

STAR ODYSSEY

Chapter 1751: Bait

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Near one of the Ark's fishing decks, someone let out a sigh. It was the fisherman whom Lu Yin had met on Nightking Planet, and then again later on at Chaosgod Mountain.

"Don't push! Do as you're told!"

"Don't step back any further, or else you'll fall!"

"Where are you from?"

"We're from Mordo Weave."

"Isn't Mordo Weave on the other side?"

"It's the home of the Neo-Vestige Sect, which is where we're from. Don't push! I'm going to fall."

"What about you?"

"We're from the Vastdearth Sect."

...

The fisherman felt completely helpless. "I never thought I would see the day that people crowded onto one of the Astral River Arks... Ah."

"Have we disturbed your fishing?" a voice spoke up.

The man reflexively nodded, but then he suddenly returned to his senses, and his head snapped over. The fisherman was a powerful Enlighter, and yet someone had approached him from behind without him being able to sense anything at all! When the fisherman looked over, he saw an unknown man.

"Who are you?"

A smile spread across the man's face. "Aren't you supposed to be at Chaosgod Mountain?"

The fisherman's pupils instantly constricted as he stared into the stranger's eyes. After a moment, the fisherman asked in disbelief, "Lu-?"

The man raised a finger to silence the fisherman.

Of course, the man was indeed Lu Yin. He had changed his appearance to avoid being recognized, as if he were discovered, it would create quite a sensation.

"You don't want to answer me? Aren't you supposed to be at Chaosgod Mountain?" Lu Yin repeated. He stared out into the Astral River, looking at the incredible number of rune lines that flowed by. He had no idea what might be in the depths of the river.

The fisherman's face twisted. "I got lost and accidentally left."

Lu Yin laughed. "Well, since you already left, why not at least put on an act? Are you not afraid of being discovered by me while fishing from the Ark?"

The fisherman dryly retorted, "What? I'm not your prisoner."

Lu Yin nodded. "Any catches?"

"What catch?" The fisherman felt lost.

Lu Yin pointed to the Astral River. "I want to eat some fruit fish."

The fisherman was left speechless. "I haven't caught any..."

"Then start fishing."

"There's no room."

"No matter how crowded it might be, there are still places a single person can fish from," Lu Yin said in a lazy manner. Fruit fish was a very familiar taste to him, and he wanted to eat it to see if he could recall any more memories from his past life as Lu Xiaoxuan. No matter if it was through divination or through tasting something familiar, Lu Yin would readily do anything if it helped him recover those memories.

He had thought that he was Lu Yin and that Lu Xiaoxuan had already died, but Kui Luo's words had awakened Lu Yin's interest in his past life. Lu

Xiaoxuan had created the Heaven-Shattering Palm, which had become one of the Lu family's inherited techniques. It had been so profound that even Progenitor Lu had appeared. It would be amazing if Lu Yin could remember the Heaven-Shattering Palm.

Even the name sounded powerful: Heaven-Shattering Palm!

After speaking a bit longer with the fisherman, Lu Yin moved on. After a day and a half, the Astral River Ark entered the Innerverse.

There were some people present to greet the newcomers into the Innerverse and provide arrangements for people from the Great Eastern Alliance to settle into Blazing Mist Flowzone. Wang Wen and the others had already allocated different regions to the various major powers of the Outerverse.

Of course, there were some who were still unwilling to leave the Outerverse and would rather accept the Sixth Mainland's rule, and Lu Yin had no intention of forcing anyone to move. There was no fear of the Great Eastern Alliance not being able to recruit fresh blood, as there was still the entire Innerverse to draw from.

It was time to take care of something.

After Lu Yin returned to the Ross Empire's mobile fortress, the first thing that he did was send Liu Huang back to the Sword Sect to settle things there.

While Lu Yin had no way to control Liu Huang, the man was smart, and he knew that his identity was the greatest threat. Even though exposing himself would deal a harsh blow to the Hall of Honor's reputation, Liu Huang would also end up suffering, and he would drag the entire Sword Sect down with him.

Liu Huang naturally did not want this to happen, as otherwise, he would not have stayed at Lu Yin's side for so long.

After sending Liu Huang back to the Sword Sect, Lu Yin entered his botanical garden to check on Sapling.

Sapling quickly noticed Lu Yin's arrival, and it happily leaped over. The tree's branches wrapped around Lu Yin's fingers and rubbed his hand in a very intimate manner.

Lu Yin was essentially a parent to the tree.

As for the big tree, it had become even more desperate to flee.

There were many odd plants in the garden, and the caretaker was actually someone whom Lu Yin was familiar with. He was a young man who was two meters tall with a green body.

When the young man saw Lu Yin approach, he quickly bowed. "Balaror greets the alliance leader."

Lu Yin took a moment to place the young man, but he soon remembered. "It's you! You used to follow Gerlaine."

Balaror answered in a respectful manner, "Yes. Your subordinate Balaror was brought in to care for your garden here."

Lu Yin nodded with a smile. "Pleased to have you."

"I am honored to be working for the alliance leader!" Balaror quickly replied.

Balaror had been one of the students who had been sent to Earth to participate in a trial during the apocalypse that had struck the planet. He had followed Gerlaine along with some others, and he had been a student at the Great Yu Empire's Outerspace Academy.

"How are things going here? Are you still getting used to it?" Lu Yin asked as he played with Sapling.

Balaror glanced at Sapling. "Everything is fine. Your subordinate will be sure to care for your garden."

Lu Yin nodded. "That's good."

After the brief conversation, Lu Yin led Sapling out, as he wanted to spend some time with the little plant.

There was a soft thud, and Lu Yin turned his head to see the big tree strike the ground. Balaror felt a mounting headache. This big tree was the most troublesome plant in the entire garden. All it did all day every day was try to escape. Balaror had no idea where the tree's obsession came from, let alone

why it was trying to escape. Just who had brought such a thing to the garden? Without the big tree, Balaror's job would have been half as hard.

Lu Yin just smiled and took Sapling away.

While Lu Yin and Sapling were spending some time together, Aeternus had broken its silence, and corpse kings emerged one after another.

On a street in Aeternus, the Ghost Monkey was stunned. "Why are there so many monsters moving out? All of them seem to be going somewhere. I have no idea what might have happened, but I hope this doesn't affect Little Lu. I'm still waiting for him to prostrate before me! Little Lu, don't worry, Big Brother Monkey is coming! Hahahaha."

A voice came from Shaman God's dark tower. "Forgotten Ruins God is too impulsive. Killing Bluedome Elder is no different than announcing to the entire universe that there was something that's important to us, and this is only going to make it more difficult for us to find it."

"There are more and more people gathering in that particular galaxy, and killing Bluedome Elder also served as a warning to some people. Otherwise, even more people would be going to that galaxy. And then when would we find it?"

"We have to get it back."

"Someone is making trouble for us. People were deliberately lured over to the Horned Galaxy, but unfortunately, there's no trace of who that person is. There are no clues at all to follow."

"Has everyone who has had any sort of contact with the Autumnfrost family been looked into?"

"The investigation's already started, but the Sixth Mainland is growing more and more cautious. Even their Semi-Progenitors have started to appear, which is a big problem. Those people haven't been seen for thousands of years."

"What else can we do?"

After a moment of silence, a voice suddenly spoke up, "The Starsibyl Sect."

"Divination?"

"Yes. Anyone who's come into contact with those crystals is suspicious."

"Go to the Starsibyl Sect right now. Don't let anyone escape."

A slaughter continued within the Sixth Mainland's forces. Any person or organization with any connection to the Autumnfrost family with even the slightest chance of having visited or seen the tool was visited by devastation. This included even the suppliers and transportation crew that had provided the Autumnfrost family with equipment and materials, tools, and more.

The Neohuman Alliance was desperately looking for something, and the Sixth Mainland did not remain silent. Four of the Ten Venerables were sent out, and they used people related to the Autumnfrost family as bait to lure out the Neohuman Alliance.

Lin Dong stared blankly at a pair of slitted scarlet eyes that were standing just outside his spacecraft. His entire body had gone numb, and he could not move a muscle due to the terror that gripped his heart. It was a corpse king! A corpse king from the Fifth Mainland's Neohuman Alliance! Why would such a creature come after Lin Dong?

The corpse king shattered the vessel with a single punch, and the sudden change in pressure sent Lin Dong tumbling into outer space. He was not even able to react. After all, he was only a Limiteer, and his body had not adjusted to survive in outer space. The moment he left his vessel, his death was already guaranteed.

The corpse king raised a hand and grabbed hold of Lin Dong's neck with a hard, cold hand. A dry voice asked, "Who- gave- you- money- location?"

Lin Dong's pupils instantly shrank to pinpricks; so he was being targeted because of that black crystal! He regretted accepting the deal. He should not have been so greedy. Clearly, there was some precious use for the symmetrical black crystals, or else they would have never been bought for such exorbitant prices. Even a corpse king had appeared to chase after them!

"I don't know! Everything was done anonymously on the network." Lin Dong struggled to answer.

The corpse king stared into Lin Dong's eyes. Its scarlet eyes were terrifyingly cold, and Lin Dong had already become truly desperate. He felt his neck being squeezed tighter and tighter, and his body was growing cold.

Suddenly, another hand appeared right in front of him, and it smashed into the corpse king's head, shattering it to pieces.

The corpse king's hand fell away from Ling Dong's neck, and he slowly turned his head to see who had appeared. There was a middle-aged man standing in space who looked very wary as he pulled his hand back. He then turned to look at Lin Dong.

Lin Dong recognized the man. He was Huang Li, patriarch of the Bloodburn Realm's Huang family. The man was a powerful Enlighter.

The Huang family had once had an Imprinter, but the family had weakened after their Imprinter's death. The reason why Lin Dong had recognized Huang Li was because Huang San was also from the family, and he had kidnapped a girl from the Yan family who had once pursued the Autumnfrost family's young master. The girl's disappearance had caused the Autumnfrost family to target the Huang family, and eventually, no one in the entire Bloodburn Realm dared to have any dealings with the Huang family. They had ended up in a miserable situation.

As someone who had once followed the Autumnfrost family, Lin Dong naturally knew the appearance of people from the Huang family.

"Thank you, Senior Huang, for saving your life." Lin Dong respectfully bowed and offered his thanks.

Huang Li replied in an indifferent manner, "No thanks needed. The crisis isn't over yet."

Lin Dong immediately became fearful again. "Is there another corpse king?"

Huang Li stared off into the distance. "If they don't find what they're looking for, they won't stop for even a single day. The Neohuman Alliance has been quiet in the Fifth Mainland for so many years without making any real moves. Right now, they are brazenly moving about. Whatever they're searching for is far too important to them."

Lin Dong felt his heart grow cold. "Then what should we do, Senior?"

He was regretting his previous decision, as that 50,000 star essence was likely going to be the cause of his death.

Huang Li glanced at Lin Dong. "Get to the Daosource Sect. Maybe you won't die there."

This was not for Lin Dong, but also for Huang Li. Everyone was aware of the matter that had happened between the Huang and Autumnfrost families, and at this moment, everyone with any sort of connection to the Autumnfrost family was being hunted down. It made no difference if those people had been friendly or hostile towards the Autumnfrost family, which meant that the Huang family was not safe either.

The Daosource Sect had sent orders throughout the Sixth Mainland that Enlighteners or above were to try to find someone weaker with a connection to the Autumnfrost family and protect them. This was not done to protect the Autumnfrost family, but rather to protect the Sixth Mainland's reputation.

Huang Li shot a vague glance behind him, as there was also someone protecting him. His entire Huang family was being used as bait for the Neohuman Alliance.

In order to completely avoid any association with the Horned Galaxy, Lu Yin had not looked into anything that was happening within the Sixth Mainland, as he wanted to take absolutely no chances of the Neohuman Alliance drawing a connection between the Autumnfrost family and Lu Yin.

This was also why the Neohuman Alliance never thought to look for Lu Yin, as he had not even come up as someone connected to the Autumnfrost family. As soon as any sort of reminder came up, it was possible that a connection would be made. This was why Lu Yin had been doing his best to remain under the radar.

Half a month passed, and the slaughter in the western region of the Outerverse never once halted. According to the reports, more than one hundred corpse kings had died, all of which possessed the strength of an Explorer or above. There had even been some Envoy-level corpse kings that had died. Naturally, the Sixth Mainland's losses had not been small either.

Even the war in Ironblood Weave had been affected, because many of the cultivators fighting against the Astral Beast Domain were members of the Autumnfrost family.

Chapter 1752: Fame And Fortune

In the Inniverse, at the Sword Sect, Liu Qianjue was quietly fishing when Elder Li approached him. "Sect Master, are we just going to leave the Great Eastern Alliance in Blazing Mist Flowzone?"

"What other option is there?" Liu Qianjue casually replied.

Elder Li remained silent. He did not know what they should do, but the Great Eastern Alliance was experiencing a rare moment of hardship, and he felt that they should take advantage of the situation.

"Alright, head back for now," Liu Qianjue gently ordered.

Elder Li bowed and excused himself.

Liu Qianjue suddenly started, as he had caught a strange and massive fish. He glanced at it, frowned, and then threw it away. It was not a fish that was tasty.

Since the Great Eastern Alliance was being forced to completely leave the Outerverse, Liu Qianjue also wanted to do something, but it was the Sixth Mainland forcing the Great Eastern Alliance's hand. If he did anything at this time, it would be no different than cooperating with the Sixth Mainland, and given Lu Yin's influence in the Hall of Honor, the Sword Sect would likely be accused of doing just that.

The Hall of Honor represented the overall interests of the entire Fifth Mainland, and since Lu Yin was able to somewhat direct the opinions of the Hall of Honor, it was vital that he not do anything that could give the wrong impression.

Elder Lianxin had already gone to visit Venom Flowzone, as no matter how much the Divine Venom Dynasty wished to avoid the outside world, it was impossible for them to ignore the Great Eastern Alliance, and it was just as impossible for them to ignore Lu Yin.

The Divine Venom Dynasty, the Sword Sect, the Lingling clan, the Daynight clan, the Divine Grade Hall, the Wen family, and the various other powers from both the eight great flowzones and the minor flowzones: once they all joined together, they would be strong enough to suppress the Great Eastern Alliance into staying in just Blazing Mist Flowzone.

Together, these organizations could represent the entire Inniverse, which meant that the Hall of Honor would not be able to interfere. This was how the Hall of Honor handled matters, as without such limitations, the Hall of Honor would have long since united the entire Human Domain.

"This is a troubled era. Even the Neohuman Alliance has started to move about boldly. The best choice is to do nothing for now and to try to avoid this chaos." Liu Qianjue sighed and resumed fishing.

Suddenly, a voice spoke from behind him. "Unfortunately, you can't avoid it."

Liu Qianjue froze, and the fishing rod in his hand transformed into a sword. He did not take a single step or move his body, yet his sword stabbed behind him and thrust into the true universe. Sword qi surged out, causing the entire Sword Sect to shake. At that moment, every sword in the sect rang.

There was a ringing sound, and the sword snapped. Liu Qianjue was still sitting in the same place as before, but shock and fear had covered his face. His sword had been broken, and it had been broken by pure sword skill. This intruder had not only been able to see through Liu Qianjue's technique, but he had also been able to find flaws in it.

Most shocking was that the person had not used any more strength than Liu Qianjue had in his attack.

"The All-Directional Sword Arts. For you to have mastered this technique, you must have excellent perseverance. Unfortunately, the technique's flaws are quite obvious. There is always a point in a given direction that cannot be targeted, which is the technique's weakness."

Liu Qianjue's gaze grew sharp. "Your Excellency, who are you?"

Cheng.

A sword gently rang as it was stabbed into the ground in front of Liu Qianjue. It had a green hilt that was half the length of the blade, and both the hilt and

the blade were covered with spiraling patterns where water droplets converged to form the shape of a halberd. This was the same sword that Lu Yin had once formed from his star energy. When Liu Qianjue had seen it back then, he had been shocked, because only one person had ever used this sword: Liu Huang, the most outstanding genius in the entire history of the Sword Sect.

Liu Qianjue whirled around to see Liu Huang standing no more than a hundred meters away. Shock and disbelief filled the Sword Sect master's eyes. "You? Impossible! You can't be alive!"

Liu Huang clasped his hands behind his back, and various emotions passed over his face. "True, it is indeed impossible for me to be alive. How could someone who's regarded as a scourge by the Hall of Honor possibly live? And yet I have been alive, living a million miles away in the depths of Gaia's Swamp."

Liu Qianjue's fingers trembled. "Gaia's Swamp?"

Liu Huang nodded. "That's right, Gaia's Swamp."

Liu Qianjue frowned. "Impossible. You were clearly dead back then."

Liu Huang replied in a solemn tone, "There is a person within the Hall of Honor who possesses an innate gift for faking death, and they were the one who took me to Gaia's Swamp."

"I've never heard of such a person before," Liu Qianjue retorted.

Liu Huang just shrugged. "I never had either until they took me away."

"How can you prove who you are?" Liu Qianjue asked as he stared at Liu Huang.

Liu Huang looked in a specific direction. "The ancestor of my Liu family who came to this place is buried there."

As he spoke, he tapped a finger and formed the picture of a very inconspicuous ravine.

Liu Qianjue's pupils instantly shrank. While many people knew where the Liu family's ancestors were buried, the public information was a lie. Only the

master of the Liu family in each generation would be told the true location. The true location was a secret place that no one would think to look, and it was kept secret because the ancestor had wanted to be buried in that ravine. However, later generations had felt that the location was improper, so they had created a false grave.

While this was not an important secret, it was one of the Liu family's most closely guarded matters.

"Still don't believe me? Then-" As he spoke, Liu Huang pointed in another direction. He pointed to a place where he had once trained with others from a past generation. The people had grown old and already died, but the list of names could still be seen.

"If that's still not enough," Liu Huang moved a finger again, and the long green sword flew to his hand. He raised a hand and said, "Thirteenth Sword."

While his voice fell, he never moved. Liu Qianjue's body trembled, and blood leaked from the corner of his mouth. He slowly bent over. There was no denying that this was the Thirteenth Sword.

"Junior Liu Qianjue greets his ancestor." Liu Qianjue slowly bowed low. The Liu family's ancestor's grave had been revealed, the man's former home had been shown, and even the Thirteenth Sword had been used. Liu Qianjue could no longer hold any doubts.

Liu Huang put his sword away and slowly walked towards the pond.

Liu Qianjue looked up. "What happened back then?"

Liu Huang sat down as he started speaking, "My Sword Sect possesses unparalleled determination, and once a true expert appears, the Fifth Mainland will no longer be peaceful. This was why I was imprisoned within Gaia's Swamp, never to be released."

Liu Qianjue clenched a fist. "We are the same as the Daynight clan!"

Liu Huang found this quite funny. "We are much more fortunate than the Daynight clan! The First and Third Nightkings were forced into the Astral Beast Domain, and one of them died while the other disappeared. I was not nearly as unfortunate. Even though I was imprisoned, there was at least the possibility of escape."

"The riot in Gaia's Swamp?" Liu Qianjue blurted.

Liu Huang looked at him and said, "The Sword Sect's masters from each generation are intelligent and ambitious, but most of them focus on their swordsmanship. What sort of sect master are you?"

Liu Qianjue's eyes flickered. "This junior does not understand."

Liu Huang looked back at the calm pond. "Someone mentioned that you are too unfocused on the sword. You abdicated your position, and yet you have taken it back. Your ambition for your sword is less than your other ambitions."

Liu Qianjue let out a sharp breath. "Lu Yin?"

Liu Huang nodded.

Liu Qianjue showed a bitter smile. "I should have thought of that earlier. He was present during the riot in Gaia's Swamp, and from what I know of him, even if he had nothing to do with the planning or execution of such a thing, it's impossible for him to not seize an advantage from such an event. However, this junior does not understand. Did Lu Yin get involved in the riot for your sake?"

Wait! Suddenly, Liu Qianjue's expression completely changed. "The Second Nightking!"

Liu Huang appeared as calm as ever, and he did not interrupt.

Liu Qianjue grew pale, and his hands and feet turned cold. That was right, the Second Nightking had also escaped from Gaia's Swamp. If Lu Yin had been involved in the riot and had somehow gotten Liu Huang free, how could the youth have ever allowed the Second Nightking to escape? There was no way that Lu Yin would permit such trouble for himself.

The Second Nightking was either already dead, or there was another possibility that Liu Qianjue could not even muster the courage to consider. He stared blankly at Liu Huang, hoping to receive a negative response.

However, Liu Huang eventually nodded. "That's right, the Second Nightking was also taken away by that child."

"Why? The Second Nightking would never submit to him, so why would he free the Second Nightking?" Liu Qianjue could not make heads or tails of this, as it simply made no sense at all.

Liu Huang solemnly stated, "I may not know the reason, but the Second Nightking is always at Lu Yin's side."

Liu Qianjue's heart was dropping further by the moment. If the Second Nightking had submitted to Lu Yin, then that meant that the entire Daynight clan had also submitted! It was no wonder why Lu Yin had abandoned Daynight Flowzone so casually back then; it was already his.

But how did Lu Yin take control of the Daynight clan? Why would he trust the Daynight clan to follow him?

Thoughts whirled through Liu Qianjue's mind as he thought of the Second Nightking and the implications that this information brought. Suddenly, Liu Qianjue's eyes returned to Liu Huang. "You are here to have the Sword Sect join the Great Eastern Alliance."

Liu Huang looked over. "Smart."

"Why? With your return, you could simply take over the Sword Sect! The entire sect is yours! Why do you wish to join the Great Eastern Alliance?" Liu Qianjue protested.

Liu Huang's voice dropped low, "Do you think that I can reveal myself?"

Liu Qianjue instantly understood; the Hall of Honor would never spare Liu Huang, so he could only remain hidden. "Are you concerned that Lu Yin will report you?"

Liu Huang stared at Liu Qianjue and said, "While I can't compare to you when it comes to scheming and administration, I can see through people better. Regardless of whether or not I had returned, the Sword Sect cannot avoid its fate of joining the Great Eastern Alliance. My appearance is only going to make it easier for the Sword Sect to join."

"The Great Eastern Alliance is being driven out of the Outerverse, and they are too busy dealing with their own affairs. The entire Innerverse is united in wanting to restrain Lu Yin."

"The Hall of Honor is what determines the fate of such things, not the Innerverse," Liu Huang fiercely retorted. Being imprisoned in Gaia's Swamp had given him a clearer view of such things than anyone else. While he deeply hated the Hall of Honor, he still had to admit that the Hall of Honor had the power to control everything.

Lu Yin was able to influence everything as well, because he could influence the Hall of Honor.

Liu Qianjue argued back in a low voice, "Not even the Hall of Honor can decide upon the fate of the Innerverse. This has been true for countless years."

"Then why did I end up in Gaia's Swamp?" Liu Huang asked back.

Liu Qianjue was stunned, but he truly could not say anything to counter this fact. The Hall of Honor was not merely the guiding hand of the Human Domain that everyone saw; it also acted in secret to maintain control of things.

The Daynight clan had given birth to the First Nightking, the Second Nightking, the Third Nightking, and the Dayking. Each of them had been a true genius, and yet the First Nightking had been killed, the Third Nightking had been trapped in the Astral Beast Domain, and the Dayking had died. As for the Sword Sect's Liu Huang, he had been secretly imprisoned.

It was not only the Daynight clan and the Sword Sect, but also the entire Innerverse, the Cosmic Sea, and even the Neoverse that were controlled by the Hall of Honor, whether openly or secretly. This was how the Human Domain was ruled.

"That was the Hall of Honor, not Lu Yin," Liu Qianjue finally replied.

Everyone had a certain degree of selfishness. Liu Qianjue never wanted the Sword Sect to join the Great Eastern Alliance, as that would make him the one who had failed the sect in generations to come.

In order to leave Gaia's Swamp, Liu Huang had agreed to Lu Yin's conditions, whether he had done so because he wanted to pass on his Fourteenth Sword or for something else, it had still been an essentially selfish decision.

Some were greedy for fame, others for profit, and yet more for their legacy.

Chapter 1753: Joining The Alliance

"Since I've returned, you should know what it means." Liu Huang's statement was unquestionable.

Liu Qianjue closed his eyes before suddenly snapping them open. "Please forgive this junior for his rudeness, but if you insist on forcing my Sword Sect into the abyss, then you are an enemy of the Sword Sect and also my Liu family's enemy!"

A sword rose and pointed straight at Liu Huang.

Liu Huang and Liu Qianjue just stared at each other for a moment. Neither looked at all surprised by this development. "You can make the first move."

Liu Qianjue did not decline. When Liu Huang had gone into seclusion to create his own Fourteenth Sword, his strength had already been enough to make the Hall of Honor wary, which meant that he certainly surpassed Liu Qianjue's own strength. After so many years of being imprisoned within Gaia's Swamp, even if Liu Huang's power had fallen, the man still was not an easy opponent for Liu Qianjue. After all, the older man had just shattered Liu Qianjue's All-Directional Sword Arts and even given him pointers on it.

Liu Qianjue stepped forward with a foot and entered the true universe. From his new position, he instantly unleashed a single sword attack: the Thirteenth Sword.

Liu Huang just shook his head. The Thirteenth Sword was unavoidable, and that was true even for him, but why did he need to avoid it? He had created the Fourteenth Sword on his own, and it essentially surpassed the Thirteenth Sword.

The next moment, Liu Huang was startled, and he stared at Liu Qianjue's position; there was another sword attack, and it was also the Thirteenth Sword. However, how could there be two Thirteenth Swords?

The dual Thirteenth Swords struck Liu Huang without any surprise, and the man stood stock still while looking quite stunned.

Liu Qianjue then appeared, carefully observing Liu Huang while clenching his sword. This dual Thirteenth Sword was an attack unique to him, as his innate gift allowed him to attack twice at the same time.

There had been countless geniuses throughout the history of the Sword Sect, and while Liu Qianjue was certainly not the most talented and could not compare to people like Liu Huang or Liu Guai, he still felt like his combat strength was comparable to both of those seniors when they had been at the same cultivation realm. After all, who could stop an unavoidable attack that could deal double damage?

Liu Qianjue was an Envoy with a power level of more than 800,000, and after he used the dual Thirteenth Swords, even a powerhouse with a power level of over a million would be struck down.

Finally, Liu Huang moved. He lifted his head and looked straight at Liu Qianjue. The older man could not stop himself from coughing out a mouthful of blood.

Liu Qianjue was not only unhappy, but his expression also twisted in an ugly manner. He had expected his attack to badly injure Liu Huang, and yet the man showed almost no reactions at all. He had merely spat out some blood! Was the gap between them so vast?

Liu Huang smiled, revealing bloodstained teeth. "Yes, that's quite good, though still not comparable to the Fourteenth Sword. But in an actual fight, its potential nearly matches the Fourteenth Sword."

Liu Qianjue was startled. "The Fourteenth Sword?"

Liu Huang slowly raised a hand, and his long green sword reappeared in his grip. "That's right, the Fourteenth Sword."

"You created it?" Liu Qianjue could not believe his ears. How many people throughout the entire existence of the Sword Sect had created a Fourteenth Sword? The person who had been the closest was Liu Guai, but he had gone insane because of it. His technique could only be considered a variation of the Thirteenth Sword. Had Liu Huang actually succeeded in creating a complete version of the Fourteenth Sword?

"See it for yourself. The Fourteenth Sword is called 'Misery.'" Liu Huang then slowly swung his sword down. This was another attack that could not be avoided. This was the first thing that Liu Qianjue realized when observing the Fourteenth Sword. Then, unparalleled grief nearly crushed him. It was as though his entire life had instantly become dark and devoid of all hope. The

darkness of his past drowned him in loneliness, and then severe pain followed.

The Thirteenth Sword was a technique that transformed emotions into a sword. As long as there were emotions of any kind, they could be transformed into a sword. On the other hand, the Fourteenth Sword was a sword that used a person's past suffering. The despair and loneliness that it could force someone to experience far surpassed what the Thirteenth Sword was capable of doing.

There was a bang, and a sword fell. Liu Qianjue clutched his chest, and his limbs quivered. His forehead was dripping with sweat, and his pupils kept dilating and constricting. This was the power of the Fourteenth Sword.

Liu Huang had not put much strength into this attack, as he had simply wanted to allow Liu Qianjue to experience the Fourteenth Sword. Creating and practicing the Fourteenth Sword had made Liu Huang almost immune to the Thirteenth Sword, and if not for the fact that Liu Qianjue was capable of attacking with dual Thirteenth Swords that caused the power of the technique to surge, Liu Huang would not have been injured at all.

"I agreed to Lu Yin's terms and left Gaia's Swamp just for this: the Fourteenth Sword. Do you think that my sacrifice was worth it?" Liu Huang asked sadly while observing Liu Qianjue. The older man just waited for the younger swordsman and family member to recover enough to talk.

Liu Qianjue finally let out a long breath. He suddenly thought of the Wen family, and how Wen Zizai had admitted to being willing to submit to Lu Yin. For powers like the Sword Sect and the Wen family, a temporary high or low would not last forever, but inheritances could be passed down without end.

If their inheritances disappeared, so did their future.

The Fourteenth Sword had finally been born. If it just disappeared once again, who would be the true traitor to the Sword Sect?

"It was worth it," Liu Qianjue replied bitterly. The moment the words left his mouth, the burden suddenly fell from his heart; he no longer had to worry about how to deal with Lu Yin or how to deal with the Hall of Honor! Such thoughts were no longer needed.

Liu Huang nodded. "I believed that you would understand, which is why I came here."

"What if I had said that it was not worth the price?" Liu Qianjue looked up and asked.

Liu Huang gave a slight smile. "That would have never happened. You are a member of the Liu family, and the blood of the sword flows through your body."

Liu Qianjue stared back at Liu Huang and saw the chill in the man's eyes. If Liu Qianjue had answered that Liu Huang's sacrifice had not been worthwhile, the older man would have most likely found someone else who did believe that the price was worth it and have him take the position of the Sword Sect's sect master!

Everyone had their own obsessions, and Liu Huang's was to have the Fourteenth Sword that he had created be passed down. It would become famous throughout history, and no one would be able to stop it.

It could not be said that Liu Huang was wrong, only that he had happened to encounter Lu Yin.

In Blazing Mist Flowzone, at the Ross Empire's mobile fortress, Lu Yin stared at a green liquid that sat before him. His lips were pursed. Zhao Ran had stopped by and delivered one of her drinks. While each one was genuinely delicious, Lu Yin could not summon the courage to taste it due to its horrifying appearance. However, when Lu Yin looked over and saw the hope on Zhao Ran's face as she stared at him, Lu Yin still drank the concoction.

Beep beep beep!

Lu Yin glanced down at his gadget. His eyes glinted, and he immediately accepted the call.

"The Sword Sect has officially decided to join the Great Eastern Alliance," Liu Qianjue's voice came through, though it did not carry the helplessness that Lu Yin had expected. After a moment, Lu Yin understood; the man had already convinced himself of his decision.

"Congratulations, Senior Liu, on obtaining the Fourteenth Sword. The Sword Sect will rise to a new level in the future," Lu Yin replied with a smile.

Liu Qianjue indifferently replied, "It is my hope that I can continue to lead the Sword Sect as before, Alliance Leader Lu."

"I know. However, it's not time to announce this change yet, so I must ask Senior Liu to please wait a bit."

Liu Qianjue understood that Lu Yin intended to first deal with the Lingling clan and the other Innerverse powers. This was how the youth had handled the Daynight clan, and his Sword Sect was about to receive the same treatment. There was no one in the Innerverse who could escape this child. The Innerverse would soon be completely unified.

"Since the Sword Sect has now joined the Great Eastern Alliance, can Senior Liu tell me about the situation in Venom Flowzone? I heard that Elder Lianxin went to visit the Divine Venom Dynasty," Lu Yin continued.

Liu Qianjue had not expected Elder Lianxin's whereabouts to stay a secret, and since his mentality recently changed, he no longer had any schemes in play. "Yes, though Alliance Leader Lu should have figured this out already. The Innerverse is nothing before the might of the Neoverse powers, and we cannot even stand up to the Four Pirate Crews. Thus, there is a tacit agreement for the eight of us to periodically confirm each other's identity."

Naturally, this was something that Lu Yin was already aware of, as he had learned of it when secretly taking control of Chaosgod Mountain.

"This is true of even the Divine Venom Dynasty, but they have one unique characteristic in that they avoid disputes and conflicts with the rest of the Innerverse as much as possible. As long as they themselves are not facing a crisis, they will ignore everything. The current situation is no different. Qing Shaohuang never once considered joining hands with us, so out of desperation, my only choice was to send Elder Lianxin as an emissary."

"And how have things developed?" Lu Yin asked.

Liu Qianjue shook his head. "Far from ideal. Qing Shaohuang was eventually persuaded, but another major faction within the Divine Venom Dynasty that's led by an old expert, Yuan Taishi, strongly opposes the Divine Venom Dynasty joining the Great Eastern Alliance."

Lu Yin was surprised to hear this. "Why?"

"Their family's founder was born in Venom Flowzone, and he followed and established the principle that Venom Flowzone is self-contained and does not interact with the outside world. He did not want the Divine Venom Dynasty to have any interactions with the outside world at all. In fact, the Divine Venom Dynasty does indeed have the ability to do just this," Liu Qianjue explained.

"Cultivators from the Divine Venom Dynasty not only cultivate themselves, but also poison. Yuan Taishi is opposing our request for help, and while he is not an Envoy, he possesses an Envoy-level jincan that was passed down by their ancestors, which means that Yuan Taishi is actually able to fight against Envoys. Thus, even Qing Shaohuang must give some face to this expert."

"The ecology of Venom Flowzone itself is integrally related to poison, and without the help of members of the Divine Venom Dynasty, it's difficult for outsiders to enter or leave the flowzone..."

Liu Qianjue shared a lot of information with Lu Yin regarding the Divine Venom Dynasty, finally saying, "There are too many people in the Divine Venom Dynasty who agree with Yuan Taishi, so even if Qing Shaohuang wants to join us, he's worried about trying to push for them to leave Venom Flowzone. Instead, under the premise of a recent breakthrough, he intends to invite all the Inniverse's major powers to visit the Divine Venom Dynasty. Alliance Leader Lu will also be invited."

Lu Yin laughed. "He's not hoping to assassinate me in Venom Flowzone, is he?"

"Of course that's impossible, but Elder Lianxin still doesn't know what the plan is," Liu Qianjue answered.

Lu Yin nodded. "Thank you, Sect Master Liu, for telling me. One more thing." Lu Yin paused. "How is the Yōu family?"

"The Yōu family?" Liu Qianjue had not expected to hear this question from Lu Yin. "Why is Alliance Leader Lu asking about the Yōu family?"

"Madam Yōu has already approached me many times, hoping to join the Great Eastern Alliance and receive my protection," Lu Yin said.

Liu Qianjue shook his head. "The Yōu family has hidden themselves too deeply, and I still don't know why they separated from the Yōu clan. The battle techniques that Yōu Ye'er's used during ZENITH were strange and disturbing,

and they definitely do not come from the Yōu family or the Yōu clan. Even though we have kept them trapped, we have not done much to them otherwise. The entire thing feels quite strange.”

Lu Yin replied, "Keep up the pressure. Actually, turn it up a notch."

When Lu Yin had first asked the Starsibyl Sect to perform a divination on Undying Yushan, they had found a relation to Ancient Progenitor Yōu Ming, who was the Yōu family's ancestor. This had greatly concerned Lu Yin, but with the Sword Sect joining the Great Eastern Alliance, he could have the Sword Sect put pressure on the Yōu to see how they would react.

Lu Yin was hoping to receive a call from Madam Yōu soon.

Liu Qian could not understand Lu Yin's thoughts, but he also did not ask. More than anything, the master of the Sword Sect wanted to know more about the Fourteenth Sword and anything concerning Liu Huang.

In the Ross Empire's mobile fortress, Lu Yin lowered his gadget and smiled as he waved Sapling over. The odd little plant happily jumped right over.

The moment Liu Huang had been released from Gaia's Swamp, the Sword Sect had been left without a path towards escape. Everything had proceeded according to Lu Yin's expectations.

Of the Inniverse's eight great flowzones, four had already fallen. Which would be next?

Beep beep beep!

The gadget beeped again, and Lu Yin was surprised when he glanced down. Madam Hong?

Madam Hong had disappeared after reaching an agreement with Lu Yin, and not even the people from Flying Horse Manor had any idea where she had gone.

The moment the call connected, unrestrained laughter came through. "Hey kid, are you surprised? Hahahaha!"

Lu Yin was quite startled.

Chapter 1754: Goals In Life

Madam Hong was a graceful woman who possessed a charming voice. Lu Yin had expected to hear the woman's voice, and he certainly had not expected to hear a burst of coarse laughter the moment he had answered the call, which was why he had been startled so badly.

"Who is this?" Lu Yin was confused, but he almost immediately exclaimed, "Kui Luo?"

"Hahaha, it's me, the old man! This was quite the accident, haha!" Kui Luo laughed.

Lu Yin felt completely lost. "Why do you have Madam Hong's gadget?"

Kui Luo smiled. "I accidentally came across a woman who was trapped, and I rescued her. In her—um, this thing is a gadget, right?—Anyways, your name was listed, so I thought I'd give it a try."

"Where's Madam Hong?" Lu Yin quickly asked. "Who captured her?"

"Hey, girl! You hear that? Who trapped you?" Kui Luo asked in a very rude manner.

Lu Yin soon heard a weak voice speak up. "Lu- Alliance Leader Lu."

Lu Yin immediately turned on the call's video option, and the display popped up. The first thing that he saw was Kui Luo's wrinkled face, blatantly showing a proud expression. After that, Madam Hong appeared. She was pale, bleeding from all seven orifices, and she was even missing both of her arms. Clearly, she had endured unimaginable torture.

The woman was a World Imprinter, and she was a very powerful one at that. She had a power level of over 900,000, which put her far above countless people, and she was also a protector of the Daosource Sect. She was someone who was qualified to promise five weaves to Lu Yin, and yet she had been reduced to such a state.

"What happened?" Lu Yin was curious.

Madam Hong glared at Lu Yin, deep hatred and confusion filling her eyes. "Bluedome Elder!"

"Bluedome Elder captured you? Why?" Lu Yin wondered.

Madam Hong's eyes narrowed. "I don't know! He demanded that I give him Progenitor Wushang's hide, but I don't have anything like that!"

Lu Yin was momentarily stunned, but he quickly understood. In order to force Madam Hong away from Flying Horse Manor and save the colossal giants, he had told Qing Tan a story about how he had traded Progenitor Wushang's hide to Madam Hong for a promise that the Great Eastern Alliance would be given five weaves. At that time, Bluedome Elder had looked into the matter, and he had discovered that Madam Hong really had promised to give Lu Yin five weaves in exchange for Lu Yin's help in dealing with Qing Hua. However, from Bluedome Elder's perspective, the real exchange had already been completed, and it had been for Progenitor Wushang's hide, not for Lu Yin to act against an Emyrean Imprinter's disciples.

Lu Yin's request for five weaves had just been randomly said, and he had never anticipated his careless words to cause such a terrible fate befall Madam Hong. He had never even considered the possibility that Bluedome Elder would covet Progenitor Wushang's hide so much that he would attack Madam Hong. Things had greatly exceeded Lu Yin's expectations.

Lu Yin has always wanted to force Madam Hong to pay back the debt she owed for her actions against the Fifth Mainland; she had captured the Sea King, the colossal giants, and even nearly killed Lu Yin in the Starfall Sea. This was why Lu Yin had schemed against the woman.

When Bluedome Elder had interrogated Madam Hong about Progenitor Wushang's hide, she had also figured out what had happened, and she had realized that Lu Yin had tricked her. She hated Lu Yin even more than Bluedome Elder, but at this moment, she could only keep her emotions hidden. She was in Kui Luo's care, which did not seem to be much different from falling into Lu Yin's hands.

"Hey, kid. What do you want me to do with this chick? Do you two know each other?" Kui Luo asked as his face filled the display.

Lu Yin smiled. "Senior, she is one of this junior's enemies."

Madam Hong's expression instantly changed.

Kui Luo's eyes narrowed, and his voice instantly chilled. "Well, in that case-

"Wait!" Madam Hong screamed. She stared at Lu Yin, begging him with her eyes. "We aren't enemies! Lu Yin, I've never hurt you."

"In the Starfall Sea."

"We were on opposite sides of a war, but I've never held any personal grudge against you, and I never did anything to harm you!"

"You captured the colossal giants."

"I didn't even know they were yours when I captured them, and I tried to speak with you after I found out."

"Pitting me against Master Qing Hua?"

"That was simply a deal!"

Lu Yin stared at Madam Hong and slowly smiled. "You don't think that we're enemies? Honestly, we aren't enemies as far as I'm concerned, just friends. However, what kind of friend are you?"

Madam Hong swallowed dryly and reflexively glanced over at Kui Luo. Kui Luo arched a brow, but he otherwise continued to glare at her fiercely. She trembled when she saw it. This old man's strength was incomprehensible! The way that he wandered around wherever he wanted meant that he was at least as strong as an Empyrean Imprinter.

"Friend! We're friends!" Madam Hong tasted ashes as she claimed to be friends, as she already understood that she had become Lu Yin's subordinate.

Lu Yin felt quite satisfied. "Yes, we are friends, but while I like to treat my friends very well, we're too far apart for me to entertain you. Senior Kui Luo is also one of my elders, so I'll have to ask him to take care of you for now."

"Hey, kid, I don't have time to babysit this girl!" Kui Luo instantly became upset.

Lu Yin simply spoke two words. "Origin Matter."

Kui Luo grinned and rolled his eyes. "I want to uncover the mysteries of the universe."

"Madam Hong knows a great deal about the Sixth Mainland, especially since she's one of the Daosource Sect's protectors, so she should be able to help you with that," Lu Yin urged. What was Kui Luo's greatest strength? Uncovering people's secrets. However, this was also the man's greatest weakness, as it was why he had become wanted and hated by the entire Perennial World. Still, this was a great boon for Lu Yin.

Lu Yin had no idea where Madam Hong had been held, but it had definitely been a secret location. After all, one of the protectors of the Sixth Mainland's Daosource Sect had been captured, and if this matter were exposed, even Bluedome Elder would have had a difficult time. Despite the protections that the Empyrean Imprinter must have taken, Madam Hong had still been discovered and rescued by Kui Luo. This was absolutely amazing, and it amply proved that the old man had a unique gift for digging into other people's secrets.

Lu Yin held high hopes that he would be able to uncover the Sixth Mainland's classified information through the old man.

"The Daosource Sect?" Kui Luo's eyes instantly lit up. In ancient times, the Daosource Sect had ruled over all of humanity, but the only branch of the Daosource Sect that still remained was the Sixth Mainland's. Truthfully, he was very interested.

"It's not just Daosource Sect—the Sixth Mainland also has imprints, bloodlines, martial prints, and more. Almost all of their cultivation methods are completely different from what my Fifth Mainland uses, and they're very interesting," Lu Yin continued.

Kui Luo took a long look at Lu Yin. "That Origin Matter isn't enough to hire this old man as your workhorse!"

Lu Yin's expression grew solemn as well. "What is Senior saying? Doesn't Senior love all of these things?"

Kui Luo laughed when he heard Lu Yin's words as his eyes filled with eagerness.

Madam Hong's heart dropped; what had she just overheard? Bloodlines, martial prints, imprints, and the Daosource Sect? This whole thing felt quite surreal. She glanced over at the old man; just what was it that this old man wanted to do?

"Alright, I won't mess around with you anymore," Kui Luo said, and he was just about to end the call.

Lu Yin quickly spoke up, "Wait! I have one more question for Madam Hong."

"Hurry up. The expert who captured her is about to get back," Kui Luo pressed.

Lu Yin just pursed his lips; just how frequently did this old man spout off lies? "Don't worry. Bluedome Elder's dead."

Kui Luo was instantly confused. "What do you mean?"

"Bluedome Elder's dead?" Madam Hong could not believe her ears, and her eyes went wide.

Lu Yin explained, "The master of wherever you are was Bluedome Elder, but he died. I don't know how he died, but he's already dead, so no one will be going back to that place anytime soon."

Kui Luo became upset. "I just lost all feeling of accomplishment..."

"How did Bluedome Elder die?" Madam Hong eagerly asked. She felt both excited and sad. She had been tortured for so long that her hatred towards Bluedome Elder had already reached the sky. She had actually intended to report him to the Daosource Sect and have Bluedome Elder's reputation be smeared throughout the entire Sixth Mainland. She had never even thought he would have already died.

"I already said that I don't know how, but he's dead. Now, let me ask you: did you take anything away when you destroyed Astral-3 during the Sixth Mainland's invasion? Like the Stargazing Deck?" Lu Yin asked.

Eight of the Astral Combat Academy's Starmasters had left their posts, and when Lu Yin had asked about it, he had realized that they were out looking for the missing Stargazing Deck that had been lost with Astral-3.

When Lu Yin had returned to visit Astral-10 and visited the Stargazing Deck, a strange event had occurred. His fatesand had reacted, and he had seen a strange vision. This was why the Stargazing Deck was still on Lu Yin's mind, as he had triggered Destiny, which had shown that the Stargazing Decks were connected to Destiny.

Madam Hong thought about it for a bit. "After we destroyed Astral-3, we dragged the whole thing back to the Sixth Mainland. After all, when our two Mainlands were at war, the Astral Combat Academy's warships were devastating. When Aeternus invaded, we used Astral-3 to fight back. When we retreated, we couldn't bring it with us, so it was left in the Sixth Mainland."

"It was left in the Sixth Mainland? The Stargazing Deck too?" Lu Yin frowned.

Madam Hong nodded. "Back then, I couldn't bring anything at all from Astral-3."

Lu Yin mourned the fact that Astral-3 had been lost, as well as its Stargazing Deck. Eight of the Starmasters were out searching for it, which was why Lu Yin had thought to ask about it.

"Alright, that's enough. Don't keep holding me up. I'll talk to the girl about her goals in life." Kui Luo was impatient.

Lu Yin nodded. "Sounds good."

As Kui Luo was ending the call, Lu Yin was able to see Madam Hong's terrified expression, which left Lu Yin speechless. He did not want to even think about what Kui Luo considered the "ideals of life," but he already knew that they involved digging into others' secrets. The old man was going to brainwash Madam Hong, and Lu Yin firmly believed that the Sixth Mainland would witness a difficult period in the future, as no one would be able to keep any secrets hidden.

Also, it was pretty clear that Madam Hong must have misunderstood something.

Lu Yin stared at his gadget in a daze. Madam Hong was under Kui Luo's control, which provided him with a great amount of maneuverability. Lu Yin needed to think about how to use this.

A few days later, someone from Venom Flowzone sent Lu Yin an invitation.

After glancing at it, Lu Yin put it away. Sure enough, Qing Shaohuang had sent him an invitation.

"Alliance Leader, the Divine Venom Dynasty has invited many different powers, not only from the Innerverse, but also from the Cosmic Sea and the Neoverse. Even people from the Hall of Honor have been invited," Wei Rong reported.

"Do you think that I should go?" Lu Yin asked.

Wei Rong replied, "At least some people feel that you shouldn't. I just received a message from someone else in Venom Flowzone, and they specifically told me not to let you go."

"One of Master Yuan Taishi's people?" Lu Yin asked.

Wei Rong nodded. "Seems to be."

"Then I'd better go. I want to find out just what Qing Shaohuang is planning." Lu Yin was quite intrigued. After all, he had dared to enter even the Technocracy, so there was no need to mention Venom Flowzone. Besides, while the Second Nightking's strength was still recovering, he was already a match for Yuan Shi, so there was no one in Venom Flowzone who could stop the old man.

When the Sixth Mainland had invaded the Fifth Mainland, they had not been able to enter Venom Flowzone because the entire flowzone had a unique environment. While Qing Shaohuang was far from weak, the most important detail was how the flowzone's very space was quite different, and this detail had stopped the Sixth Mainland's invasion. It had never been because they had not been able to enter Venom Flowzone. After all, a Cosmic Imprinter could freely enter and leave Venom Flowzone without any issue.

With the Second Nightking at his side, Lu Yin truly did not believe that Qing Shaohuang could do anything to harm him. Lu Yin himself was not weak, and Qing Shaohuang was not dumb enough to target Lu Yin.

After considering everything, Lu Yin felt that he might as well go visit Venom Flowzone. It was still one of the eight great flowzones, which meant that it would eventually become part of Lu Yin's territory.

Chapter 1755: The Importance Of An Opponent

While Lu Yin was deciding whether he should go to Venom Flowzone, things were finally starting to simmer down in the Outerverse between the

Neohuman Alliance and the Sixth Mainland. This was mostly because there were too many people connected to the Horned Galaxy. There was not only the entire Autumnfrost family and those connected to them, but also the person who had bought a fragment of the black crystal for a ridiculous price. As soon as that transaction had been exposed, countless people had swarmed the Horned Galaxy and come into contact with fragments of the shattered black crystal. It was impossible for the Neohuman Alliance to track everyone down, even if they had many more corpse kings.

At this time, the Divine Venom Dynasty's invitations were delivered across the entire Human Domain. In particular, not a single one of the powers from the eight great flowzones declined the invitation.

Also, powers such as Shamrock Enterprise, Aurora Enterprises, the Mavis Bank, Windrift Hall, and many more received invitations as well.

Venom Flowzone was a mysterious place that had few interactions with the outside world. Qing Shaohuang had suddenly done something completely out of character and invited many people to his flowzone. This sudden change had roused many people's interest.

Lu Yin took the Second Nightking with him, and they boarded a ship that headed towards Fennel Flowzone.

Fennel Flowzone served as the entrance to Venom Flowzone, and it was controlled by the Great Eastern Alliance. If not for an agreement that had been made with the Divine Venom Dynasty, Lu Yin would have loved to do something with Fennel Flowzone.

"How much do you know about the Divine Venom Dynasty?" Lu Yin suddenly asked.

Behind him, the Second Nightking was leaning against a wall. Upon hearing Lu Yin's question, the Second Nightking knew that it was directed towards himself. "Nothing."

Lu Yin turned to look at the man. "But I heard that the Third Nightking provided a lot of help back when the Divine Venom Dynasty was first established."

The Second Nightking casually replied, "It wasn't really a big deal. The eight great flowzones were not appointed, and competition was needed. When the

Third Nightking went to Venom Flowzone back then, he killed a person who was an enemy of the current royal family of the Divine Venom Dynasty, and in exchange, they offered to support my Daynight clan. However, this offer disappeared when the Third Nightking vanished."

"Do you know that I've actually died more than once, and one time was because of one of your descendants?" Lu Yin asked in a light tone.

The Second Nightking looked up at this. "Nightking Zhenwu."

Lu Yin nodded.

When the First Nightking had first left the Celestial Frost Sect's ruins, he had been almost completely ignorant of matters in the Human Domain, but after being out for so long, he had already learned a lot, especially regarding matters related to Lu Yin.

However, one would still learn of Lu Yin's matters whether they chose to or not. The development in the universe the last ten years had been influenced by him.

Lu Yin stared out into space as he continued speaking. "To tell you the truth, I've encountered many dangerous situations from the moment I first started cultivating, and I've even been attacked by a Semi-Progenitor and caught up in the shockwaves of a Progenitor's attack. Still, none of that can compare to my fights with Nightking Zhenwu.

"It's no exaggeration to admit that Nightking Zhenwu was the strongest opponent I've ever faced among my peers."

The Second Nightking's eyes flickered.

Lu Yin continued in a light manner, "During ZENITH, I faced Shang Qing, who's very powerful, and his Tri-Yang Ancestral Qi Technique forced me to use the God of Death Transformation. The top youths from the Neoverse and the Perennial World's Junior Progenitors were also very powerful, but none of them were able to make me feel the same sense of danger and crisis that Nightking Zhenwu gave me."

"Nightking Zhenwu gave me the greatest competition from my peers, and he was also the person to push me into the most helpless position."

"And yet he still lost to you," the Second Nightking retorted. He lamented Zhenwu's death, as Nightking Zhenwu had been the most outstanding genius that the clan had seen since the First Nightking. The Second Nightking had watched recordings of Lu Yin's battle with Nightking Zhenwu.

Lu Yin grew solemn. "He lost to himself, to his narrow-mindedness and selfishness, and his desire to control everyone. He lost by losing his humanity."

The Second Nightking did not want to continue this conversation. Nightking Zhenwu was still a subject of pain for the Daynight clan.

"Do you know why I'm bringing this up?" Lu Yin asked.

The Second Nightking was actually confused by this.

Lu Yin remained somber. "Because Nightking Zhenwu was clearly strong enough to fight me directly, and yet he purposely poisoned me in order to improve his chances of victory even more, and I almost died. It was just a hair's breadth away."

The Second Nightking did not understand.

"He used a poison that's called Transience, and it came from the Divine Venom Dynasty," Lu Yin continued.

The Second Nightking's eyes flickered. "Are you saying that my clan still has some connections to the Divine Venom Dynasty?"

Lu Yin replied, "Not right now. Since I'm the one controlling the Daynight clan, I know for a fact that they don't. The only time that there was any sign of cooperation was when they helped Nightking Zhenwu, but that's simply related to the regular Daynight clan. You, on the other hand, are the Second Nightking. There are only a select few that know that you are following me, and the Hall of Honor has made you wanted throughout the entire Human Domain. Tell me, where do you think you have the greatest chance of remaining hidden?"

The Second Nightking finally understood. "You want me to reach out to the Divine Venom Dynasty."

"The Third Nightking assistance is not something that can be repaid with something as simple as a poison like Transience," Lu Yin replied.

The Second Nightking nodded. "I understand."

Regardless of the Second Nightking's own feelings on the matter, he was in no position to refuse.

In Fennel Flowzone's Greenlight Forest, there was a glowing green fruit that grew that could allow a person to resist many of the poisons in Venom Flowzone, and the fruits were a necessity for anyone entering the toxic flowzone.

With all of the invitations that the Divine Venom Dynasty had sent out to people throughout the universe, people from everywhere had gathered in Fennel Flowzone and were making their way to the Greenlight Forest. There were spacecraft from all parts of the Human Domain.

Wherever many people gathered, more conflicts would appear. This was especially true since the price of the greenlight fruits was spiking, which had upset many people.

"This is the price of the greenlight fruits now, whether you like it or not."

The entrance to the Greenlight Forest had been barricaded to keep the crowds out, so many people were disgruntled. "The greenlight fruits' price is a thousand times higher now! This is ridiculous! We'll just go pick some ourselves."

"That's right, we'll go get our own."

"Move! Let us in."

...

The commotion increased until someone attacked. A fierce battle instantly erupted at the entrance to the Greenlight Forest, and many people were dragged into the chaos.

However, the fighting lasted for only a few minutes before a powerhouse from the Great Eastern Alliance showed up and quickly suppressed everyone. After that, no one dared to create any fuss.

Off to the side, there was a gloomy looking man who was staring at the Great Eastern Alliance's military with open fear. This man was He Zhong, and he was a disciple of the Tempest Flowzone's Fire Scorpion Sect. The sect specialized in raising fire scorpions and extracting their venom to use with their battle techniques.

He Zhong had instigated the recent fight in front of Greenlight Forest.

When the Sixth Mainland had invaded the Fifth Mainland, all of the Fire Scorpion Sect's fire scorpions had died, and their only choice was to visit Venom Flowzone in order to find a toxin that could replace the fire scorpions' venom. In the past, it had been easy to enter Venom Flowzone, but after the Great Eastern Alliance had taken over Fennel Flowzone, the price of the greenlight fruits had steadily risen. The Fire Scorpion Sect had suffered terribly from the Sixth Mainland's invasion, and they were no longer able to afford the prices of the fruits.

Also, there were not many people who wanted to enter Venom Flowzone, so the Fire Scorpion Sect had never been able to find anyone else willing to cooperate with them to fight the current situation. At the moment, things were about to improve. After all, with so many people protesting together, the price of the greenlight fruits had to fall.

Unfortunately, He Zhong had been overly optimistic, as the price of the fruits did not drop at all. Instead, he was arrested as Lu Yin had recognized the man.

When Lu Yin had passed through Fennel Flowzone to collect a greenlight fruit, he had coincidentally seen He Zhong attack.

He Zhong had wanted to escape with a greenlight fruit, but the Great Eastern Alliance had a garrison stationed at Greenlight Forest, and they also controlled the entire Fennel Flowzone as well as its borders. In the past, Northseal Flowzone had sealed their border with the Great Eastern Alliance because of the Sword Sect's pressure, but after a colossal giant had eliminated a sect within their borders, no one else from the flowzone had been willing to offend the Great Eastern Alliance.

He Zhong was basically a nobody, and Lu Yin did not even remember the man from before. Instead, Lu Yin was focused on a distant vessel; was that Ling Que?

There was a distant spaceship smoothly making its way towards Venom Flowzone, and it carried the emblem of the Lingling clan.

Venom Flowzone had always been a mysterious place, and most people were reluctant to enter it unless absolutely necessary. However, Qing Shaohuang had recently invited a vast number of people to visit the Divine Venom Dynasty.

In addition to the people who had been invited, many others also tried their best to follow the invitees, as they wanted to form a connection with the Divine Venom Dynasty. After all, they ruled one of the eight great flowzones, and many people were envious of the poisons they own and wanted to take advantage of this opportunity to acquire some of them for their own use.

"Let me tell you. Back then, Lu Yin was nothing more than a pleb before me! He wasn't even qualified to be one of my supporters, and he only was able to compare to me after he reached his peak. If not for that idiot Mu Rong fighting against Lu Yin and giving him the experience that he needed, Lu Yin still wouldn't be able to compare to me, Ling Que!" An arrogant voice echoed through the vessel, addressing a group of people who represented various forces from across the Inniverse who were following the Lingling clan in order to enter Venom Flowzone.

After Ling Que finished speaking, a row of beautiful women started shouting:

"Ling Que, Ling Que, I love you! Ling Que, Ling Que, you're the best!"

"Ling Que, Ling Que, I love you! Ling Que, Ling Que, you're the best!"

"Ling Que, Ling Que, I love you! Ling Que, Ling Que, you're the best!"

"Ling Que, Ling Que, I love you! Ling Que, Ling Que, you're the best!"

...

Applause exploded as the gathered representatives from forces both big and small roused themselves from the stupor they had sunk into while Ling Que had been speaking. Seeing the smug look on his face, they all quickly applauded, fearing that Ling Que would see their hesitation and force them out of the vessel.

If they did not follow the Lingling clan, they would have no means of entering Venom Flowzone, as it would be too dangerous to try to enter on their own.

Ling Que felt quite satisfied with the reactions he saw. "Cough. Alright, that's enough. I'm not telling you all of this to brag, but so that you can understand how important a qualified opponent is. Lu Yin is the biggest opponent that I've ever encountered, and he also once mentioned that I, Ling Que, was the most dangerous opponent he's ever gone up against. Honestly, he tends to overthink, and I actually prefer to think of him as a friend. After all, every time we fight and injured each other, it only benefits others."

The entire group was completely stunned; how could anyone possibly be so shameless? Ling Que was someone Lu Yin could drown by simply spitting!

Still, more applause was heard.

"Ling Que, Ling Que, I love you! Ling Que, Ling Que, you're the best!"

"Ling Que, Ling Que, I love you! Ling Que, Ling Que, you're the best!"

"Ling Que, Ling Que, I love you! Ling Que, Ling Que, you're the best!"

"Ling Que, Ling Que, I love you! Ling Que, Ling Que, you're the best!"

...

No one noticed that one more person had appeared within the group of Innerverse representatives, but suddenly, Ling Que expression became quite strange.

At this moment, the vessel came to a stop, and someone said, "Report: a vessel from Beast Tamers Flowzone is up ahead."

Ling Que's brows rose. "Beast Tamers Flowzone? Those people who raise pets? Who is it?"

A screen appeared, and it showed a massive spaceship soaring through space with the emblem of Beast Tamers Flowzone on its hull. There were numerous other vessels in front of it, and they came from all parts of the Innerverse.

Further up ahead was the entrance to Venom Flowzone, and the space there was filled with different types of poisonous gas that could be easily seen.

No one could tell when she had arrived, but Ling Gong suddenly stepped forward. "Go speak to the people from Beast Tamers Flowzone."

"What am I supposed to say to those animal lovers?" Ling Que muttered.

Ling Gong's eyes grew cold, and she glared at Ling Que for a moment before glancing over at his cheerleaders. The women seemed to trigger Ling Gong's anger. "Get rid of them."

Ling Que was startled, but then he grinned. "Hey, there's no need for that. This ship is so big, and there's plenty of room for them."

"Get them out!" Ling Gong shouted fiercely, and Ling Que then hastened to push his cheerleaders out of the room.

Their departure allowed all of the Inniverse representatives present to let out sighs of relief. The cheerleaders' presence had been completely stifling, as the representatives were expected to applaud every time the cheerleaders started chanting for Ling Que. It had been exhausting.

"I'm sorry, everyone. Please return to your quarters to get some rest," Ling Gong apologized to them all.

Everyone quickly offered a few polite words and excused themselves. Not one of them dared to even glance over at Ling Que.