

Chapter 451: Tease

Mu Rong's battle with Zhang Dingtian shocked the onlookers with their sheer strength while Qin Chen's battle with Che Han shocked them due to the contrasting reputations. Qin Chen was ranked eighty eighth on the rankings, but Che Han was unranked. This meant that a nobody had just created a miracle. Although such an incident did not call the validity of the Top 100 Rankings into question, it showed many just how vast the universe was and that not every powerhouse had a reputation that matched their skills.

There was another matter as well; now that Che Han had defeated Qin Chen, he had replaced Qin Chen at the eighty eighth rank. When the list was updated, those behind Che Han would be pushed back by one, and the person ranked at a hundred would be kicked off of the list.

"Seventh Bro, I feel like the most miserable person must be the one ranked 100th. No matter whatever happens in front of him, that person will be gone. Don't you think that they must live a miserable life, day after day?" The Ghost Monkey found it strange.

Lu Yin looked at Che Han on one of the screens. He had clearly seen the previous battle, and he had also seen a wreath of five interlocking plum blossoms. This Che Han was from the Royal Frost Continent, but Lu Yin had thought that the people there never interacted with the outside world. So why had this person appeared here now? Also, there was no way that this person's status within the Royal Frost Continent was simple either.

Five Skyfall Cascades meant the birth of five powerhouses, and everyone looked on expectantly, as this final exchange was the most awaited one.

Starsibyl's gaze was deep. She looked at the sky, but it was unknown whom she was looking at.

Hai Dashao was not satisfied with any of the final five participants, as he had been the most pleased with Zhang Dingtian and Qin Chen. However, they had both been defeated. There was always someone stronger no matter how powerful one became.

As Che Han walked towards the gate, all of the Skyfall Cascades' sluice gates rumbled simultaneously.

Lu Yin's eyes flashed, and he raised a hand to exert a bit of force on the gate. The gate released a grinding sound, but it could move now. His eyes narrowed, and he used more strength, trying to force the gate open. Behind the gate were five canals that converged at the Sea King's Trident. Whoever pulled it out would become the Sea King's son-in-law.

The true competition to become the Sea King's son-in-law had begun at this moment.

But everyone seemed to have forgotten that the people who were climbing up the Skyfall Cascades were just those who had qualified through their strength. There was actually still another batch of participants who had qualified through their good looks. The moment the sluice gates opened, the people who were a part of that second group received a notification. They all moved to a teleportation device that was right beside the lake where they were gathered.

Xun Jiong felt excited, as it was finally their turn to take to the stage. He was very confident in his looks, and as long as he received the Sea King's daughter's admiration, the Xun family's status in the universe would undergo a tremendous change. He had to put on a good performance, and the thought of the potential future caused his lips to naturally rise into a dazzling smile that could enchant thousands of girls.

Nearby, Hart Phoenix was a bit nervous since he did not know if he could capture the Sea King's daughter's heart, what she looked like, or even if his elder brother would blame him if he failed here. Looks could not be changed, though Hart Phoenix was truthfully very handsome.

Xia Luo was much more relaxed, as he had never intended on marrying the Sea King's daughter in the first place. He maintained his peaceful demeanor, and everything about him was calm.

Many good-looking men were gathered beside the lake. There were a few dozen of them, far more than the number of people who had qualified through their strength.

Hai Qiqi looked at the screen expectantly while the four maids behind her also looked on eagerly. All of the men on the screen were handsome lads, and the group was visually stunning.

"Sister Qi, show some mercy with your words. They are very handsome!" one maid was smitten.

The other maids nodded, similarly in agreement.

Hai Qiqi snorted. "As long as they are unattractive, clear them out. This princess doesn't care. Who asked them to be ugly and still dare to come out and scare others."

The maids felt helpless.

However, Hai Qiqi and the others continued waiting, but not a single person arrived. Instead, these handsome figures appeared not far from the Sea King's Trident, behind the sluice gates of the Skyfall Cascade.

Everyone was stunned, including Hai Qiqi.

What's going on? Xun Jiong looked around him before suddenly turning to face the other direction. It was then that he saw the Sea King's Trident a hundred meters away from him. He had a bad feeling; where was the supposed competition of their looks going to take place?

Xia Luo was astonished, but he merely blinked as his lips rose up in a smile. Interesting.

The handsome man who Lu Yin had encountered on the ship while they were sailing to the Sea King's Dome's felt his heart sink, and his face slowly paled. He was not stupid, and was a horrible premonition surfaced in his heart.

These pretty boys had appeared in a very awkward location: right between the Sea King's Trident and the five freaks who had just passed through the sluice gates. The freaks' target was precisely the Sea King's Trident, and what would they do to get to the trident? Clear out all obstacles. In other words, the group of eye candy was about to face off against the five freaks.

“Wha- what’s going on? Are we supposed to try to pull the Sea King's Trident out as well? Is this a joke?” someone shouted, as he was just a mere Sentinel. His difficulty lay in not whether or not he could pull out the Sea King's Trident, but rather whether he could even hold it.

Many of these pretty boys did not have a deep cultivation. Of course, there were those who were slightly stronger, such as Xun Jiong, who was a Limiteer, and an elite Limiteer at that. However, the word “elite” was only in reference to average cultivators, not the people currently in front of them. Who were they? Freaks! Freaks among freaks!

Hart Phoenix took a deep breath; the Phoenix family did not shy from battle, not even when against a monster like Lu Yin.

“Brother, what’s happening? Wasn’t it agreed that I could pick a handsome man? Why did things change?!” Hai Qiqi shouted into her gadget.

At the edge of the Skyfall Cascade, Hai Dashao pursed his lips and instantly disconnected without even replying. What a joke! How could a super powerhouse such as the Sea King select a son-in-law based purely on their physical appearance? Being attractive without having any power was no different than being a straw bag. Even if he was nothing more than a manservant for Qiqi to order about and enjoy, such a person had to have some power. Otherwise, their family would become a laughingstock!

Starsibyl was not surprised, and she interestedly looked at the group of handsome men gathered beside the Sea King's Trident. It went without saying that when these people all stood together, it was indeed rather pleasing to a female’s eyes.

Countless people in the Sea King's Dome were also stunned, as the scene had changed too drastically, to the point where they could not even accept the situation. How badly did the Sea King hate handsome people for him to have prepared this trick for them? However, countless people were cheering at this moment, especially the men. No one would feel good if one of these good-looking people became Sea King’s son-in-law just based off of their looks. After all, what use did a pretty boy have? Many people preferred for one of the five monsters to be chosen.

Big Pao nearly set off firecrackers in celebration, as his confidence in his own looks had been trampled upon during the verbal lashing he had received at the entrance of the Starfall Sea. But now that these handsome men had been made fools of, he was extremely happy.

Michelle and the rest were all stunned as well. The Sea King truly knew how to fool around, and these pretty boys’ must have reached the pits of despair now.

Indeed, the current Xun Jiong felt a little hopeless, as the Xun family regarded this competition for the Sea King’s son-in-law quite highly. As long as he was selected to become the Sea King’s son-in-law, the Xun family would be able to break away from the Daynight clan’s clutches. However, all of these hopes were dashed with this development, as one figure slowly walked over: Lu Yin.

A smile crept onto Lu Yin’s face when he saw Xun Jiong. It almost felt fated that they would meet, even in distant areas of the universe.

There was a cry as a dashing man suddenly charged towards the Sea King's Trident, his gaze firm. He was one of the rare Explorers in the group of pretty boys, and as long as he pulled out the spear, he would become the Sea King's son-in-law. Thus, in his mind, there was no need to compete against those freaks.

Quite a few others came to their senses and hurriedly rushed over as well.

However, right when they drew close to the Sea King's Trident, the atmosphere suddenly became incomparably heavy as the void distorted visibly. The group of handsome people who had charged forward were thrown backwards by an invisible attack, and countless wounds appeared on their bodies that perfectly resembled gunshot wounds.

Everyone shivered with fright, as the Sea King's Trident was not something that could be easily pulled out.

Hundreds of meters away from the Sea King's Trident, Faceless, Che Han, Mu Rong, Cheng Wu, and Lu Yin stood in five different directions. Each took one side as they faced both the Sea King's Trident and the stunning men.

The eye candy looked like a herd of sheep that was surrounded by tigers, their eyes filled with helplessness.

Truthfully, there were some powerhouses who were both attractive and powerful, such as Ling Que and Mu Rong. However, the truly powerful ones could not be bothered to qualify through their looks, and they had all barged up the Skyfall Cascades. This meant that the visual disparity between the handsome group and the monstrous five was not too great.

Their backs were to the Sea King's Trident while in front of them were the five freaks. This was an inescapable situation.

Lu Yin felt his respect for the Sea King increase by a thousand points, and he really wanted to see him. He was very curious about how ugly the man had to be, for him to come up with such a twisted prank for these poor, pretty fools.

"Seventh Bro, go on! Hehe. It must feel great to bully these delicate sheep." The monkey urged with a strange laugh.

Lu Yin's lips quirked up as he stared at Xun Jiong. Then, he charged forward ferociously. His action was like a starting gun, and the other four all suddenly acted as well. In that instant, the crowd watched on as a disturbing scene unfolded. It was as if adults were ganging up to beat up little kids. Aside from a limited few who could endure a few strikes, the majority of the handsome men were directly sent flying.

Lu Yin grabbed for Xun Jiong, whose eyes shrank. He had not brought the Gear Construction Technique's unique metal with him, so he could not exchange even a single blow with Lu Yin. "Brother Lu, please, everything was Xun Tao's schemes. The whole matter was entirely unrelated to me. Please show some mercy to me for the sake of the Xun family's reputation."

Although the Sea King's son-in-law selection was not being broadcasted across the entire universe, if the scene of him being swatted into a sorry state was recorded and spread, it would still be a blemish in the future. Xun Jiong believed that he was destined for loftier accomplishments, and there was no way he was willing to carry such a humiliation on his record.

However, Lu Yin did not bother answering him. Instead, he gruffly grabbed Xun Jiong's shoulders and exerted some force through his palms. The sounds of breaking bones came out from Xun Jiong's shoulders, and he glared at Lu Yin with vengeance in his eyes as he lashed out with both palms. The star energy within Xu Jiong's hands morphed strangely, forming an abnormal round shape that suddenly exploded. This was the Xun family's Gear Construction Technique, which focused on expanding from a small size to a powerful attack through the assembly of refined star energy.

Xun Jiong's power was pretty decent for a Limiteer, or else he would not have been qualified to participate in the Outerverse's trial in the past. However, the current disparity between him and Lu Yin was too great and his attack could not harm Lu Yin in the slightest. Lu Yin withstood the attack with just his body and his battle force. Then, he squeezed Xun Jiong's shoulders tighter until the Xun family heir was howling in grief as his shoulders broke.

Lu Yin released him with a casual slap, sending Xun Jiong flying across the area and crashing into the ground near the Sea King's Trident.

Lu Yin had thought things through, and he knew that openly killing Xun Jiong would provoke the Xun family. They were powerful, and he was unwilling to create a mortal feud with them. The hatred that he felt for Xun Jiong was not enough to push Lu Yin to kill the young man. However, if this person died from the Sea King's Trident, then it would not be Lu Yin's fault. Although the Xun family would still blame him, he would also have his own justifications to fall back upon.

Xun Jiong felt half of his body go numb, but he could not escape. He could only look on, helpless, as he flew towards the Sea King's Trident, only to be sent flying again after approaching within ten meters of the Sea King's Trident. Xun Jiong spat out a mouthful of blood and crash landed in a distant canal, his status unknown. He fell into one of the Skyfall Cascades, and after the stream carried him along, he would eventually be found at the lower levels of the waterway.

Atop the Sea King's Dome, Xun Tao and the rest glared furiously at Lu Yin before rushing for the lower regions of the mountain to look for Xun Jiong.

"Lu Yin, it's been a long time!" A golden colored Undying Bird soared behind Lu Yin right after he sent Xun Jiong flying. Hart Phoenix had never given up on his desire to challenge Lu Yin, and even in these current circumstances, he wanted to battle and prove his ambition. First, he wanted to satisfy his personal desire to fight Lu Yin, and secondly, the Sea King's daughter might even be fond of people with blazing determination.

Chapter 452: In Front Of The Sea King's Trident

Lu Yin spun around to suddenly face Hart Phoenix. "You have some balls to challenge me when you haven't even broken through to become a Limiteer."

Hart yelled out, "It'll be more of a challenge this way!"

Lu Yin narrowed his eyes and curtly replied, "You're just asking for a beating."

After saying that, Lu Yin stretched an arm out towards the gold-colored Undying Bird. Hart Phoenix did not expect that Lu Yin would use his bare hands to contest the Undying Bird's flames; that was simply courting death in his eyes. Lu Yin was up against the golden Undying Bird, the top innate gift of the

Phoenix clan, and its high temperatures were enough to melt anything in the bird's path. It was clearly a foolish decision to touch it with one's bare skin.

Back during the Astral Combat Tournament, Sha had utilized a combination of his domain and innate gift to freeze the golden Undying Bird. Back then, Hart Phoenix's understanding of his own power had not been as deep, as he was confident of defeating Sha now. As for someone using their bare body to contact the flames of the bird, just the idea was laughable. If the golden Undying Bird was something that could be handled in such a cavalier manner, the Phoenix clan would not have become the terrifying force to be reckoned with that it was.

And yet, Hart was destined to suffer a heavy loss this day. He had first been toyed with by the Sea King, and now, he was facing off against Lu Yin, whose actions managed to upend Hart's entire understanding of the world. That was because he clasped the golden Undying Bird within his hand like a small chick before holding as if he was about to cast it aside like a piece of trash. "Go and play somewhere else."

Hart's mouth dropped down, gaping wide open; why was this happening? Was Lu Yin's physical body really that strong? Hart was unresigned to the fact that Lu Yin could withstand the golden Undying Bird's flame with his body, so he started preparing to launch a counter attack. However, the very next moment, a cold sensation filled his body. The golden Undying Bird had been frozen, and it fell onto the ground with a thud.

Hart was dumbfounded. This time, his golden Undying Bird had been frozen by Che Han. When he saw his innate gift freeze over once again, Hart Phoenix was forced to question his life; why had his golden Undying Bird been frozen so easily?

The frozen golden Undying Bird was reminiscent of an incomparably beautiful art piece as it plummeted into the middle of the Skyfall Cascade. Hart soon followed, being washed away by the water just like Xun Jiong before him.

Everyone fell speechless as they watched the events at the top of the Skyfall Cascade unfold. The sight of a handsome man being washed away by the river would entertain anyone. At the beginning of the selection, Lu Yin and the others had gathered at the middle of the mountain that was the Sea King's Dome and then battled against each other as they slowly made their way up the Skyfall Cascades. This contrasted sharply against those people who had been given preferential treatment and taken straight up to the top level of the Sea King's Dome. But now, they were all being wrung out of the mountain through the flowing waters of the Skyfall Cascades.

It was the complete opposite of before, as the only thing that mattered now was one's personal strength.

Many people were perplexed. What did the Sea King actually want? Had he ever been concerned about how attractive the potential groom was, or did he have some kind of vendetta against those who were too attractive? The entire matter was very strange, but one thing was certain; one's own abilities were still the most fundamental determiner.

At the southwest section of the Skyfall Cascade, beside the water bank, Zhang Dingtian held his broken sword in his hand. As he raised his head and looked at the screens, another person was washed onto the

shores of the river. Would Lu Yin be able to defeat Mu Rong? That was the question Zhang Dingtian was pondering.

“Xia Luo is in trouble! He’s up against Mu Rong!” Little Pao yelled out with a terrified cry.

Michelle and the others all looked in the same direction. Xia Luo was indeed getting closer to Mu Rong, and they were currently only merely three meters apart.

Mu Rong did not go out of his way to attack Xun Jiong and the others, but he would attack whoever was in his path. And as it turned out, Xia Luo was standing right in front of Mu Rong with his back towards the unequalled Limiteer. Xia Luo was looking at Faceless, his eyes full of contemplation.

Mu Rong raised his wooden flute and struck out, aiming at no particular target. Everyone had witnessed how powerful his wooden flute was, and even a random attack from it struck fear into the hearts of all who saw it.

Xia Luo’s expression changed when he sensed that something was amiss as he moved aside to evade it. Right in front of him, the wooden flute reappeared, headed straight for his upper arm. Mu Rong had not put much force behind this attack, and his attack could even be called lazy. Xia Luo responded in kind and dodged it without much effort, narrowly avoiding the wooden flute as he took a step back. He was not hurt in any way, aside from his cloak being slightly ruffled by the passing flute.

Mu Rong was flabbergasted. He immediately turned around and cast a stern look at Xia Luo. His attack had not merely been throwing the wooden flute, as he had also locked down the space around him since it was within the range of his domain. The fact that Xia Luo had been able to dodge it so easily caused Mu Rong to seriously reevaluate Xia Luo.

Xia Luo spoke with a smile on his face. “I am sorry for blocking your path.”

Mu Rong scanned the man in front of him with his eyes and then stared cautiously at Xia Luo. His expression became increasingly astonished before he replied, “I made an error in judgment. You are stronger than I had thought.”

Xia Luo shrugged his shoulders. “Still not as strong as you, though. Goodbye.” And with that, he turned around and left.

Mu Rong did not stop him, but as he watched Xia Luo walk away, he had an irresolute look on his face; could his senses have been wrong? Mu Rong had felt his star energy being diffused earlier, and it had not been from some ordinary lockbreaking ability.

Xia Luo and Mu Rong’s brief skirmish had drawn the attention of many others, including Lu Yin. Xia Luo was truly strong if he could force even Mu Rong to take him seriously. Such a look on the unequalled Limiteer’s face had only ever appeared when he faced off against Zhang Dingtian. Not even Lan Yu possessed the capability to force Mu Rong to be serious.

Little Pao and the others heaved sighs of relief. It was a good thing that Xia Luo had not been embarrassedly thrown off of the mountain since they all had very good impressions of him. The man was kind to others, and although no one knew what he was ruminating about all the time, he did not give off a dangerous air. These qualities made him an ideal teammate.

Xia Luo's distance from Mu Rong increased, but he did not leave the area within the sluice gates. Instead, he headed straight towards Faceless, the cold glint in his eyes condensing until it was a freezing look as he approached him. This cold glare was directed away from the view of Lu Yin and the others, and only Faceless could see it.

Faceless, with a swift attack from his sword, hacked at a handsome Explorer and forced him to the ground. With fresh blood splashing onto his feet, Faceless looked up as Xia Luo moved closer to him step by step. His ugly facial features were distorted, but his eyes remained calm.

Xia Luo stared at the ugly man, his brows locked together. Although Lu Yin could not see it, Michelle and the others could see his expression on the screen. Xia Luo was showing an expression that they had never seen before.

"Hey, is Xia Luo really going to challenge this man to a fight? Even though that guy's really ugly, he's ranked seventy second in the Top 100 Rankings. That's even higher than Qin Chen's ranking!" Big Pao blurted out in an exaggerated fashion.

Lulu clenched her fists tightly. "Good luck, Xia Luo! Don't be afraid."

Coco was worried. She preemptively took out her giant syringe, obviously ready to heal someone at any given moment. However, her actions were in vain since she was not even allowed into the middle part of the mountain, let alone anywhere near the peak.

At this moment, aside from Xia Luo, all of the other people who had gotten in due to their looks had been eliminated. There were now only six people in the area surrounding the Sea King's Trident, and Xia Luo was an anomaly.

Among the six people, Che Han was the closest to the Sea King's Trident, merely thirteen meters away from it. Cheng Wu was the closest after Che Han while Lu Yin was more than a hundred meters away from both Cheng Wu and Che Han. However, Lu Yin was less than twenty meters away from Mu Rong.

Mu Rong turned around and looked at Lu Yin before quickly redirecting his attention towards the Sea King's Trident. He still did not see Lu Yin as a serious threat. As far as he was concerned, this man was unlike Zhang Dingtian. Mu Rong had felt Zhang Dingtian's resolve and boldness the moment Zhang Dingtian drew his sword, but Mu Rong did not feel the same sort of resolve coming from Lu Yin.

Even though the two Limiteers had very similar reputations, Mu Rong was not the type of person who paid much attention to others' reputations. There were just too many people out there who fought for fame. Having said that, Mu Rong did not take Lu Yin lightly either, and he had to admit that Lu Yin was a worthy opponent. He might possess the same fighting strength as Zhang Dingtian, but he would not gain much from fighting someone at that level as victory would be nearly guaranteed.

Among those with similar reputations, Ye Xingchen was the only one who interested Mu Rong. As a powerful Limiteer who dared to barge into the Cosmos Sea, his resolve and determination could only be that of an extraordinary person's.

"Seventh Bro, I have this nagging feeling that that guy is looking down on you," the monkey said in an angry voice.

Lu Yin had sensed this as well, but he was not too bothered by it. Instead, he focused on the Sea King's Trident and began to slowly make his way towards it.

With a swoosh, the tip of a blade brushed past Lu Yin's side and into the ground. In the distance, Faceless and Xia Luo had begun doing battle.

Lu Yin was puzzled as to why Xia Luo did not retreat. Even more surprising, he had started battling against Faceless. Even though Xia Luo was quite powerful, it was unlikely that he would be able to defeat the 80th ranked individual of the Top 100 Rankings. So, why did he want to fight?

On the other side of the area, Che Han was now within ten meters of the Sea King's Trident. As soon as he reached that distance, he clearly felt a sharp, threatening aura emanate from the weapon. Even though the trident was stabbed into the ground, its aura still gave off attacks that were so threatening that even he was scared of them. Sharp attacks pierced through the void and left a giant tear in his clothes.

This was the innate power of the Sea King's Trident. Its attacking prowess would grow the closer one moved closer to it. It was a good thing that it was still within a range that Che Han could handle. Since this was a part of the tasks for the Sea King's son-in-law selection, the intensity was not that terrifying.

In front of Che Han, his Fireglass Frost froze the air. The white cracks within the layer of ice intensified and widened the closer he drew towards the trident. Each attack from the trident also caused the cracks to deepen.

Everyone watched on nervously. The Sea King's future in-law would be one of these six young men.

All of a sudden, Cheng Wu rushed into the ten meters range of the Sea King's Trident. Without any warning, he threw a punch straight at Che Han.

Che Han had constantly been on guard against Cheng Wu, and he retreated as soon as the large clock touched any part of his body, allowing him to narrowly avoid being trapped by the clock. If he was trapped, he would have ended up in the same situation as Ling Que. As he spun his spear around and entered a horizontal blocking position, Cheng Wu threw another powerful punch at the spear. "Thunder punch!"

A deafening sound rang out that caused the air to implode the void to distort. Visible claps of thunder spread out in all directions as Che Han's spear was bent out of shape by the powerful punch. The impact of the attack forced Che Han to retreat a dozen paces, and he wore a pained look on his face as blood started pouring out of his ears.

It was no surprise that Cheng Wu was the strongest competitor there. He was ranked 69th in the Top 100 Rankings, but he showed no mercy to these weaker opponents. He was also an expert at launching sneak attacks.

Che Han's head was still spinning when the large clock started creeping over towards him again. If he was caught by it and forced to receive one more Thunder Punch, he would suffer a fate no better than Ling Que's.

Che Han hurriedly retreated more than ten meters away from the Sea King's Trident.

Cheng Wu was suddenly all alone in front of the Sea King's Trident. He threw a glance at Che Han before moving his gaze to Mu Rong and Lu Yin. Finally, he looked at Faceless, who was still fighting Xia Luo in the distance. His gaze then moved back to the Sea King's Trident, and he started to make his way closer to the trident, his large clock encasing him within it.

Che Han's eyes turned icy as he threw his spear straight at Cheng Wu, a wreath of five interlocking plum blossoms appeared in a dazzling manner even as the void froze. The Fireglass Frost appeared again, shrouding both the sky and ground. The power of this attack was enough to send Qin Chen running for cover, but it had no effect against Cheng Wu. Che Han's attack was not even enough to pierce through the large clock. Cheng Wu continued inching closer towards the Sea King's Trident, until he was only about three meters away from the trident.

The tip of a huge blade violently swung down onto the large clock, the impact resulting in a resounding twang sound. Cheng Wu was momentarily stunned, and when he raised his head, he saw Faceless; Xia Luo had exited the area and left the battle.

Cheng Wu narrowed his eyes. He exited from the large clock and threw a punch at Che Han, who was the closest to him. Meanwhile, the large clock flew into the air and formed a barrier between him and Faceless. He had unexpectedly chosen to fight against both of them at the same time.

Cheng Wu's goal was to become the Sea King's son-in-law. He had grown up in a poor environment, and if it were not for his innate gift and fortuitous encounters, he would never have made it this far. He had absolutely no background to speak of, and he understood how painful such a thing was. What he needed was a strong backer, something that the Sea King could undoubtedly provide him with. To achieve his goal, he had not concealed his identity when he entered Sea King's Dome. Additionally, he had not hesitated to launch a sneak attack against Ling Que, just to ensure that he would not be hurt in their exchange. He was now literally a step away from his goal, so he was going all out to demonstrate his value before the entire Sea King's Dome.

The ones who threatened his position the most were Faceless and Che Han. The other two, powerful as they may be, were only Limiteers who could not even penetrate the defenses of his large clock. They were not worthy of his consideration; the Sea King's Trident was his to seize!

The three powerful Explorers fought an intense battle merely ten meters away from the Sea King's Trident. In front of them were Lu Yin and Mu Rong, who calmly watched on. They did not join in the battle, but neither did they retreat.

Mu Rong did not have much desire to become the Sea King's son-in-law. Lu Yin, on the other hand, was simply hoping that someone else would grab hold of the Sea King's Trident first.

Chapter 453: Lu Yin And Faceless

Lu Yin was certain that the Sea King's Trident would not be easily pulled out, or else the competition might be upended by a freak accident. Ever since he had been swallowed by the storm, Lu Yin's cautious nature had returned. He would let the others go first while he stayed back, which meant that he could try after verifying that there was no danger. He was not too interested in pulling out the trident itself; it was merely his curiosity that was driving him to stay.

He truly did not want to become the Sea King's son-in-law; Ming Yan was still waiting for him!

So, under the countless gazes of the Sea King's Dome, a strange scene appeared around the Sea King's Trident. Three participants fought while the other two watched.

"What's going on? Mu Rong, go on and defeat that Lu Yin to become the true unequaled Limiteer!"

"Go on, fight, Lu Yin! Don't be scared!"

"I'll be damned! Bastard, who are you saying is scared?" Big Pao rolled his sleeves up and stared at the nearby man.

The man rolled his eyes. "Of course it's Lu Yin! He doesn't even dare to move! He can't even compare to Ling Que."

Behind them, Ling Que overheard the conversation since he coincidentally happened to be passing by, but he had somehow been implicated in the current situation. However, this Lu Yin really did appear to be scared; he should at least make a move!

"Which of your eyes saw that Lu Yin doesn't dare to act? He's thinking of countermeasures, unlike a stupid bull like yourself who would just recklessly charge ahead. Who knows how many times you would have died by now if you were there!" Big Pao raged.

The man was speechless. "What stupid bull?"

"Alright, don't mind the details," someone urged, who was Lulu.

The man was stumped. "You two must be together."

"Mu Rong, Mu Rong, I love you! Mu Rong, Mu Rong, you're the best!"

"Mu Rong, Mu Rong, I love you! Mu Rong, Mu Rong, you're the best!"

...

The cheerleaders suddenly burst out with an energetic cry, drowning out all the other people's clamor. Many stared at the cheerleaders blankly. Why had they started shouting again? How professional!

"Lu Yin looks to be quite apprehensive of Mu Rong," Little Pao said gravely.

Michelle's face had a complicated expression. "Mu Rong is very strong. When my sister just graduated from the Astral Combat Academy and became an Explorer, Mu Rong was only a Melder. They fought, but their battle ended halfway with no clear outcome. My sis said that it's very difficult to defeat Mu Rong."

Zora was shocked. "Are you saying that Mu Rong as a Melder was able to compare to an Explorer?"

Michelle nodded.

The crowd was speechless. "Hold on, a Melder fighting against an Explorer? Why does that sound familiar?" Little Pao muttered.

"The border warfront, Lu Yin," Meng Yue replied.

Michelle was taken aback, and she looked at Lu Yin again. She had also forgotten that this person had fought at the border warfront, where he had exchanged blows with an Explorer while still at the Melder realm. Lu Yin had even repelled Zi Tie, an astral beast with a robust defense. Her sister, Mira had mentioned this to her before.

The others also remembered that Lu Yin had accomplished such a feat once it was brought up.

The crowd looked at Lu Yin, as they had all forgotten Lu Yin's past glory after being intimidated by Mu Rong's reputation. Lu Yin's battle results were not inferior to Mu Rong's in the slightest.

When the two were directly compared, it also became clear that the number of years that each had spent cultivating were quite different. These two were true geniuses.

Cheng Wu, Che Han, and Faceless's battle became even more ferocious, and all three had left the ten-meter radius of the Sea King's Trident by now.

The area covered by Che Han's Fireglass Frost widened even more, and it had already reached Mu Rong's feet. This had been done intentionally, as he wanted to drag Mu Rong and Lu Yin into the fray.

Cheng Wu was not concerned about the two he was currently fighting; he was more worried about Mu Rong. That person made him feel uncertain about things.

When he felt the frost creep beneath his feet, Mu Rong stepped forward, approaching within ten meters of the Sea King's Trident, and continued moving forward.

Everyone's attention was immediately drawn to him when he neared the Sea King's Trident, but Lu Yin made no sign of moving to stop him.

Countless in the Sea King's Dome had already sworn at Lu Yin, as they believed that Lu Yin was terrified to fight against Mu Rong.

Zhang Dingtian looked at the screen. He knew Lu Yin, and he felt that Lu Yin must have his own misgivings.

"Seventh Bro, that brat's about to touch the Sea King's Trident!" the monkey said.

Lu Yin still remained motionless, but that was because Cheng Wu's clock had appeared and was about to smash into Mu Rong.

Mu Rong was only a meter away from the Sea King's Trident when the clock rammed into him.

There was a loud crash, and Mu Rong was forced to retreat as he turned to look at Cheng Wu.

Cheng Wu had a gloomy expression. "Kid, you should do things in an upright manner. You can only touch the Sea King's Trident after you defeat us."

This sentence infuriated Ling Que who was watching through the screens. "Shameless!"

Mu Rong's eyes flashed, and he casually waved the wooden flute in his hand, tearing the frost in front of him apart. "Alright."

His competitive spirit had been triggered, as defeating any of the three people in front of him would land him firmly within the Top 100 Rankings. Although he was not concerned about his reputation, he should do something for that person, as that person had always been protecting him. Among the Ten Arbiters, that person kept too low a profile, and did not have many geniuses working under them. The reason why Mu Rong had participated in this selection was precisely because of this matter: he wanted to improve that person's reputation.

Mu Rong entered the battle and faced the three Explorers who were each within the Top 100 Rankings. He did not back down in the slightest, especially when his wooden flute tapped against the clock. The impact actually caused Cheng Wu to take a step back. Cheng Wu's view of this person completely changed in that moment; Mu Rong actually possessed the ability to break through his defense.

Since Mu Rong possessed such strength, then what about the other Limiteer still on the sidelines?

Cheng Wu glanced towards Lu Yin, feeling that he was a chaotic wildcard in the current situation.

Lu Yin was watching this battle royale from the distance with no intention of intervening. However, when he saw Cheng Wu gaze over, he knew that something was amiss. Sure enough, the very next moment, the clock was crashing towards him.

"Either fight or scram!" Cheng Wu's voice reverberated throughout the Sea King's Dome.

The monkey's voice rang out in Lu Yin's ear. "Who's this? Seventh Bro, smash him!"

Lu Yin released a breath. Pathetic, I couldn't even manage to escape in the end.

There was a crash as the large clock slammed firmly into the ground, causing the earth to split asunder and the waterway to shatter. Lu Yin kicked out with one leg and sent the clock flying back. The next moment, the tip of a blade flew at Lu Yin as Faceless had also decided to act against him, even going so far as to leave the mayhem to attack Lu Yin.

Lu Yin felt that such a move was strange, but he had no time to ponder it over any further.

The Sea King's Dome was in high spirits at this moment, as the competition had reached its boiling point.

Michelle and the others never imagined that Lu Yin would not end up facing Mu Rong, but rather Faceless.

Amongst the five remaining participants, Faceless' strength was second only to Cheng Wu's, which meant that he was terrifyingly powerful. Could Lu Yin even exchange blows with such an attacker?

Lu Yin himself was uncertain, but he had his Fatesand, so he was confident that he would not be defeated that easily. As he watched Faceless slash out with his blade, Lu Yin didn't dare to be careless, and he released the Fatesand in his heart. However, he did not allow it to appear in front of everyone as instead kept it concealed within his clothes. He hadn't been forced to reveal it quite yet.

Without the Fatesand suppressing his physical body, Lu Yin's power increased significantly and quickly reached the same level where he had shattered the Xun family's Gear Construction Technique. He

stepped to the side and evaded the blade before quickly retaliating with a strike, blasting the void in the direction of Faceless with a Spacerender Palm.

Faceless' long blade swept over to defend him from the palm. There was a bang, and an enormous strength forced Faceless to take a step back. He stared at Lu Yin in shock, evidently frightened by his monstrous physical strength.

The Mavis family was famous for their strength, but even before Lu Yin had met Mister Mu, his physical strength had already far surpassed Lulu's. Now, after releasing the Fatesand in his heart, not even Lu Yin was sure how powerful he was.

Lu Yin was someone who was so strong that he could even harm himself if he did not control his strength, which was a bit ridiculous.

Faceless sliced out with his blade again, causing the void to quiver, as if the blade was tearing through it. The tip of the large blade streaked past Lu Yin's head and into the sky, slicing the clouds in two.

Lu Yin did not dare to let himself be struck by this blade, as whatever part of his body that wasn't protected by Fatesand would likely be cut. After all, this person was ranked seventy second on the Top 100 Rankings, which was higher than both Northgate Lie and Qin Chen, and Lu Yin did not want to become a disabled cripple. He lunged forward to directly suppress Faceless with a Thirty Stacks Fortyfold Shockwave Palm.

Faceless' blade spun around and sliced up from below. He did not use the tip this time; instead, he gathered all of his force onto the edge of the blade, which made it feel even more ferocious than before. Lu Yin used his powerful body to forcefully avoid it through the void. He moved his body through pure force, and even though it looked like he had only moved a small distance, the degree of difficulty was so high that even Mu Rong might not even be able to duplicate the feat.

After successfully evading Faceless' blade, Lu Yin's palm directly connected with the ugly Explorer's abdomen at full force. Faceless was about to move again, but his expression became one of shock, and he paused. Then, his body was sent flying, and he was blasted towards where the Sea King's Trident was stuck into the ground.

Countless were stunned at this scene, as Lu Yin had actually repelled Faceless.

Cheng Wu also never expected that Lu Yin could display such strength; his power had wildly surpassed Cheng Wu's imagination.

Mu Rong was even more shocked, as this person's physical body was just too powerful.

Lu Yin remained standing in the same place, also with a confused expression. Faceless' strength should not have been sent flying that easily, and he definitely should not have been injured that severely. However, Lu Yin suddenly thought back to the sensation he had felt when his palm had made contact with his body. Under his palm, Faceless' body had let a familiar power seep out. Although it had only been for a moment, Lu Yin was certain that he had felt that power before. But what exactly was that force?

It felt both familiar and foreign to him. He had experienced it before, but at the same time, he could not recall it at all.

From the moment he had first obtained a formcast model on Earth, Lu Yin had cultivated for about four years. That was not a long time, and so, Lu Yin believed that he should be able to remember everyone who he had fought against as well as all the forces and energies that he had experienced before. This force gave him a familiar feeling, and he had definitely felt it before, but where exactly?

From afar, Faceless crashed towards the Sea King's Trident before flipping around in midair. He redirected the excessive force into the ground, and even after embedding his blade into the ground, he continued sliding in the same direction for another ten meters before finally coming to a stop. He looked up, and a trickle of blood stained his lips as he gazed at Lu Yin in amazement. This gaze was not due to Lu Yin's strength, but because he had encountered something unexpected.

Without any hesitation, Faceless charged towards Lu Yin with extreme speed, raising his blade to slice out in a straightforward manner. However, through the void, Lu Yin could feel that the power of this attack did not even reach a third of the previous, so he did not dodge. His five-lined battle force burst forth, and one of his hands grabbed the back of the blade while the other pressed against Faceless' abdomen. Just as he was about to attack Lu Yin's opponent spoke. "What is the purpose of your presence here? Have you been sent on a new mission?"

This sentence caused Lu Yin to stop the Thirty Stacks that was about to erupt out, and he reduced it to a normal attack to push Faceless away. He kicked out, and Faceless was once again kicked far away.

Many of the onlookers were stunned, as the expert ranked seventy second on the Top 100 Rankings was currently being suppressed by a Limiteer.

Hai Dashao frowned and found the matter strange; the strength that Lu Yin displayed should not be enough to accomplish such a thing.

Starsibyl's eyes also flickered with a trace of puzzlement.

Northgate Lie's eyes were even wider, and he was in disbelief at seeing Lu Yin actually fight against Faceless. Even after enjoying Northgate Taisui's guidance, Northgate Lie could at most rival experts ranked at around eightieth on the list. Faceless definitely surpassed him, so did this mean that Lu Yin was really that strong?

Ling Que was even more incredulous, but the facts were right in front of him. He had been defeated by Cheng Wu, and after Lu Yin defeated Faceless, he would surpass Ling Que's own reputation. This also meant that Ling Que would step onto the Top 100 Rankings after Lu Yin, which was unacceptable. Get it together, Faceless!

Finally, Lu Yin remembered where he had encountered that force before: it was death energy. Lu Yin had once rolled six pips: Possession and then Possessed the body of a member of the Specter Clan, and that experience had familiarized him with death energy. It was no wonder why he had not recalled it until now; it was not his own strength.

Since it was death energy, Faceless' identity was now obvious: he was from the Specter Clan.

Chapter 454: Probing And Order

The Specter Clan was a branch of the Neohuman Alliance and was very mysterious. However, why was Faceless acting so courteously towards Lu Yin? It had even gone to the point where he was speaking deferentially to him.

Lu Yin could not understand the situation, and he watched as Faceless attacked once again. Lu Yin leaped up, and battle force covered his body as he struck out against the tip of Faceless' blade. An enormous shockwave swept out in all directions, and although it seemed intense, it was actually not that powerful.

Faceless had not used that much strength when he swept his blade out, but Lu Yin's right hand left a mark on his stomach for the third time as the Overlaying Stacks penetrated his body. Lu Yin's face changed, as he felt the strange strength of that death energy again. This time, he also noticed that this energy was being suppressed by his attacks.

Faceless was knocked into the waterway, raising a huge commotion among the audience.

Even Che Han, Cheng Wu, and Mu Rong slowed their battle to look over. Lu Yin's performance was a little too mind-blowing since he was suppressing Faceless.

Lu Yin jumped into the waterway and broke away from the stares of countless people. He pressed one hand against the hilt of Faceless' knife and stared at him. "Quickly get rid of Feng Mo and the Bo Duo."

Since Faceless had acted so deferentially towards him, he had made this gamble to see if Faceless would obey his commands as well. It would be great if this person listened, and it did not matter if he didn't. After all, Lu Yin could just pass his words off as a mistake.

Faceless softly and feebly replied, "We don't have enough manpower for the mission."

"Give up your mission," Lu Yin barked in a voice that demanded deference.

Faceless immediately acknowledged his orders. "Yes."

Lu Yin's heart jumped. Was that it? That had been too simple! Besides, why was this person being so respectful towards him? When he possessed that Specter Clan member in the past, he had not been able to go through that many of the person's memories since he had mostly been preoccupied with watching the event unfold before him, until his host body had died at the hands of that Yōu Elder whose power level was in the hundreds of thousands. Thus, Lu Yin had not gathered that much information from that Possession session.

Lu Yin reviewed his battle with Faceless and realized that there was only one possibility: he was the one who was suppressing the death energy. That energy was the Specter Clan's distinctive trait, and no one else other than them could have it. Lu Yin was very clear on this point. Could the death energy also be what determined one's status within the clan?

Lu Yin had suppressed Faceless, which indicated that he held a higher status, so Faceless had to obey Lu Yin. But now, the question was, how could Lu Yin suppress his death energy in the first place? He did not even understand the energy's principles, and he had not used any special battle techniques, so just how had he suppressed the death energy?

Death energy, death... Suddenly, a bolt of lightning struck through Lu Yin's mind. Could it be the Arcane Art—Fatal Revival?

The Fatal Revival Art had a suppressive effect towards a body's self-recovery abilities, and it had even restrained Zhanlong Daynight's Daynight Restoration Technique. Could it also possibly have a similar restraining effect on death energy?

Lu Yin did not have too much time to dwell on the subject. The two young men dashed out of the waterway and clashed again, both of them being knocked back simultaneously this time.

It looked like a draw.

This scene made Cheng Wu raise his brows, as Mu Rong and Lu Yin's powers were proving to be beyond his expectations. This situation was not what he wanted to see, so he immediately turned towards Che Han and Mu Rong. "Let's take care of those two first."

Che Han and Mu Rong did not bother with him, but those words had been heard by Lu Yin. He turned around to stare at Cheng Wu and then looked towards Faceless. "The clock man is the strongest. Get rid of him first." Then, he attacked Cheng Wu himself.

Cheng Wu's brows twitched. Clock man? Was that supposed to be him?

Faceless did not hesitate and moved his blade to hack at Cheng Wu.

Not only did Lu Yin and Faceless attack Cheng Wu, but Mu Rong and Che Han also joined in at the same time.

Cheng Wu felt like he was about to choke on a dead housefly. "Stop!"

But his words were drowned out by four powerful attacks—Che Han's Fireglass Frost, Mu Rong's wooden flute, Lu Yin's Skybeast Claw, and Faceless' knife.

Cheng Wu was strong, and he could overpower everyone else present, especially with the indomitable defense of his large clock. However, no matter how strong his defenses were, it still could not withstand these four powerful attacks at once. Even though he used the clock to block them, Faceless' knife still landed squarely in Cheng Wu's chest, the gaping wound readily visible under the sunlight. Cheng Wu looked infuriated, and he howled angrily.

"Thunder Punch." He then attacked his own large clock.

There was a loud bang, and the sound wave transformed into a thunderclap that pulsed outwards. A visible white shockwave swept out, disturbing the water within the canals and even shattering the surrounding areas.

This was Cheng Wu's strongest strike, and the other four participants felt their brains being jostled against their skulls as they developed splitting headaches.

Cheng Wu hated Lu Yin at this moment, as he had been the one to instigate all four people into ganging up on him. He knew that he was already doomed to lose this contest, but he was determined to at least eliminate this person with him.

As he thought about it, he struck out with a punch again, this time targeting Lu Yin. Lu Yin did not move, but Faceless sliced out with his knife to dispel the intense sound wave, and the giant blade continued on moving towards Cheng Wu.

Cheng Wu's eyes narrowed. He used the large clock to surround his body, and another loud bang sounded out.

Lu Yin was astounded, as this person indeed lived up to his sixty ninth rank on the Top 100 Rankings. The clock's defense was admirable, and its defenses still had not been broken yet. It was almost as strong as Lu Yin's Fatesand.

There were no cracks on the clock, but Cheng Wu was not completely unharmed within it. Beneath him, the Fireglass Frost that looked like frozen flames spread out, and it slowly started to extend onto his legs. Cheng Wu's face was deathly pale, and his star energy vibrated to shatter the layer of ice, but in the next instant, green grass spread out from where the shattered ice had just spread to. This was not an unfamiliar scene, as it was Mu Rong's forcefield: the country boy herding cattle.

Cheng Wu had experienced a powerful forcefield before, and he would not fear such a move if he was at his peak. However, he was currently heavily injured, and this forcefield made him feel like he was mired in a swamp. His entire body felt suppressed as the country boy herding cattle transformed into a very simple wooden flute that tapped against his chest. There was a thump, and Cheng Wu was pushed back, landing onto his own clock. The clock slowly dissipated, as Cheng Wu's strength could no longer sustain it.

Plop!

Cheng Wu spat out a mouthful of blood and gritted his teeth. He looked at the four people in front of him. He knew that his momentum was gone, so he did not hesitate to directly dash towards one of the waterways and retreat with the flow of the current. He was not going to struggle without reason; he knew when to give up.

The strongest in the selection, Cheng Wu, had been defeated. There were only four participants remaining.

Everyone looked at the screens. This event was about to end.

Hai Dashao did not feel any regret or sympathy over Cheng Wu's defeat. He was destined to only find trouble since he had been the strongest of the group. And since the strongest had been Cheng Wu, there was no way he would put up too dazzling of a performance. It could only be said that his ego was too inflated.

Starsibyl also didn't feel surprised at Cheng Wu's defeat, but she looked at the screen with interest as she watched the remaining four. How would they battle it out?

At this moment, everyone looked on curiously. Four could be evenly split into two pairs which should then decide the two finalists. Logically, Che Han should fight Mu Rong while Faceless should be face off against Lu Yin. Mu Rong and Lu Yin would probably be eliminated, and the final winner would most likely be either Che Han or Faceless.

However, the previous battle between Faceless and Lu Yin made the crowd now feel uncertain about that prediction, and it was plain to see that the outcome had yet to be decided. At this point, many people also realized that Mu Rong had not revealed his true abilities yet, as he had only shown a movement technique and his forcefield. He still had not used any attacking battle techniques or his innate gift.

Mu Rong's abilities were just too immeasurable, and he had hidden his strength even deeper than Che Han or Faceless.

Michelle and the others also looked at the screen with complex expressions. They had thought that Lu Yin had just been going through the motions here, so they had never expected him to reach this final stage.

Since he had reached this point, they were hoping that Lu Yin would not fail at the final step. Being friends with the Sea King's son-in-law had a terrific ring to it.

"Speaking of, if junior becomes the Sea King's son-in-law, will we still need to be afraid of Feng Mo and the Bo Duo?" Little Pao asked loudly, fully intending for Bo Junior to hear him.

Bo Junior felt uneasy, and he looked apprehensively at the screen, hoping to see Lu Yin fail.

In another area of the Sea King's Dome, Feng Mo and Bo Senior felt nervous as well. So what if they were Hunters? Against the Sea King, it would be as if they were Lu Yin's group against themselves. No, Lu Yin's group had still been able to escape from them, but the Sea King would definitely not allow the three of them to flee.

At the lower reaches of the Skyfall Cascade, the group of losers were rescued, and Xun Jiong was pulled out of the water as well. He had been beaten rather badly to the point of losing consciousness. Even after being rescued by Xun Tao and the others, he could barely open his eyes. He cast a venomous glare at the screen. "I, Xun Jiong, am not a man if I don't take revenge for this grudge!"

Xun Tao felt helpless. You better pray that Lu Yin doesn't become the Sea King's son-in-law. Otherwise, forget about revenge. You might even have to curry favor with him.

On the other side of the mountain, Hai Qiqi frantically tried to contact Hai Dashao, but he would not accept any of her calls.

The Sea King's Trident emitted a brutal aura, but the four finalists did not act right away. They only glanced around at each other. It appeared that they were mutually restraining each other.

Faceless suddenly spat out a mouthful of blood and left without looking back. He had given up.

Many watched on blankly.

Che Han watched Faceless leave, and his eyes then flashed as he looked vigilantly at Lu Yin and Mu Rong. He was afraid of suffering Cheng Wu's fate. He was afraid that Mu Rong and Lu Yin would team up against him.

However, he was overthinking things. The battle had reached its final stages, so Mu Rong did not intend to continue it any further. He did not want to become the Sea King's son-in-law; he only wanted to lift up that person's name. And in this battle royale, he had used one strike of his wooden flute to defeat Cheng Wu and displayed a nearly invincible forcefield, which was enough to satisfy his desires.

Lu Yin did not plan to act either, but he was rather interested in Mu Rong. He wondered if he should fight against Mu Rong to see who was the true unequaled Limiteer.

"Seventh Bro, it's time to show your might! Use your Fatesand and fight with that Mu Rong! Make him regret his own life!" the Ghost Monkey shouted excitedly. He felt as if he was about to become the strongest Academy Master in the Spiritual Academy.

Lu Yin was also a little moved. With his Fatesand, Mu Rong definitely would not be able to break through his defenses, so Lu Yin was sure that he would not lose. Also, Mu Rong's forcefield reminded Lu Yin of the war spirit that he had met in the separate dimension within the storm space, and he really wanted to fight against a forcefield expert.

However, he could not fight for nothing. He thought about the situation and then looked at Che Han. "I'll hold him back for you. You go and pull out that trident."

Che Han was stunned, and he just stared blankly at Lu Yin. He had originally been indifferent, but his expression now became slightly perplexed. "Why?"

Mu Rong also curiously looked at Lu Yin. Was this person really willing to give up on this chance to become the Sea King's son-in-law?

Lu Yin looked at Che Han. "I want you to owe me a favor. Regardless of if you become the Sea King's son-in-law, you must remember to return this favor in the future."

Che Han's eyes narrowed. "You know where I'm from?"

Lu Yin nodded.

Che Han's gaze flickered. "Alright. I, Che Han, owe you a favor."

He then directly charged towards the Sea King's Trident.

Lu Yin turned to Mu Rong and prepared to fight.

Mu Rong made no indication that he was about to move, and he only casually watched on as Che Han rushed towards the Sea King's Trident. "There's no need to guard against me. I have no intention of interfering."

Lu Yin was shocked. "Don't you want to become the Sea King's son-in-law?"

Mu Rong had a calm gaze, but there was a rich sorrow that was hidden in the depths of his eyes.

Only those from the Ten Arbiters Council knew that Mu Rong had been emotionally scarred in the past. That pain rendered him unable to form relationships with females for the rest of his life.

Countless people in the Sea King's Dome were lost as to what had just happened. Cheng Wu had been defeated and Faceless had left. The remaining three had then somehow reconciled, and no one planned

to fight anymore. This was just too strange—what had that life and death battle been for? It was an injustice to Cheng Wu and the rest that they had lost in such a manner.

Chapter 455: Incorrect Posture

Xun Jiong was so furious that he almost spat out blood when he saw the scene. If these two scoundrels did not intend to compete to the end, then why had they felt the need to beat the rest of them?

Cheng Wu stepped out of the Skyfall Cascade, infuriated as well. Those two bastards didn't even want to become the Sea King's son-in-law, but they had still worked together to eliminate him.

The most furious one, however, was Hai Dashao. The space around him even became unstable, and a crack extended in the void that was obviously suppressed. "What are these brats treating this selection as? They're asking for death!"

Only Che Han truly wanted to pull out the Sea King's Trident, and he proceeded to do so.

No one stopped him, and he effortlessly moved beside the Sea King's Trident. He endured the trident's threatening aura and grabbed it. There was a strangely gentle feeling when his hand made contact with it, and it did not feel as if he had clasped a weapon used to kill.

Everyone stared at him; Che Han was now only a single step away from becoming the Sea King's future son-in-law.

Hai Dashao coldly stared at the arena, not at Che Han and instead focusing his gaze onto Mu Rong and Lu Yin. He did not seem to care whether or not Che Han pulled the Sea King's Trident out.

Che Han exerted some force and tried to pull the weapon out, but it did not budge at all. He was stunned. He then looked at the ground and strained both legs, causing cracks to appear in the ground, and even a pit formed, extending outwards in all directions. Despite all his effort, the Sea King's Trident remained embedded in place, and nothing changed within a meter of the weapon. The ground in that area had fully withstood Che Han's strength.

Lu Yin watched on in amazement, as he had already known that the Sea King's Trident would not be easily pulled out.

Che Han exerted his strength again. His physical strength was not weak, or else he would not have wielded a spear as his weapon. However, even after he used all of his strength, the Sea King's Trident did not move a single inch. Furthermore, it didn't even quiver.

Everyone watched Che Han, the same person who had defeated Qin Chen and was now ranked eightieth on the Top 100 Rankings at the minimum. Even this person could not pull out the weapon, which could only mean that this Sea King's Trident was special.

"Rumor has it that the Sea King's Trident is the Sea King's personal weapon. It has traveled throughout the universe, tasting blood, and countless people want to steal it. This trident itself is an invaluable treasure," someone at the middle section of the mountain mentioned.

"I heard that all of the experts under the Sea King have tried to pull out this trident, but not a single one of them has ever succeeded," someone else added.

A bystander was puzzled. "Such a rumor exists? If that's true, then isn't the Sea King just fooling around by telling them to pull it out as the final challenge of this selection? If even his experts can't pull it out, then how could these kids succeed?"

"Hush! Who knows? Look at what happened to that group of pretty boys—they're all covered in dirt now. It's pretty obvious that they were toyed with by the Sea King, so maybe the Sea King enjoys playing such tricks."

"That shouldn't be the case. I've heard that the Sea King stays in seclusion all year round and doesn't play around."

"It's probably precisely because he's in seclusion all year round! He must be bored."

"He can't be that bored."

...

Big Pao was rendered speechless as he listened to all the discussions taking place around them. "I never thought that the Sea King would be such a person. Lulu, if your Mavis seniors isolate themselves, then will they end up so bored that they'll want to play around by fooling others?"

Lulu rolled her eyes. "Of course not! Our seniors are all very serious."

Big Pao nodded.

"At most, they'll raise the prices and let everyone feel how difficult it is to earn money," Lulu continued.

Big Pao was dumbfounded. "Lulu, those words would absolutely infuriate people if they heard it."

Coco widened her eyes. "So the rise in price for being treated by our Windrift Hall is because of your Mavis family?"

Lulu blinked. "Little brat, what do we have to do with you people raising the price? Don't blame the wealthy for everything."

Coco pursed her lips and then looked at the screen in worry. "Will Brother Lu fight against Mu Rong?"

Lulu was excited at such a possibility. "They better! Then we can see who's really the unequaled Limiteer in the universe."

"Mu Rong, Mu Rong, I love you! Mu Rong, Mu Rong, you're the best!"

"Mu Rong, Mu Rong, I love you! Mu Rong, Mu Rong, you're the best!"

...

In the back, the cheerleaders continued performing their job as they excitedly watched Mu Rong on the screen.

Che Han exploded with his full power, and his Fireglass Frost distorted the void. Both of his hands were firmly placed on the Sea King's Trident as he strained upwards with a growl.

Upon seeing this scene, Lu Yin and Mu Rong exchanged glances, and they felt that something was wrong. If Che Han failed, it would be their turn next, and if they were unlucky, they might actually pull the trident out, which would mean that they would become the Sea King's son-in-law. As Lu Yin continued thinking about it, he fell into a dilemma and began considering whether he should fight against Mu Rong or just retreat.

Mu Rong reacted faster. He took the initiative to rush into the distance, clearly planning on withdrawing from the competition.

Lu Yin cursed under his breath and headed in another direction, as he had to leave the area before Che Han completely failed.

However, even though their thought processes were correct, their goal could not be achieved. There were two loud bangs as both Lu Yin and Mu Rong were sent flying back at the same time. They had been blasted backwards by an attack.

Lu Yin retreated a hundred meters as an intense pain blossomed in both of his arms. The very moment he had tried to leave, a shadow had flitted by, moved in front of him, and then released a ferocious attack. Fortunately, he had reacted quickly and blocked it with battle force reinforced arms. Otherwise, that strike would have directly landed on his face.

Even with the support of his battle force, his physical body had nearly crumbled from that powerful attack. Lu Yin looked up and saw a furious young man.

On the other side of the arena, Mu Rong was in the same predicament as Lu Yin. He had similarly been pushed back by an attack, also by that same youth.

These two unequalled Limiters who were still a part of the younger generation had been simultaneously sent flying by the same youth, which shocked them both. This person was terrifyingly powerful.

At the middle part of the Sea King's Dome's mountain, someone cried out, "It's Hai Dashao! Hai Dashao made a move!"

No one had expected Hai Dashao to suddenly appear at this critical final juncture.

Michelle and the rest were stunned, as this person was Hai Dashao, someone who had been famous for a long time. He was ranked seventh in the Top 100 Rankings and was one of the youths closest to the Ten Arbiters' strength. It was no wonder why he had been able to easily repulse fling Mu Rong and Lu Yin back, as he was strong enough to casually crush the both of them.

"Who are you?" Lu Yin asked as he looked at the youth.

The youth clasped both of his hands behind his back. He glanced at Lu Yin and Mu Rong before settling his gaze on Che Han.

Che Han was heaving, but he still had not been able to pull out the Sea King's Trident. He grudgingly released both hands, visibly disappointed.

"Give up. If you can't pull it out, you just can't. You can leave now," the youth spoke arrogantly.

Che Han frowned. "Why?"

The youth remained arrogant. "Destiny is determined by the heavens, and this destiny does not belong to you."

Che Han was not satisfied by that answer as he continued to look at the Sea King's Trident, but in the end, he gave up. He had tried his hardest, but just like what this person had said, if he couldn't pull it out, then he couldn't pull it out. There was no use in trying to force things.

The youth watched Che Han leave and then turned to look at Lu Yin and Mu Rong, his gaze gradually turning colder. "You two, what do you take this selection for? A game that you can join and leave when and however you wish?"

Mu Rong calmly asked, "Are you Hai Dashao?"

Lu Yin was shocked. Hai Dashao? The one ranked 7th in the Top 100 Rankings?

Hai Dashao held his head high. "Since you know it's me, then behave yourself and go pull out the trident. Otherwise, you won't need to leave the Sea King's Dome. No one can save you."

"Why can Faceless withdraw, but not us?" Lu Yin couldn't help himself from asking.

Hai Dashao's lips lifted. "My word is the law here. If you're not happy with it, you can just challenge me."

"Seventh Bro, this bastard's too arrogant! But you should also know your limits. It's not that I'm looking down on you, but I really don't think you should fight this guy until after you become an Explorer," the monkey cautioned.

Lu Yin had no choice, as even revealing his Fatesand would not be enough to withstand the seventh in the Top 100 Rankings. Hai Dashao was a Realmbreaker, and he might even be strong enough to defeat Hunters. There was not too much of a difference between facing him and Feng Mo.

Mu Rong did not hesitate. He immediately turned around and started walking towards the Sea King's Trident. He understood Hai Dashao better than Lu Yin, and he knew that there was no point in talking to him. One just had to follow this person's instructions, as Mu Rong would not be able to leave the Sea King's Dome even if that person came.

Che Han could not pull out the Sea King's Trident, so Mu Rong probably couldn't either. He just had to go through the motions.

Lu Yin did not say anything else, and he headed for the trident as well, just to keep up appearances.

Hai Dashao's eyes narrowed, though he did not expect either of these two to be able to pull the trident out. Still, the Sea King was entitled to a certain amount of prestige, and this selection would become a joke if people could just leave whenever they wished to. Even if it was just for appearance's sake, things had to be done properly.

Mu Rong gripped the Sea King's Trident with both hands, and his eyes went wide as he exerted his full strength to pull upwards. Since Hai Dashao was right there, Mu Rong could not pretend and hold back his strength.

Everyone watched on nervously.

Quite quickly, Mu Rong let go of the weapon. "I can't pull it out."

Hai Dashao snorted and looked at Lu Yin.

Lu Yin had no choice. He slowly walked over to the Sea King's Trident. He gripped the shaft of the weapon with his right hand, but unbeknownst to him, the moment he made contact with the trident, the awakened Fatesand that was hidden in his clothes quivered slightly.

As he looked at the Sea King's Trident, Lu Yin felt that even if he could not pull it out, it would still be fine as long as he could get a slight sense of the Sea King's weapon. Just as he was thinking about it, and right before he was about to grab it with his left hand, there was a tearing sound as the Sea King's Trident left the ground.

At this instance, the Sea King's Dome went completely silent. It had never been so quiet before.

At this time, deep within the Sea King's Dome, a pair of eyes opened, and there was profound shock within them.

At this point, Hai Dashao's mind was a mess.

At this moment, Hai Qiqi fell into despair.

At this instance, Lu Yin felt stunned. What was this? What was going on? The Sea King's Trident had been pulled out? He blankly stared at the ground; he had not even used any strength! He must have been in the wrong position when pulling the trident out. As he thought about it, he looked at Hai Dashao. "Could you insert it in again? Then I'll pull it out again."

In that instant, the Sea King's Dome burst into an uproar, the clamor even reaching the clouds.

Feng Mo, the Bo Duo, Xun Jiong, Northgate Lie, and rest were all completely stunned.

Michelle, Big Pao, Little Pao, Lulu, and the rest were similarly speechless.

"Seventh Bro, congratulations," the monkey said.

Lu Yin clenched the Sea King's Trident, feeling like he had been cheated somehow. How could everyone else have failed to pull it out, but then he had succeeded without using any force? This whole thing must be a scam! He truly had not used any strength.

Not far away, Mu Rong and Che Han both stared at Lu Yin, feeling as if he had just taken credit for all of their hard work.

Beside the Skyfall Cascade, Starsibyl stared deeply.

"So about that, could you please put this back, and I'll try to pull it out again?" Lu Yin asked carefully and nervously.

Hai Dashao stared at Lu Yin, the shock evident in his eyes. Others might not know how difficult it was to pull out the Sea King's Trident, but how could he not know? After all, he himself could not pull it out! His

father had mentioned that this was unrelated to one's strength, which meant that this kid's body possessed something that others did not.

"Uh, I'm talking to you. Actually, Che Han or Mu Rong was probably the one who pulled it out, but it was just delayed and ended up in my hands." Lu Yin tried to explain what had just happened, but even he could not quite believe the words that were coming out of his mouth.

"You don't want to marry my sister?" Hai Dashao asked coldly, and with a rather nasty attitude.

Lu Yin felt embarrassed. "It's not that. It's just that this is a mistake."

Hai Dashao sneered before waving a hand and causing all the screens in the sky to disperse. He stepped forward and appeared right before Lu Yin. "Come with me to see Qiqi."

And with that, he grabbed Lu Yin.

Lu Yin wanted to resist the young man, but he gave up after hesitating for less than a second. He could not resist even if he wanted to, so he allowed Hai Dashao to grab his shoulders and pierce through the void, the Sea King's Trident still clasped in Lu Yin's hand.

Chapter 456: The Sea King And Hai Qiqi

Mu Rong watched Hai Dashao take Lu Yin away before calmly turning around and leaving.

Che Han's expression was very complex. Things had actually turned out in such a way that he owed a favor to the victor.

Michelle and the rest retracted their gazes and glanced at one another.

"I feel that we have a rather impressive backer now," Little Pao muttered.

He suddenly thought of Bo Junior, but when he turned around, he found that Bo Junior had vanished.

"There's no need to look. Feng Mo and the Bo Duo have definitely already left the Sea King's Dome. They aren't stupid, so they won't wait for the Sea King to chase them down and kill them," Michelle said as she looked at the peak of the mountain with a complex expression. Once Lu Yin became the Sea King's son-in-law, his status would experience a complete reversal, and he would not be even one bit below Nightqueen Yanqing.

Michelle was right, as Feng Mo and the Bo Duo had already left the Sea King's Dome in a panic, as their world had been overturned. They had been the hunters for so long, but in the blink of an eye, their prey had become the Sea King's son-in-law! It wasn't only them, but not even the Blackbeard Pirates would dare to casually take action against Lu Yin now. The Sea King carried a formidable reputation.

Zhang Dingtian gathered himself, but he thought that it was a pity that Lu Yin had not fought against Mu Rong.

Ling Que also felt that it was a pity that the two had not fought.

Xun Jiong was exasperated, as who would have expected that Lu Yin would ultimately be the one to become the Sea King's son-in-law.

No matter how much of a commotion there was throughout the Sea King's Dome, Lu Yin was dragged through the void by Hai Dashao until they stopped at a pavilion atop a cliff. Lu Yin saw a familiar face with wide eyes staring at him, though clearly unhappy. It was the pretty maid who had represented the Sea King's daughter on the ship that had brought Lu Yin to the Sea King's Dome.

The two exchanged glances.

"Little sis, I brought your future husband here so that you two could have a chat," Hai Dashao said, only to tear through the void and leave the very next moment. He gave off the feeling that he was fleeing, as though he was afraid of being captured.

The maid reached out, but she could only grab the air since Hai Dashao had already left. "Hmph! You run fast, but I don't believe that you'll never come back. I'll be waiting for you."

Lu Yin blankly stared ahead; if he couldn't figure out what was going on by this point, he might as well have resigned himself to stupidity. The pretty maid who had escorted his group was the Sea King's daughter herself, Hai Dashao's little sister, Hai Qiqi.

The Sea King's daughter had personally run to the borders of the Starfall Sea to act as a maid representing herself, which was a little mind-boggling. More importantly, Hai Qiqi was completely different from what he had envisioned.

Rumors had it that the Sea King's daughter was ugly beyond comparison, which was why the Sea King was looking for a handsome husband—to improve the genes of the Sea King's descendants. Of course, Lu Yin had not believed such rumors, as no heir of the various great powers would be ugly. But what was the matter with her vicious tongue? It insulted others incessantly and with great variety, and she even used novel sayings each time.

"Lu Yin, did you know that there's an everlasting truth in the universe?" the pretty maid, no, Hai Qiqi asked as she looked at Lu Yin with a stern gaze.

Lu Yin was stumped. A truth? He looked seriously at Hai Qiqi and wondered if this was related to the Sea King's Dome.

"What truth?" he replied solemnly.

Hai Qiqi looked at the sky with a melancholic face. "A flower can be thrown onto a dung heap... A pile of dung such as you actually managed to grab a hold of me."

Pfft!

Nearby, the four maids could not hold their gentle laughter back.

Lu Yin choked, but he couldn't even think of a retort for a moment.

Hai Qiqi sighed, "What exists between us is not some destined union, but is more what connects beauty and the beast together. A union between us is ill-fated, so..." At that moment, she directed a serious face towards Lu Yin before going on to say, "Just give up. We won't ever be happy together. Even though you used all your strength to pull out the Sea King's Trident, we won't ever be happy together. Maybe I can talk to father and allow you to spend your life with the Sea King's Trident, so just don't bother me, alright?"

Lu Yin was angered, as he had been struck by her poisonous tongue as soon as he arrived. Was there no law in these lands? Also, when had he used all of his strength to pull out the trident? He could swear that he had not used any strength. It would actually be more accurate to say that the trident had leaped up by itself.

“Rumors have it that the Sea King's daughter, Hai Qiqi, is incomparably ugly and can't wait to be married off. However, there's no need to create such a scam either. Let me tell you something—that trident practically jumped out on its own. I didn't use any force at all. This whole thing must have been set up by Hai Dashao so that he could marry you off. Speaking of things, how difficult is it to marry you off? To think that they needed to resort to such petty tricks,” Lu Yin retorted without restraint. He rarely verbally attacked anyone, but he had no choice when faced with Hai Qiqi. Otherwise, he would be abused by Hai Qiqi's malicious words until he started doubting his entire life. This brat was capable of generating caustic insults until the end of time.

Hai Qiqi grew furious. “Nonsense! Even my second brother can't pull it out, so how could he have set anything up?”

Lu Yin's eyes flashed. “Even Hai Dashao can't pull it out? In that case, how could I have possibly managed to do such a thing? Think about it—this must have been orchestrated by the Sea King in order to marry you off. What a scam!”

“His Majesty has been in seclusion for such a long time that there's now way he could have set it up! Your intelligence is even inferior to that trident's!” Hai Qiqi shouted.

Lu Yin was about to retort again when a cough suddenly sounded out. The two stopped and turned to look to the side.

“Greetings, Your Majesty.” The four maids bowed respectfully.

Nearby, a middle-aged man was silently watching Lu Yin with a gentle smile. He was tall and sturdy, though his appearance did not quite match up to his reputation. Lu Yin thought to himself, This is the Sea King? He doesn't seem that much different from some next door uncle. He doesn't have any of the prestige that's normally associated with a powerhouse! He can't even compare to Northgate Taisui.

When Hai Qiqi saw the Sea King, she ran over and pouted. “Father, brother's gone too far this time! He wants to ruin me by marrying me off to this dung heap!”

Lu Yin's eyelids twitched. You're the cow shit! Your whole family's cow shit!

The Sea King lovingly patted Hai Qiqi's back. “Be a good girl and don't cry. You can't say such things. He isn't a dung heap. Obedient daughter, don't cry. Don't make such remarks, as people are not a pile of dung. That's offensive.”

Hai Qiqi wiped the corners of her eyes, even though there were absolutely no tears there. She softly replied, “Alright, he might not be a dung heap, but he barely counts as a person.”

“Haha, that's better! One must have manners when speaking.” The Sea King was very happy as he looked at Hai Qiqi in a contented manner.

Lu Yin was dumbfounded, but at least he now knew where Hai Qiqi had learned to speak so maliciously. This Sea King was nauseating!

The Sea King comforted Hai Qiqi for a moment, and then he turned to look at Lu Yin with a smile. "Kid, what's your name?"

"Lu Yin."

"Lu?" The Sea King's eyes flashed, but then his lips curled up. "That doesn't sound very good. Change it to Hai Yin."

Lu Yin was speechless, as he felt no desire to speak any further.

"So you're the one who pulled my trident out?" the Sea King asked. As he spoke, the Sea King's Trident automatically flew into his hand, and he stored it away. Beside the Sea King, Hai Qiqi glared at Lu Yin with an intimidating expression.

Lu Yin grudgingly replied, "Junior did not pull it out. Rather, that trident leaped out by itself. How about this, Sea King? Could you reinsert it and let me try to pull it out again? This junior promises that it won't be pulled out this time."

Hai Qiqi's eyes gleamed, and she hurriedly tugged at the Sea King's sleeves. "Yes! Father, look at how malnourished he is! It would be too much for him to even kill a chicken. How could he have possibly been strong enough to pull the Sea King's Trident out? There must have been a mistake somewhere."

Even though Hai Qiqi's words were unpleasant, Lu Yin still accepted them. At the moment, the thing he wanted the most was to get away from this father and daughter duo. In fact, the further away he was, the better!

The Sea King beamed at Hai Qiqi. "You're a good girl, and father understands. Alright, you go on ahead, and I'll think about how to handle this matter."

Hai Qiqi expectantly replied, "Father, you can't throw your daughter to this dung heap! You've said that the universe's truth is something to be destroyed."

The Sea King remained serene. "Relax, father understands."

"Seventh Bro, you really can't shake off the title of being a dung heap." The Ghost Monkey was amused at the situation.

Lu Yin glanced to the side at this weird father-daughter pair. One day, if he was able to, he would definitely bury the entire Sea King's Dome in cow shit.

Hai Qiqi left and took her four maids along with her, leaving only Lu Yin and the Sea King atop the cliff.

"Kid, your surname is Lu, so where are you from?" the Sea King gently asked Lu Yin.

Lu Yin shook his head. "I don't remember. I lost my memory."

The Sea King was amused, and he looked deep into Lu Yin's eyes.

Suddenly, Lu Yin found that he could not shift his gaze away. He was stuck in the same situation again; it was just like when Mister Mu had asked if Lu Yin belonged to “five” or “six” and Lu Yin had answered that he didn’t know. At that time, Mister Mu had looked into Lu Yin’s eyes, and it was the exact same as this current scene.

The Sea King also caused Lu Yin to be unable to shift his gaze, which showed the strength of a powerhouse. Compared to the two powerhouses, the current Lu Yin was like a small child tottering around.

After a while, the Sea King shifted his gaze away, seemingly paying no heed to what had just happened. “So, what did you feel when you pulled the Sea King’s Trident out?”

Lu Yin hurriedly replied, “Sea King, please overlook this matter. Junior truly did not use any force. It was that trident that leaped out on its own.”

The Sea King laughed. “So are you saying that I arranged things in order to force you to wed my daughter?”

“Of course not! However, there must be some mistake in this matter. I request that the Sea King look into this matter, and this junior is willing to attempt to pull it out again.”

“There’s no need. I am the one who understands the situation concerning the Sea King’s Trident the clearest. Pulling it out once will cause you to be so weary that it will be impossible to pull it out the second time.” The Sea King spoke with certainty.

Lu Yin was speechless, “But senior, it’s true. Junior did not even use an ounce of force.”

The Sea King seriously sized him up and down. “Don’t mind what Qiqi says. That brat is hypocritical, so you don’t have to feel inferior. I am selecting a son-in-law today, and whoever is capable of pulling out the Sea King’s Trident will become my future son-in-law. Even if they are a dung heap, they will become the universe’s most expensive dung heap.”

Lu Yin blinked. So the crux of the matter was that he was still shit? Also, which eye did this guy use to see that Lu Yin felt inferior? He also enjoyed his own backing!

He wanted to say something to recover some of his face, but the Sea King waved a hand. “I know, I know. A man must keep up with appearances and needs some dignity. However, pulling out the Sea King’s Trident is an honor for you, or do you actually believe that you qualify to become my son-in-law on your own merits? Let me tell you something. I would even dare to say that the direct descendants from the major clans are not qualified.”

Lu Yin wanted to speak, but then the Sea King glared at him. “Or, could it be that you do not want to become my son-in-law?”

That one sentence caused the entire Sea King’s Dome to change.

The sunlight above them vanished, the Starfall Sea started boiling, and the entire region became spatially unstable. It felt as if the apocalypse had arrived.

Most people stared blankly at the sky, as only the people of the Sea King’s Dome understood that the Sea King was furious.

In that instant, Lu Yin felt an unprecedented and terrifying strength envelop him. This strength was different from Northgate Taisui's, and it was even different from the Seven Courts Elder's. The Sea King's strength felt undefiable, as if he were the ruler of the heavens.

This was the strength of an Envoy! Only a few Envoys existed throughout the entire universe. Even the network only contained some scattered pieces of information regarding Envoys, none of which could have prepared Lu Yin for this.

Lu Yin could acutely feel the pressure, as just a glance from such a powerhouse was enough to cause a heaven-toppling scene.

The Sea King's strength appeared quickly, but it disappeared just as fast. After no more than a split second, the Sea King's Dome returned to normal while the Sea King resumed his middle-aged neighboring uncle's appearance that did not match his power.

He smiled at Lu Yin.

This time, Lu Yin felt terror well up in his innermost being. He had forgotten that this person was a super powerhouse who could toy with his life. Perhaps this was the strongest powerhouse he had ever met.

Chapter 457: Pyrolyte

"What? You don't want to talk?" The Sea King smiled at Lu Yin.

Lu Yin took a deep breath, but the monkey's voice rang out in his brain at that moment. "Seventh Bro, watch the attitude! You've got to watch your attitude! This is the Sea King! The master of the Starfall Sea! Smile! Hurry up and fix your expression!"

Lu Yin immediately screened his right arm off and faced the Sea King with a respectful demeanor. "This junior does not know what to say."

The Sea King clasped his hands behind his back and looked out at the Starfall Sea. "Then you don't need to say anything. Since you have pulled out the Sea King's Trident, then you will become the Sea King's future son-in-law. It's fine if Qiqi doesn't acknowledge you, as you just have to do one thing now." He then paused and solemnly looked at Lu Yin before continuing, saying, "Cultivate well and quickly break through to the Explorer realm so that you won't bring shame to the Sea King's Dome's reputation. Only then can you truly wed Qiqi."

Lu Yin's brows jumped, and he was reminded of Ming Yan. He wanted to reject the Sea King, but he was not some hot-headed youth, and he knew that his own feelings meant nothing to the Sea King. In fact, the Sea King's wrath could completely destroy Shenwu Continent, and mentioning anything related to her could bring disaster to Ming Yan or even the entire Shenwu Continent.

Lu Yin's small amount of status might be enough to cause the Daynight clan to hesitate slightly, and maybe even some other powers as well. However, it was not enough to dissuade the Sea King in any way. The Starfall Sea was a very special area, and the Sea King was an Envoy. Regardless of if it was the Lockbreaker Society or the Ten Arbiters Council, nobody had the nerve to make a move against an Envoy. As for Leon's Armada, Lu Yin wasn't sure, and besides, he still did not want to expose his relationship with Highsage Leon. As for Mister Mu, Lu Yin was uncertain about how much power his master possessed.

The Sea King was a true peak powerhouse who did not care about anything. He was someone who was truly free in this universe.

Lu Yin had no choice in his decision at this time, but there was one detail that seemed very strange to him—just what did the Sea King see in Lu Yin? Lu Yin truly could not understand, as all he had done was pull out the Sea King's Trident. His past battle results shouldn't be able to draw the Sea King's notice, and he might not even care about the Ten Arbiters. So, what was it about Lu Yin that the Sea King saw value in?

It wasn't just Lu Yin who was wondering about this; Hai Dashao and Hai Qiqi could not understand this matter either. Was pulling out the Sea King's Trident really enough to allow someone to become the Sea King's son-in-law? From many people's perspective, it seemed too frivolous.

Lu Yin was basically grounded, as the Sea King had thrown him under a waterfall and said, "Don't even think of going anywhere until you've broken through to the Explorer realm."

Those were the last words that Lu Yin heard from the departing Sea King.

The Sea King's reaction caused Lu Yin to immediately suspect that there truly was no one who wanted to wed Hai Qiqi and that this really was a forced marriage.

However, right now, Lu Yin really just wanted to get in contact with Zhang Dingtian and chat with him.

The nearby waterfall rumbled loudly and beside the cascade was a wooden house that was Lu Yin's temporary personal residence.

He sighed and headed into the house.

In another area of the Sea King's Dome, Hai Dashao sought out the Sea King since he could not understand his father's actions. "Father, Lu Yin clearly does not wish to wed Qiqi. So why are you forcing him to do so?"

The Sea King raised a hand and brought out the Sea King's Trident. He spun it around one time and then impaled it into the ground. "Come and try yourself."

Hai Dashao shook his head and said in an agonized manner, "Your son cannot pull it out."

The Sea King's gaze was complex. "Do you know why?"

Hai Dashao shook his head.

The Sea King slowly answered, "This trident does not belong to this universe."

Hai Dashao was shocked. "What do you mean?"

"You don't need to know the specifics. However, just know that, since Lu Yin can pull this trident out, he will be of immense assistance to our Sea King's Dome in the future. Though, it's also possible that he could become a mortal enemy."

Hai Dashao still could not understand his father's words, but he did not ask any more questions since it was clear that the Sea King would not explain anything. He could only resort to his backup plan and ask his elder brother, as only that person in the entire Sea King's Dome could possibly know more.

“Don’t ask anyone else about this. You’re not qualified yet. When you achieve the same strength as your brother, I’ll tell you everything.” The Sea King looked at Hai Dashao.

Hai Dashao felt his heart sink, as it seemed like his brother definitely would not tell him anything either. He deferentially replied, “Your son understands. So how should we handle this Lu Yin?”

The Sea King’s lips bent upwards. “He’s already reached the peak of the Limiteer realm and is just one step away from becoming an Explorer. Allow him to cultivate in peace, and after he breaks through, he can take Qiqi to explore the universe. Qiqi really wants to go out, and that’s the entire reason why she agreed to this selection in the first place. She’s going to wreak havoc if she’s never allowed to go out beyond the Starfall Sea.”

Hai Dashao frowned. “Are we really going to have Qiqi marry him? Didn’t Father just say that he might become our mortal enemy as well?”

The Sea King’s expression became complicated. “Future matters shall be discussed in the future.”

“Right. Father, you’ve been in seclusion for too long, and there’s something that I need to report.” Hai Dashao activated his gadget, and a star chart appeared on the display. This chart did not depict the Inniverse or Outerverse. Instead, it showed a part of the Astral Wilderness.

The Astral Wilderness had always been a main target of exploratory teams from the three great domains, and the various powers had their own private star charts of the Astral Wilderness’ explored areas. Although the Starfall Sea did not intervene in the Human Domain’s struggles and other matters concerning the Inniverse or the Outerverse, they had their own ways of acquiring such charts.

“Many years ago, a certain substance was discovered in the Astral Wilderness. It’s a naturally occurring substance that’s been compressed to the absolute limit. It’s known as pyrolyte. This material is extremely volatile, and just one gram of it can cause an explosion with a power level of 10,000,” Hai Dashao explained.

The Sea King’s eyes went wide. “One gram can cause an explosion that has a power level of 10,000?”

“Yes. Ever since this material was first discovered, various powers from the Inniverse and Outerverse have sent people into the Astral Wilderness. The Sword Sect, Divine Grade Hall, Daynight clan, as well as the Lingling clan, Xun family, Yōu Court, Wen family, and many more. Each group has sent experts into the Astral Wilderness. Should we act as well?” Hai Dashao asked.

At this point, the star chart disappeared from the display, and the image of a strange substance appeared instead—pyrolyte.

The appearance of pyrolyte was far more groundbreaking than what Hai Dashao had indicated. The normal person was not privy to any of the high leveled information that the powers actively exploring the Astral Wilderness had. A single gram of this material could unleash a power level of 10,000. Despite the fact that pyrolyte had a very low density, even a piece the size of one’s thumb would cause even a Hunter to be afraid. How many Hunters were there in the universe? They might seem numerous, but there actually very few in the grand scope of the universe. The Great Yu Empire that had almost unified Frostwave Weave only had a handful of such powerhouses, but a thumb-sized piece of this pyrolyte could match such a person’s attack.

With the technology that the various powers had access to, the more pyrolyte they got a hold of, the greater the destruction they could cause. It had even reached the point where such a weapon could threaten the old freaks whose power levels were in the hundreds of thousands.

This was pyrolyte's greatest value; there was no upper limit to its destruction. It could be considered a strategic resource.

Of course, this so-called "destruction" did not mean that ten grams would explode with a power level of 100,000 or that a hundred grams was equal to a power level of 1,000,000. Power levels did not increase linearly. Instead, it increased logarithmically, which meant that as the mass increased, the level of destruction increased exponentially.

The Sea King waved a hand to dismiss Hai Dashao before returning to ponder the matter by himself. He did not care about the struggles of the Innaverse or the Outerverse, as there was no one there who dared to provoke the Sea King. However, he needed to obtain that pyrolyte so that he could secure a new path of hope. That path required an incredible amount of destructive power. Something artificial could not accomplish such a thing, but this pyrolyte just happened to be suitable.

The Sea King's Dome needed to act.

Although the Sea King had forbidden Lu Yin from going out, he was not prevented from getting into contact with the outside world.

Beneath the waterfall, Lu Yin called Xia Luo through his gadget.

"Congratulations, Brother Lu," Xia Luo's voice greeted through the connection.

Lu Yin could imagine the group's gloating expressions at his misfortune. He was just supposed to participate in the competition as a mere formality, but he had actually ended up as the victor. This was absurd, and Lu Yin had even become the Sea King's future son-in-law! They were actually going to force him into this marriage.

"Stop spouting crap. I can't leave the Sea King's Dome for now." Lu Yin was helpless.

Big Pao's voice spoke up. "That much? The Sea King's daughter is that impatient?"

"Shut up, senior! This is the Sea King's Dome, and you're done for if the Sea King hears you," Lulu's voice rang.

"Senior Little Pao, please control him a bit."

"Sure thing."

"Hey! You guys can't do this to me."

Lu Yin heard a scuffle take place on the other end, and he sighed. "Alright, I'm just letting you guys know. As for Feng Mo and the other two, I'll try to get the Sea King to take care of them."

"Don't bother. Any powerhouse from the Sea King's Dome would be enough," Xia Luo replied.

“Feng Mo and the rest have already left the Sea King's Dome, but we don't know if they've left the Starfall Sea,” Little Pao said.

“I'll try to get the Sea King's Dome's experts to make a move,” Lu Yin said, though he was not certain if he could mobilize anyone.

“Since the Feng Mo and the Bo Duo have already been taken care of, we'll leave the Sea King's Dome now. We won't be able to attend your wedding celebrations,” Michelle chimed in.

Lulu's voice quickly followed up with, “A friendly reminder to you that you spent so much of their money that you won't be able to leave. Be careful about getting beaten up, hahaha!”

Lu Yin felt a headache when he heard her comment. He had indeed wrongly assumed that he would be able to leave after the Sea King's son-in-law selection, which had resulted in him freely spending 15,000 star essences without fearing for the consequences. But now, he was currently trapped, and he did not know when those expenses would be delivered to the Sea King. Lu Yin didn't believe that the Sea King would be stingy, though. It might be an enormous sum for others, but it shouldn't amount to much for the Sea King.

But at the same time, Lu Yin was rather uncertain, as he had spent 15,000 star essences. He had never had more than 1,000 star essences at any given time, and he had only gotten that much from robbing the Blackbeard Pirates. That incident had resulted in him being chased to the Starfall Sea, but now, he had spent fifteen times the amount that he had stolen. He was starting to feel apprehensive about the entire matter.

“Right, Lulu, how much did you end up spending?” Lu Yin asked curiously.

“Me? Hmph, 30,000!” Lulu was pleased with herself.

Lu Yin's scalp went numb. He was finished if this bill was also pushed onto him! After all, they were members of the same group and had arrived together.

“Alright, don't worry. If the Sea King asks you, just say that it's an investment into you. After all, you're his son-in-law, so investing a little bit of money shouldn't be anything difficult,” Lulu said generously.

Lu Yin felt helpless. “No wonder you're from the Mavis family. You can spend money in such a fresh and refined manner.”

“Of course!”

They chatted for a bit longer before ending the call when they ran out of things to talk about. Lu Yin thought of looking for the Sea King or Hai Dashao, as he would not be able to rest easy for Xia Luo and the others' sake unless Feng Mo and the Bo Duo were taken care of. Right, there was also Faceless, whom Lu Yin had ordered to destroy Feng Mo and Bo Duo while masquerading as a member of the Specter Clan. He did not know if his orders would be carried out. Speaking of which, if the Sea King's Dome's experts happened to appear when the Neohuman Alliance was in the middle of destroying Feng Mo's group, it would be rather interesting.

If such a scenario occurred, would Lu Yin have a role to play against the Neohuman Alliance? Lu Yin thought about this potential scheme.

For two days, no one in the Sea King's Dome looked for Lu Yin.

Lu Yin steadily cultivated by himself under the waterfall. He wanted to leave, but there was an invisible force trapping him there that he could not break through with his current power. His entire situation made him feel very helpless.

On the third day, Hai Qiqi arrived, and she looked at Lu Yin with a seething expression.

Lu Yin felt a little headache appear when he saw her. "What are you doing here?"

"Checking to see if you're dead," Hai Qiqi replied.

Chapter 458: Creeping Shadow

Lu Yin carefully looked at Hai Qiqi. "It's easy to accidentally lose your friends if you keep talking like that."

"You're not worth it," Hai Qiqi bluntly replied before walking over to the waterfall. Once there, she played with the water in a vexed manner.

Lu Yin pursed his lips and retorted, "Let me tell you something. Even if the Sea King forces me, you still won't obtain me."

Hai Qiqi rolled her eyes. "Narcissism is an illness that must be treated."

"I have the medicine."

"To treat narcissism?"

"To treat you."

"My illness is that I was too benevolent when I allowed you to board my boat," Hai Qiqi spat out between gritted teeth.

"Alright, I'll give you the medicine to treat your benevolence then." Lu Yin threw a handful of mud at Hai Qiqi.

Hai Qiqi glared at Lu Yin, furious. "Let me tell you something. Even if Father wants me to marry you, I won't agree! Just give up and stop dreaming of hitching a ride on the Sea King's Dome."

Lu Yin replied seriously, "I agree. But how do you think I can get your father to agree to break the marriage contract?"

Hai Qiqi's eyes brightened. "You want to back out?"

Lu Yin nodded with a serious expression.

Hai Qiqi was delighted. "That's great!"

Suddenly, she felt that something was wrong, and her face darkened. "You want to back out? That's got to be a joke! I should be the one who wants to break off this engagement. After all, I came here just to tell you about this."

"Go on," Lu Yin casually replied.

Hai Qiqi moved closer. "It's simple. You just need to make two cuts on your face and ruin your appearance. My father will definitely not allow me to marry an ugly person."

Lu Yin was astounded. "Are you saying that my attractiveness passes your standard?"

"That's besides the point, and to be specific, your appearance does not meet my standards."

Lu Yin sneered. "There's no need to deny it. Your expression already told me everything."

"You—stop your nonsense! You're shameless!" Hai Qiqi was furious.

Lu Yin rolled his eyes. "Fine. Then help me contact Hai Dashao. I'll think of some way to end this absurd marriage arrangement."

"Really?" Hai Qiqi was in disbelief. "That's impossible. You've got to be lying. No one would turn down the chance to become the Sea King's son-in-law."

"You attach too much importance to the Sea King's Dome. I, for one, don't care about it." Lu Yin remained proud.

Hai Qiqi was still in disbelief, but she had no other option. "Alright, but remember what you said." She then walked away after smacking her own butt.

Although this brat was a noble princess, she did not tend to put on airs. Despite her venomous tongue, she was still better than those fake girls with a holier-than-thou attitude. Only the Sea King could produce such a unique daughter.

Not long after, Hai Dashao arrived at Lu Yin's residence with a detached expression that contained a trace of arrogance. This was the attitude that an heir of the Sea King's Dome should possess.

"Why are you looking for me?" Hai Dashao asked coldly, as he did not care much for Lu Yin. His disapproval stemmed from the fact that Lu Yin and Mu Rong had tried to slip away before Che Han had tried to pull out the Sea King's Trident. Hai Dashao felt that their behavior was an affront to the Sea King's Dome.

Lu Yin enquired, "Does the Sea King have to make me his son-in-law?"

Hai Dashao's face sank. "Why? Does the Sea King's Dome's princess not deserve you?"

Lu Yin shook his head. "That's not it at all. Since I'm the Sea King's son-in-law, my personal safety should be guaranteed, correct?"

"You don't say."

"Alright, I was hoping that the Sea King's Dome could help me take care of a few people. I came here precisely because I was evading their pursuit."

Hai Dashao frowned. "You're speaking of Feng Mo and the Bo Duo."

Lu Yin did not find it strange that Hai Dashao already knew this. The moment he had retrieved the Sea King's Trident, all the available information about him had been sent to the top members of the Sea King's Dome. Aside from a few secret matters, nothing about him could be hidden.

“They have already left the Sea King's Dome. Also, you can forget about going anywhere before you break through to the Explorer realm, so they won't be any threat to you at this time. Even if you meet them outside later on, they won't dare touch anyone from the Sea King's Dome.”

“But I have friends.”

“They don't have anything to do with my Sea King's Dome,” Hai Dashao responded coldly. He then turned around to leave. “Remember this—I have not recognized your position, and neither has the Sea King's Dome. Unless you truly become the Sea King's son-in-law, you cannot mobilize any of our resources, not even to protect your friends.” And with that, he vanished.

Lu Yin was helpless, as he knew that it wouldn't be that easy. At worst, he could have Big Pao and Little Pao stay with him in the Sea King's Dome while the others left. Even if they ran into Feng Mo and the other two, they would still be fine. After all, each one of them had a powerful background.

Within the Starfall Sea, a radiant-grade Aurora sped away from the Sea King's Dome at top speed, charging towards the entrance of the Starfall Sea. This spacecraft was carrying Feng Mo and the Bo Duo.

The moment Lu Yin pulled out the Sea King's Trident, the trio had immediately fled, not waiting around to see if he would be acknowledged by the Sea King's Dome. They had survived in the universe for a long time, and they would not willingly expose themselves to potential danger.

At this point, the trio's emotions were exceptionally complex, especially Feng Mo's. He had chased Lu Yin's group from the Chaos Flowzone to the Starfall Sea, and he had always thought that he had everything in the bag until the very end. Who could have known that something so unexpected would happen out of nowhere? Lu Yin had actually become the Sea King's future son-in-law! Feng Mo was rather irritated about the entire matter.

The trio had left in a hurry, and they had even left Feng Mo's personal spacecraft behind, instead boarding the Deep Crimson Hall's only radiant-grade Aurora to make their escape.

“If we had gotten rid of these people before they made it to the Starfall Sea, we wouldn't have sunken to such a state,” Bo Junior complained sullenly.

Bo Senior glared at him. “Shut up!”

Not far away from the two, Feng Mo had an icy expression as he stared in the direction of the Sea King's Dome, though it could no longer be seen. He clenched both of his fists. This was a complete humiliation for him! He had actually failed to chase down a group of juniors! This didn't only reflect poorly on him, but also on his Relentless Slayers. His mood worsened even further when he recalled that Lu Yin had straight up survived one of his attacks. That freakish innate gift made Feng Mo feel uneasy.

Bo Senior walked over next to Feng Mo. “Mr. Feng, this incident can be considered extraordinary, so don't pay it any mind.”

Feng Mo coldly replied, “The fact still remains that I didn't complete the task entrusted to me.” He looked at Bo Senior as he continued, saying, “It's not that easy to become the Sea King's son-in-law. During that competition, even those who qualified through their looks were tricked by the Sea King. Given that sort of personality, it's almost impossible for Lu Yin to actually become his son-in-law. So let me ask you once again. Do you want to capture him?”

Bo Senior did not reply, but Bo Junior quickly responded, "Of course! Only by capturing him can we justify ourselves to the Blackbeard Pirates. Otherwise, we won't be able to survive in the Chaos Flowzone any longer. We'll be chased down for the rest of our lives."

Feng Mo's eyes remained cold. "Then we'll wait here in the Starfall Sea."

"But we don't know which direction they'll leave in," Bo Senior countered.

Feng Mo replied, "My Relentless Slayers will assign people to monitor the Sea King's Dome's ports. As soon as they leave, my men will report to me. In the meantime, we'll head towards the center-most route. That way, we can intercept those brats as soon as my men report back. There should be enough time to chase them down."

"Alright, we'll listen to Mr. Feng. Rest assured, as long as you capture Lu Yin, we will immediately give you that item," Bo Senior answered quietly.

Feng Mo's eyes flashed with a hint of excitement. He then simply nodded and did not speak again.

Beneath the small spacecraft, there was a black shadow that crept tightly along against the belly of the vessel. Feng Mo and the Bo Duo had not noticed that there was someone hiding right beneath them.

Two days passed, and during this time, Lu Yin had already informed Michelle and the others that the Sea King's Dome would not provide them with any help. They had no choice but to go with Lu Yin's plan; in the end, Big Pao and Little Pao agreed to remain at the Sea King's Dome while Michelle and the rest of the students decided to leave.

Big Pao could not bear to be separated from Lulu; she was just too rich and generous. With money, everything became simple. Why had he not built up his relationship with Lulu more while they were still in the academy? This was Big Pao's greatest regret.

Xia Luo reminded Lu Yin about their agreement to travel the Cosmic Sea together again.

However, the youths weren't able to leave that easily. They had arrived here on the Sea King's ship, so the only way they could leave was by boarding a merchant ship headed towards the Starfall Sea's entrance. Their only other option was to buy a boat that had the special seaweed coating.

Lulu was wealthy and did not care about money, but that did not mean that she enjoyed wasting it. They already had a small radiant-grade Aurora, so buying another one would be too wasteful, even for her. They decided to wait and find a merchant ship heading towards the Starfall Sea's entrance. There was no fixed schedule, but one headed out every few days.

At this time, news of Lu Yin becoming the Sea King's future son-in-law started to spread throughout the universe.

In the Starfall Sea, seawater filled its entirety, and spacecraft could either travel within the sea or atop its surface.

Feng Mo and the Bo Duo quickly arrived at the middle section of the Starfall Sea. Now, when Lu Yin and the rest left the Sea King's Dome, the three would have enough time to intercept them no matter which direction they headed in.

Three Hunters were working together to capture one Limiteer; as long as the Sea King's Dome did not intervene, no one could save the youths.

The Bo Duo could not think of any other options; the Blackbeard Pirates were like a blade hanging over their heads.

Within the small spacecraft, which was large enough to hold at least a dozen people, Bo Junior stared at the sky and silently cultivated as boundless amounts of star energy was absorbed into his body. He was holding some star essences in his hand.

His power level was 110,000, and for each cycle of his star energy, he had to absorb more than 6,000 star essences to maintain his vitality. Otherwise, he would fall into a period of exhaustion. Given his normal star energy absorption rate, it was impossible for him to absorb enough star energy in a cycle with just his cultivation method, so he needed to use star essence.

This was the same path chosen by many space-exploring powerhouses, because the ambient star energy in the universe was insufficient for them to maintain their vitality.

Fortunately, it took decades for one cycle to take place. Things would be fine for Bo Junior as long as he managed to absorb enough star energy during this period, which was not too difficult for him.

Only certain powerhouses with extraordinary innate gifts would have cycles that passed by quickly and run the risk of not having enough time to complete a cycle. It was easy for such geniuses to fall into a period of exhaustion, so they generally had to work hard and earn money. Feng Mo's innate gift was much more powerful than the Bo Duo's, and he also had a power level of over 150,000. Each one of his energy cycles was only slightly longer than a decade, so he had to earn enough star essences to stay alive.

Sometimes, having a weaker innate gift was a good thing. For those who didn't possess any background, but did have a powerful innate gift, it was easy for them to die after becoming a space-exploring powerhouse.

It should be known that entering this period of decline would cause one's entire person to change, and no one wished to enter such a state.

Bo Junior collected his thoughts and tried to maintain his sense of calm. Not too far away from him, beneath the spacecraft, the shadow suddenly opened its eyes. Black gas poured into the spacecraft through its cracks, gradually appearing inside Bo Junior's room.

The next moment, the spacecraft's alarm sounded. Feng Mo, Bo Senior, and Bo Junior all stood up and looked around, bewildered. This alarm signified that a strong enemy had boarded them.

Suddenly, Bo Junior's pupils constricted when he saw a cloud of black gas pass through the metal wall just behind him. It had the color of death, and Bo Junior instinctively froze as his legs became tangled and he broke out into a cold sweat. A pale, white face had appeared in front of him. The face contained no color and the eyes were deathly white. It made for a very bizarre scene.

Chapter 459: An Unusual Mirror

When Bo Junior saw these two pale eyes, his heart nearly stopped, and the blood retreated from his face like the tide. His expression seemed lost and his eyes went slack.

Whoosh! A head flew up and crashed against the metal wall of the room while fresh blood sprayed out from the open wound and splattered the room.

There was a bang as the door to Bo Junior's room was shattered by Bo Senior, who was standing outside the room.

Bo Junior's quarters seemed like a scene from the underworld. A pale, faceless figure slowly turned around even as a pool of scarlet blood flowed out from beneath him. Behind him stood a headless corpse.

"JUNIOR!" Bo Senior roared as he recklessly charged at the decapitated figure. The entire spacecraft began splitting apart, as it was unable to withstand the might of a Hunter's full strength. Even the void around the spacecraft started warping.

The pale figure did not move. Instead, a black gush of air rushed out towards Bo Senior. His attack was swallowed by the black cloud without creating any disturbances.

The sight of this shocked Bo Senior. His scalp turned numb as he immediately retreated at top speed. At the same moment, Feng Mo arrived to see the black flow of air. His pupils rapidly shrank; what was this thing?

The figure moved away from the carnage, and the pure white eyes continued stared at Feng Mo. Feng Mo instantly turned around, facing his back towards the silhouette as he barked out, "Specter Clan! You're from the Specter Clan!"

The Relentless Slayers were a part of the universe's dark underbelly and was the Chaos Flowzone's top assassination group, perhaps even within the entire Innerverses. They were privy to a lot of hidden information, and since Feng Mo had barely stepped into the higher echelons of the Relentless Slayers, he had learned some of these secrets. One of which was information on the Specter Clan.

The Relentless Slayers had crossed paths with the Specter Clan and the Neohuman Alliance on more than one occasion, and they had also suffered heavy casualties from them.

If Chaos Flowzone was said to be a gathering of the Innerverses's dark side and the Relentless Slayers were the darkness within the darkness, then the Specter Clan was the deepest darkness. Even the most fearless Relentless Slayers did not dare to provoke this darkness.

Each of the Three Dark Hands was powerful enough to topple the Human Domain on their own; they were truly powerful behemoths. However, countless aspects of the universe had excluded the Three Dark Hands, such as the Ten Arbiters Council and the Top 100 Rankings.

Faced with an expert from the Specter Clan, Feng Mo wanted to escape at the first possible opportunity. He did not even dare to glance at him, let alone make eye contact.

Bo Senior did not know anything about the Specter Clan, and he actually hadn't even heard of them before. The only thing on his mind was taking revenge for Bo Junior. "Mr. Feng, help me kill him! He's also a Hunter, so he can't block both of us. As long as you kill him, I'll give you that item immediately!"

Feng Mo's eyes flashed. "The risk will be too great unless you hand it over first."

Hatred had already consumed Bo Senior, so he did not hesitate to take out an item from his cosmic ring and quickly hand it over to Feng Mo.

By then, the Specter Clan member had already started approaching the two men. The black cloud continued to spread through the area, and the spacecraft was falling apart, unable to continue moving any further.

"Mr. Feng, attack!" Bo Senior shouted as he charged at the Specter Clan member. He burst out with all of his strength as a Hunter, destroying what was left of the spacecraft. His strength even created a vortex that sucked in the surrounding seawater.

Although the spacecraft had been destroyed, the black gas surrounding them still did not dissipate. Feng Mo watched Bo Senior attack the pale man before raising a hand to target the black gas surrounding them.

The white eyes of the Specter Clan member looked directly into Bo Senior's, and the charging Hunter's consciousness was instantly thrown into chaos, a repeat of what had happened to Bo Junior. However, Bo Senior was much more cautious than Bo Junior since Feng Mo's erratic behavior upon seeing this Specter Clan member had served as an advance warning. At the exact moment before his consciousness was completely dazed, Bo Senior tore off a chunk of flesh from his thigh, and the intense pain allowed him to regain a bit of clarity. However, that moment was still enough for the Specter Clan member to move forward and place a palm against Bo Senior's chest.

Bo Senior spat out a mouthful of blood and appeared to be shocked. The difference in power level between him and his opponent wasn't that great, but he had been thoroughly suppressed. He had never heard of this Specter Clan before.

He turned to look at Feng Mo, but he found that Feng Mo was still attacking the black gas.

"Mr. Feng, are you breaking your promise?" Bo Senior shouted vehemently.

Feng Mo did not bother responding, and he only barely managed to open up a hold after using all of his strength. He was going to escape. Bo Senior bellowed fiercely and tore through the void to chase after Feng Mo, but the Specter Clan member simply waved a hand and caused the black cloud of gas to vanish for just an instant before reappearing even further away. When it did so, it had grown to an even larger size, forming a sphere that had sealed both Feng Mo and Bo Senior within.

Feng Mo's face was deathly white by now, and he looked at the Specter Clan member with unconcealed terror on his face.

"Join hands with me to kill him," Bo Senior snarled at Feng Mo.

Feng Mo trembled; a powerhouse with a power level of over 150,000 was actually terrified. Bo Senior had never seen Feng Mo like this before, but he had no time to dwell on its significance since the

Specter Clan member was already approaching them. The pale figure raised his hand and caused the black gas to condense into a sickle. It sliced down at an extremely slow speed, but Bo Senior could not dodge it; there was nowhere for him to go, so he could only take it head-on.

The scent of fresh blood filled the air as Bo Senior was sliced in half by the blade. Right before his death, his eyes still showed signs of his malevolence and ignorance, as he could not understand why such a freak had appeared to kill him. Bo Senior did not know who he had offended, but if he had stayed at the Sea King's Dome, such an abomination would not have dared to appear.

Nearby, Feng Mo's scalp itched as he recalled the scene of his senior in the Relentless Slayers being killed. His terror returned in droves, and he gradually backed up until he had reached the boundary of the encircling black gas.

The Specter Clan member slowly approached him, reminiscent of the Grim Reaper. He raised his giant sickle and ruthlessly sliced it down, just like he had against Bo Senior a moment ago.

Feng Mo suddenly took out a mirror and raised it up, using it to clash against the sickle. That mirror was exactly what Bo Senior had passed over to him before.

The black sickle firmly struck the mirror, but a strange scene occurred soon after. From the mirror sprang forth another sickle, an exact copy of the first, and it sliced towards the Specter Clan member. For the first time, the pale figure showed shock, and he immediately retreated.

Feng Mo changed the direction of his sickle attack, causing it to slice towards the surrounding flow of black gas. The barrier was cut apart, and another gap appeared. Feng Mo jumped through it without turning back.

The Specter Clan member did not give chase because there was a planet up ahead. In the Starfall Sea, any planet would house an old freak whose power level was in the hundreds of thousands, and this pale figure also could not handle any sunlight.

Feng Mo let out a great sigh of relief when he saw the planet ahead of him, and he looked fervently at the mirror in his hand. Bo Senior, that idiot, had not understood how powerful this mirror was. Of course, Feng Mo himself did not either, but he understood a bit of the mirror's history. How could something that had fallen from that place possibly be simple? He had gambled when he had used this mirror to block that sickle attack, but it had actually paid off, which had given him a second chance at life.

Without the mirror, that sickle would have bisected him just like it had with Bo Senior. Even if Feng Mo had a power level of 150,000, he could not withstand such an attack from a Specter Clan member.

With the mirror in his hand, Feng Mo was incomparably excited since this item meant that his strength was no longer as simple as his power level of 150,000. He had helped the Bo Duo to chase Lu Yin's group precisely for this mirror. Now that he had it, and since the Bo Duo was also dead, he no longer planned to entangle himself with Lu Yin and the others any further.

He had not forgotten about the youths' powerful backgrounds, especially Lu Yin, who was the Sea King's future son-in-law. Feng Mo felt that his life still had more to give. He had no time to bother with the youths, so they would just have to consider themselves lucky on this matter.

But why had that Specter Clan member attacked them? This incident made Feng Mo very puzzled and uneasy, as he was afraid that he would run into another Specter Clan expert in the future. There was bound to be an upper limit to the mirror's reflective strength, and once he ran into a Specter Clan expert whose attack surpassed what the mirror could withstand, he would certainly be finished.

This wouldn't do. He would have to go into hiding for a period of time.

Lu Yin did not know that the Bo Duo had already died and that the mission he had given to the Faceless Man had already achieved some results, but the Faceless Man was fated to not be able to report back to Lu Yin.

Beneath the waterfall, Lu Yin was stuck in a difficult position. The Sea King wanted him to break through to the Explorer realm before he could leave, but Lu Yin knew that he wasn't anywhere close to breaking through. Even with his five-stage formcast model, it was useless unless he was both confident and had that unique breakthrough feeling. Additionally, the cost of failing was very severe.

Lu Yin did not know when he would break through, so did that mean that he would be trapped here indefinitely?

Also, he still had not forgotten about what had happened when he broke through to the Melder realm. Even though the incident was a bit hazy due to him fainting from the anguish, he still had some impressions of the event. His breakthrough had not been as easy as the others', even though he had also had that feeling of breaking through. This was the reason why he had gone to the Rain Observatory when he had broken through to the Limiteer realm.

Lu Yin was certain that his breakthroughs needed to be overseen by a nearby powerhouse, especially when he tried to reach the Explorer realm. The Sea King was strong enough, but the problem was that Lu Yin could not afford to be trapped here for a few years!

The grains of Fatesand that had fused with his left arm and right leg had awakened, and just like Mister Mu had said, they both took the form of a clump of soil. The three grains of Fatesand could be combined together to form a larger clump.

Lu Yin was speechless when he first saw that sight, but the defensive ability of this soil was simply astounding. Even if Lu Yin went against Cheng Wu one on one, he could guarantee that he would not be defeated since Cheng Wu would be completely at a loss against his defense.

Of course, it would not be easy for Lu Yin to pry Cheng Wu's clock open either.

Lu Yin really wanted to test his current strength, and he also wondered how many times his Shockwave Palm had been improved by. When the grain of Fatesand around his heart had first lifted, unsealing his physical strength, he had been able to unleash a fiftyfold Shockwave Palm. When all three grains of Fatesand were unsealed, he might be able to hit sixty, seventy, or perhaps even eightyfold.

Unfortunately, he could not conduct such experiments in this place, as such a large disturbance would undoubtedly be noticed by the Sea King. Lu Yin did not naively believe that the Sea King would take him

as his son-in-law just from one look. There were likely other reasons for his current situation, and Lu Yin still did not know if he had benefited or lost out.

As he looked through the items in his cosmic ring, his expression suddenly changed. He looked up as a beautiful woman tore through the void and appeared gradually before him.

Was it Hai Qiqi again? No, Lu Yin's gaze shivered, and he looked carefully at the girl in front of him. Her clothing was similar to the Astral Combat Academy's Starsibyl's. Was she another Starsibyl?

"Are you shocked? Do you know who I am? Ah, that's right. You should be familiar with the other people who have the same title as me." The new Starsibyl slowly walked over as her bright eyes latched onto Lu Yin.

Lu Yin never expected to run into Starsibyl here. Of course, this woman wasn't the Astral Combat Academy's Starsibyl. Instead, she was the universally-famous, space-exploring powerhouse, Starsibyl. The first time he had heard of Starsibyl's name, he had still been on Earth. Zhou Shan had described Bai Xue as a goddess, and Jeraldine had mentioned Starsibyl in response.

That had been the first time Lu Yin had heard this title, and Jeraldine should have been referring to the Starsibyl presently standing before him back then.

Of course, after he had left the Great Yu Empire, Lu Yin had realized that Jeraldine had been lying. Given her status, it was impossible for her to have met Starsibyl. It was just the rumors floating around that caused her to worship Starsibyl. However, for an insignificant being in the remote Frostwave Weave to have heard of her name showed just how widespread the reputation of Starsibyl's name was throughout the universe. And now, Lu Yin had finally met her.

"You are wondering why I've come looking for you." Starsibyl's eyes held a glint of a smile as she looked at Lu Yin.

Chapter 460: Lu Yin's Answer

Lu Yin leaped up and walked over to Starsibyl. When the two were less than two meters apart, he spoke. "That's what anyone would be thinking. Or did you divine that?"

"You are rejecting me," Starsibyl said with a smile.

Lu Yin's eyes flashed, as he had always been doubtful of the idea of divination, and he did not believe in such a thing either. Thus, his disbelief had involuntarily surfaced. "No, I'm just asking."

Starsibyl stared deep into Lu Yin's eyes. "I came here to ask you a question."

Lu Yin's eyes narrowed in response. He had indeed heard that the space-exploring Starsibyl roamed the universe with an invitation letter, asking various young elites of the universe a question. He had never expected that today would be the day when Starsibyl came to direct her question towards him. "What question?"

Starsibyl was about to speak, but Lu Yin suddenly interrupted her. "Hold on, isn't there supposed to be an invitation letter as well?"

The smile in Starsibyl's eyes became even more apparent. "Although you dismiss divination, it's not that you cannot accept it. That makes me very happy." She then pulled out a very simple invitation letter and handed it to Lu Yin. Graceful letters adorned it, only spelling out "Starsibyl." The calligraphy was beautiful. It had clearly been written by a female, but it contained a simple and boundless charm to it, revealing an indescribable boldness.

Lu Yin carefully studied the invitation letter. This was the famous invitation letter from Starsibyl, and it was something that was rumored to only be given to young geniuses who had reached a certain level. In the past, only a few students of the entire Astral Combat Academy had been able to receive this letter, and it was possible that not even all of the student leaders had received one.

After staring at it for a while, Lu Yin passed the invitation back to Starsibyl.

Starsibyl told him, "Keep it, as you might have a use for it in future. With this, you can receive a certain amount of help from the Starsibyl Sect."

Lu Yin did not reject the letter. As long as such free items were harmless, he generally did not reject them. Regardless, such a letter did not take up much space, but he was not too expectant towards the Starsibyl Sect's help either.

"You can ask your question now," Lu Yin said.

Starsibyl's eyes became deep as she gazed at Lu Yin again. He suddenly felt as if an area of the universe had been drawn into her gaze. "How does one become strong?"

Lu Yin was stumped, as he thought that he had misheard her. "What did you say?"

Starsibyl's face grew serious, and she repeated herself. "How does one become strong?"

Lu Yin blinked. "Why would you ask me that? It seems that you are much stronger than me."

Starsibyl was a part of the same generation as the Ten Arbiters, but she was not included within the Top 100 Rankings. This was not because her battle prowess was not sufficient, but rather because no one knew Starsibyl's true battle strength. Thus, her ranking could not be determined. Many believed that her strength was in no way inferior to the top ten, and Lu Yin was confident that he could not compare to her.

"You just have to answer my question. How can one become strong?" Starsibyl spoke serenely, but she looked very serious.

Lu Yin muttered to himself for a bit, and the Ghost Monkey's voice appeared in his brain, saying, "Seventh Bro, don't spout something ridiculous! This woman is trying to determine the direction of your cultivation and measure your spirit so that she can use it to calculate your future accomplishments. These sort of divination folks are very scary! Just a word or two from you can be used by them."

Lu Yin frowned, because the monkey's words caused his hair to stand on end. Her question couldn't possibly be that mystical. After all, his reply would just be a single sentence, and he could even lie if he wanted to. Besides, he truly did not believe in divination.

Of course, disbelief was one thing, but that did not mean that he would fully confide his thoughts to Starsibyl, as only a fool would truly speak their mind.

He glanced at Starsibyl and thought about her question a bit. Before he answered, Starsibyl suddenly made a suggestion. "Brother Lu, think before you speak. This question is not something that I wish to ask, but rather is something that comes from my Starsibyl Sect's Sect Master. My Starsibyl Sect will adopt various attitudes towards you based on your answer."

Lu Yin's brows rose up. "So if I answer badly, will the Starsibyl Sect kill me?"

Starsibyl's face remained calm. "Of course not. However, you are familiar with the Ten Arbiters' Scholar, Wen Sansi. His answer pleased the Sect Master, and so, the Starsibyl Sect opened up to him, and he can now borrow our divination abilities. You are clever, so you should know what it means for someone to have access to the Starsibyl Sect."

Lu Yin's face grew solemn. The Starsibyl Sect was very mysterious, and no one knew how strong that group was. The sect had existed since ancient times, and everyone always seemed to trust in their divination ability. Even though many assumed that the Astral Combat Academy was the one behind the Top 100 Rankings, there were rumors that the actual people behind it was the Starsibyl Sect. Only that sect had the ability to divine the entire universe, including the hundred strongest youths.

A sect that everyone trusted. One that could divine the future, but also one whose power was not coveted by other enormous powers such as the Daynight Clan and the Sword Sect. Just this matter alone showed how frightening the sect was.

If Lu Yin could truly enlist their help, then the resulting influence they could grant him would be even greater than what he would receive from becoming the Sea King's son-in-law. The Sea King was strong and the master of the Starfall Sea. Neither the Inverse nor the Outerverse dared to provoke him, but that was merely from apprehension. On the other hand, the Starsibyl Sect had the ability to influence the entire universe.

It did not matter whether or not Lu Yin believed in their power and their supposed divination; their power existed so long as others did believe in it.

It had to be said that Starsibyl's words had moved Lu Yin. He looked at her seriously and contemplated the question.

"Seventh Bro, if we can truly get the Starsibyl Sect's backing, you will be very lucky. The Starsibyl Sect is just as famous as the Astral Beast Domain's Skymender! That sort of existence causes other people to feel practically helpless. However, your reply could also become the key that allows the sect to divine your future, so consider your next words carefully," the monkey said.

Lu Yin's eyes flickered, and he turned to stare at the waterfall.

Starsibyl did not rush him. Aside from a select few, most people would think things over carefully before answering this question. Some would even mull it over for a long time, as the Starsibyl Sect's influence was far too strong. There were even some individuals who fantasized about winning over Starsibyl herself.

Whoever could woo Starsibyl would obtain the future. Nobody knew who had started this rumor, but many people believed it. Thus, those people were always trying to think of ways to speak in an astounding manner in a desperate attempt to steal her heart.

The crashing of the waterfall was very noisy, and as the water splashed upon the rocks, it sprayed onto Lu Yin's face, making for a rather refreshing sensation.

He looked up and stared at the sky. Strong—it was a word that covered the entire heavens. After all, everyone wanted to become strong. But how? Some people had unlimited resources from birth while others did not but gained them through continuous fortuitous opportunities. Others still cultivated painstakingly, but without exception, countless throughout the universe strove to become strong.

Lu Yin thought of that Explorer who had knelt to Gu Er on the Astral River Ark. The man had not minded sacrificing his very dignity for the chance to head into the Inniverse and pursue his desire to become strong.

He thought of the Explorers who had died within the centipede's body, risking their very lives to become strong.

He also thought of his seniors, Big Pao and Little Pao. They had desired revenge, and so, they had sought to become strong in the Astral Combat Academy.

Memories of many people flitted through his mind. On Lu Yin's journey to reach his present strength, although the time that he had cultivated was not very long, he had encountered many people and situations. In conclusion, everyone who he had met had sacrificed something to become strong, and Lu Yin himself was no exception.

Before cultivating, he had not really valued money. But now, he had thought up all kinds of plots and schemes to earn money. All of these things were different forms of sacrifice, but then, how did that relate to becoming strong? Through sacrifices? Lu Yin himself felt lost.

The monkey had said that Starsibyl might be able to use the answer to this question to divine someone's spirit and future. However, one's spirit was not destined. When ancient dynasties fell and new ones rose, the final victor might not have been someone who was born to inherit the throne, as they might have even been a beggar. It was impossible for just one answer to determine one's future.

But if he thought about things another way, if Starsibyl could truly divine Lu Yin's future based on a single answer, then he was actually feeling some anticipation since his answer was relatively unconventional.

After thinking for a long time, Lu Yin turned to Starsibyl. "Could you tell me how others have answered?"

"Whose would you wish to know?" Starsibyl did not decline his request. Answers from different people could be identical, but they could also be different. If one's answer was modelled on someone else's, then their future would forever be under the first person's shadow.

"Wen Sansi," Lu Yin answered.

Starsibyl smiled faintly. "One can become strong through studying more."

Lu Yin was not surprised, as this was the answer that he had expected from Wen Sansi.

"How about Nightking Zhenwu?" Lu Yin asked.

Starsibyl's eyes flashed. "He said that he does not need to become strong, because everyone else is destined to be weaker than him."

Lu Yin squinted. "Those were his exact words?"

Starsibyl nodded.

Lu Yin frowned. What a bold spirit. Should Lu Yin also say that those words were worthy of Arbiter Zhenwu?

"How about Lan Si?" Lu Yin asked again.

Starsibyl replied, "'One step at a time.'"

It was another typical response, and it was unexceptional as well. However, it also reflected Lan Si's inner strength since he had never thought about how one could become strong. He just had to walk forward step by step, and he would naturally become the strongest.

All along, Lu Yin had been asking about the Ten Arbiters, but he only knew the names of these three Arbiters. Finally, he focused his attention on Starsibyl. "I wish to know your answer."

Starsibyl smiled faintly, and her deep eyes became unfathomable. "I have no need to answer, as I don't intend on becoming strong."

Lu Yin collected his gaze and looked up at the sky above the Sea King's Dome. Finally, he solemnly looked at Starsibyl. "Alright, listen up, my answer is..."

At that moment, Hai Dashao appeared nearby and stared at Lu Yin. The Sea King was also watching from an unknown area in the void to witness Lu Yin's response. Starsibyl had asked this question to too many people, but it had to be said that one's answer truly could embody their spirit, and their spirit could determine their future, and their circumstances.

"My answer is... one can become strong by earning more money," Lu Yin answered seriously and thoughtfully. His answer evidently caused Starsibyl to be taken aback. Were strength and money intertwined? One was related to cultivation and the ideal peak of the universe while the other was just materialistic wealth.

Cultivation required resources, but no one would admit that they cultivated for resources. Such a person would be seen as vulgar.

Hai Dashao casually waved his hand. "Peasant." He then left with an ugly expression.

The Sea King recollected his gaze, but he did not express his opinion.

Starsibyl smiled. "Brother Lu's answer is indeed unexpected. Is your answer serious?"

"Extremely," Lu Yin answered. He had never been as serious as this moment, and he had actually shown his dedication to money to Starsibyl. His words were actually his truth, as the more money Lu Yin possessed, the stronger he would become. To him, such a statement was the truth. If he was given the Mavis family's wealth, Lu Yin dared to say that, with his die's Enhance ability, he could upgrade certain

things to such an extreme that it would cause even the Sea King himself to doubt his existence. That was true strength.

With enough money, Lu Yin could even upgrade his formcast model. With enough money, he could create all sorts of natural treasures. With enough money, Lu Yin could even consider whether or not he could throw himself on the light screen and upgrade himself.

In short, money provided Lu Yin with endless possibilities. He was serious, and this was his true answer.