

Chapter 241: The Scholar Of The Ten Arbiters

There were two terrifying battles taking place in outer space; one was between Yao Gu and Wen Sansi, and the other was between Soaring Firebeast and Shui Chuanxiao. These two battles were so intense that they even impacted the nearby defensive planets' climates. Only the steady beats from the war drums were able to stabilize the defensive line and allow the human army to take the upper hand.

Currently, the ones in the most danger weren't the soldiers but rather the drummers. Every drummer became the beasts' foremost target.

Usually, the war drummers were Explorers who had astounding auras and robust physical bodies. However, the drummer for Planet Conan was a Melder. He was merely at the Melder realm, which in turn had made him the target of quite a few powerful beasts. Killing a war drummer was a huge achievement for any beast.

Lu Yin grabbed the black warhammer and slowly lifted it, his grimace deepening as it grew heavier and heavier. He steadily raised his battle force, and after all five lines were activated, he slammed down on the drum.

Boom!

An earth-shattering reverberation emanated throughout the battlefield and even reached into space, where the vibrations harmonized with the reverberations from the drums on the other planets. At this moment, numerous soldiers on Planet Conan felt their morale soar and strength strangely rise.

On the other hand, countless beasts howled in misery.

On Lu Yin's right arm, the Ghost Monkey was speechless. He had become Lu Yin's tamed beast and was thus unaffected by the drums. "I can't believe that you're a drummer! Are you trying to get yourself killed? Do you know how many drummers die at the warfront every year? Let me tell you: at least twenty. Twenty physically powerful drummers, each of whom have terrifying auras. You're just a tiny weakling that any powerful beast can kill instantly!"

"Shut up!" Lu Yin exclaimed. The weight of the warhammer and the fiendish rebounding force coursing through his body required all of his focus. Boom! The drum was struck again, and the resulting soundwaves reached into the sky.

Outside Planet Conan, the Tan Gang fire beast that was fighting with Qu Ao was enraged. "Kill that thing!"

Lu Yin gritted his teeth as he felt another bout of dizziness hit him. However, compared to the dizziness that he had endured while memorizing the Stonewall Scriptures, this was not even close to making him collapse.

The drumbeats on Planet Conan grew louder, and the beating of the drums on nearby planets joined in as well. Soon, all of these drums had joined together into a single rhythm that surged, amplifying their effect on the beasts.

All of a sudden, a wave of bloodlust descended upon the war drum, and a sharp claw flew right at Lu Yin. The bloodlust was unavoidable, for it came from a powerful beast that was able to travel through space on its own. Lu Yin was also unable to dodge it even with Flash as the void around him had solidified. Lu Yin's eyes widened as he valiantly ignored the attack while the Ghost Monkey yelped in fear. At that moment, a Red Lotus Arrow appeared out of nowhere and collided with the claw. Remnant shockwaves struck Lu Yin, forcing him to spit out a mouthful of blood that landed on the war drum. However, he ignored it and continued steadfastly beating the drum. Mira emerged from the void and stood next to him with a serious face, ready to protect him from any would-be threats.

Lu Yin glanced at her, and she smiled back. "You're doing well. Continue beating the drum, and don't worry. Even if you die, it will be after me."

Lu Yin grew solemn and his battle force intensified even further as he mercilessly beat the drum without pause.

As the reverberations of the drumbeats continued spreading through the battlefield, the humans grew stronger and started suppressing the beasts bit by bit.

While there were some drums that suddenly stopped beating, those localized disturbances did not have a huge effect on the overall situation.

Up in space, Yao Gu attacked wantonly in all directions. There were a total of sixty four ancient characters around him, and together, they formed the Wen clan's powerful battle technique, the Literary Prison, and had imprisoned Yao Gu.

Yao Gu was shocked. "You've managed to cultivate the Literary Prison to the 8x8 level. Even within your family, there are very few who have reached similar heights."

"My ancestors are not people who you beasts have the right to judge!" Wen Sansi exclaimed. The Literary Prison in space shimmered as the light from the surroundings reflected off of it.

Each one of the sixty four characters were linked together to form the Literary Prison that had imprisoned Yao Gu and locked down this section of space. This was a huge surprise to many powerhouses, including Soaring Firebeast.

Yao Gu bellowed in rage and shot out a beam of electricity that pierced the void and destroyed the Literary Prison. Its huge body then rushed straight for Planet Conan.

Wen Sansi was shocked. "It's actually this powerful? No wonder it was able to fight against Serati." As he spoke, his Literary Prison that had just been destroyed reformed. This time, it was even stronger than before, as it could now illuminate ten planets.

Even Lu Yin, who was down on Planet Conan, looked up in shock. Who could do something this amazing?

With a shriek, the void fluctuated like a rolling wave and formed a gigantic black hole that devoured everything in its path. Yao Gu instantly fled without looking back, though right before he left, he fearfully glanced at Wen Sansi one last time. This man who was known as the Scholar of the Ten Arbiters and his mysterious methods scared it to the core.

After even Yao Gu left, Soaring Firebeast felt that there was no longer any need for him to stay, so the battle ended quickly. Just like that, all the beasts fled in various directions, leaving behind a huge number of corpses.

The soldiers then started cleaning the battlefield, numbly burning the bodies as everything went back to normal.

Lu Yin set the black warhammer down with a trembling arm. He had overexerted himself. It had been difficult for him to beat the war drum, and it was no wonder that only Explorers with physically powerful bodies could beat the drums. Perhaps even Mira would find such a task difficult.

"I didn't expect that you would actually be able to make a sound," Mira remarked as she looked at Lu Yin in surprise.

Lu Yin smiled wryly. "It took everything that I had to do it."

Mira sized him up and down as she replied, "It hasn't been long, but you're already able to do so much. To be honest, even the Ten Arbiters couldn't have done much more than what you've done when they were still at the Melder realm. Treat what I said before as empty air; you have already attained the right to speak to the members of the Outerverse Youth Council as an equal."

Lu Yin was surprised and looked straight at Mira. "Are you talking about the Council of Astral Academy?"

Mira nodded. "The Council of Astral Academy has a similar status as the Outerverse Youth Council. As one of the final four combatants in the Astral Combat Tournament and the leader of Astral-10, you'll definitely be able to join the student council."

"No, I need to join the Outerverse Youth Council as well," Lu Yin suddenly said.

Mira was confused. "Why?" But right after asking that, she let out a charming laugh. "Oh, it's because of your fiancée?"

Lu Yin burst into laughter as well and nodded. "Kind of."

"What a petty man." Mira rolled her eyes.

Lu Yin did not explain the situation any further to Mira. His family must have had good reasons for them to require that he join the Great Yu Empire Youth Council. Now that he had gone beyond that and could stand on equal ground with the Outerverse Youth Council members, he wondered if it would affect anything. Whatever it was, joining the Council of Astral Academy meant that he would also be able to join the Outerverse Youth Council as there was no conflict of interest. One was the Astral Combat Academy while the other belonged to the Outerverse; he could join both.

Lu Yin still remembered how Bazeer had humiliated him in the past. When he went back to the Outerverse's floating city of San Dios, he would settle the score then.

"You won't go back on your word, right?" Lu Yin asked while looking at Mira.

She smiled, and her eyes curved into crescents as she clearly answered, "What do you think?"

Lu Yin blinked but did not answer.

Mira tilted her head. "I have a question for you. If I like your answer, then I'll submit a recommendation for you to enter the Outerverse Youth Council."

"Go on," Lu Yin said.

Mira drew closer to him with an impish grin. "Who's prettier: me or Michelle?"

Lu Yin was startled. He never thought that Mira would ask such a question; they were still on the battlefield! However, he reacted quickly and immediately answered, "You're obviously prettier."

"Hehe, really?" Mira giggled happily.

"Yes," Lu Yin said as he nodded seriously.

Mira came even closer to Lu Yin and whispered, "How about I marry you then?"

Lu Yin's heart stopped beating for a moment. It was a very tempting proposal. He gazed at her figure, and her pale neck and beautiful curves entered his eyes while her enchanting fragrance tantalized his senses.

However, he froze for just a brief moment. After only a second, he hastily pulled himself away. Mira wasn't quite as attractive as Madam Nalan, so in a way, Lu Yin already had acquired some experience and was able to somewhat restrain himself.

As he saw a cunning glint flash through Mira's eyes, Lu Yin suddenly grew furious as he realized that he was being teased. He'd gone through multiple near-death experiences before, and he was not one to let himself be affected by a woman. With this thought, he immediately moved forward and lifted her chin with a single finger. Under her startled eyes, he seriously stated, "If you have the courage to marry me, then I will accept."

Mira froze. She had always liked teasing others, but this was the first time she had even been on the receiving end. She was Mira, the Red Lotus Witchbow and someone who ranked in the Top 100 Rankings. More importantly, she was supported by the Ten Arbiters. It was precisely because she held such an exalted status that numerous disciples from large organizations did not dare to treat her disrespectfully, but right now, she was being teased by a mere youth. Mira couldn't help but be shocked by this experience.

Lu Yin enjoyed the sensation when the tip of his index finger rubbed over her smooth skin as he slowly retracted his hand. He could not overdo things, or else the joke would become a prank. Above all else, he was still not a match for Mira.

"Enough with the jokes. Will you keep your word and submit a recommendation for me to enter the Outerverse Youth Council?" Lu Yin asked.

Mira was still frozen in shock at what had just happened, but then she glared at him. "You're very daring. Aren't you worried that the person behind me will settle this score with you?"

"The person backing you?" Lu Yin's eyes flashed curiously.

Mira's lips curved up. "He's one of the Ten Arbiters. Scared yet?"

"Who is it?" Lu Yin asked.

Mira pointed at the sky. "The Scholar of the Ten Arbiters, Wen Sansi."

"The Scholar of the Ten Arbiters?" Lu Yin was confused.

"That's what everyone calls Wen Sansi. I'll only warn you once—don't be rude to me, or you'll be in trouble when he finds out. All men are petty," Mira threateningly said to Lu Yin, but then she smiled. "By the way, I recorded your answer just now. I'll send it to Michelle, so be careful." After that, she stepped back into the void and disappeared.

Lu Yin froze in place. That woman had tricked him, and she wanted to send his answer to Michelle? Lu Yin could already feel a headache developing just from thinking about it. He could already imagine Michelle's fury when seeing the video. He hadn't even helped her comprehend battle force yet, which was something that he had promised. With this matter piled on top, he would have to carefully choose his future words with Michelle.

"That woman is pretty interesting," the Ghost Monkey said as his voice drifted into Lu Yin's ear.

Lu Yin had completely forgotten about the tamed beast. "So you'll be staying with me from now on?"

"I don't have a choice. You were about to kill me, so I had to save myself somehow," the Ghost Monkey answered sadly. Currently, it was impossible for him to die while he was someone's tamed beast.

"Can I summon you to fight for me?" Lu Yin asked.

"Of course not," the beast answered matter-of-factly.

Lu Yin contemptuously said, "Then why should I keep you around? I should just kill you as soon as possible."

"Hey! Think this over. I might not be able to fight for you, but I do know a lot of ancient secrets, like about Progenitor Wushang. Don't you want his inheritance? Once you get it, you'll be invincible throughout the universe!" the monkey said temptingly.

Lu Yin didn't really care. "The inheritance that you're talking about is in the Astral Beast Domain. Do you think that I can go there with my strength? Besides, that thing holds no interest for me."

Chapter 242: Yao Gu And The Skymender List

"Don't be so naive. Once you reach a certain level of strength, race ceases to matter. Progenitor Wushang's inheritance is something that both beasts and humans can obtain. You know, the moment any information about it spreads, the entire universe will be intrigued. I'm talking about the entire universe, including your Human Domain and even the Technocracy!" the Ghost Monkey exclaimed.

"Regardless of how tempting it is, for now, it really doesn't interest me. On the other hand, I am quite curious about Yao Gu. Tell me more about him," Lu Yin said.

The Ghost Monkey was surprised. "You're interested in Yao Gu? Right, that Void Thunderbeast before had its sights on you, and it even said that you carried their aura. What did you do? Logically speaking, a human Melder shouldn't have had any dealings with Yao Gu."

Lu Yin's tone grew chilly as he threatened, "If I order you to do something, then just do as I say. Listen up, your life is in my hands, so the moment you cease to have any value, I'll destroy you without hesitation. Also, you'd better pray that I get strong, because if I die, you die as well."

The Ghost Monkey could only meekly reply, "I know, I don't need a reminder. You want to know about Yao Gu right? He's a Void Thunderbeast, which is ranked third on the Celestial Beast List. He's also a fully mature Void Thunderbeast. That's all anyone knows, though any intelligent beast could have told you that."

"What's the Celestial Beast List?" Lu Yin was confused.

"The Astral Beast Domain has a terrifyingly powerful organization known as the Heavenly Fiend Empire. There was once a great scholar from the Celestial Beast Empire who went by the name of Skymender. He was a very mysterious beast. Nobody knew his true form, and the only aspect of his that was verified was that he could foresee the future by calculating the power of the universe. In some ways, he was quite similar to your Starsibyl.

He came up with the Celestial Beast List that ranks the top races in our Astral Beast Domain. Any species that is on that list will have tremendous fame throughout the Domain, and even the entire universe." After a pause, the Ghost Monkey continued explaining, saying, "The Skymender List is similar to your Ten Arbiters; only the strongest beasts in the Astral Beast Domain's younger generation can enter it. Yao Gu is on this list and is naturally someone who can fight against a Ten Arbiter on equal footing."

Lu Yin now understood. The Skymender List was the astral beasts' way of measuring their younger generation's strength while motivating them at the same time. Large organizations, academies, and even the astral domains and territories; all of them had similar ranking lists. It was a fact that these rankings lists were very effective, to the point where even the Astral Beast Domain had copied the idea.

"By the way, there's something else you need to know. Before you become an Explorer and are able to protect yourself, it's best that you don't stand out too much. Otherwise, you might end up on the Celestial Vanquisher's List," the Ghost Monkey suddenly said.

Lu Yin was baffled again. "The Celestial Vanquisher's List?"

"Skymender once said that the entire universe shares a single sky. The beasts were given life with the power of the heavens. Thus, we astral beasts are the children of heaven, while you humans rebel against the heavens or even consider yourselves to be the heavens. That's why you all are described as 'celestial vanquishers.' The word 'celestial' refers to humans, and the Celestial Vanquisher's List is a list of the humans who pose the greatest threats to the astral beasts as a whole. Regardless of whether the people on the list are of the older or the younger generation, they're all threats. Each and every beast will try to kill any human on the list even at the cost of their own lives. That means that the moment you are put on the Celestial Vanquisher's List, you'll have an endless number of enemies targeting you," the Ghost Monkey explained.

Lu Yin pondered it over before asking, "Can Skymender really make such divinations?"

“Nobody knows for sure. It’s like the Starsibyl Sect of you humans. Just one sentence from the Starsibyl back then resulted in many people freezing and sealing themselves so that they could take full advantage of the coming change in the universe. This even included many beasts from the Astral Beast Domain, but nobody knows for sure whether or not it’s truly accurate.”

Lu Yin had heard of this before. A Starsibyl from many generations ago predicted that there would be a huge change within the universe in the future, and that single prophecy had led to many people freezing and sealing themselves, waiting for the huge change that she had spoken of. Many years had since passed, and her prophecy had ultimately come true, and the appearance of the Ten Arbiters was the best proof of it.

In the past, the younger generation had not been able to contend against the older generation no matter how hard they worked or how wondrous their innate gifts were. This was because cultivation was a steady accumulation that took time. However, when formcast models appeared, one’s cultivation time became greatly reduced. This was a huge change. The great power that the Ten Arbiters grasped was an indescribably huge change in the universe. These two matters were supposedly proof that the universe had undergone a huge change, but Lu Yin felt that it had merely been a coincidence. Could people actually predict the future?

Planet Conan’s command center had been completely destroyed during the battle, and only the war drums remained unharmed.

During this battle, Lu Yin had gained the respect of numerous people; war drummers had always held one of the most respected positions at the warfront. And that wasn’t even mentioning the fact that he’d also found the method of locating Sheng Aos, which had prevented countless losses. This achievement had even granted him the right to meet Shui Chuanxiao.

Within a warship, Lu Yin gazed up into space. During this last battle, five of the thirty seven planets on the right side of the defensive line had been destroyed. All of the troops on those planets had been sacrificed, and it was difficult to even calculate the number of deaths. It was devastating.

The brutality of the warfront was unimaginably cruel. Lu Yin now understood why his family and the pilot who had sent him here had all told him to be careful. Even with his great strength, he had still nearly died. If Mira hadn’t been there, then he would have been in grave danger.

Of the students who had come from the Astral Combat Academy, Tasha, Lanke, and Xue Liuyun had all died.

Xue Liuyun’s death was quite a surprise to Lu Yin. An academy student leader had casually died in such a cruel manner. Xue Liuyun had essentially died while taking down a few powerful astral beasts with him. This included the two Guais and a Sheng Ao. After the battle was over, the army had not been able to find Xue Liuyun’s body; all that remained of him was a puddle of blood. News of his death was sent to the Astral Combat Academy.

A Realm Master was able to look down upon everyone else in the Astral Combat Tournament, but they were so fragile here at the warfront. Perhaps only the Ten Arbiters could be assured in their own safety here.

“Hey, how did you get that beast skin?” the Ghost Monkey suddenly asked.

Lu Yin answered, "Call me Seventh Bro."

"Seventh Bro? Do you have six other siblings?" the Ghost Monkey was slightly confused.

Lu Yin simply ignored him.

The Ghost Monkey could only change his form of address. "Fine, how did you get that beast skin, Seventh Bro?"

Lu Yin raised a hand and rubbed his cosmic ring. The Ghost Monkey quickly stopped him. "Don't take it out! Please, don't take it out!"

Lu Yin's eyes flashed as he glanced at the adorable tattoo on his right arm. "Why not?"

"No matter what, you shouldn't take it out. My life is in your hands now, and everything I do or say is for your own good," the Ghost Monkey hastily said.

Lu Yin snorted derisively. "I'm going to take it out if you don't tell me why."

"Ugh, why are you so stubborn? Fine, I'll tell you. At least then you will know what it means to obtain Progenitor Wushang's inheritance. Do you know why this massive, decisive battle suddenly took place? It's because of that beast skin," the Ghost Monkey sternly said.

Lu Yin was surprised. "It was because of that?"

"Yes! I already told you that it's related to Progenitor Wushang's inheritance. The moment it's taken out, anyone else who possesses a similar beast skin will be able to sense it. Yao Gu also has a beast skin like this. Why else do you think it appeared at the frontier? It's looking for others like it. I've hid from it so many times and never revealed that skin. I only took it out to save myself because I didn't have any other choice.

"It sensed the beast skin, which is why it started a decisive battle and continuously targeted Planet Conan.

"Do you finally realize how important this thing is? You shouldn't take it out before you become a Hunter or else you'll be in great danger! It doesn't matter if you're in the Astral Beast Domain or the Human Domain; after your strength reaches a certain level, race won't matter anymore," the Ghost Monkey explained.

Lu Yin slowly processed this new information. It seemed that he'd gotten ahold of something pretty incredible, but who had he stolen that beast skin from? It was a quite large piece, and the person who possessed it before him must be even stronger than Yao Gu.

With a sudden jolt, the spacecraft docked onto an ultra-large warship. This was the Erudite Flowzone's border command center where Shui Chuanxiao stayed.

Ten minutes later, Lu Yin met the person who was known as the best strategic mind in human history: Shui Chuanxiao.

His appearance was nothing special, but he emanated an unforgettable demeanor. His aura contained some kind of unique charisma that could be seen in every action, and especially when he interacted with other people. Whether male or female, he could befriend everyone.

Charisma was oftentimes the determiner in who held the upper hand, and Shui Chuanxiao's charisma was the kind that allowed him to handle anything with just one word.

"I'm Lu Yin, the war drummer from Planet Conan. It's nice to meet you, sir," Lu Yin politely greeted as he bowed.

Shui Chuanxiao nodded and smiled. "Lu Yin, eh. I knew that you were going to do well here as soon as I saw your battles in the Astral Combat Tournament, and you indeed didn't let me down. There really are very few people who are able to beat the battle drums as a Melder."

"Thank you for the praise, sir," Lu Yin graciously responded.

Shui Chuanxiao made a sound of acknowledgement, "Anybody who makes a huge contribution in the frontier will be rewarded accordingly. This is a reward given to you by the entirety of humanity. Take a look and see what you'd like." After saying this, Shui Chuanxiao motioned towards someone, and a screen flickered on. There was a whole variety of rewards displayed on it, including star essence, cultivation skills, battle techniques, gems, weapons, all kinds of authority, and even territories. At the bottom of all these rewards was something called honor points. Lu Yin could only get one point.

Lu Yin looked at it all in admiration. There were at least a hundred different possible rewards on the screen, and the sheer variety of choice had left him bewildered.

Shui Chuanxiao smiled at Lu Yin. He had seen many people reacting this same exact way multiple times before. Even that future member of the Ten Arbiters had reacted this way back then. Humanity gave the warfront an endless amount of resources, and as the commander of the frontier, Shui Chuanxiao was very generous with his rewards. From the get-go, Lu Yin's contribution surpassed even what that person had done, and Lu Yin's current options were only the basic ones. The commander was quite curious as to what Lu Yin would choose.

Lu Yin took a deep breath. He wanted to take everything, but that was obviously impossible.

"I've made my choice, sir. I'll take this," Lu Yin pointed at the bottom-most option that only contained three words: "Honor Points: One."

Many people were surprised, and Shui Chuanxiao was similarly astonished. "This is what you want?"

Lu Yin nodded. "Yes. I would like the Honor Point."

Shui Chuanxiao steeled himself and looked Lu Yin up and down. "Why?"

Lu Yin did not answer.

Shui Chuanxiao nodded even without an explanation. "Fine. Since you've made your decision, then it's yours. En Ya, inform the Hall of Honor and add Lu Yin's name. From now on, he is somebody who has an Honor Point."

En Ya nodded and threw a curious glimpse at Lu Yin before she left and got to work.

Lu Yin stared at Shui Chuanxiao in confusion, wanting to ask something but not actually saying it.

Shui Chuanxiao gazed back at him. "One Honor Point isn't difficult to obtain, but getting a second point is quite difficult. You've still got another month here, and you've just finished a battle. There won't be another one anytime soon, so you won't be gaining any more military contributions. In other words, you won't be getting a second Honor Point here at the warfront."

Lu Yin nodded. "I understand, sir."

Some time later, En Ya reported back. "Lu Yin's name has been added, sir. He now has an Honor Point to his name."

Chapter 243: Lu Yin vs. Silver

Shui Chuanxiao grunted before saying, "Take him to Planet Cangyuan, where he will continue his service for another month."

"Yes," En Ya acknowledged before bringing Lu Yin away.

Shui Chuanxiao quietly mumbled to himself as he watched Lu Yin leave. The commander had thought that Lu Yin was merely an ignorant person from a fringe weave, but choosing the Honor Point showed that he was not completely clueless.

Once in the corridor, Lu Yin asked about Planet Cangyuan's situation.

"Planet Cangyuan is one of the hundred defending planets in the center of the warfront, and its location in space is much more important than Planet Conan's, and thus, it naturally holds more powerhouses. One of the guardians is an elder from the Sylvan Dragon clan..." En Ya gave a simple introduction, allowing Lu Yin a slightly better understanding of Planet Cangyuan.

"You shouldn't feel too concerned about this coming month, as there won't be much action. Both sides need to rest for a period after a decisive battle, so there will be hardly any conflict," En Ya explained.

Not long after, Lu Yin took the warship towards Planet Cangyuan.

Compared to Planet Conan, Planet Cangyuan was much bigger, and its environment was also completely different.

Lu Yin was assigned to a base and thus began his month of service.

En Ya was right, as there were almost no conflicts after the decisive battle. When he first arrived on Planet Conan, Lu Yin had fought hectic battles nearly every few days, to the point where the soldiers could not even catch their breaths. Now, however, Lu Yin had turned into an ordinary soldier, and he began to truly adapt to the nervous yet dull lifestyle of a frontier soldier.

He could use his gadget on this planet, and after arriving, Lu Yin checked the information on his identity. As expected, an Honor Point had been added to his name.

"Truly foolish." The Ghost Monkey's voice sounded in his mind, but Lu Yin did not bother with him.

"Hey, I'm saying that you're really foolish! There were so many rewards, but you chose the most useless out of all of them!" the Ghost Monkey cried.

"It's got nothing to do with you," Lu Yin nonchalantly replied. He was currently outside the defensive perimeter and on sentry duty.

"I feel bad for you. I know about you humans' Honor Points, since our Sheng Ao were given special missions to kill humans with Honor Points."

"Why?"

"Anyone with Honor Points is obviously someone who's made significant contributions to the Human Domain. Who should we target if not them? And people like you with just one Honor Point are our victim, as we can obtain a great contribution for our race with minimal risk. You are really stupid," the Ghost Monkey explained mockingly.

"Continue."

"Continue? Continue what? Continue scolding you?"

"I really want to kill you right now."

"Hey, don't threaten me. My existence is of great help to you. Because of me, you can become a super powerhouse that storms through the universe."

"You talk too much. I don't like it."

"Alright, alright. From your tone, you don't seem like you know what Honor Points are used for anyway. It's such a shame that I actually have to explain to an enemy what their Honor Points are worth. Don't you think that this is quite ironic?"

Lu Yin clenched his fist, causing star energy to surge through his body as he reached towards his right arm.

The Ghost Monkey immediately cried out, "Alright! I'm afraid, and I'll tell you. You human's Honor Points are indeed useful, but only after getting two points. The more points you have, the greater the authority it represents. From what I've heard, some people have even used their Honor Points to lessen their sentences for committing grievous crimes. For example, even if the allied troops' commander, Shui Chuanxiao, betrayed the human race, he could use his Honor Points to reduce his punishment as long as his crimes were not too extensive. And if he dies, then your human race would send out countless experts to investigate his death, and there would be no way for the killer to escape unscathed."

Lu Yin was astonished. "It can do such a thing? Then what about that Hall of Honor that he mentioned? I couldn't find anything about it in my gadget."

"The Hall of Honor is the organization that appraises Honor Points. I don't know much about them either, as only space-exploring powerhouses are qualified to know anything about them. But I do know this; within the entire Human Domain, the Hall of Honor is one of the strongest powers. There are even rumors that a half-progenitor oversees it," the Ghost Monkey solemnly answered.

"Half-progenitor?" Lu Yin was slightly stunned. "I overlooked it earlier, but you mentioned Progenitor Wushang before, and now there's this half-ancestor. Is 'progenitor' a cultivation realm?"

“‘Progenitor’ is a word that represents an unsurpassed individual of the previous generation as well as the Progenitor realm. It is the apex domain that humans can reach and the endpoint of cultivation. Over the countless years, the universe has only birthed a few Progenitors. I don’t know about your human race, but for the Astral Beast Domain, I only know of Progenitor Wushang.”

“What about now? Are there any Progenitors?”

The Ghost Monkey laughed wryly. “How would I know that? Truthfully, I don’t even know how you cultivated to this point without anyone teaching you these things.” It paused for a moment before changing topics. “Though that’s not that much of a surprise when I think about it. You humans do like to conceal things and generally only share information with those closest to you. It means that even now there are many people who don’t have even the most basic knowledge about the universe.”

Just like that, Lu Yin chatted on and off with the Ghost Monkey, peacefully passing his last month of military service. This month was very tranquil, and this was perhaps the military life that the soldiers hoped for the most, as no one wished for a bloody war to break out.

Over the course of this month, Lu Yin completely adapted to his peaceful military life and built up several friendships with fellow soldiers. However, when he next visited the warfront, these soldiers might not even be alive anymore.

Even Xue Liuyun had died, let alone the ordinary soldiers. These new friends were mostly foot soldiers who were considered cannon fodder. They had no formcast models, cultivated slowly, and had poor talent.

During this time, Lu Yin also picked up a habit of standing quietly in the spacecraft’s corridor and gazing into the heavens. Everytime he stared into the darkness of outer space, he could feel his own insignificance.

“Long time no see, captain,” a grinning Silver greeted from nearby Lu Yin.

Lu Yin indifferently replied, “I heard that you’ve made quite a few contributions.”

“Captain, don’t say it like that. My contributions are nothing compared to yours. I heard that you even met Commander Shui Chuanxiao,” Silver marvelled.

Lu Yin turned towards his fellow student. “Have you heard of the Hall of Honor?”

Silver’s eyes widened a little as his smile momentarily vanished, but it quickly returned. “Of course, it’s one of the strongest human powers.”

“How do they compare to you guys?”

“Captain, what are you saying? I’m only a regular student! How could I compare to the Hall of Honor? Captain, stop joking with me!” Silver acted shocked.

“Let’s have a match.”

Silver’s eyes widened as he readily replied, “Alright.”

Lu Yin's lips curled; he had been waiting for this moment for a long time. From his first ever meeting with Silver, the two had only seriously exchanged blows twice. The first was under the pale moonlight outside Jinlin city, and the other was during the assassination attempt on Zhang Dingtian's life at the capital on Earth. After leaving Earth, they had not seriously fought again. It was time to smash his fist into this guy's sly, foxy face.

There were preset dueling arenas on the warship, and Lu Yin casually chose a gravity training room for their battle.

"This is a gravity training room that's specifically designed for duels. How would you like the gravity to be set?"

Silver shrugged. "Whatever."

Lu Yin immediately increased it to a hundred times gravity, which was the highest that an average Limiteer could withstand.

The moment the increased gravity took effect, the smile on Silver's face vanished. His palm flashed as his butterfly knife emitted a white radiance.

Lu Yin turned around as his eyes flashed. He instinctively retreated as a powerful shockwave pulsed through the room straight towards him, even slicing into the wall of the gravity training room. The wall was fully capable of withstanding a battle between peak Limiteers, but it had been torn open with the first attack.

This was Silver's domain, and it represented his art of killing. Even Lu Yin had not sensed Silver's approach, and this was under a hundred times gravity as well. Silver's speed under normal gravity could only be imagined.

Consecutive brilliant flashes could barely be seen in the room as the butterfly knife sliced through the void. The ephemeral blade flashed, and traces of spatial cracks appeared around it as it approached Lu Yin. He calmly stepped back and closely observed the blade's trajectory while nine stars revolved around his body. When the butterfly knife appeared within the range of Lu Yin's Cosmic Art, each possible trajectory was clearly reflected in Lu Yin's eyes. That blade seemed normal as it streaked past, but it was filled with a strength that could shake the void.

Lu Yin reached out and grabbed Silver's wrist, causing Silver's eyes to widen in shock. The butterfly knife on his hand rapidly spun towards Lu Yin's palm, but Lu Yin blasted out with his palm. The Nine Stacks shook the void, causing the blade to deviate and slash through empty space. At the same time, Lu Yin's left palm struck out towards Silver's abdomen. But Silver seemed to have predicted Lu Yin's attack, and he avoided it before Lu Yin even moved. Silver's entire body vanished as he reappeared a few meters away from Lu Yin. Lu Yin's palm landed on nothing, causing the void to distort as the resulting shockwaves caused a loud rumble in the gravity training room.

This sound attracted many of the nearby soldiers' attention, but no one dared to enter as very few of them could withstand a hundred times gravity.

This duel had no earth-shattering explosions, and it even felt gentle as the two circled one another.

"Captain, not using battle force is rather condescending," Silver casually said with a smile.

Lu Yin's face turned solemn. "You've seen through my attack pattern?"

"What do you think?" Silver shot back with a beam.

Lu Yin's eyes narrowed. Not only was Silver reading his attack pattern, but Silver's domain also had an immeasurable ability that gave absolute control to the wielder within the space of the domain. This was no exaggeration, as Silver had only used his butterfly knife and no battle techniques to block all of Lu Yin's attacks.

Lu Yin had been wondering if he could defeat Silver while at the peak of the Melder realm and without using battle force. However, it seemed that this would not be easy as this person was too crafty, but not all hope was lost yet, as his Cosmic Art could make anything possible. Lu Yin thought about it before advancing again with an exploratory palm.

Silver was stunned. Still not using battle force? He's really confident in himself.

The butterfly knife streaked forward in a weird arc before passing through the void and heading straight for Lu Yin's neck. Lu Yin dodged the path of the knife and steadily retreated to the wall. One palm slammed into the wall and tore out a chunk of metal while the butterfly knife coldly flashed before slicing towards his neck again. Lu Yin's eyes glinted as he firmly struck at Silver with the chunk of metal.

Silver's pupils constricted. This trajectory is...? He immediately retreated and then stared at Lu Yin in shock. Silver was truly shaken this time, and a rarely seen dumbfounded expression appeared on his face. Even Starsibyl had not stupefied him to such an extent. This was because Lu Yin had just completely copied Silver's own attack trajectory.

"You have learned my attack path?"

Lu Yin spun the chunk of metal around on his finger as he smiled. "Possibly. Try again." With that, he struck out with a Nine Stacks, Ninefold Shockwave Palm. The void rumbled ominously as Silver's butterfly knife spun rapidly in his own palm. One turned into two, and then two turned into three. An invisible force seemed to descend upon the gravity training room as killing became an art, and multiple phantom images of the butterfly knife sliced out at various trajectories that tore through the void.

Chapter 244: Target

Lu Yin's eyes flashed, and the muscles in his right arm swelled up. Since he could use Flash with his legs, then he could also use it with his arms. His right arm trembled rapidly after he activated Flash with his arm as multiple afterimages appeared. The chunk of metal in his hand soon split into two, and then three images, completely blocking Silver's attack trajectories with banging sounds.

Sparks flew throughout the entire gravity training room as the speed of the two steadily increased. Silver had been able to rely on his domain and his innate gift of seeing through weaknesses to remain undefeated up until now, but Lu Yin's Cosmic Art was his natural nemesis, as every move of Silver's was in turn seen through by Lu Yin.

A minute later, the two simultaneously retreated, breathing heavily.

Silver's face fell, and he shook his butterfly knife once to remove all the sweat that had gathered on the blade.

Nicks had appeared in the piece of metal in Lu Yin's hand, but it still remained sharp.

"I was overthinking it. You haven't seen through my attack trajectories. Rather, you've only reversed my trajectories to block my attacks." Silver's face sank for a moment, but then he commented on their exchange in a relaxed manner.

Lu Yin nodded. "I'm indeed unable to replicate your attacks that are a combination of your domain and innate gift."

"Captain, this won't do. If I don't act, then will you not be able to attack either?" Silver asked with a teasing smile.

Lu Yin laughed before saying, "Fine, then let's see whether you will act." With those words, Lu Yin lifted a hand that transformed into a claw as the 96th form of the Skybeast Claw technique suppressed the entire gravity training room. The howl of a beast rang through the void.

Silver's eyes flashed, and his butterfly knife swept out, directly slicing the Skybeast Claw apart. However, Lu Yin had already appeared in front of Silver, and the metal piece in his hand was streaking forward. Silver raised his butterfly knife in an attempt to block Lu Yin's attack, and a loud bang rang out as the shockwave from the collision distorted the void. Multiple spatial cracks extended out and tore at the walls as the piece of metal in Lu Yin's hand snapped in half. However, Lu Yin was not shocked at all, and he took advantage of this opportunity to strike out with his palm. The palm squarely hit Silver in the chest, and Lu Yin followed up by using Nine Stacks to forcefully pin Silver to the ground as he was unable to resist the pressure.

After the ninth stack disappeared, Silver spat out a mouthful of blood and stared intently at Lu Yin. He smiled, though he looked rather miserable with his bloody teeth. "Captain, it's only a spar. There's no need to be so ruthless."

Lu Yin coldly looked down at Silver. "I'm running out of patience. Tell me. What is it about the Great Yu Empire that attracts you people? What exactly is your identity?"

Silver remained on the ground as he put away his butterfly knife before casually replying, "You want to kill me?"

Lu Yin narrowed his eyes. "I'm someone who has made contributions at the warfront."

Lu Yin then squatted down beside Silver. "I have Honor Points."

Silver's expression did not change. "So what? You can try killing me whenever you want."

Lu Yin looked at Silver and sighed. He then stood up as there was nothing he could do to this person who seemed to be completely unafraid of death.

Silver stood up too, and marvelled, "Captain, I'm really curious. How did you read the trajectories of my attacks?"

"Tell me your identity, and I'll explain it to you," Lu Yin casually replied as he clenched his fist.

Silver wiped the trickle of blood from his lips. "I thought that I would be able to give you a good fight if you didn't use battle force, but I never thought that you were this strong even without battle force. You're about at Starsibyl's level."

Upon hearing these words, Lu Yin was reminded of when Silver had immediately given up when he was matched up against Starsibyl in the Astral Combat Tournament. "Why did you admit defeat in your match with Starsibyl?"

Silver helplessly replied, "I can see through weaknesses, but Starsibyl can see the future."

It was that same phrase once again. Lu Yin had heard it many times, but he still did not truly believe in divination. If Starsibyl could really see the future, then the woman would be unparalleled. Instead, it should be the power of some innate gift or battle technique that outsiders did not know about, although it sounded like Silver actually knew. The Neohuman Alliance was truly powerful and secretive.

Before Silver left, he warned Lu Yin, "Be careful of Undying Yushan."

Lu Yin did not understand what Silver was saying. Undying Yushan was indeed powerful as he was a Hunter who had even entered the top twenty in the Astral Battle Rankings. But still, he had long since retired from the universe's stage and was now only an emperor in his twilight years. If not for Lu Yin himself, then Undying Yushan would have already died. Was there some kind of underlying meaning behind Silver's warning?

Lu Yin wanted to ask for more details, but Silver had already left.

"Hey, what's his ranking in your Astral Combat Academy?" the Ghost Monkey asked.

"None of your business," Lu Yin coldly replied.

The Ghost Monkey continued talking, saying, "With his strength, he could challenge one of the Spiritual Academy's Academy Masters. Although he'd probably be defeated, it would still be worth a try. He should be at the level of one of your academy's student leaders."

Lu Yin did not bother talking with the monkey and instead returned to his quarters where he started to recite the Stonewall Scriptures. This had long become a habit, and he now made sure to recite a little of the Stonewall Scriptures every day.

His days at the border warfront as well as his battles during the Astral Combat Tournament had made him realize the usefulness of the Stonewall Scriptures. The elder from Driftcharge Planet had been right; reciting the scriptures would allow Lu Yin to transform. Even if the scriptures held no offensive capabilities, they would still help him build up a resistance to any attacks that targeted spiritual force.

Using one of the expedited military routes, their warship quickly returned to the Frostwave Weave and docked at Astral-10's space station.

Lu Yin and Silver disembarked and looked around at the familiar space station and could not help themselves from feeling emotional. Although their time at the border had been short, they had gained a great deal of experience.

"Brother Lu, you're back!" Coco cried out with a cheer.

Lu Yin was amused. "Coco, why are you so happy?"

"Brother Lu, hurry up and tell me about your battle stories from the warfront! I'm really curious!"

"Curious?"

"Yes, some of the seniors of our Windrift Hall visit the border warfront every year. I'll probably have to go there someday too, so it's better for me to learn while I can."

Lu Yin nodded. "Got it. Are Xia Luo and the rest back yet?"

Coco shook her head. "No, and Sister Michelle and the rest aren't back either."

"Wait, Michelle? She went to the border?" Lu Yin was astonished.

Coco nodded. "Yes, to the warfront battlefields."

"Shouldn't it be only the top thirty two talents have been sent there?"

Coco considered her response before saying, "It's because there were students like you who made achievements and received great appraisals. Thus, other students were also requested to serve for at least a month."

Lu Yin was rendered speechless. This situation worked out for him, and although it was a minor detail, it was still better for the students to grow accustomed to the battlefield earlier if possible. Lu Yin was more eager to know when the battles for the final four of the Astral Combat Tournament would start. The final rankings still needed to be determined.

Lu Yin met Old Cai at the treasury.

Old Cai gave Lu Yin an odd look. "Little brat, you're really quite capable. You achieved such a great contribution at the warfront after spending just two months there. You were even able to gain an Honor Point. Not bad. This gives some face to Astral-10."

Lu Yin remained respectful. "Mentor, when will the battle for the top four begin?"

"Why, are you eager?" Old Cai glanced at him.

Lu Yin did not deny it.

"There are many benefits to be had since the battle for the top four hasn't started yet. Did you really think that you're invincible just because you have five-lined battle force? If this was a previous season, then even a four-lined battle force user would have easily dominated everyone else. However, the tournament this time is different; you were matched up against the toughest opponent."

"Starsibyl?" Lu Yin tried to find out more.

Old Cai shook his head. "It's not just her; there's also Han Chong from the Erudite Flowzone, and that Mavis girl as well. Do you think that any of them are easy to handle? Your biggest opponent might not be Starsibyl but Han Chong instead."

Lu Yin was shocked. He knew that Han Chong was definitely powerful, but he had never imaged that it would be to that level!

“It’s no use telling you just this, but the Erudite Flowzone is not simple, and one of the Ten Arbiters comes from there. That’s a level that you cannot understand. Those cultured scholars may look delicate, but in reality, they are quite ferocious.

“Alright, there’s still some time before the battle of the top four begins. It seems that they’re waiting for some sort of event to occur, but I’m not sure either,” Old Cai impatiently answered.

Lu Yin muttered and seemed to recall something. “Old Cai, I’ve entered the top ten in this tournament, and I’m also Astral-10’s student leader. Can I enter the Council of Astral Academy now?”

Old Cai’s face fell, giving Lu Yin a bad premonition.

“After the tournament, one of the Ten Arbiters, Nightking Zhenwu, ordered that those who have not yet become Limiteers cannot join the Council of Astral Academy,” Old Cai said, seeming a bit unhappy.

Lu Yin’s brows quirked up. “What does that mean? Is he targeting me?”

Old Cai looked at Lu Yin. “By defeating Nightqueen Yanqing, you have stepped on the Daynight clan’s face. Nightking Zhenwu’s action is clearly targeting you, but you have no choice but to bear it, as he is one of the Ten Arbiters.”

A cold glint flashed through Lu Yin’s eyes. Just his victory over Nightqueen Yanqing should not have been sufficient to cause one of the Ten Arbiters to act. It must have been the fact that he had been immune to Liu Shaoqiu’s Third Sword that had caused the Daynight clan to grow cautious and want to completely suppress Lu Yin. He thought about it before inhaling deeply and saying, “I understand, Old Cai. I will break through to become a Limiteer as soon as I can.”

“There’s no hurry. Let nature take its course. The Council of Astral Academy is very appealing, especially for our Astral-10 since no one from Astral-10 has entered the council for a long time. That brat Nightking Zhenwu, is just trying to use this as an obstacle to disturb your mental state and obstruct your breakthrough. He’s hoping that you won’t ascend smoothly, or that you might even fail. Take your time.”

“Since he wants to harm me, then it won’t end with just this.”

Old Cai laughed weirdly. “I know, but so what? Astral-10’s already been driven out, so does he still want to directly suppress us? Alright, don’t bother worrying about all this and just do what you can to successfully break through to the Limiteer realm.”

“Alright,” Lu Yin acknowledged before leaving with an ugly expression.

The Ten Arbiters had the authority to educate and judge the younger generation, and they even had the power to dismiss or judge the various educational institutions. Not even the Astral Combat Academy could escape from their authority, and Astral-10 had been exiled to the Outerverse precisely because the council had submitted a report to the Ten Arbiters Council in favor of it. Nightking Zhenwu knew how strongly Astral-10 desired to have a student enter the Council of Astral Academy, and this was an overt plot to stymie their rise back to power.

However, Lu Yin would definitely break through to become a Limiteer; it just required some time, and he would enter the Student Council sooner or later. There was definitely someone behind this move specifically targeting him.

Lu Yin did not want to wait anymore and wanted to quickly break through to become a Limiteer. After he joined the Council of Astral Academy, everything would be settled, and not even the Ten Arbiters would be able to do much.

It looked like his best chances were rolling Time Stop; something that he had rolled nearly every time he had rolled his die. This time was no exception.

In the early stages of cultivation, the first hurdle that one had to cross was breaking through from the Sentinel realm to the Melder realm. It wasn't as difficult for a Melder to break through to the Limiteer realm; it just required the feeling of a breakthrough. The second bottleneck was when a Limiteer attempted to reach the Explorer realm. Becoming an Explorer was also the largest obstacle on one's path of cultivation, though Lu Yin did not have to worry about that just yet.

It merely required some time to break through and become a Limiteer. The Daynight clan also needed more time to plot against Lu Yin, so the two sides were actually fighting to see who was quicker. Fortunately, Lu Yin was not afraid of such a race.

Chapter 245: Rune Technology

"By the way, you seem to have quite a few enemies, and even the Ten Arbiters are against you. I feel like I've been tricked into something." The Ghost Monkey's voice sounded out in Lu Yin's mind again.

If the tamed monkey hadn't spoken, then Lu Yin would have forgotten that there was something he did not have total control over in the Time Stop space. He absolutely could not let this astral beast see him rolling his die. Who knew if it would one day escape from his control. With this in mind, he turned around and headed towards the entrance of the teleportation arena. He wanted to speak with Kuang Wang and learn more about beast taming.

Soon after, Lu Yin appeared next to the Ocean of Death within the Dao of Heaven. Kuang Wang wasn't there, so Lu Yin found someone from Astral-5 and requested to meet with Kuang Wang inside one of the trial zones.

When they saw that it was Lu Yin making the request, the person's face took on an expression of worship as they immediately agreed.

After the recent Astral Combat Tournament, the treatment that Astral-10's students received in the trial zones had improved drastically now that nobody dared to make life difficult for them. Regardless of whether it was Big Pao, Little Pao, Xia Luo, Silver, or Lulu, all of them were very strong. Lu Yin, in particular, was more powerful than most academy leaders, and was one of the strongest people in the entire Astral Combat Academy. Even Area Masters would be very polite when they met Astral-10 students.

This was Lu Yin's first time visiting the Dao of Heaven. The trial zones were a simulated world, but they contained ancient inheritance within themselves. It was a strange place where even the Ghost Monkey could accompany Lu Yin. Having a tamed beast was apparently considered a type of ability.

“Is this one of the so-called trial zones that belong to the Astral Combat Academy? Hey, have you killed a war spirit before?” the Ghost Monkey asked, sounding very excited.

Lu Yin nonchalantly answered, “Yup.”

“What did it feel like? What did you see?” the Ghost Monkey eagerly asked.

Just as Lu Yin was about to answer, he suddenly had a random thought. How did the Ghost Monkey know about the war spirits here? Also, there were so many other things that he could ask about, but he was specifically inquiring about war spirits. Why?

Lu Yin casually replied, “I didn’t see anything other than...”

“Other than what?”

The Ghost Monkey seemed anxious to hear his next words, which caused Lu Yin to smirk. “...Other than some strange things that I couldn’t understand.”

“What was it?!” The Ghost Monkey became increasingly distressed.

With that, Lu Yin was able to confirm that the Ghost Monkey actually knew something about the war spirits. However, the monkey was just a student of the Astral Beast Domain’s Sky Academy. Even if it was a top student there, he’d still only be comparable to an academy leader from the Astral Combat Academy. How did he know the secrets of the trial zones? Even Hunters weren’t this knowledgeable.

“Go on! What exactly did you see?” The Ghost Monkey was getting frustrated.

Lu Yin’s tone suddenly turned cold. “What do you know? Spit it out.”

The Ghost Monkey froze before responding in a mocking tone. “Me? What could I know? I was just curious, that’s all! Don’t overthink things.”

Lu Yin frowned in displeasure. “You’ve been with me for long enough to know my general characteristics. I don’t like it when people hide things from me. You know a little too much for a mere student. I’ll give you one last chance. Tell me what you know, or I’ll end you.”

“Fine, fine. You always use this move on me. Just wait. I won’t let you do this again.” The Ghost Monkey was left with no choice.

Lu Yin chuckled. He had finally seen through this guy’s character. This astral beast may seem fierce, but he was all talk. When he did know something, he would easily spill the beans with a minor threat. It was a wonder how he’d managed to survive in the Astral Beast Domain for as long as he did.

“Actually, the trial zones that your Astral Combat Academy own came from a unique civilization known as the Runemasters.”

Lu Yin was surprised. “Are you saying that they cultivated by drawing runes on paper?”

“Who said anything about drawing runes on paper? I don’t know anything about that, but the Runemasters’ cultivation method was essentially linking runes together and creating space with them. In their eyes, whether it was a being, an environment, or a planet, everything was formed from runes. Their battle power was a representation of how many runes they could see. For example, a person

might only be able to see a hundred runes at first, but the stronger they grew, the more they could see. Take a planet, for instance; it might consist of a million runes. It was a very interesting civilization. These trial zones should have been left behind by them. Their characteristic ability was to see through the laws of this world and change material things into a simulated reality. They could also turn these virtual simulations into material items," the Ghost Monkey explained.

Lu Yin was surprised, "Such a civilization existed? Does that mean that they were able to create miracles?"

"You can put it like that. This civilization was very powerful and had a very unique way of fighting. They focused on erasing their opponents' runes, which was the same as disrupting the essence of their opponents' attacks. But then, their entire civilization mysteriously disappeared without a trace one day. Regardless of if it's their cultivation methods or their bodies, nothing remains other than some scattered ruins. These trial zones are one of the few things that were left behind," the Ghost Monkey said ruefully.

Lu Yin recalled what he had seen with the Cosmic Art after killing a war spirit; there had been some strange characters formed from lines. Could those have been the aforementioned runes?

"How do you know so much?" Lu Yin found this matter strange.

The Ghost Monkey was very proud of himself. "I know a lot of things. If you want to know what I know, then you'd better treat me well. I even know about Progenitor Wushang and the Runemasters, and Progenitor Wushang is an even older existence than the Runemasters."

Lu Yin narrowed his eyes; there was something off about this Ghost Monkey. Not even a Hunter would know all of this ancient history, much less a Limiteer. This guy was definitely worth milking more information.

"Maybe you could try killing a few more war spirits. You might even obtain some kind of Rune Technology inheritance from these runes! It's a very strange way of attacking, but don't tell anyone about this," the Ghost Monkey suggested.

Lu Yin had no interest in such things. He knew that it was better not to bite off more than he could chew. If he had extra time, then he was better off training and refining his battle force. He wanted to raise his battle force to nine lines and see how powerful it would be.

While the two were conversing, Kuang Wang arrived. "I heard that you were looking for me?"

Lu Yin nodded. "I wanted to ask about the Dao of Heaven's Sea of Death."

Kuang Wang's eyes narrowed. "You want to steal the Dao of Heaven's Realm Master position?"

"Of course not. I'm just curious about it. I've heard that the Ten Arbiters have been here before," Lu Yin hastily responded. He wanted Kuang Wang's help, so it wouldn't be wise to offend him here.

After confirming that Lu Yin really wasn't there to take his position, Kuang Wang sighed in relief. He wasn't sure if he could win against Lu Yin—no, it was more than that; he was certain that he wouldn't be able to win. While Kuang Wang might have been reckless, he also knew his own strength. "The Sea of Death is the Dao of Purgatory's strangest training ground. There are rumors that..."

Lu Yin actually held no interest in the Sea of Death and had only brought it up as a conversational topic. After listening to Kuang Wang's explanation about the Sea of Death, Lu Yin asked, "By the way, I've always been curious about how you guys from the Beast Tamers Flowzone fight. Do you let your tamed beasts out?"

Kuang Wang nodded. "Kind of. Actually, tamed beasts don't have bodies of their own, and you need techniques to tame them. Why are you asking about this?"

"If I had a tamed beast, is there a way for me to hypothetically block off its senses?" Lu Yin asked. This was what he really wanted to know.

After hearing this, the Ghost Monkey exclaimed, "Hey, what are you doing?! Stop it, bro, we're sharing one body. Everything I do is for your own good..."

Kuang Wang looked at Lu Yin oddly. "You have a tamed beast?"

Lu Yin casually shrugged. "I'm just interested in it, and I was thinking of learning about it at the Beast Tamers Flowzone."

Kuang Wang burst into laughter. "Sure. If you go to Beast Tamers Flowzone, you'll definitely be able to join the Divine Grade Hall. They'll even teach you the technique there."

"Can you briefly tell me how it works?" Lu Yin asked.

Kuang Wang gave Lu Yin a strange look and focused on his right arm. After considering things a moment, he answered, "Well, it's very easy to block off its senses. You just have to cut off its access to your star energy."

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

"What did you think it entailed? Taming beasts is just one of the myriad forms of battle techniques. And without star energy, battle techniques are useless. This applies to tamed beasts as well. Every action that a tamed beast takes requires star energy, so the basic principle of controlling it is controlling its star energy," Kuang Wang explained.

"Bro- no, Seventh Bro, please don't do anything! I want to be able to see the outside world! I don't want to die without knowing how it happened! Please, Seventh Bro, I'm begging you. Don't block me..."

The monkey's voice gradually faded away after Lu Yin had cut off all star energy from going into his right arm. After the Ghost Monkey's voice disappeared, Lu Yin suddenly felt refreshed.

"If it's not necessary, there's no need to block a tamed beast's senses. That's because once you successfully tame a beast, they definitely won't be able to leave you. If they do, they'll immediately die since you've become one entity," Kuang Wang said.

Lu Yin knew that Kuang Wang had guessed that Lu Yin had a tamed beast, but Kuang Wang had purposefully not exposed him; Kuang Wang wasn't dumb. "Thank you for letting me know, Kuang Wang."

The person being addressed stretched leisurely. "When are you joining the Council of Astral Academy?"

Lu Yin shook his head in response. "Not now. It'll have to wait until after I become a Limiteer."

"That makes sense. Nobody can go against a decision made by the Ten Arbiters. By the way, if you manage to break through on time, you can go straight to the Tilting Tower and have them notify the other academy leaders. They'll then hold a student council meeting there since that's where they're usually held," Kuang Wang said before moving to leave.

Lu Yin thanked him once more and then let the Ghost Monkey regain access to his senses. "You and I have one body, Seventh Bro. There's no need to block me out." The Ghost Monkey felt maligned.

"You babble too much," Lu Yin dryly replied.

The Ghost Monkey had no response to that. "If you block me out, then I won't be able to tell you about a lot of things."

"That doesn't matter to me. I'm happier without you." Lu Yin acted nonchalant about the Ghost Monkey's supposed benefits.

The Ghost Monkey tried to test the waters. "Is there something that you're trying to hide from me?"

Lu Yin blocked off the star energy in his right arm again. It was time to roll his die.

In an abandoned area of Astral-10, Lu Yin let out a light breath and spread his fingers as his die appeared, whirling slowly in the air. It had been around two months since he had last rolled it, and there seemed to be a relationship between how long he waited between rolls and how likely it was for him to get the result that he wanted, such as Six: Possession or Three: Enhance. He hadn't rolled six pips in a while, so it was probably about time.

Lu Yin rolled his die, and as he watched it spin, he had a strong feeling that he really might get six pips.

When it stopped spinning, Lu Yin saw six pips on the die's face, and the scenery before his eyes changed. He saw the familiar darkness filled with little specks of light.

He was more experienced now, and he knew that the more attractive a speck of light was to him, the better it was as a match. The specks of light quickly flitted through the dark space. Lu Yin had ten star essence in his cosmic ring, which was equivalent to about a million star crystals. It might seem like a lot, but he could use them all up in a single moment. Lu Yin did not dare waste too much time in this dark space as he would rather spend the star essence on extending the time he Possessed another person for.

He did not hesitate, especially since he couldn't tell who he would be Possessing anyway. Lu Yin chose a random speck of light that was fairly attractive and charged over to fuse with it.

When Lu Yin opened his eyes again, he saw he was in a room with an ancient air to it. There were wooden tables and stools, paper lanterns, and copper mirrors. This was an ancient civilization.

A few moments later, Lu Yin finished going through the basic memories of the person whom he'd fused with. This man's name was Wu Xia, and he was the butler for the Shenwu Empire's Crown Prince

Residence. He was a peak Fighter, which meant that he was the same as a peak Melder. He was also on the verge of breaking into the Martial King realm, which was the equivalent of a Limiteer.

Chapter 246: Shenwu Continent

Lu Yin smiled wryly. It was no wonder why he had been drawn to this person; they were both Melders on the verge of becoming Limiteers. However, why hadn't he gotten someone stronger? Someone who was just a peak Melder would not be of any help to him.

Lu Yin slowly stood up and caught a glimpse of Wu Xia's appearance in the reflection of the copper mirror. The man had a pale face and narrow eyes, giving him a slightly gloomy appearance. He seemed to be around thirty years old and had a butler's demeanor, which made sense as that was his job in the Crown Prince's residence.

The Shenwu Empire was the Shenwu Continent's sole empire. After assimilating Wu Xia's memories, Lu Yin slowly gained an understanding of his current environment.

He eventually became quite surprised when he realized that this empire was much more than it initially seemed. It had gone to war against some other civilizations, and once, a formidable cultivator from this very empire had used five planets to shield the entire continent, sealing it off from the other civilizations.

While parsing through Wu Xia's memories, Lu Yin was astonished to discover that this continent definitely contained cultivators who had the ability to travel through the universe without a spacecraft. The five planets that sealed this continent were huge, and their arrangement reminded him of the Human Domain's border planets. The fact that this continent had birthed someone who had accomplished the same concept with only five planets was something that no ordinary Explorer could achieve.

Knock knock knock!

However, Lu Yin wasn't given much time to review his new host's memories, and a voice sounded out from behind the door. "His Highness would like to see you in the study, Butler Wu."

Lu Yin grunted in acknowledgement but was left speechless. He had Possessed the body of a servant and now had to attend to others. This was quite a novel experience for Lu Yin.

After leaving Wu Xia's room and breathing in the fresh new air, Lu Yin looked up to see the vague outline of the five planets, the same ones that were shielding the Shenwu Continent. The emperor, Ming Zhaotian, lived on the central planet. Wu Xia did not know exactly how powerful the emperor was, but he was able to travel through the void, and the space in this continent was abnormally stable. Even Martial Emperors, which was what this civilization called Explorers, could not tear space and move through the void, so the emperor of this continent had to at least be at the Cruiser realm.

The crown prince, Ming Hao, was a Martial Emperor, which meant that he was an Explorer.

After taking a deep breath, Lu Yin followed Wu Xia's memories and entered the crown prince's study.

Along the way, various servants that he ran into greeted him, as Wu Xia held a relatively high position. Despite technically being a servant, he still was the crown prince's trusted aide, and even the governors of the various territories would have to be polite to him.

This was Lu Yin's first time experiencing something like this, and everything felt new to him.

The crown prince's residence was extensive, and there were many experts present here. Lu Yin knew that Wu Xia regarded these people as experts, but from Lu Yin's point of view, at most only one or two of these so-called "experts" could compare to an Area Master of the Astral Combat Academy. The rest were essentially the same as ordinary Limiteer students from the Astral Combat Academy.

If they were all young people, then such a group of geniuses would be terrifying. However, most of the experts in the crown prince's residence were past the age where one would consider them a part of the younger generation. Many of them were middle-aged or even elderly.

In Wu Xia's memories, there were at least a hundred people in the crown prince's residence who were at the Martial King realm. In other words, there were over a hundred Limiteers here. This was quite a terrifying amount of strength to congregate in one location.

Lu Yin finally understood how the Shenwu Continent had managed to defend themselves from the other civilizations' attacks; there were an incredible number of experts on this continent.

Before long, he passed by a pavilion and arrived at the entrance of an elegant study. "Your loyal servant, Wu Xia, has arrived, Your Highness."

"Come in." Ming Hao's voice called out from within the study.

Lu Yin gently pushed the door open and entered the study, not even daring to lift his head. His every action was purely based on Wu Xia's memories. Lu Yin absolutely could not reveal that he was not truly Wu Xia. Who knew if a Hunter or another such terrifying existence could harm Lu Yin through Wu Xia's body. Lu Yin had no understanding of what kind of power such people wielded.

"Besides you, who else entered my study yesterday, Wu Xia?" the crown prince asked while staring straight at Wu Xia.

Lu Yin kept his eyes on the ground as he recalled what had happened the previous day. At that moment, he felt a chill crawl down his spine as he remembered something horrifying from the day before. Wu Xia had seen something terrible then.

Ming Hao's eyes remained trained on Lu Yin, and he noticed his strange reaction. Lu Yin did his best to calm down and fearfully answered, "Nobody entered other than me, Your Highness."

Ming Hao stared at him. "Raise your head."

Lu Yin felt his heart quiver and slowly did as ordered. Before him was a pair of eyes that held wisdom and exerted a pressure that seemed able to crush everything.

A terrifying, mountainous pressure crushed down on Lu Yin. Wu Xia's cultivation was not enough to block any of it, and he was forced to the ground. It felt like the world itself was trembling. Lu Yin was shocked, for he'd encountered Explorers and even Hunters before, but Ming Hao's pressure was

definitely stronger than what an ordinary Explorer possessed. Were the Martial Kings on this continent even more powerful than the Explorers in the rest of the universe?

As another wave of pressure washed over Lu Yin, and the extreme fear that Wu Xia held for Ming Hao manifested itself and unconsciously made Lu Yin kneel on the ground.

The sight before Lu Yin's eyes changed again; first, he saw the dark place with the floating lights, followed shortly by the image of Astral-10 after he experienced a brief feeling of travelling through a vast distance.

He opened his eyes, still shocked by what he had just experienced. The pressure that Ming Hao had exerted was so immense that Lu Yin still felt fearful at the thought of it. Ming Hao was definitely as powerful as a Cruiser, and shockingly enough, he had been able to awaken Wu Xia's subconscious and forcefully eject Lu Yin from the body!

Lu Yin took a look at his cosmic ring and found that three star essence had been used up, which was the equivalent of 300,000 star crystals. The rate of consumption was astounding. If he'd continued Possessing Wu Xia just a little longer, then even ten star essence might not have been enough to cover the cost.

After moving on from the heartache of consuming so much star essence, Lu Yin immediately searched the universal network for any information regarding the Shenwu Continent.

He discovered that it was a continent that floated in an alternate dimension near the Darkmist Weave. It wasn't a planet but rather a continent that drifted through space with planets orbiting around it. A millennium ago, a powerful being had been born on the Shenwu Continent who tore through the alternate dimension with astounding strength. His actions had exposed the continent to the universe and thus triggered a long war.

There were countless organizations in the Darkmist Weave that tried to take over the continent, but they had all failed and suffered massive casualties in the process. They had been left with no choice but to seek help from the Inniverse.

There wasn't much information online about the battles between the various organizations of the Darkmist Weave and the Shenwu Continent, which meant that some powerful organizations must have buried things. However, the powerful being who had maneuvered the five planets to reseal the alternate space had appeared again at a later time, which brought the Shenwu Continent peace once again. Though it seemed that this being had died in the process.

Even after all these years, some organizations in the Darkmist Weave and the Inniverse still wanted to get their hands on Shenwu Continent and were still attempting to do so. However, they had been stopped by the Ten Arbiters, and thus, the continent had become one of the Outerverse's examination trial zones.

Lu Yin raised his head from the screen. He never expected that the Shenwu Continent would have such a storied history. The foreign civilizations in Wu Xia's memories must have been the Darkmist Weave's organizations. For a mere continent to contend against the powerful organizations from the Darkmist Weave and the Inniverse was an amazing feat.

Needless to say, the Shenwu Continent was one of the most difficult exam trial zones in the Outerverse. There were only two ways to pass the exam: one was to find out where that powerful being's bones were kept, and the other was to find the node of the five planets seal and destroy it. Destroying the node would reopen the continent to the rest of the universe.

This examination had been conducted multiple times already, but no one had succeeded so far. Those who had gone through this exam all had a surprisingly similar evaluation of the Shenwu Continent; the martial power that the continent's locals trained in was more powerful than the star energy that was commonly cultivated throughout the universe.

After reading so much, Lu Yin turned his gadget off and blinked. He actually knew where the node was located, for Wu Xia had unwittingly seen it. And after assimilating Wu Xia's memories, Lu Yin now knew about it as well. It was quite surprising that it was located where it was. It would be a wonder if any of the examinees had actually discovered where it was.

The mortality rate of the examinees who participated in the trials at the Shenwu Continent was rather high. Many did not understand why, but Lu Yin now knew that the martial power that the continent's cultivators trained in was denser than star energy and easily distinguishable.

Ever since some examinees had been captured and interrogated, the Shenwu Continent had gained a certain level of understanding of the greater universe. They had even formed departments that were dedicated to finding invaders and foreign weapons.

"If I sell the information regarding the node's location, I'll definitely get quite a lot of money," Lu Yin muttered to himself, but then he chuckled bitterly. Sell it? That was impossible. First, there was the question of who he could sell it to, but the moment he did so, the five planets of the continent would be doomed to destruction, and the continent would suffer an incomparable bloodbath. Lu Yin had no desire to become such a sinner. While he did not especially care about morality since the universe was a dog-eat-dog world, he still needed to weigh the pros and cons behind his actions.

The Darkmist Weave wasn't too far away from Frostwave Weave. Lu Yin's eyes gleamed as he recalled something interesting.

Lu Yin reset the die and rolled it again.

He rolled a one this time, and a basic firearm fell out. It was useless, so he threw it away without a second thought. He rolled the die again and ended up with two pips. Lu Yin was left speechless because he didn't have anything he needed to disassemble either. He tried again.

When the die stopped spinning this time, four pips appeared before his eyes: Time Stop.

As he watched the familiar greyish white space appear around him, Lu Yin used a few star crystals to change the environment as well as increase the time limit to a month. Now that he had money, he was free to do as he wished.

In this one month, he was planning to go review all of his battle techniques and become a Limiteer. He'd been a Melder for quite awhile now, and his breakthrough was long overdue.

At this time, there was a warship that had stopped outside a gigantic planet within the Frostwave Weave.

Countless cries could be heard from the planet. With a roar that echoed into space, a man tore through the void and glared at the spacecraft. "Do you seriously want this war to affect the entirety of Frostwave Weave, Duke Yushan? The various organizations in Frostwave Weave won't let you off easily!"

The spacecraft responded by firing a weapon. Batson used a finger to flick at his cap and blew at the smoking muzzle while a bloody hole appeared in the middle of the enraged man's chest. An Explorer had been killed with a single shot.

As the former seventh captain of the Great Yu Empire's Imperial Squadron, Batson had the strength of a Cruiser and a power level of at least 60,000. He was not someone who an Explorer could match up to.

Duke Yushan stood on the balcony and looked into space. "There're so many beautiful planets here. They should have all belonged to my Great Yu Empire, but unfortunately, we were suppressed by those people from the Innerverse for so many years."

Batson smirked. "The Frostwave Weave doesn't have many people who have reached the Cruiser realm. There are even fewer who are as powerful as us. With your current strength, it's certainly possible for us to conquer Frostwave Weave."

Duke Yushan smiled. "Father has set his sights not on Frostwave Weave, but rather on the Innerverse itself. Taking over just Frostwave Weave isn't that difficult. Those bastards from the Innerverse are on the verge of being expelled, and I'm guessing that Father might already have some plan in store for them. Where do you think he'll aim? Grandtop Weave? Larso Weave? Or... us?"

"None of those. He's aiming for Firesmelt Planet," the former captain of the eighth imperial squadron, Shalosh, interrupted as he walked over from nearby.

"Firesmelt Planet?" Duke Yushan was confused by his answer.

Shalosh nodded. "While it's just a planet, it's managed to raise geniuses like Yan Feng, who entered the Outerverse Youth Council. The leader of the planet, Yan Wujiu, is a Hunter and is one of the few powerhouses in Frostwave Weave who can hold his ground against His Majesty, Undying Yushan. If he's not taken care of, then His Majesty won't be able to focus on taking over any of the other weaves."

Duke Yushan nodded in agreement. "Yes, Firesmelt Planet it should be. Come to think of it, Yan Feng wants to woo my little sister. I hope that she doesn't kill him."

Chapter 247: Breaking Through to The Limiteer Realm

The Time Stop Space's scenery was changed after Lu Yin used some star crystals. Though it was just a facade, it was still pleasing to his eyes.

One month quickly passed by within this space, and during this time, Lu Yin did a complete audit of his various battle techniques. His five-lined battle force could not be improved any further at this point in time, and currently, his Cosmic Palm and Nine Stacks, Seventeenfold Shockwave Palm were his two strongest attacks. Each one had their own distinct advantages, as one was outstandingly ferocious while the other was incomparably mighty. As for Flash, as long as his body could withstand the recoil, he could

even tear through the void. The 96th form of the Skybeast Claw technique was already his weakest attack, but he did not want to abandon it quite yet, as he felt that the Skybeast Claw was not as weak as it seemed to be. After all, it was a battle technique that Undying Yushan had brought out from the Fallen Star Ocean in the Innerverse.

Of his various battle techniques, he had focused the most on the Invisible Aura Technique. From the Astral Combat Academy student leaders to various space-exploring powerhouses, none of them had been able to see his cultivation base. The technique that received the next most attention was the Cosmic Art.

The Cosmic Art was irreplaceable when facing a strong enemy. It was not only the nemesis of extreme speed, but it could also slowly learn and predict the opponent's attack movements. For example, the Cosmic Art had completely countered Silver during their battle.

Regarding the Cosmic Art, Lu Yin longed to obtain the next portion of the technique. However, according to the Trialmaster, the Cosmic Sect was an absolutely terrifying monster of an organization, and since he had stolen this technique, there was no way he could reveal it publicly. This caused him to have a massive headache.

As for the Arcane Art - Fatal Revival, it only needed to be successfully triggered once, and now, it would take effect whenever he faced death.

Lu Yin would rather not have this technique as it suppressed his body's recovery potential, which made it very dangerous to use. However, now that he had already learned it, he did not know how to unlearn it.

During this month, Lu Yin did not feel any sensation of breaking into the Limiteer realm. He felt helpless by his lack of cultivation progress and thus could only extend his time by another month. He was in a race against time, as he had fallen into the sights of the Daynight clan. In order to deal with Lu Yin, Nightqueen Yanqing would do her best to prevent him from entering the Council of Astral Academy while he needed to become a Limiteer before she took action.

Time ticked away, second by second, until Lu Yin had spent two whole months in the Time Stop space. After training under increased gravity, his physical strength had increased again, and his body could now easily withstand a Nine Stacks, Eighteenfold Shockwave Palm, or even possibly a Nineteenfold. However, he was still nowhere close to breaking through.

Lu Yin was starting to grow slightly anxious, as some people took years or even decades to break through from the Melder realm to the Limiteer realm. With all the time that Lu Yin had spent in the Time Stop space, he had been a Melder for over a year, and he thought that that amount of time was more than enough given his qualifications.

As a result, he was in a fidgety state of mind and could not calmly cultivate. Lu Yin pondered over what he could do and then began to recite the Stonewall Scriptures. 'To be good at communicating, the Dao of Heaven refuses. To jump and lie in the heavens, the Dao of Heaven accepts. To jump and lie in the horizon, to condense gas, to swallow rivers...' He passed out soon after starting.

Reciting the complete Stonewall Scriptures just once would cause Lu Yin to faint multiple times, but it also calmed his state of mind down. This scripture had an unimaginable power.

Lu Yin extended his time in the space by another month.

He had more than enough star crystals to spend, and he had set his heart on breaking through to the Limiteer realm in the Time Stop space; he would not leave until he broke through.

He opened his eyes and sighed. He had already spent three months in the Time Stop space, and although his power had grown in this time, it was not by much. Only his physical strength had shown significant improvement, but he still wasn't any closer to breaking through into the Limiteer realm.

Do I really need to spend multiple years cultivating before I'll break through? Lu Yin helplessly thought to himself.

Suddenly, he thought of the Ghost Monkey; that guy was a Limiteer. Also, since it was a tamed beast and thus a part of Lu Yin, it should be able to exist in this Time Stop space.

Lu Yin stopped blocking the monkey's senses and looked at the cute, intricately detailed monkey tattoo. He unenthusiastically asked, "Still alive?"

"I'm not dead," the Ghost Monkey replied in a foul mood. The flow of time for the beast was not relative to the outside world, but was rather the same time that Lu Yin experienced. Of course, Lu Yin's bone age and body characteristics would not change while he was using Time Stop, but he would still experience the passage of time. This was evident with the Ghost Monkey, as Lu Yin had cultivated for three months, which meant that the short monkey had been isolated for three whole months, causing him to be in a bad mood.

"Let me ask you something," Lu Yin started.

The Ghost Monkey snorted, which sounded like he was mocking Lu Yin.

Lu Yin glanced at the tattoo. "If you don't answer, I'll continue to screen off your senses."

The Ghost Monkey hurriedly changed his stance and replied, "Sure, sure, go ahead and ask."

"How do you breakthrough to the Limiteer realm?" Lu Yin asked expectantly.

"Breaking through to the Limiteer realm? Oh, that's right, you're still a Melder. How revolting, I actually lost to a Melder realm junior..."

"I ask, and you answer," Lu Yin impatiently interrupted.

The Ghost Monkey sighed. "I suppose that one has to be humble when they're trapped in an inferior situation.

"Whatever, breaking through is easy. As long as you feel like you're breaking through, it'll be done. You should know."

"How do I find that feeling?"

The Ghost Monkey paused, "Do you feel like you're near the peak of the Melder realm and full of star energy?"

Lu Yin nodded.

“Actually, your body’s not filled with star energy as the potential of the body is endless. Even now, your body is still automatically absorbing star energy, precisely because it’s not full yet. Let me tell you something else—even an Explorer won’t be able to fill their bodies to the brim with star energy, let alone a Melder.”

“Then what should I do?”

“It’s simple. Forcefully fill your body with it. The word ‘Limiteer’ means reaching the limit. The instant your body is filled with enough star energy, take that opportunity to break through. That’s the simplest method. However, the star energy and speed of absorption required to do so are both very great, as it requires at least five times the average rate. Otherwise, you can also take your time and slowly absorb star energy. Eventually, you’ll have a feeling of fullness and you can break through at that time,” the Ghost Monkey unhurriedly explained.

Lu Yin’s eyes brightened. Five times? His rate of absorbing star energy was nine times the average!
“You’re not lying?”

“Nonsense! You and I are one body now. What good would lying to you do me?” The Ghost Monkey was impatient with Lu Yin.

Lu Yin thought that his answer was quite logical. “Alright, I’ll give it a try.” He then paused before asking, “Is there anything else that I should be aware of?”

“No, you’ve sensed it when you broke through to the Sentinel and Melder realms, so the Limiteer realm shouldn’t be too hard for you. Actually, breaking through to become an Explorer is the hardest bottleneck.”

Lu Yin’s lips curled up before he cut off the star energy to his right arm without any hesitation. He would not let the Ghost Monkey see anything, though he could imagine the monkey’s current mood; he was probably cursing to the high heavens right now.

There were about five cubes of star essence still left in Lu Yin’s cosmic ring since he had spent nearly 200,000 cubes of star energy crystals over the course of these past three months. Without the profits he had obtained from robbing the pirates and receiving the Mavis Bank’s generosity, he had no idea how long it would have taken him to acquire so many star crystals.

Lu Yin thought about it some more and then took out a piece of star essence before shattering it. He wanted to use five star essence for his breakthrough to the Limiteer realm.

The five cubes of star essence were not equivalent to 500,000 star crystals, and they were actually less in terms of raw star energy quantity, but they made up for it in terms of purity. Even if they weren’t equal to quite that many star crystals, it definitely would not be any less than 400,000, which was roughly the same amount that he had used to break through to the Melder realm.

Lu Yin grimaced when he realized that he had spent nearly one million cubes of star energy to cultivate from the Melder realm to the Limiteer realm. It was a shocking amount as, typically, the most exorbitant use of star energy was to cultivate battle techniques. A normal Melder would reach the peak of their realm after consuming merely 100,000 cubes of star energy, and they might even break through to the

Limiteer realm. Lu Yin's overall star energy consumption was approximately ten times that of an average Melder.

Surging star energy flooded the grey-white space and almost condensed into a tangible liquid state. This was a feature of the Astral River, which was composed of pure energy. This time, Lu Yin had used five cubes of star essence to create a similar phenomenon. Although the quantity was not much, it still had nearly condensed into a liquid state.

Lu Yin inhaled deeply and activated his Cosmic Art. Nine stars twinkled as he began to frantically absorb star energy. As he did so, his originally saturated body seemed to break through its limits as the nine stars brightened and the perfect galaxy that they formed began revolving. The star energy was absorbed by the galaxy in a vortex before quickly vanishing as Lu Yin's body started to emit a faint radiance.

Suddenly, a strange sensation floated up from deep within him, which was the feeling of breaking through. Lu Yin suddenly opened his eyes; he was about to break through, but he could not do that here. He had not forgotten about the abnormal circumstances that he had encountered when he had broken through to the Melder realm. He had clearly felt the sensation of a breakthrough at that time, but he had still ended up failing somehow. If the Rainmaster hadn't intervened at that time, he would have failed. This sort of matter did not occur very often if at all, but there must be some reason behind it. He did not know the exact reason, so he did not dare to be hasty with this breakthrough.

Lu Yin suppressed the impulse to use his formcast model to break through right then and there and instead continued to use the galaxy formed by his Cosmic Art's nine stars to rapidly absorb the star energy. Although the effect right now was not very great, his body would go through vast changes as he ascended to the Limiteer realm. It would become more suited to outer space, and its capacity for star energy would increase again, although it was difficult for him to absorb anymore at this present time.

Lu Yin was also afraid that this sensation of breaking through would disappear, so he sighed and waved, causing the scenery of the Time Stop space that had been brought about by star energy to extend further into the distance. He was trying to use up all of the star energy in hopes that he could exit the Time Stop Space quicker.

As the final seconds trickled away, the scenery before Lu Yin's eyes changed, and he reappeared in Astral-10. In reality, only a second had passed. Lu Yin did not hesitate and immediately charged towards the Rain Observatory. Compared to Old Cai, Lu Yin felt that the Rainmaster was slightly more reliable.

The scenery of the Rain Observatory never changed, and the constant pitter-patter of rain hitting the limestone platform was there, the droplets splashing and disintegrating like a miniscule world shattering into nothingness.

At the moment, the Rain Observatory was not empty as Schutz was there. His results during the Astral Combat Tournament had been lousy, and he was not qualified to serve at the warfront.

After experiencing the Astral Combat Tournament, Schutz had clearly realized his own shortcomings. Regardless of whether it was his control of star energy or his physical strength, he could not hold a candle to Lu Yin and the rest of the students in any aspect. He had only increased his battle experience and physique under the tutelage of the Sandmaster, and although he had improved greatly compared to

before, it was too slow compared to the others. He had therefore decided to start training again from the most basic fundamentals: the control of star energy.

Lu Yin's arrival sparked Schutz's attention, and the almost unsuppressable, surging star energy caused him to tremble. That pressure—is he a Limiteer?

Lu Yin found a random limestone platform and sat down, cross-legged before retrieving his formcast model by cutting open his finger. He was very excited; it was time to break through and become a Limiteer!

As the formcast model integrated into his body, intense pain wracked his entire being. Lu Yin growled roughly as he could feel his star energy channels combusting as his cells were rebuilt. This was the feeling, the feeling of breaking through.

Suddenly, an expansive darkness appeared before him. Strangely enough, he saw the dark expanse of outer space and in it, an incomparably large battleship. Within the battleship, a figure looked out into the distance as his magnificent strength caused the void to shudder. The scene then changed, and that same magnificent strength pressed down upon Lu Yin like a mountain, almost crushing him to death.

Chapter 248: The Divine Fist

Nearby, within the falling rain, Old Cai and the Rainmaster appeared simultaneously. Following them, the Sandmaster, Trialmaster, and Starmaster also appeared together.

“Strange, why has it not appeared?” the Rainmaster mumbled in a puzzled voice.

Old Cai glanced over. “Are you sure that the seal on his body will impede him?”

Rainmaster shook his head. “I’m actually not sure. I’ve not seen a seal quite like it before. Even the headmaster was not familiar with it, and he was only able to break it open by force.”

“Although his breakthrough to the Melder realm was impeded, it may not necessarily be the same when he breaks through to the Limiteer realm, as it’s not a critical breakthrough. In general, as long as one has enough star energy, they will naturally succeed. Breaking through to the Explorer realm is much more important, and if that seal still exists then, this child will find it extremely difficult to succeed in breaking through to become an Explorer,” the Starmaster commented.

“Even the headmaster had to squander his energy to break the seal, so it goes without saying that the person with the seal would find it impossible by himself,” the Trialmaster added on.

The Sandmaster frowned. “Who would be so harsh to a mere child?”

“This child does not have an average background. He has a terrifying innate gift that bolsters his physical body to the point where he can rival even an Explorer as a Melder. At the warfront, he used the strength of his physical body to exchange a strike with an Explorer level astral beast. That’s a feat that only the Ten Arbiters can match. This child is definitely not simple and may have even come from the Neoverse,” the Rainmaster said.

...

Boom!

A giant shockwave rippled out across the sky and tore the rain curtain apart. Lu Yin let out a shout filled with exhilaration as fresh blood dripped down his body before instantly vaporizing into mist. His body was changing, and he felt as if he could touch the heavens. This was the Limiteer realm; someone who had stepped closer to the starry sky than a Melder ever could.

Lu Yin suddenly opened his eyes, and with a whoosh, a gale swept out in all directions. The limestone platform that he was sitting on shattered and even the tree branch supporting the platform bent.

Schutz wasn't far away from Lu Yin, and the gale that was released nearly blew him away. He started to breathe raggedly as well, as the pressure that Lu Yin was exerting was too much.

Breaking into the Limiteer realm from the Melder realm did not involve any specific great transformations, but the degree of transformation also depended on the individual. For Lu Yin, he underwent some significant changes. In particular, his physical body had taken another leap forward. There was a special brilliance that emanated from his body that shocked the mentors who were secretly observing. This was a phenomenon that only occurred once a physical body reached a certain realm of strength, and generally only appeared on the bodies of Explorers.

The brilliance vanished in a flash and soon disappeared.

Lu Yin slowly raised both hands and clenched his fists; it felt like he had become physically stronger once again. Right now, he deeply desired to battle against that Zi Tie who had attacked Planet Conan. He wanted to know if he could defeat the Explorer realm astral beast with his current strength.

There were very few Realmbreakers amongst Limiteers, as the gap between a Limiteer and an Explorer was enormous. Even the student leaders of the Astral Combat Academy would find it hard to contend against Explorers, but Lu Yin really wanted to give it a try right after becoming a Limiteer. However, there were no Explorers in Astral-10 for him to test his strength against.

Although, he was in the Rain Observatory, so perhaps he could try to challenge the Rain Observatory again.

Lu Yin closed his eyes and quite a long time passed before he reopened them. The star energy within his body was changing, shifting between simulating wind, fire, water, and lightning. This was the realm of infinite changes, but Lu Yin had not reached his limit yet. He had grasped an even deeper level of understanding of star energy. When the star essence had released its energy and condensed liquid star energy, it had given Lu Yin an altogether different sensation.

He raised his hand and wrote his name in the void with star energy before pushing it out. The two words "Lu Yin" rushed out into the rain curtain and firmly pushed through the falling raindrops. Then, without any obstruction, the words vanished into the distance, flying past the Rain Observatory.

The Rainmaster, who was hidden within the rain curtain, shook his head. This was still not enough for Lu Yin to leave his name on the Rain List. Ever since the ancient times, only individuals who had attained an extremely deep understanding of star energy had managed to force their ways onto the Rain List. The Rainmaster was unclear about the other academies' requirements, but only powerhouses who had comprehended a domain could appear on Astral-10's Rain List. This was proof of Astral-10's former standards.

When Lu Yin and the rest had first arrived at Astral-10, they thought that it would be a simple matter to leave their names on the Rain List. In reality, it was far more difficult for Astral-10's students to leave their names on Astral-10's Rain List than a similar list of another academy. Astral-10 possessed a glory that other academies could only hope for, and they had birthed numerous unsurpassed powerhouses who had each left their names on the Rain List.

Lu Yin watched as his own name vanished and was astonished. This still isn't enough? He felt that he was only a single step away from comprehending a domain, so did that mean that all hundred names on the Rain List belonged to cultivators who had comprehended a domain? What did a hundred domain users represent? There were less than twenty of them during this season's Astral Combat Tournament, and this season actually had vastly stronger participants compared to all the previous ones.

As Lu Yin was reflecting over this, the Rainmaster walked out from the curtain of rain. "You need to at least comprehend a domain to leave your name on the Rain List. You are still lacking."

Lu Yin respectfully replied, "Yes, your student knows."

The mentor looked at Lu Yin and marveled, "It's not bad for you to reach such a stage during the Astral Combat Tournament. I helped you derive Nine Stacks before. We can continue deriving it today if you wish."

Lu Yin was delighted, as he had wanted to leave his name on the Rain List precisely so that he could continue further deriving the Nine Stacks technique. He had not expected the Rainmaster to still be willing to help him even though he had failed to get onto the Rain List. He knew that this was how Astral-10 was rewarding him for his results, and he did not reject it out of courtesy. "Thank you, mentor."

"Raise your arm."

Lu Yin lifted his left arm, and the Rainmaster did not suspect anything when Lu Yin used a different arm. He began tapping Lu Yin's left arm. The taps conveniently made nine soft echoes within Lu Yin's arm; this was Nine Stacks. However, closely following the ninth echo was a soft, tenth sound.

With Lu Yin's experience, he could not directly comprehend how the Rainmaster had derived the tenth stack and could only directly experience the technique of the tenth stack.

However, an eleventh soft echo quickly exploded forth and shook the void. Although this vibration was gentle, it was strong enough to distort the void. When the twelfth soft sound rang out, the void began to crack. But this was not the end yet as the mentor's finger had reached Lu Yin's wrist, still moving. The thirteenth stack's explosion seemed to have an understated power that caused no fluctuations, but Lu Yin also had a feeling that this final stack was actually the strongest. Lu Yin felt as though he could destroy anything with that power.

During the Astral Combat Tournament, Grandini Mavis had displayed the Thirteen Stacks technique against Liu Yin. At that time, Lu Yin had longed to master such a technique, and now, that dream had finally been fulfilled.

"Thirteen Stacks. That should be enough for you to use for now."

Lu Yin was very grateful. "Thank you, mentor, for taking the effort of deriving it for me."

“You should know this already, but Thirteen Stacks is not the limit. Someone once used a Hundred Stacks to shatter a planet, and they are even in the same generation as you. He’s one of the Ten Arbiters and is referred to as the Divine Fist. So in some sense, he’s your role model.”

Lu Yin was shocked—a Hundred Stacks? That level of physique could be simply described with the word “terrifying,” as the further one progressed in the Overlaying Stacks Path, the greater the physical requirements. Divine Fist, huh?

“Humans are creatures that can create endless miracles. There is no such concept as ‘final limit’ in some peoples’ minds. The path that you’ve yet to walk is still very long,” the Rainmaster said before leaving.

Lu Yin remained standing in the same spot. He flipped his palm over and then struck out. Ten soft echoes tore through the rain curtain, but the eleventh did not appear. He needed to ponder and refine this technique more before he could use it in battle, but he did not have much time.

His strongest attack right now was his Shockwave Palm when it was superimposed with multiple stacks and boosted by his battle force. With his current power, he would not even need to reveal his five-lined battle force to defeat Nightqueen Yanqing.

In the end, he was the one who was benefiting the most from the battle of the final four being delayed. The other three semi-finalists were already peak Limiteers while he had been the only Melder. Previously, he had not been fully confident of emerging victorious even with his five-lined battle force, but now, Lu Yin was now confident that he could beat the other three: Starsibyl, Han Chong, and Grandini Mavis.

Lu Yin did not stay at the Rain Observatory any longer as he dearly wanted to visit the trial zones’ Dao of Immortality’ Tilting Tower and finally join the Council of Astral Academy.

The Tilting Tower was the Dao of God’s unique training ground. The tower was slanted at a 45° angle, as if it had been pushed aside, and yet, it towered over the ground. It was not tall since it only had six levels, but countless students nonetheless fought over it. This was because one could frequently hear singing voices within the Tilting Tower. These voices were not inheritances, but they could open one’s mind.

The Tilting Tower had helped Liu Xiaoyun create a technique that imitated the power of the First Sword of the Thirteen Swords. Without the tower’s aid, the Thirteen Swords that dominated the universe would not have been so easily imitated by a Limiteer student.

Whoever controlled the Tilting Tower was the Dao of Immortality’ Realm Master.

When Lu Yin reached the Tilting Tower, it was full of people. Every day was the same, and the closer one got to the Tilting Tower, the clearer the sound of the singing voices. Everyone was separated by a certain distance, and all of them practised their own battle techniques alone.

Lu Yin’s appearance drew a great deal of attention. Ever since he revealed his power during the Astral Combat Tournament, the rankings of the strongest Astral Combat Academy students seemed obvious to many students. Starsibyl was undoubtedly the first, followed by Han Chong and Lu Yin. The two were given equal status as one was mysterious while the other had five-lined battle force, but both were

undeniably terrifyingly powerful. In comparison to those two, although Grandini Mavis was strong, her strength was not as well-defined.

Lu Yin was ranked in the top three in terms of combat power in the entire Astral Combat Academy.

Power commanded respect, and Lu Yin no longer required Charon's protection. On the contrary, he could now protect Charon.

The two life and death calamities that he had experienced had dramatically shortened the time that he needed to become stronger. If not for activating the Technique of Life and Death twice, Lu Yin had no idea how long it would have taken him to reach his current state.

Not far away, Frankfurt noticed Lu Yin's arrival, and his face changed before he left without saying a word. However, no one's movement here could be hidden from Lu Yin.

Lu Yin saw Frankfurt, and his eyes turned cold. Back then, this person had used a single spear to kill him so as to gain some face for the Blaze Realm. However, his action had also caused Lu Yin himself to become a laughingstock for countless others.

"Frankfurt," Lu Yin spoke out.

The other students gazed at Lu Yin as Frankfurt's face turned purple-green. He froze in place and then asked Lu Yin, "Brother Lu, is there anything that you need?"

Lu Yin looked at Frankfurt. "Call the other student leaders to the Tilting Tower."

Frankfurt clenched his fists. He was an Area Master, not some mere messenger, and there were also so many other students around! Yet at this moment, the choice was not his to make. Lu Yin exerted an overwhelming pressure, and his terrifying aura had suppressed everyone in the area.

The students suddenly realized that Lu Yin had changed; he had broken through and become a Limiteer!

Frankfurt was stunned. As a Melder, Lu Yin had already been one of the most powerful fighters within the Astral Combat Academy, so how much more powerful was he now that he had ascended to the Limiteer realm? Frankfurt didn't dare to imagine and was left helpless. "Astral-6's leader, Dao Bo, has not returned from the warfront. Actually, no other student leader has returned the trial zones yet."

"Fine, you can go." Lu Yin then looked past Frankfurt and towards the Tilting Tower.

Frankfurt nodded and left. He had not objected to Lu Yin's order out of fear that Lu Yin would snatch Spear Mountain away from him.

Under many watchful gazes, Lu Yin continued walking towards the Tilting Tower.

No one dared to stop him, not even the Astral-7 students who were close to Liu Xiaoyun; they simply allowed Lu Yin to freely enter the Tilting Tower. This was a place that only the Realm Master of the Dao of Immortality could enter, but that did not matter to Lu Yin.

Chapter 249: Hoodwinked

The Tilting Tower was angled at 45° degrees, and its interior was naturally sloped as well. Lu Yin felt a strange sensation the moment he stepped into the Tilting Tower; it was as though his entire body had tilted to the side as well.

Suddenly, he heard a melodious voice echoing in his head. Lu Yin's eyes lit up, and both his heart and spirits were lifted as an eleventh soft explosion quietly rang out.

"What a good place! It allowed me to quickly comprehend Eleven Stacks. It really lives up to its reputation of being a unique training ground," Lu Yin muttered to himself. He suddenly felt an urge to snatch this place up as well.

"Since you came here unannounced, should I treat you as an enemy?" Liu Xiaoyun's voice rang out from within the tower. She was the Dao of God's Realm Master, and the Tilting Tower was where she had been when she left the trial zones last, so she naturally reappeared here when returned. She was also the first student leader who Frankfurt had found.

Lu Yin turned around and greeted Liu Xiaoyun with a weak smile. "There's no need to be so serious. We're not strangers anymore."

Liu Xiaoyun's tone remained indifferent. "Without the permission of the Realm Master, entering any training ground controlled by another Realm Master is considered an act of provocation."

"Come on, senior. It can't be that serious. I'm still new here, and there are many rules that I'm not yet aware of," Lu Yin casually replied.

Liu Xiaoyun stared at him and thought to herself, If he were anyone else, I would have already attacked by now. However, since it was Lu Yin who was trespassing in the Tilting Tower, attacking would have just embarrassed herself; this man was not someone who she could handle. "I never thought that you would break through to the Limiteer realm so quickly. Congratulations, you will be able to join the student council soon."

Lu Yin laughed and turned around to examine the inside of the Tilting Tower while feeling the wall with his hand. The building had an ancient aura to it.

According to the Ghost Monkey, these trial zones were the remnants of an ancient civilization, and everything here was constructed from the ancient runes of the Runemasters. If this was indeed true, then it was a genuine miracle. After thinking of this, Lu Yin was suddenly reminded of the Ghost Monkey, so he hurriedly released the tamed beast's senses.

"YOU SON OF A BITCH!" the Ghost Monkey cursed the moment his senses were restored. Lu Yin instantly cut off the flow of star energy to his right arm again. This monkey really didn't learn quickly.

"Senior, regarding the attack that you used to kill Tu Bo, was that an imitation of the Thirteen Swords?" Lu Yin asked.

Liu Xiaoyun grunted in response. "Yes."

"Impressive. You managed to imitate an art form that the Sword Sect did not pass down to you," Lu Yin praised.

But Liu Xiaoyun remained unmoved. “It’s merely an imitation, and it isn’t the real thing. Besides, my imitation pales in comparison. It has less than twenty percent of the genuine technique’s strength. It’s useless against powerful figures.”

“Tu Bo is not just anyone—he’s a seed from Shamrock Enterprises. If he was killed by an imitated technique, it just goes to show that your technique is quite impressive,” Lu Yin said.

“Are you trying to praise yourself? You defeated Liu Shaoqiu and even took the Third Sword head on,” Liu Xiaoyun replied as she cast a suspicious look at Lu Yin.

Lu Yin shook his head. “If Liu Shaoqiu had displayed the Fourth Sword back then, I would’ve been the one to lose.”

Liu Xiaoyun shook her head as well. “It’s not that simple, and what he said at that time wasn’t wrong either. He had only grasped up to the Third Sword at the time; the Fourth Sword was still out of his reach. It’s impossible for someone who isn’t even a Limiteer to comprehend the Fourth Sword. Having said that, you aren’t wrong either; if the Fourth Sword had appeared at that time, then your defeat would have been guaranteed.”

One’s cultivation realm was always a major deciding factor in this universe. However, the mentors who were overseeing the tournament in the trial zone had noticed that Lu Yin had deliberately damaged Liu Shaoqiu’s star energy sword during their battle. Lu Yin had specifically stopped short of destroying the sword as a backup in case Liu Shaoqiu was actually able to demonstrate the Fourth Sword. If Liu Shaoqiu had actually grasped the Fourth Sword back then, then the previous damage done to his sword would have actually given Lu Yin a tiny window of opportunity to steal victory. This minor detail was something that Liu Xiaoyun and many other students had neglected, and many of them still held the misconception that Liu Shaoqiu’s star energy sword had simply not been able to withstand his own attack.

In other words, Lu Yin had held the upper hand throughout the entire course of his battle with Liu Shaoqiu. Liu Shaoqiu grasping the Fourth Sword was also irrelevant as Lu Yin would have still emerged victorious. This was because Liu Shaoqiu’s ability to use the Fourth Sword did not rest on his abilities alone; Lu Yin also had a say in whether he would allow it to appear. This was perhaps a major reason why the Sword Sect had decided to offer to accept Lu Yin as a disciple.

Lu Yin did not explain the battle to Liu Xiaoyun, but it was unfortunate that she could not realize the facts herself. It was likely that the Sword Sect would not explain this to Liu Shaoqiu either, and the entire matter had likely spiraled to become a common understanding.

Lu Yin chose a random spot to sit down as he calmly listened to the warbling melody in his ears. He thought back to the Thirteen Stacks technique. If he was in this place, then perhaps he could completely grasp all Thirteen Stacks.

Liu Xiaoyun gave Lu Yin a complicated look. Despite sensing that he had broken through to the Limiteer realm, she was utterly unable to gauge how strong he truly was. This man was able to hide his abilities very well. It had been the same back when they were aboard the Nalan family’s spacecraft; she had completely missed his power then. Could it be that her aunt had seen through his strength? Was that why her aunt had saved this person?

Before long, Kuang Wang arrived. He looked at Lu Yin with a tinge of bewilderment in his eyes. Not much time had passed, but Lu Yin had already become a Limiteer.

The third student leader to arrive was Nightqueen Yanqing. Lu Yin opened his eyes wide to stare at her the moment she stepped into the Tilting Tower. The reason why he was only able to join the student council now was because of the Daynight clan's obstruction. This woman had definitely played a hand in the matter.

Nightqueen Yanqing walked straight towards Lu Yin, her snow white thighs gleaming. Lu Yin looked at her calmly.

"I heard that you did well at the border," Nightqueen Yanqing drily said.

"I did pretty well," Lu Yin casually replied.

Nightqueen Yanqing's eyes flashed before she said, "I would like to invite you to visit the Daynight clan."

Once she said these words, the expressions of everyone present changed. This invitation to the Daynight Tribe was laced with malicious intentions. Even a fool knew of the ill will that the Daynight clan held towards Lu Yin. An invitation could only mean two things; it was either an intention to have him surrender and join them or just an opportunity to kill him. This was the way the Daynight clan operated.

Lu Yin's gaze remained cold. "Thank you for the invitation. However, I have no immediate plans to visit the Daynight Flowzone."

Nightqueen Yanqing's expression turned frosty. "I'll give you a chance to reconsider your choice. The Daynight clan is extending an invitation for you to be our guest."

"Perhaps I was not clear before. I have no immediate plans to visit the Daynight Flowzone." Lu Yin's tone of voice was even colder this time.

Nightqueen Yanqing sneered. "No one dares to reject an invite from the Daynight clan, and yet you have already turned down an invitation twice."

Lu Yin matched her gaze and refused to back down. "I tend to have mood swings at times. Sorry about that."

"If that is your decision, then you can forget about joining the Council of Astral Academy," Nightqueen Yanqing said dully.

Kuang Wang's eyebrow twitched at those words. "Hey, what is that supposed to mean? Since when do you make the decisions of the Council of Astral Academy?"

Liu Xiaoyun also looked at Nightqueen Yanqing with contempt.

Nightqueen Yanqing's mouth twitched disdainfully. "The Council of Astral Academy is made up of the Astral Combat Academy's most exemplary students. The members are required not only to have exceptional abilities, but also outstanding morals. Lu Yin has not exercised restraint in his actions, and there are suspicions that he has ties to pirates and that he frequents the pirate port. I am sure that neither of you want a pirate to be a member of the Council of Astral Academy."

Liu Xiaoyun and Kuang Wang both looked in Lu Yin's direction.

Lu Yin's face grew gloomy; so this was the play that Nightqueen Yanqing had chosen to make. The scene of him being attacked by that light beam back at the pirate port had long been made public. In the past, many students used to have no qualms about going to the pirate port to train, but after this matter had blown up, it had become a frowned upon activity. Things were made even worse with the Daynight clan's relentless pursuit of the matter, and the ironclad evidence was enough to put Lu Yin in a very tight spot.

The Daynight clan had no need to uncover the full details of what had happened at that time; all they needed to do was make a big deal about the fact that Lu Yin had been at the pirate port. This was the influence of a powerful organization.

Lu Yin could not defend himself and could only stare icily at Nightqueen Yanqing.

Nightqueen Yanqing continued pontificating. "One person alone cannot make a decision for the student council, but I will bring this matter up to the Ten Arbiters Council and ask them to pass judgement. I believe that the Ten Arbiters will also not be eager to let someone who has ties to pirates join the Council of Astral Academy. Am I right, Student Lu?"

"You are absolutely right. The truth will be revealed one day. No individual or clan can hoodwink the entire universe. I am still young, and I have the youth to play your game. However, my only concern is for you, Miss Nightqueen Yanqing. You are not getting any younger. Do you really want to squander your remaining youth fighting with me?" Lu Yin said in a mockingly tone.

Nightqueen Yanqing flew into a rage. "You know too little about the universe! There have indeed been cases of individuals who hoodwink everyone. Even now, such people exist, and they are people who you could never even dream to compare to. Lu Yin, you are insignificant!"

Lu Yin slowly walked out of the Tilting Tower step by step. "In the past, I felt that a powerful figure of the Great Yu Empire's younger generation was far out of reach for me, and yet, I surpassed them. After that, there was an Area Master of Astral Combat Academy, followed by a Realm Master. The Dao of Heaven is a cycle, and it is an inviolable truth that no one will stay undefeated forever... And no one can truly hoodwink the masses forever." After saying that last sentence, he walked out the Tilting Tower and left the Dao of God.

There was no need to waste any more time there. Above Nightqueen Yanqing, there was still Nightking Zhenwu. If things went along according to the typical procedures, no one would act against the Daynight clan in this matter. Unless Lu Yin could prove that he had nothing to do with the pirates, there was temporarily no way for him to get around this obstacle that the Daynight clan had created. Furthermore, Lu Yin was far from innocent. It was an undeniable fact that he had indeed acted as a pirate when robbing other pirates. If he agitated the Daynight clan any further, they would eventually expose this fact, and if it came to light, then there would no longer be any way to salvage the situation.

Lu Yin never expected that he would one day be backed into a corner by the Daynight clan. Additionally, he was only viewed as an enemy of the Daynight clan because of his immunity to the Third Sword's spiritual force attack. It was such a silly reason since he did not even have some special constitution as

everyone believed—he had just recited the Stonewall Scriptures. Even though he did not know what the scriptures meant, any fool could tell that they were more precious than some misunderstanding over a special constitution.

An individual's special constitution could only pose so much of a threat to the Daynight clan, so Lu Yin felt that the Daynight clan was only interested in him for research purposes. But even if that was the case, he was still in great danger. It wouldn't just be the Daynight clan; many other powerful groups in the universe might also attack him. What he needed to do right now was to find some powerful backing, just like how he had used Charon to enter the trial zones.

Lu Yin's biggest backer right now was the Lockbreaker Society. Lu Yin walked out of the trial zone mountain, and after muttering to himself for a moment, he walked towards the entrance of the teleportation arena.

"Greetings, Trialmaster," Lu Yin said as he bowed respectfully.

The Trialmaster opened his eyes wide. "Ah, so it's you, young fellow. What are you here for?"

"I wish to unlock a sourcebox here. Would you allow me to do so?" Lu Yin probed.

The Trialmaster was astonished. "Here?"

Lu Yin nodded his head.

The Trialmaster looked at Lu Yin carefully and then let out an odd laugh. "Young man, what a shrewd one you are! You know that lockbreaking is risky business, so you came here for me to help you minimize those risks and possibly even save your life if the situation calls for it."

Lu Yin did not deny any of the mentor's claims, and he bowed once again. "I hope that you can help me with this."

The Trialmaster pondered the situation for a moment. "Alright then, I'll help you. After all, you are Astral-10's top student, so I should help you out in some manner."

"Thank you, mentor." Lu Yin was overjoyed by the Trialmaster's response, and he quickly retrieved the harmless sourcebox that the Nalan family had given him from his cosmic ring. He then started preparing himself to begin the lockbreaking process.

The Trialmaster immediately stopped him. He then looked sternly at Lu Yin. "Young man, is this the sourcebox that you want to unlock?"

Lu Yin nodded his head.

The Trialmaster knitted his brows. "You are being too impatient. We Lockbreakers are always fighting for our very lives during a lockbreaking attempt, and the profession is dangerous enough as it is. Despite all that, you want to try surpassing realms with your lockbreaking? Do you think that you're at war or something?"

Chapter 250: Finding A Backer

“I’m confident that I’ll succeed,” Lu Yin replied. He had Possessed Charon before, who was an incredibly experienced five-star Discerning Elementary Lockbreaker. If Charon was capable of unlocking an intermediate sourcebox, then Lu Yin was sure that he could do the same.

“If you were truly confident, then you wouldn’t have asked to make this lockbreaking attempt in front of me.” The Trialmaster sounded very stern, and he continued exhorting Lu Yin. “All I’ll say is this: when you fight against people, you can create miracles. However, if you fight against the heavens, you’ll definitely die. Countless powerhouses have been born over the years, but there’s no such thing as immortality. All of those experts have ended up being buried in space without exception. Lockbreaking is just a process that rushes you towards death more quickly than the others. You’re still only a one-star Discerning Elementary Lockbreaker, but for some reason, you’re confident that you can unlock this sourcebox even though it’s vastly more difficult than what you can currently handle. Within the Astral Combat Academy, nobody except Dao Bo can open this sourcebox; not even you will be able to succeed.”

“Charon can’t do it either?” Lu Yin asked.

The Trialmaster closed his eyes and ignored Lu Yin.

Lu Yin had a feeling that the Trialmaster was actually angry, and he cautiously put the sourcebox away before bowing to the Trialmaster. “I was too reckless. I’ll look for a sourcebox that’s suitable for a Discerning Elementary Lockbreaker. Please don’t be angry.” With that, he immediately left the area.

The Trialmaster opened his eyes and sighed. “The path of a Lockbreaker is far more treacherous than you’d expect. Even the same person might not be able to successfully unlock the same sourcebox twice. He’s being too egoistic—he thinks that he can unlock a sourcebox that’s too difficult for him when he hasn’t even comprehended how one’s-star energy control affects their domain. Even a harmless sourcebox could result in him losing his mind. Still, at least he’s not irredeemably stupid since he knows enough to come here to unlock a sourcebox. I hope that he won’t go down the wrong path.”

The Trialmaster’s stern scolding had caused Lu Yin to sober up, and he quickly realized that he really had been too arrogant. Lockbreaking wasn’t like battling. Regardless of how high a person’s power level reached, it was useless in a lockbreaking attempt. Charon had barely become a five-star Discerning Elementary lockbreaker, and he was still far from actually becoming an Intermediate Lockbreaker. Meanwhile, Lu Yin hadn’t even comprehended a domain, and he did not have much personal experience with lockbreaking. He had thought too highly of himself and had nearly tried to do something far beyond his abilities. Even if trying to unlock that harmless sourcebox might not be inherently dangerous, the vast, pure world of energy that the sourcebox was condensed from actually had the potential of destroying him.

Lu Yin was thankful that he’d spoken to the Trialmaster before making the attempt. If he had tried to unlock that sourcebox right away without contacting anyone, then he would have been in deep trouble.

However, where could he go to find a suitable sourcebox?

Lu Yin switched his gadget on and entered the Lockbreaker network. There, he discovered that quite a few people had contacted him. Most of the messages came from various organizations and the rest came from his acquaintances, such as Bazeer.

“Hello, and sorry to bother you, Mr. Seven, but may I know when you might be free? Council Member Puyu has invited you to visit San Dios.”

...

“Hi there, Mr. Seven. I have a harmless sourcebox and would like your help in unlocking it.”

...

“Mr. Seven...”

...

There were a dozen unread messages from Bazeer. It seemed that he had set his sights on recruiting Lu Yin, although Lu Yin found it quite strange that Wendy Yushan hadn't discovered who he was yet.

Madam Nalan and many others had found out his true identity, and Old Cai had done the same. It seemed that nearly everyone knew who he was, which meant that a Lockbreaker's identity wasn't truly a secret. Since that was the case, then why hadn't Wendy Yushan tried to find out? Was it just that she hadn't told anyone? That didn't seem very likely.

There was also another possibility. It could be that her foundation wasn't exactly solid and that her position as a council member of the Outerverse Youth Council wasn't enough to investigate the Lockbreaker network. She would need a Lockbreaker for that, but it was possible that she had yet to find a Lockbreaker willing to work under her.

If this was the case, then it would be proof that Wendy Yushan's position was not actually as glamorous as it seemed. It was even possible that she had to answer to someone else on the council.

At the thought of even Wendy Yushan answering to someone else with her level of strength, Lu Yin's desire to find powerful backers intensified.

In the end, it didn't actually matter if a Lockbreaker's status was secret or not. Liu Ji already knew, and a lot of other people could find out if they wanted to. Even if Lu Yin tried to keep his identity a secret, it wouldn't work. Perhaps the best choice was to make his Lockbreaker status public to dissuade those plotting against him in secret. At the very least, revealing it would cause some of the people plotting against him to give up.

Lu Yin ignored Bazeer's messages and started searching for a lockbreaking mission that was close to him. It was possible to filter the available missions to those that were closest and most suitable for him. This was something that the Lockbreaker Society had created after investing a large amount of resources. Anyone who signed into the network only needed to provide sourceboxes and rewards before they could issue missions.

Lu Yin browsed the network list for a bit before finding a mission close to him that had been issued by someone called End Of The Road. This person wanted someone to unlock a sourcebox, and the reward was fifty thousand star crystals.

The sourcebox had been verified by Lockbreaker Researchers as a two-star Discerning Elementary sourcebox. It did not have a high grade, but it was somewhat dangerous. Within the Outerverse, a price of fifty thousand star crystals was reasonable; it wasn't too high, but it also wasn't too low.

Back when he had helped someone disassemble metal, it had taken him two days to earn around three thousand star crystals. Now, unlocking a two-star Bright Eyed elementary grade sourcebox would earn him fifty thousand star crystals. It made sense that all Lockbreakers were rich.

Lu Yin accepted the mission and then asked the person called End Of The Road to go to Astral-10.

End Of The Road was just the person's username on the network. The fact that the person had a sourcebox meant that they weren't just any ordinary person.

"Astral-10? Are you a mentor there, Mr. Seven?" End Of The Road was rather curious.

Lu Yin indifferently replied, "There's no need for such questions. Come if you want to. Otherwise, forget it."

End Of The Road quickly answered, "My apologies. I'll head over right away."

Based on where the network showed his location to be, the person was within range of Astral-10 and would take at most half a day to reach the academy.

Lu Yin went to the space station and patiently waited there.

There were many people who possessed sourceboxes, and as such, there were naturally many missions. However, there were just far too few Lockbreakers.

On the network, there were only around ten Lockbreakers in the Frostwave Weave who had made their locations public. This was the Frostwave Weave, which included a hundred filaments. The universe's organization went from a planet to a solar system, galaxy, cluster, supercluster, and then finally filament. Within this huge territory, there were only around ten or so Lockbreakers who had revealed their presence. Even if one included the Lockbreakers unwilling to reveal their locations, there would be at most fifty of them altogether.

There were 630,000 registered Lockbreakers in the Human Domain, which meant that, on average, there were less than fifty of them in any single given weave, which was a very small number. Many planets had Explorers, which proved that there were far fewer Lockbreakers than Explorers in existence. This was also one of the reasons why Wendy Yushan had been so shocked to see a Lockbreaker reveal his location as being on Zenyu star. It had been a long time since there had been a Lockbreaker on Zenyu star.

There were many missions but few Lockbreakers, which led to many of the people issuing missions to increase the rewards. All they wanted was for a Lockbreaker to help them. Thus, Lu Yin did not even have to leave the academy. With just a word from him, there would be people willing to send the sourcebox straight right to him. After all, he was a one-star Discerning Elementary Lockbreaker, which was on a completely different level compared to a Lockbreaker with no achievements.

Roughly half a day passed, but Lu Yin still did not see any sign of End Of The Road, though he did see Hui Daynight. Hui Daynight had also been ordered to go the frontier ahead of time, and he had returned at around the same time that Lu Yin had. It was entirely possible that the Daynight clan had interfered.

When he saw Lu Yin, Hui Daynight appeared calm and no longer tried to immediately challenge Lu Yin as he quietly left the space station.

Lu Yin had a feeling that Hui Daynight had changed; he seemed more mature and his gaze no longer contained that crazed and arrogant glint from before.

Not long after Hui Daynight left, Lu Yin received a message from End Of The Road. Lu Yin sent him his coordinates and guided him to the space station.

As he watched a mid-sized spacecraft dock, Lu Yin suddenly sighed ruefully. His Aurora had disappeared, and it had even been upgraded once! What a pity...

End Of The Road turned out to be a very mild businessman. When he saw Lu Yin, he was startled, but he did not doubt Lu Yin's abilities. He greeted him and then had someone bring out the sourcebox.

The sourcebox was kept in a large box made from Qiansi soul crystals. Metals such as this were very durable and difficult to destroy, which made such materials perfect for storing sourceboxes.

"This sourcebox has some offensive abilities, Mr. Seven, and it emanates an energy that can cause hallucinations. Please be careful." End Of The Road then had someone pass the sourcebox over to Lu Yin since Astral-10 did not allow outsiders to enter.

Lu Yin took it and nodded. "You should be aware of the common lockbreaking rules. I'll show you the entire process, but you can't blame me if I fail."

End Of The Road respectfully answered, "Of course. Nobody would dare claim that they'll definitely succeed at a lockbreaking attempt. I just hope that you won't get injured. Everything else is secondary."

The man's words made Lu Yin feel pretty good. As a businessman, it was semi-expected that the man would be most concerned about the sourcebox itself, but his words made it sound like he cared more about Lu Yin's safety. If one failed during a lockbreaking attempt, the sourcebox might be destroyed, but the person who requested the lockbreaking attempt would still have to pay a sizable amount of money. That would be a total loss for him, but that treatment was exactly what Lockbreakers deserved.

Lu Yin carried the sourcebox towards the trial zone entrance. He wanted to unlock the sourcebox in front of the Trialmaster, and in order to prevent any mishaps from happening, he would definitely not waste an opportunity to safely unlock a sourcebox. He just needed to be a bit more thick-skinned.

End Of The Road looked extremely nervous. Every lockbreaking attempt was a gamble, and no matter how strong a sourcebox's energy fluctuations were, there was always a chance of it being completely empty. This was very normal. Back when he first obtained this sourcebox years ago, he hadn't been courageous enough to risk asking someone to unlock it. However, as he'd recently run into some cash flow problems, he had been left with no choice but to take a gamble. If he obtained something valuable this time, he would sell it and thus resolve his financial issues. Otherwise, he was done for.

Lu Yin dragged the sourcebox to the trial zone entrance and sat down a short distance away from the Trialmaster. He stared hard at the box made of Qiansi soul crystal. End Of The Road had said that this sourcebox could cause hallucinations, which meant that it was a harmful sourcebox. He had to be extremely careful this time.

With this in mind, he turned his gadget on and started a video chat with End of the Road through the Lockbreaker network. This allowed End Of The Road to watch the entire lockbreaking process, and it was also a rule that had been put in place to prevent any unscrupulous Lockbreakers from stealing the possible item within the sourcebox.

Inside the space station, End Of The Road's breath was ragged as he intently stared at the screen.

Lu Yin took a deep breath and then opened the box. After a brief moment, a unique aura floated out that caused his vision to go hazy. There was also a very nice scent coming from the box.

The Trialmaster shifted his attention towards Lu Yin.

Lu Yin kept shaking his head vigorously. The illusory energy here wasn't enough to threaten him. When it came down to it, the sourcebox had been evaluated to only be at the two-star Discerning Elementary level, so its offensive abilities couldn't possibly be that strong. More importantly, he had to focus on unlocking the sourcebox.

Lu Yin produced the Giant Emperor's third eye and activated the Cosmic Art. Nine stars swirled around him as his palm held a half-moon crystal that made him appear even more mysterious.

While End Of The Road could not see the nine stars revolving around Lu Yin, he grew very excited when he saw the Giant Emperor's third eye. He had heard of this item before and knew that it was a lockbreaking tool. The fact that Mr. Seven possessed this tool gave End Of The Road a huge boost of confidence in the chances of this attempt succeeding.

With the help from the Cosmic Art and the Giant Emperor's third eye, Lu Yin gazed at the sourcebox. The sourcebox that had initially seemed to be just the size of an arm now looked like an incredibly complex world. All kinds of energy intermingled and mixed together inside of it, and there was a gas-like substance constantly being dispelled from within. If he was not wrong, then this was coming from the item within the sourcebox.