyes. It was Shao Yangxun, who had been previously known as Yan Yan.

Next to Shao Yangxun stood an ordinary-looking, middle-aged man. This man looked a little more elegant than the other people in the area, but even he could not shake off the rather primitive feeling that all of the people here gave off.

"You did nothing wrong. We won't do anything to him," the middle-aged man softly comforted.

Shao Yangxun responded quietly, "When will he wake up?"

The middle-aged man smiled. "He woke up a long time ago. I expect him to be thinking of a way to deal with us."

Shao Yangxun was surprised, and he looked at the vessel before lifting his feet and approaching the ship.

The spacecraft did not move.

All of the surrounding people continued to watch. Most of them had never even seen a spacecraft at all, so they were extremely curious.

As Shao Yangxun approached the vessel, the hatch suddenly opened, and a figure reached out with a hand to grab Shao Yangxun's neck. The hand squeezed the neck tightly as the person behind it glared fiercely at the middle-aged man. "Don't move."

The expressions of the surrounding people all instantly changed, and they glared at Lu Yin. "Stop! Let him go!"

"Release the general!"

"Let him go!"

...

"Shut up." The figure was Lu Yin, and he had just been tricked.

Shao Yangxun had taken the initiative to contact Lu Yin, not only to ask for help, but also to determine Lu Yin's location. Because Shao Yangxun had promised to save the Royal Frost Continent, after he realized that Lu Yin was refusing to help, Shao Yangxun had confirmed Lu Yin's location and then left things to the master of the Royal Frost Continent for him to catch Lu Yin and drag him to the Royal Frost Continent.

Lu Yin held Shao Yangxun's neck tightly, leaving the man panting heavily. Right now, Lu Yin assumed that he had been teleported to the Royal Frost Continent by the person who Shao Yangxun had just been standing behind. That person was also most likely the most powerful person on the Royal Frost Continent, as well as the city lord.

"Your Highness, I'm sorry," Shao Yangxun apologized again after being caught by Lu Yin.

Lu Yin sighed. "You betrayed me."

Shao Yangxun felt helpless. "This one is willing to apologize with my death. All I ask is that Your Highness save my Royal Frost Continent, which is this one's hometown."

"Child, do you think that you can threaten us after being captured? Or do you simply wish to vent your anger?" the middle-aged man asked in a light tone. His expression remained unchanged, and he apparently was unconcerned with Shao Yangxun's capture.

Lu Yin stared at the middle-aged man. "Who are you?"

The middle-aged man smiled. "The Royal Frost Continent's master and the Subzero City Lord: the Frost Emperor."

Lu Yin's eyes narrowed. Just to make sure, his pupils transformed into runes as he looked at the Frost Emperor. As a result, his eyes were suddenly stabbed by pain, and he nearly released Shao Yangxun.

However, Shao Yangxun did not take advantage of the opportunity to try to escape. He had approached the spacecraft in order to give Lu Yin a chance.

The Frost Emperor did not take any action either. If he wanted to, Lu Yin would never have been able to take Shao Yangxun hostage. Otherwise, Lu Yin would not merely have been dragged to the Frost Emperor Continent.

Lu Yin rubbed his eyes and then looked back at the middle-aged man once again, this time with fear in his eyes. After a moment of silence, Lu Yin pushed Shao Yangxun away and moved to stand next to the vessel and observe his surroundings.

Shao Yangxun did not move far away, but instead, he turned to formally greet Lu Yin. "My apologies, Your Highness. I'm truly sorry, but this one had no choice in this matter. My Royal Frost Continent can't afford to wait."

Lu Yin glanced at the man and then looked over at the Frost Emperor. "It would seem that you believe that you have me in your bag."

The Frost Emperor had a soft expression on his face, and there was none of the typical oppression that Envoys had. He calmly addressed Lu Yin. "We should not be enemies, and I will not hurt you, or rather, I can offer you anything you want. I simply hope that you can help my Royal Frost Continent."

"What if I say no?" Lu Yin coldly asked.

The Frost Emperor answered helplessly, "I can send you on your way then."

Lu Yin's eyes flashed and he sneered. "You took the trouble to capture me, and yet you're offering to just let me go? Is this an act?"

The Frost Emperor stared intently at Lu Yin. "I brought you here, but I only wish to ask you to listen to the story of my Royal Frost Continent. You might change your mind. Only once you are here will my story have any meaning."

Lu Yin frowned. In front of him, Shao Yangxun continued to bow. All of the people from the Royal Frost Continent in the surroundings had complicated expressions on their faces, and some of the people occasionally shivered from the terrible cold.

After considering the situation for a moment, Lu Yin let out a long breath. "Take care of the person inside the ship."

The Frost Emperor grew overjoyed. "Please don't worry about him."

Lu Yin moved past Shao Yangxun and followed the Frost Emperor into the mansion.

Shao Yangxun stood back up and heaved a sigh of relief. "Thank you, Your Highness."

As he followed the Frost Emperor into the city lord's mansion, Lu Yin was quite curious. He had never seen a ruler's home with this kind of style before. The mansion was far too simple, and any building from a prosperous planet would far outshine this mansion.

Still, although there were no skyscrapers, the rural buildings were all very beautiful.

They walked through the city lord's mansion, and if rudeness could be considered an artform, then Lu Yin was doing an exquisite job.

"Alliance Leader Lu, thank you for your willingness to stay and help us," the Frost Emperor expressed his gratitude as he walked.

Lu Yin replied, "I may not be able to help, but you mentioned that you would allow me to see the history of the Royal Frost Continent?"

The Frost Emperor nodded. "Our history is stored underground to prevent its destruction. Please."

Lu Yin followed the Frost Emperor beneath the estate, and there, he saw countless pieces of wooden shelves. What was this?

He stared blankly at the underground space, unable to determine how far it extended. The wooden shelves seemed to spread out endlessly, and there were countless wooden slips stacked upon these shelves. "This is your history?"

The Frost Emperor sighed. "This place contains the history of my Royal Frost Continent, and Alliance Leader Lu may peruse it at your pleasure."

Lu Yin pursed his lips and picked up a wooden slip from next to him. At the top, he read, 'On the thirty-fifth day of the Twelfth Frost Emperor's 1826th year, the temperature was very low, and 235 households froze. The repairs cost...'

Lu Yin set the wooden slip back down and picked up another one to read. 'On the thirty-sixth day of the Twelfth Frost Emperor's 1826th year, the ground cracked. The Frost Emperor's army repaired the damage and helped Er Zhuzi's family move their home of ten years. The crack spread three meters, and due to the aging houses...'

Lu Yin frowned. He walked away and looked at another wooden slip. 'On the 208th day of the Eleventh Frost Emperor's 925th day, the city lord's son was born, and Subzero City rejoiced. The celebration required food, housing, and cleanup...'

Lu Yin set the third wooden slip back down and then gave the Frost Emperor a strange look.

The Frost Emperor just smiled gently.

Lu Yin averted his eyes and walked further along before picking up another wooden slip. He soon set it down and picked up another one before setting that one down as well and moving to a corner to pick up another dusty wooden slip. He looked at it before gently setting it down and glancing back at the Frost Emperor. "Your daily life is quite boring, isn't it?"

The Frost Emperor was puzzled. "What do you mean?"

Lu Yin explained, "These wooden slips record all of these trivial details, such as cleaning the streets, helping people move their houses, and even the days' weather. Are these really your typical tasks on a given day?"

The Frost Emperor smiled and said, "Subzero City is still a city. Despite its hundreds of millions of inhabitants, it has never suffered from war. These records show the cost of living and quality of life from every era of the city, and they are very valuable."

Lu Yin was surprised. "Despite the age of the city, it's never faced war?"

The Frost Emperor shook his head. He thought for a moment and then seriously replied, "The Frost Emperor's lineage can be traced through the history of Subzero City, and all of the previous Frost Emperors were my ancestors. Each Frost Emperor possesses enough strength to surpass a typical Envoy, and Subzero City's citizens have no need to fight. Their leader is an Envoy, and there is also the army, which is called the Frostgate Army. If the city master is unavailable, then the Frostgate Army can handle matters. Thus, Subzero City has never faced the threat of war since its founding."

Lu Yin knew that even when a lion threatened a flock of sheep, the sheep would still refuse to move.

He looked at the Frost Emperor strangely; how could every Frost Emperor be guaranteed to become an Envoy? This was an important question, but Lu Yin did not ask it. "Lord Frost Emperor, the history that I would like to see does not pertain to these matters, but rather why the people of the Royal Frost Continent cannot leave this continent and move elsewhere."

The Frost Emperor's eyes flashed. "Alliance Leader Lu, please follow me." He then headed into the depths of the archives, and Lu Yin followed behind him.

Chapter 1220: Sealing Array

Before long, the two men arrived at their destination. The Frost Emperor pointed at the wooden slip furthest in. "Alliance Leader Lu, please read that one. It is our earliest record."

Lu Yin felt curious, and he immediately picked up the wooden slip to read it, only to discover that the text had long since disappeared. He picked up the next one, but that was also missing its text. He turned to look at the Frost Emperor.

The Frost Emperor sighed. "Even writing has a shelf life, and too much time has passed. If it weren't for the fact that these pieces of wood are made from a very strange material, even the wood would have disappeared by now. If you look at the various records, you will notice that some text is missing from many of the records and that my Royal Frost Continent is missing a great, great deal of our history."

"But when he spoke with me, Shao Yangxun's behavior was quite strange. I offered for him to move the residents of the Royal Frost Continent to the Outerverse, and he refused. He said that emigrating is not possible, but apparently, even Lord Frost Emperor does not know why." Lu Yin coldly continued, saying, "I, Lu Yin, am willing to do my best to help, but if Subzero City insists on keeping matters hidden, then this junior will leave."

The Frost Emperor smiled and replied, "It's not that we are hiding anything, but rather that we have to admit to Alliance Leader Lu that my Royal Frost Continent is missing much of our history. There are details of our history that were never recorded down, but were instead passed down orally. Although I don't know why this is so, that is how certain things have been passed down through the generations."

Lu Yin grew even more curious.

The Frost Emperor pointed at the ground. "Beneath Subzero City, at the center of the Royal Frost Continent, there is a sourcebox array, and it is a seal."

"A sourcebox array? What is it sealing?" Lu Yin was caught by surprise, but anything to do with a sourcebox array would trigger his curiosity, as not just any Lockbreaker could arrange a sourcebox array, especially one that covered such a large area. It would take a Lockbreaker at least at the Array Master level to set up such an array. There were very few Array Masters even when looking at all of recorded history.

The Frost Emperor shook his head and solemnly replied, "The ancestors never specifically said what the seal was for. They merely asked that, when the next generation took over the position of city lord, to swear to never abandon the Royal Frost Continent, to never open the seal, and to always protect the seal without ever allowing anyone to open it. Even if hundreds of millions of people in Subzero City die, even if the Frost Emperor's lineage dies off, that seal can never be opened."

Lu Yin's brows climbed high. "It sounds like your ancestors were very concerned about that seal."

The Frost Emperor simply replied, "Not just very concerned—they were more concerned about it than my own life."

Lu Yin felt helpless. "Then there's nothing this junior can do. I'll take my leave."

After speaking, Lu Yin moved to leave.

The Frost Emperor said, "Alliance Leader Lu, I understand that not saying anything is not how one should behave when asking for help, and all I can promise you is that, if you are able to help my Royal Frost Continent, then all you need to do is send word and I, the Frost Emperor, will immediately move out to give you my aid. This includes my palace. Also—" The Frost Emperor grew even more serious as he spoke. "I can swear to you that I have no information regarding what is beneath that seal at all. If I have misled you in any way, then I pray to suffer a life worse than death."

Lu Yin quickly stopped. "There's no need for Lord Frost Emperor to behave in this manner. I trust you."

The Frost Emperor nodded. "Thank you, Alliance Leader Lu, and I also offer the thanks of the hundreds of millions of people upon my Royal Frost Continent."

After everything that the Frost Emperor had said, it was no longer easy for Lu Yin to walk away. He believed what the older man had said, as cultivators would not casually make such oaths. This was not due to any sort of superstition or belief in a deity, but rather that breaking such oaths could easily affect a cultivator's mindset. Thus, the more powerful a cultivator was, the less likely it was that they would casually make such an oath.

Also, if what had been placed beneath the sourcebox array was truly that important, then it was no surprise that information about it had not been shared with the later generations.

Lu Yin lowered his head; he was genuinely curious, just what had been sealed down there?

"Alliance Leader Lu, please help us contact a powerful Lockbreaker. Only Lockbreakers are able to repair this sourcebox array. The freezing cold destroying the Royal Frost Continent comes from what is

beneath that seal, and if the sourcebox array is fully repaired, then there will be no need for us to try to protect ourselves from this terrible cold," the Frost Emperor asked.

Lu Yin countered, "Why ask another Lockbreaker for help? I'm also a Lockbreaker."

The Frost Emperor smiled. "I'm not looking down on Alliance Leader Lu, but it's just that you are too young."

Lu Yin raised his gadget and accessed the Lockbreaker Network. "Senior Frost Emperor, this junior is a Boundless Advanced Lockbreaker."

The Frost Emperor was shocked. "Boundless Advanced?"

He took a look at the profile page on the Lockbreaker Network and then at Lu Yin before admiringly commenting, "So you are a Boundless Advanced Lockbreaker at such a young age. Even when searching across the entire universe and its countless geniuses, you can stand proud. There are not many who can accomplish such a feat."

Lu Yin lowered his gadget.

"However, a Boundless Advanced Lockbreaker still won't be able to help us. We need someone who is an Array Master, and that is the minimum rank," the Frost Emperor said.

Lu Yin raised a hand, and the star energy around him shifted. He then waved his hand, causing a nearby wooden slip to move away.

The Frost Emperor was caught off guard. "A sourcebox array?"

Lu Yin nodded. "The difference between an Array Master and an ordinary Lockbreaker is that an Array Master has comprehended the method to arrange sourcebox arrays. Since this junior has comprehended a sourcebox array, then I wonder, might I be able to help?"

The Frost Emperor stared at Lu Yin in amazement yet again. Shao Yangxun had returned from the outside world and shared many things with the Frost Emperor, mostly about Lu Yin. The truth was that the Frost Emperor believed that Shao Yangxun's stories about Lu Yin were exaggerated. How could an Envoy be so polite to a mere Hunter? The Frost Emperor had practically begged Lu Yin for help and cast aside all of his dignity. But despite all of that, the older man was still stunned by what Lu Yin had revealed.

This youth was far more than what Shao Yangxun had shared with the Frost Emperor.

Although all of the Frost Emperors were born on the Royal Frost Continent, that did not mean that they remained on the Royal Frost Continent for their entire lives. They also needed to leave and gain experience about the world. The current Frost Emperor was quite well informed of the outside universe, and his knowledge allowed him to better appreciate Lu Yin's achievements.

The Frost Emperor could not understand how such a young man had managed to reach this level so quickly. Lu Yin had united the Outerverse, honed his fighting skills, become one of the Ten Arbiters, and even reached the peak of his generation in regards to his lockbreaking skills.

The Frost Emperor sighed. "Alliance Leader Lu, there must be no one within your generation who can surpass you. Please follow me." He no longer refused Lu Yin's request, as that would be too disrespectful. All that the Frost Emperor could do at this time was allow Lu Yin to try.

Lu Yin acted modestly and followed the Frost Emperor. He was looking forward to seeing the sourcebox array.

Every sourcebox array was uniquely different, and regardless of whether it was a matter of comprehending, arranging, or repairing a sourcebox array, all of it would help improve a Lockbreakers abilities.

Lu Yin was confident that he could repair this sourcebox array, in large part because he had Gu Yue's journal.

Gu Yue had not been an ordinary Lockbreaker, and although Lu Yin was not exactly sure what level Gu Yue had reached, Lu Yin was certain that the ancient powerhouse had not merely been an Array Master.

The foundation of Subzero City consisted of several layers, and the lower that one descended, the warmer it became.

Lu Yin followed the Frost Emperor about 10,000 meters down through the underground levels, and he peered through the darkness.

"Alliance Leader Lu, we are now standing atop the seal formed by the sourcebox array," the Frost Emperor said.

Lu Yin was surprised; they were right above the sourcebox array right now? He could not feel any danger zones from the sourceboxes. His pupils then transformed into runes as he looked down, after which his pupils instantly shrank upon seeing the boundless number of rune lines.

His eyes quickly returned to normal, and Lu Yin squatted down to touch the ground. He looked up and stared off into the distance. "Senior, this sourcebox array is huge."

The Frost Emperor's eyes flashed. "How big?"

Lu Yin answered, "It spreads across the entirety of the Royal Frost Continent."

The Frost Emperor's eyes narrowed as he slowly nodded. "What do you need in order to prepare, Alliance Leader Lu?"

Lu Yin shook his head. "Let me just try, though I likely won't be able to succeed."

The Frost Emperor softly answered, "It's fine to at least take a look."

He then quietly stood there and watched Lu Yin.

Lu Yin had no confidence that he could repair this particular sourcebox array. The truth of the matter was that he could not even understand this array, much less determine if the cold came from the sourcebox array or if the array was attempting to seal the cold away.

This sourcebox array was vastly beyond what Lu Yin was capable of understanding, and it was impossible to repair with his level of skills. Still, he needed to at least try, as just the attempt would likely help improve his lockbreaking skills.

The Frost Emperor was not concerned that Lu Yin might break the seal, but still, the instructions of his ancestors made him grow increasingly cautious as he stared at Lu Yin.

Soil covered the sourcebox array, and ordinary people would not even be able to find it. Even though Lu Yin's star energy control had entered the Worldliness realm, he could not find anything wrong with the sourcebox array. Helpless, he activated Truesight once again.

The number of rune lines that he saw as soon as he activated Truesight were overwhelming, and the sight could easily damage Lu Yin's eyes. But fortunately, it also allowed him to pinpoint exactly where the breach in the sourcebox array was.

Subzero City sat at the center of the Royal Frost Continent, and it did not cover the entire continent, but the sourcebox array did.

The location of the array's leak was at the southernmost region of the Royal Frost Continent.

Lu Yin had found the leak.

When the Frost Emperor saw this, hope filled his eyes. Since Lu Yin was able to find the leak, then it indicated that Lu Yin had some understanding of the array. Could this young man actually fix the sourcebox array?

Of course, Lu Yin was not able to repair the array, and he had only managed to accomplish this much because of how miraculous Truesight was.

The cold wind raged, and Lu Yin felt chilled all over. The low temperature made him feel as if his entire body was about to freeze over. If not for the barrier surrounding the city, most of the continent's residents actually would have already frozen by now.

The chill was leaking out from the ground thousands of miles away from the city.

Lu Yin took out Gu Yue's journal as the pattern of the rune lines that he had just seen with Truesight appeared in his mind. Like that, he started trying to understand the sourcebox array.

One day, two days, three days...

Back in Subzero City, Ku Wei woke up. He glanced around and saw Shao Yangxun and felt a bit confused. "Are we back on Zhenyu Star?"

Shao Yangxun calmly looked back at Ku Wei. "You're on the Royal Frost Continent."

Ku Wei blinked. "What?"

Shao Yangxun repeated, "We're on the Royal Frost Continent."

Ku Wei averted his eyes and rubbed the place where his head ached. After thinking for a long while, his eyes reopened, and he glared at Shao Yangxun. "I remember now! Brother Wei was frozen! Where's Seventh Bro?"

Shao Yangxun looked away. "He's helping our Royal Frost Continent."

Ku Wei wondered, "Helping? Since when has Seventh Bro been a good Samaritan?"

Shao Yangxun replied, "Just go and take a walk once you're up and moving. Just remember—this is Subzero City, so don't cause trouble."

"You're the only one making trouble! Brother Wei is the kindest! I'm going to go find Seventh Bro," Ku Wei said.

Shao Yangxun stopped Ku Wei. "Wait, His Highness will return soon. He's busy right now."

Ku Wei stared at Shao Yangxun. "You wouldn't do anything to Seventh Bro, right? I'm warning you—Seventh Bro has very impressive backing. Forget you, as not even the Sword Sect or the Hall of Honor's nine overseers can do anything to him."

Shao Yangxun grew cold and arrogant. "If we wanted to do something to His Highness, then why would we bother keeping you alive? Do you think that you're worth more than His Highness?"

"Yan Yan, do you have a problem?" Ku Wei gritted his teeth.

Shao Yangxun stared back at Ku Wei. "You can't beat me. My memory has returned, and my strength has also recovered. My power level surpasses 300,000 now."

Ku Wei was stunned. "You have a power level over 300,000?"

Shao Yangxun put a hand on Ku Wei's shoulder and suddenly pushed him back. "Either rest or take a walk, but don't cause any trouble."

After saying that, Shao Yangxun walked out.