

Chapter 61: Blood Sample

Knowing that anything he said was useless, Lu Yin didn't speak from start to end. The weak would always be preyed on across the universe, and any unwillingness on his part would only make him a subject of ridicule. The only thing he felt was a pity at this point was being unable to kill Liu Shaoge; that man was a hidden threat.

"LIU. SHAO. GE," Bai Xue trembled as she shouted each syllable, her eyes now red. The man in question smiled at her faintly, but he didn't reply.

Qingyu glanced at her, "Forget her for now, bring her along the next time. Her gift and face make her fit to serve me, but we can't take her along now."

A cold glint flashed past Liu Shaoge's eyes, but they quickly returned to normal as he bowed, "Yes, Master."

Soon, the duo's figures had vanished, and a silver spaceship shot out from the larger one and took off into the unknown. Back within the larger spaceship, Mira squinted, "The birth of another Nightking; truly a troublesome clan."

As they watched Qingyu vanish, Lu Yin suddenly reached out and grabbed both Huo Xiaoling and Jenny Auna, stunning everyone including Sigmund.

"The audacity! Let them go immediately, native!" Torry shouted out, cursing his carelessness to let such a scenario play out before his very eyes. Standing nearby, Shalosh was astonished; he'd never imagined a puny Sentinel would dare to grab these two ladies of high society in front of Explorers. The sheer courage that required was something that he could appreciate.

"Do you know what you're doing?" Sigmund stared coldly at Lu Yin.

Holding both girls with his elbows, Lu Yin pointed a dagger at them with each hand. He could pierce their necks with even the slightest force. "I'm sorry to have to use these girls to threaten people, but it just so happens that they're the most important ones here. I hope to talk things over with you, General Mathers."

"What do you want to talk about?" Sigmund grew irate at the fact that a native was blackmailing him. He wouldn't have cared to sacrifice these lives in most scenarios, but the two hostages were simply too important in this scenario. If Xiaoling and Jenny died, he wouldn't end up well either.

"Once the trial ends, the cultivators of Earth will be sent to the battlefields of the Empire. I don't wish for that to happen."

"Those are the rules of the Empire, I have no authority to overturn them."

Lu Yin smiled, "Qingyu just said that he would personally return to destroy Earth. You can use that as an excuse; if I'm not wrong, the Great Yu Empire wouldn't dare to defy a Nightking's orders."

Sigmund was enraged, "Brat, don't insult the Great Yu Empire. We simply do not wish for hostilities with the Nightkings. I'll report your suggestion if you wish, but release them first."

“Do I look stupid?” Lu Yin declined.

This time, it was Torry who replied, “Don’t misunderstand, kid. Your performance in this trial qualifies you to join Yu Academy; you won’t be burdened by this planet. Not just you; the earthlings around you can all join Yu Academy as well; this is the reward from the Empire. Threaten us again and that reward will be void; you’ll experience true desolation.”

“Looks like these two aren’t all that important if you’re spouting so much nonsense,” Lu Yin remarked.

“YOU!”

Huo Xiaoling glared at Lu Yin, “Let me go, I’ll help plead your case.”

“Me too, don’t touch me!” Jenny added.

“More crap and I’ll stuff a smelly sock into your mouths,” Lu Yin threatened, forcing them quiet as they ground their teeth. Zhang Dingtian and Bai Xue silently walked beside Lu Yin; to them, this was the only chance for Earth’s countless cultivators. Gerlaine stuck a tongue out and distanced herself from the lunatics, and despite the struggle on her face, Jeraldine did the same. This trial was permanently etched into her mind.

Everything stopped for a moment. Lu Yin’s breathing became shallow as he stretched his body past its limits, but he refused to show any weakness even as his face paled. However, a sudden terrifying pressure crashed down on him and caused his hands to tremble, an invisible force locking his body in place. The rocks all around were turned to dust as Torry Auna appeared in front of him and kicked out, sending him flying a hundred meters back before crashing to the ground. A simple wave of the man’s hand sent Zhang Dingtian and Bai Xue flying away as well.

Lu Yin immediately coughed up blood, a searing pain spreading through his body as all his organs were shattered. There was a deep footprint now marked on his chest; the kick had almost broken through his entire body. It was at this moment that he felt the terror of an Explorer’s strength; it had been impossible for him to resist or even move a single muscle.

Torry’s icy gaze swept across him, “Some vagabond dares to negotiate with us? We wanted to save you for Qingyu’s return, but you’re just looking to die. How arrogant!”

Jenny matched Torry’s glare as she looked at Lu Yin, while Huo Xiaoling just sighed at the sight. She had come to admire Lu Yin for attaining such strength with the meager resources of the natives, it was not an easy task at all. Unfortunately, the gap was just too great in their backgrounds. Geniuses were a dime a dozen in the universe, and while Lu Yin was clearly a genius, how did that matter? The universe was too vast and there were too many prodigies to choose from.

Lu Yin’s head dropped down, his vision blurring as he truly reached the end of the road. Torry turned to Sigmund, “General Mathers, I think we should eliminate this person. He’s uncontrollable and his background is unknown; sending him to the battlefield will only cause problems for the Empire.”

The General showed no signs of hearing the man, focused on a call he’d just started with some unknown person. Torry noticed the man’s unreadable expression and slowly raised his hand and pointed it at Lu

Yin, "Don't think you'll actually be able to wait for Qingyu to come back and kill you. It will be difficult for him to return, and we won't wait that long. Go to hell!"

The Explorer moved to attack. Zhang Dingtian howled, but couldn't even get up, and a pathetic-looking Raas sneered to the side. Mira stood up in the spaceship above and prepared to intervene, but Sigmund suddenly shouted, "TORRY AUNA! STOP!"

Torry was stunned and looked at him in astonishment, "What?"

Sigmund's expression grew solemn and he looked at Lu Yin with a mix of apprehension and anticipation, "Get a blood sample."

One soldier immediately stepped forward and approached Lu Yin, bending down and collecting some blood from Lu Yin's lips. When a dizzy Lu Yin opened his eyes and saw the soldier, his pupils shrank, "You?"

The soldier shushed Lu Yin and blinked, "Home tasked me with sending you regards. You have performed well, now pass me the blood sample."

Lu Yin didn't hesitate and immediately retrieved a vial of blood from his cosmic ring, handing it over to the soldier. The man smiled at Lu Yin, but by the time he'd turned around, he was solemn once more. He walked over to Sigmund, "General."

Sigmund opened his hand and sent the vial flying towards the spaceship, leaving everyone silent in anticipation. Lu Yin watched the soldier returning to formation and released his breath with a smile; finally, he'd taken the first step. The blood sample he'd left back when he first arrived at Jinlin had finally proved its use.

The Great Yu Empire's examinations for cultivators were extremely strict, and due to Lu Yin's eye-catching performance during the trial, the Empire naturally wanted to gather his blood samples and conduct some tests. The blood Lu Yin had left behind at Jinlin had actually been intended for just this moment. His stellar performance had been a show to entice the Great Yu Empire to examine the blood sample he had left behind, and now everything was proceeding according to the plan.

After a bit of time passed, Sigmund listened to a report from his gadget. Getting visibly excited, he turned to Lu Yin and blinked right in front of the youth to prop him up, "Tell me, why are you here? What's your name? Who else is in your family? How old are they?"

The others grew curious. Shalosh and Torry quickly received the same news as Sigmund from their own sources, and they also turned to look at Lu Yin in shock. The Great Yu Empire was about to get shaken up.

Up in the spacecraft, Mira was dumbfounded. She looked at the people in her display, "Are you certain? This is too convenient."

The person on the screen nervously checked the instruments, "There's no doubt. Absolutely none. This is the Zishan clan's bloodline. That child is definitely a descendant of the Zishan Family."

Mira was speechless. She had learned about this empire before arriving and was well aware that it had its fair share of legends. It had started as a weak nation, but had abruptly risen in power thanks to two

people who had groomed it into a top-ranked empire within the Frostwave Weave. One of those people was Undying Yushan, while the other was Undying Zishan. The duo had been famous throughout the Outerverse.

Chapter 62: The Zishan Family

The Great Yu Emperor's name was The Undying Yushan, while his companion, The Undying Zishan, had died long ago. The Zishan Family had withered quickly after, and after a period of seclusion, the clan vanished. They were confirmed to be gone centuries ago with no surviving descendants, and it was unthinkable to find one on this fringe planet. This bloodline's influence on the Great Yu Empire was nontrivial; The Undying Yushan had promised that their hereditary kingship allowed them a position second only to himself. It would be a pity if Lu Yin truly was a descendant of this line; they had actually thought of subduing him.

As Zhang Dingtian and the rest were left confused about current proceedings, Lu Yin stood up with difficulty. His body quivered at first from the aftermath of Torry's kick, but he barely held himself up, "What do you want?"

"Tell me, Child, where are you from?" Sigmund asked.

"Earth," Lu Yin sneered.

The General shook his head, "We have observed everything during Earth's trial. You're definitely no earthling; they have no battle techniques."

Lu Yin wiped his mouth, "I am from Earth, I'd left the planet at a young age. It's up to you whether you believe me."

Sigmund seemed like he still wanted to question more, but seeing the exhaustion on Lu Yin's face, he immediately ordered a few people to send him up to the spacecraft for treatment.

"Wait, what about them?" Lu Yin pointed at Zhang Dingtian and Bai Xue.

"Rest assured, Earth will remain untouched. We'll send people to clear out the more powerful mutant beasts," Sigmund beckoned, sending a troop of hundreds of Sentinels led by a few Melders. All of these soldiers came from various colonies and had cultivated using energy crystals, so they were already at or close to the peak achievement of their lives. "Protect China and all of Earth's major cities. Disperse."

"Yes, Sir!" All of them flew into the sky, separating in different directions. Seeing this, Zhang Dingtian and Bai Xue finally relaxed. No one moved to stop the soldiers from moving out, not even Torry or Shalosh. Now that Lu Yin's identity had been verified and relayed to the Empire, he was no longer someone they could touch.

The Undying Yushan had reigned as Emperor of the Great Yu Empire for 800 years, and had the cultivation to live to a millennium. His strict rule over these eight centuries had cemented him as the sole individual on top of the Empire's hierarchy, and no one dared defy him. The man had one inviolable rule during his reign; the Zishan Kingship would always be held for the Zishan Family. It was a position with no authority, but it did have high status. Torry and Shalosh were only vice captains in the Thirteen Squadrons and their positions were incomparable to the King Zishan; they had no power to create any obstacles.

Lu Yin was sent up to the spacecraft, and everyone was now obeisant from the moment he arrived. This reassured him and he finally allowed himself to drift off, his consciousness fading.

With the trial now finished, arrangements were made to return each student back to their academy. Since the mission had ended in failure, many students were in bad moods. The Sentinels weren't too bad, but students like Huo Xiaoling who had participated in the trial as a sealed Melder were miserable. Failing just a Sentinel trial was a blemish that would practically guarantee that they would have no chance to enter the Astral Combat Academy.

There was also something else that most students were unaware of, but Huo Xiaoling and the others who were at similar levels were paying close attention to the fact that the Great Yu Empire Youth Council was about to be reorganized. The Youth Council was a powerful organization that supervised the trials, meddled in educational institutions, and could even field its own army. It was a force that no one in the Empire could ignore, and all top students desired to become members. Now, the results of this trial had badly damaged their chances.

All things considered, there was a forlorn mood among the trial participants. Only Zhang Dingtian and Bai Xue were celebrating. Despite everything that had happened, both good and bad, Earth had been preserved. The two were grateful to Lu Yin, since it was only with his help that they had been saved, and that the numerous cultivators from Earth would no longer be sent to a foreign battlefield as cannon fodder.

Raas failed to come to terms with the reality of the situation and just stared blankly at the spacecraft. He truly wished to kill Lu Yin, but Shalosh had given a warning not to act rashly, leaving him sulking. Yan Gang also started to mope after he spoke with Torry Auna. He had assumed that this trial would be a breeze, but he had been no more than a bystander in the end who hadn't even qualified to participate in the final showdown. He had even watched as Huo Xiaoling had been threatened by Lu Yin. With no way to defend himself then, he had now received a stern warning from Torry that ensured he couldn't deal with Lu Yin even after the trial was finished.

As for Eddy, Veron, and the others, they didn't dare to show the slightest hostility towards Lu Yin. They may not have known much about the Zishan Family, but just from Sigmund's attitude they could tell that it was best to not cause any problems for Lu Yin or even Earth itself. This planet had held a realmbreaker, someone with an innate gift, and a number of other things that they weren't aware of.

The spaceship suddenly sounded an alarm, and Sigmund and a few others turned north to see a giant shadow approaching them. The students followed their gazes and gaped in horror, one of them crying out, "A giant turtle!"

Zhang Dingtian and the others who had traveled with him were also shocked; it was the flying turtle that had passed over the capital after destroying the Blue Camp. Yan Gang even blanched upon seeing its approach; this was the creature that had humiliated him.

Sigmund, Torry, and Shalosh flew into the sky together, releasing terrifying star energy in an instant that turned the weather chaotic and even changed the colors of the sky; they were Explorers, individuals of similar strength to the beast.

"An Explorer-level mutant appeared so quickly; this planet is full of surprises," Torry commented.

Sigmund remained solemn; this turtle was neither simple nor weak. Its gargantuan eyes remained calm as it looked at the three minuscule obstructions in its path; it seemed not to care about them at all and slowly opened its mouth, ready for a small snack.

“Don’t be naughty, Little Turtle. These are good people, don’t eat them,” a girl suddenly commanded, appearing on the beast’s head.

The trio of Explorers gazed at her in wonder, “Lulu Mavis?”

Lulu casually greeted them from atop the turtle’s head, “Long time no see. How’ve you guys been?”

The three were left speechless, Long time? It hadn’t even been a month!

“Miss Lulu, this turtle... ?” Sigmund was still shocked, doubtful that a Sentinel student could tame an Explorer turtle. Just the thought was ridiculous.

The girl immediately got defensive, “It’s mine and it will stay that way.”

The General forced a smile, “Of course it belongs to you, but if I may ask, how did you subdue it?”

She smiled weirdly, “That’s a Mavis Family secret. Come, let me tell you.”

“No need!” Sigmund hurriedly shook his head, “Since it’s a secret, it would be troublesome for me to find out. You do know the trial ended, no?”

“Already?” Lulu felt a pang of regret, “What happened to the criminal? Was he caught? There was no news on the net at all.”

All of the students who had arrived to participate in the final confrontation had removed their gadgets to prevent revealing their information and location, so of course no news had been released onto the network. Torry Auna explained everything that had transpired, causing Lulu’s expression to change, “Nightking? You mean that criminal from the Daynight Clan awakened to become a Nightking?”

The trio nodded.

Lulu sighed, “That’s fun. No wonder you guys didn’t dare to let him die and had to rescue him. Clearly, the trial was impartial.”

Sigmund was embarrassed. Lu Yin had indeed been capable of killing Qingyu, but he had stopped that at the last moment. This was clearly breaking the rules of the trial.

“Pity, if I had arrived earlier, I could’ve killed a newly awakened Nightking myself. A Nightking, that would have been such an accomplishment. My family would definitely have praised me for that.”

Not one of the three men dared to interrupt. Whether it was the Mavis Family or the Daynight Clan, the Great Yu Empire could not afford to offend either one.

“Nevermind, we missed it and can’t do anything now. The trial’s done, so I should leave too. There shouldn’t be any problems with Little Turtle following the spaceship, right?”

Sigmund smiled, "Of course not, we can tow it along. That being said, I'm a little concerned it might not be able to handle warps."

"It won't be a problem, Little Turtle is very powerful," Lulu was completely unconcerned, and jumped over to the turtle's ear and spoke a few words. The gigantic turtle obediently rose up and quietly waited behind the spacecraft, closing its eyes and resting. It was a little smaller than the ship, but not by much. The size was truly astounding.

The girl herself entered the spacecraft, curious about Lu Yin; he had nearly killed a recently awakened Nightking. This was news that could shock even the Inniverse, and it was even a Sentinel native who had clearly not been so powerful before the fight. How interesting...

Chapter 63: Seruzen

Normal earthlings simply couldn't even hear about the Great Yu Empire's trial. In their view, strong individuals had simply appeared out of nowhere to protect their new population centers. They had no idea that the trainees in this trial were currently boarding the spacecraft, a total of 150 out of 237 having returned alive.

87 deaths might seem like a large number, but Sigmund wasn't moved in the slightest by it. In fact, this was considered quite good by standard of most trials, where about half the participants died in the process. In fact, the only thing that would cause a fuss would be the death of some noble heir.

Many students around Jeraldine's level were in high spirits; their goal had only been to hold onto one or two major cities for a while and come back alive. On the contrary, it was the elites who were annoyed, especially those from the second batch. Each one of their faces was more unsightly than the last; they had basically earned nothing.

Among the earthlings, Zhang Dingtian and Bai Xue were exceptional enough to join the Empire's ranks. One was a realmbreaker, while the other had an innate gift; both would receive direct invitations to one of the Thirteen Imperial Squadrons. The only one outside of the Sages that qualified to join was the Tianzhu Monk, Seruzen. Zhou Shan and Wu Sheng had been asked as well, but both chose to retain their positions as Earth's guardians. Sigmund didn't particularly mind; there was a large disparity between these two sets, and the regular Sages would only be normal soldiers for the Empire.

It took about two hours for Sigmund's doctors to treat Lu Yin's chest wounds, and the first people he saw when he opened his eyes were Zhang Dingtian and Bai Xue. He asked feebly, "How are things?"

Zhang Dingtian's tone was downcast, "It has ended. Earth hasn't changed, but the Empire will send people to monitor the situation and clean up the zombies. Thank you."

"Thank you," Bai Xue echoed with gratitude.

Lu Yin coughed and got up from bed, looking at the clouds floating past them, "Are we leaving soon?"

Zhang Dingtian nodded, "Zhou Shan and Wu Sheng decided to stay behind. Outside of the three of us, one other person from Earth is joining the Great Yu Empire— Seruzen."

"The Tianzhu Monk?" Lu Yin was astonished, "Is he very strong?"

“He is an eccentric. You can take a look yourself, he’s just outside. We’ve all been arranged to join Yu Academy.”

Lu Yin walked out of the treatment room to see the Tianzhu Monk, who really was quite unique. His feet were bare and he wore only half the amount of clothing a typical person would, revealing his skinny body that looked like a pile of bones covered in bronze skin. One could mistake him for an exquisitely detailed copper statue at first glance.

Strangely, the monk had his right hand raised in the air; it was unknown just how long he’d kept it like that, but it was withered and deformed from its original shape to look more like a tree branch than an arm. His beard was wrapped around that arm, drawing strange looks from everyone passing by. Lu Yin was stunned as well; this was the Tianzhu Monk?

Zhang Dingtian was someone with a strong will, but even he was a little disturbed by the Tianzhu Monk. Given that, there was no need to even mention Bai Xue; Lu Yin even felt a bit of fear coming off her.

“This is Seruzen; the only one from Earth who became a Sentinel without receiving anything from Qingyu’s inheritance. He even defeated Hayden,” Zhang Dingtian informed him.

“How did he become a cultivator?” Lu Yin felt odd; it felt like someone with this appearance would find it extremely difficult to fight mutant beasts. Seruzen looked to be disadvantaged even against the average human.

Zhang Dingtian replied, “I don’t know, he hasn’t spoken.”

“I can answer this question,” Sigmund walked over and those in the vicinity immediately saluted him. Zhang Dingtian and Bai Xue were a bit standoffish in the general’s presence; the two of them had joined the Great Yu Empire to gain strength, but they had no good opinions about the Empire itself. Granted, they felt no hatred, either; after all, Earth’s evolution had been caused by Qingyu and was unrelated.

Despite already knowing the answer, Lu Yin turned to Sigmund and asked, “You seem to treat me differently now. Why?”

Sigmund smiled, “I will explain everything to you in time, but right now the spacecraft is about to leave Earth. Are there any final tasks you need to complete?”

Lu Yin muttered to himself before answering, “Please have a man fetched from Jinlin. His name is Xu San, he’s like a little brother to me.”

Sigmund nodded and asked no further questions, sending instructions through his gadget before looking at Seruzen, “As for your earlier question, this is someone with outstanding perseverance. He sat alone with no fear amidst two groups of mutant beasts, bathing in their blood as they waged war. He then swallowed their energy cores after the massacre, becoming a Sentinel. His willpower is extraordinary, almost never seen across the universe.”

Lu Yin’s little trio stared at the monk in shock, He sat alone in the middle of a mutant beast battlefield when he was just a normal human? He must have been insane! How was he not eaten?

“I made a special exception to allow him to join the Great Yu Empire since his willpower attracted the interest of some. He may have an impressive future before him,” Sigmund continued.

At this time, Seruzen raised his gaze to look at Lu Yin with clouded eyes. He stood up and stepped forward with his bare metal feet, slowly bowing down to his waist.

“Th-Thanks,” he said hoarsely to a confused Lu Yin, as though his voice hadn’t been used for a long time. It took some effort to even make out what he’d said.

“You’re welcome,” Lu Yin replied, “You don’t look like someone from Tianzhu.”

“I was born in the mountains of Tibet, my practice of Buddhism led me to Tianzhu,” the man explained, bowing again before turning to leave. Sigmund left as well; his workload in the aftermath of this trial was mountainous.

Lu Yin turned to the others, “Let’s go explore. After all, this is the Great Yu Empire’s spacecraft and it should be more valuable than an average planet.”

“I’ll pass. I want to check out the gravity room, and there’s a small library here as well,” Zhang Dingtian said before walking away. Lu Yin turned to Bai Xue. She was truly beautiful and it was a pleasure just to look at her. However, Bai Xue had not yet recovered from Liu Shaoge’s betrayal and apologized to Lu Yin before also leaving on her own.

Lu Yin felt rather helpless. With these two kill-joys, he might as well have asked Seruzen to stay behind; he would have at least been useful to scare people away. With the monk’s appearance, most people would not dare act against him.

The giant spacecraft was named the Perseverance, and was used exclusively to fetch trial takers. It was larger than Beijing’s assembly grounds and housed all the necessary facilities; there were over one hundred gravity training rooms and more than three hundred personal spaceships within. Its crew had already recovered all of the personal pods, ready to take off.

The Perseverance had clearly designated areas for training, maintenance, day-to-day living, observation, and administration. Lu Yin was currently in the top-most level of the residential area, having been placed in his own home that had a swimming pool, medical room, and much more. There were only three such quarters in the entire ship, and Lu Yin took one over even Shalosh. All of the students were housed at least one level below, and while their rooms were large as well, the luxury was incomparable.

He descended one level into the student housing; the workers’ quarters were at the other end while the soldiers’ barracks were at the bottom-most level. The residential area was enclosed in what he found was some sort of sturdy yet transparent metal, and as he tested it out, he heard a gentle voice behind him, “Only Explorers or greater can shatter this metal. With your power, you can’t even scratch it.”

Lu Yin turned back to see a smiling Xia Luo, “Why weren’t you at Tianzhu?”

Xia Luo continued smiling, “Wasn’t interested.”

Lu Yin raised his brows, “As a trial taker, I’m really curious why you wouldn’t be interested in the primary mission. Especially with your strength.”

Xia Luo walked to Lu Yin’s side and looked through the metal to the clouds outside, past which the giant turtle’s tail could vaguely be seen wagging back and forth, “As long as the goal is accomplished during a

trial, that's enough. No need to confuse that with completing the mission." He turned to look at Lu Yin, "Congratulations on defeating Qingyu. This will definitely cause the Great Yu Empire to take notice of you."

Lu Yin shrugged, "It was just a cheap trick. I wouldn't be able to defeat him directly."

"There are no cheap tricks in the universe. A victory is a victory. Lu Yin—no, Brother Lu—do you know what defeating a Nightking means?"

Lu Yin shook his head.

"It means that the Daynight Clan has their sights on you now. They will watch you closely if you ever enter the Innerverse."

Lu Yin shrugged his shoulders, "In other words, I'm in trouble."

Chapter 64: You're Being Rude

Xia Luo burst into laughter at Lu Yin's claim of being in trouble, "Not entirely. Who knows, they might even try to recruit you. But you did do one thing right, which was not revealing the Daynight Clan's battle techniques. If not, you'd be dead."

Lu Yin's eyes narrowed. This was why he hadn't used the Daynight Punch regardless of how precarious the situation was; no family would allow outsiders to learn their secret techniques; if he was exposed, the Daynight Clan wouldn't be the end of it; other organizations from across the universe would chase him down to obtain it. Only someone like Lulu with her powerful family's backing was immune to such things.

Then what about Xia Luo? Lu Yin looked at him earnestly, "I'm quite curious; what will you get out of this?"

"Just some scraps," Xia Luo grinned.

Both of them suddenly turned towards a figure that had just turned the corner, with a signature head of short silver hair. "What a coincidence!" Silver waved to them with a grin so wide his eyes seemed to shut, acting as though he was very familiar with them.

Lu Yin's heart thumped once more, radiating that familiar sense of danger that he always felt in this youth's presence. Even with his personal growth since that day, the alarm didn't even fade. Even the ever-jovial Xia Luo's face sobered up, and he left a surprised Lu Yin behind without a word.

Silver drew closer and stopped three meters away, "I heard you nearly killed Qingyu in the trial. Congratulations!"

"Thanks!" Lu Yin smiled, "He wasn't half-bad, forced me to use half my strength."

"I fought him before too, he forced out barely 30%. Alright, I'm off; we'll meet again if that's what fate has in store for us," the youth smiled even brighter in answer. Lu Yin rolled his eyes at the lame response, but the departing Silver suddenly paused, "Perhaps it won't be long."

“The Astral Combat Academy?” Lu Yin asked calmly, only getting a grin and wave in response. He sighed; there were exactly three people out of all the trainees on Earth that were most mysterious to him; Lulu Mavis, Xia Luo, and Silver. Munoor and some others might have been sealed Melders, but he couldn’t even read their true power.

Thinking of Munoor, he couldn’t help but feel a touch of guilt. He had force-fed Powerburst and used the man to take on one of Qingyu’s strike; the resulting counter-attack had been the critical blow that caused Qingyu’s defeat. Without Munoor, there was no way for him to have eked out a victory. While that guy had a low opinion of him, he was still a benefactor.

A while later, Lu Yin also left to explore the rest of the area. Ultra-large spacecraft were uncommon, and even in the entire Great Yu Empire there were only a few. A typical cultivator would just use a personal spacecraft to travel among the stars.

Though the lower floor didn’t have the same number of facilities as the top floor, there were still quite a few that Lu Yin was interested in. In particular, the bar! Students dealt with a great deal of stress and were expected to rest before a trial. Of course, they would also wildly celebrate the end of a trial, so the bars were always among the busiest places on these ships. So busy, in fact, that he bumped into someone the moment he stepped in.

“What the fuck—” the student took two steps back and cursed, but shut his mouth the moment he made eye contact with Lu Yin. He tried to smile right after, but his face looked even more miserable than if he’d been crying as he spoke, “Oh, Mr. Lu Yin. Please, come in; there’s plenty of room inside.”

Lu Yin looked at the student doubtfully, “I’m sorry, but... do we know each other?”

The student’s mouth twitched, but he forced himself to keep smiling, “Um, I was one of the students that you captured.”

Lu Yin grunted in acknowledgment and entered the bar. The student heaved a sigh of relief and took off; he had no wish to stay close to the cause of so many of his troubles, not to mention the guy was the enemy of nearly every student.

The bar on the spacecraft was just as rowdy as one on Earth, with music and dancing everywhere. If Lu Yin had to point out a difference, it would be that there was nothing “dirty” going on and there were no drugs of any kind, just people enjoying themselves simply. He chose a random seat and ordered some liquor, looking around while he drank. The place was huge and occupied by off-duty staff, soldiers, as well as students; people of all ages occupied the establishment.

The bar had many screens, some showing action movies while others played news or music from across the Great Yu Empire. The whole thing was so busy that Lu Yin felt a headache coming on.

Not far away, a dozen students raised their glasses, “Here’s to our senior finding rare metals and getting the best trial results of anyone from his academy!”

“Congratulations, Senior!”

“Congratulations, Senior!”

“Thank you, everyone. I’ve said this before, but this trial’s mission wasn’t easy. That idiot Hayden recklessly charged ahead and didn’t manage to get even remotely close to Qingyu. In the end, he was even held captive by a native, haha! But that’s not even all of it! He was even by what’s-his-name, that Tianzhu Monk, and needed Eddy to help him save face. Hah”

“How can an idiot who was born at the bottom of the sea compare with us? He’s an idiot and he’s probably done for.”

There were people celebrating at the other end of the bar as well. These celebrating students weren’t the strongest from their academies, but were returning from the trial with pretty good rewards. They weren’t aiming for the sky and trying to enter Astral-10, so they were more than happy with finishing some basic tasks instead of the primary mission.

This was how the perpetually mediocre comforted themselves. Lu Yin couldn’t hold back a laugh and took another drink, watching as the door to the bar crashed open and everyone looked over to see Eddy and Hayden stroll in. All the gloaters fell silent in one moment; now that the actual school leaders had appeared, they didn’t dare to speak a word.

Jenny Auna walked in right on the duo’s heels, looking completely pissed off. Many students scrambled towards the exit in an instant, afraid that they would become the target of that stress.

Hayden walked over towards some of the celebrating students and shouted, “Scram.” The students were annoyed, but still got up to leave. He and Eddy took up the entirety of the table that had previously seated a dozen students by themselves, both looking depressed. Meanwhile, Jenny headed directly to the private rooms on the second floor.

“Hey, let me sit here.” Just as Lu Yin was taking a drink, he heard someone speaking to him. He looked over in confusion and saw that it was one of the students that Hayden had chased away.

“Are you talking to me?” he pointed to himself.

“Cut the crap. Scram!” a tall student answered

He burst out laughing, looking past the students in front of him to make eye contact with Eddy and Hayden, “Hey, you two! You took their spot and now they want to give me trouble. Take care of it.”

The students froze. Did this guy know Hayden and Eddy?

The duo froze when they saw Lu Yin, looking like they had seen a monster. When they saw that he was growing more annoyed, they hurried to scold the students, “Get lost! Leave him alone when he’s drinking, you’re being rude!”

Lu Yin snorted.

The man the students had called “Senior” got irritated and looked at Hayden, “This is ridiculous, Hayden. What does our drinking have to do with you?”

Hayden stood up with an icy look in his eyes. The students were terrified, but refused to back down. It was easy to see that they would rather be beaten up than act like cowards.

“Who’s making a fuss? If you want to fight, get out,” Raas suddenly exited a private room on the second floor and looked down. Seeing him sent a shiver down the spines of many students, and even the music stopped playing. Standing behind Raas was Munoor, who had regained his strength as a Melder. His reclaimed power left many feeling uncomfortable.

One by one, people walked out of the private room. They had all been part of the second batch of trial-takers, and even Yan Gang was among them. The Fireforge Planet native was now looking very pompous.

“Ah, it’s you, Senior Raas. Sorry for disturbing you,” the tall student immediately apologized.

Raas was arrogant and loved being able to look down on everyone as he surveyed the room. These people didn’t even have the right to speak to him, and with his appearance, all of the students and even some of the soldiers in the bar went quiet. This was the reaction that someone of his position ought to evoke.

Wait a moment, he focused a frown right below, where someone was still drinking. Someone dared to ignore him even after he’d made himself known? This was intolerable, “Hey you, get up!”

Everyone looked over at Lu Yin, while Hayden and Eddy had a strange look in their eyes. The tall student cheered up and glared at him, “He’s talking to you, kid. Senior Raas told you to get up, didn’t you hear?”

“I can’t even drink in peace,” Lu Yin set down his glass, slowly looking up at Raas with a smile.

Chapter 65: Leaving Earth

What was this bastard doing here? Raas looked irked the moment he saw Lu Yin, with Munoor, Yan Gang, and some other students sharing in that sentiment. Jenny saw him as well, and her astoundment quickly turned into rage. This was the bastard that had the nerve to take her hostage!

“Oh, it’s you, Raas?” Lu Yin turned up, “It doesn’t feel like that long since we saw each other. Miss me already?”

Raas twitched, “Are your injuries all healed already?”

“Thanks for the concern, I’m basically back to normal. So what did you want to say?” Lu Yin asked while raising his glass for another sip. Raas’s eyes narrowed in a cold rage, but Lu Yin’s attention was drawn to Munoor whose entire body started trembling with anger. He brightened up, “You’re here too? Sorry for using you like a shield earlier. Your Skybeast Claw is pretty strong too; I really wouldn’t have been able to deal with Qingyu without you.”

“Lu. Yin!” Munoor grew furious, clenching his fists.

“Don’t be too arrogant, Lu Yin!” Jenny suddenly yelled from the side as well.

“Arrogant?” he glanced at her in confusion, “I don’t think I am, though. Right, I had a question. I heard you and Huo Xiaoling are rivals; why is she a Melder when you’re just a Sentinel?”

“You bastard!” Jenny clenched her teeth in fury.

By this point, the other students were scared out of their wits. They'd thought Lu Yin was an easy target, but to their horror they'd provoked a monster. This man was the nightmare of most of the trainees, and he'd nearly killed the criminal. People like Raas were lofty beings to them, but to him they were merely spoils of battle. There were even rumors that he was a descendant of the Zishan Family. How had they been so unlucky as to bump into him?

The commotion was disrupted by a soldier entering the pub. He headed straight to Lu Yin and whispered something, after which Lu Yin put his glass down and smiled at Jenny before leaving. Raas and the rest glared at his departing figure, wanting to teach him a lesson, but they didn't have the courage to try. They'd be the ones in trouble the moment they attacked; Lu Yin's status was quite concerning.

The soldier had come to inform Lu Yin that Xu San had been brought over. This underling was quite important to him; those with innate gifts were few and far between, with even the trainees only having Huo Xiaoling among their midst. Bai Xue was the only confirmed earthling with one as well, while Qingyu had been unable to use his. Regardless, innate gifts were a symbol of prodigies across the universe.

A group of soldiers walked past Lu Yin just as he left the bar, and his eyes lit up as he noticed one of them. He made it a point to brush past that soldier, who whispered as they crossed, "Home wants you to try and join the Great Yu Empire's new Youth Council."

The soldiers quickly turned a corner and went out of sight. In the meanwhile, Lu Yin's eyes lit up. The Youth Council? It wouldn't be easy, but it wouldn't be impossible either. His current status as a member of the Zishan Family gave him a position with no power, but the Youth Council would definitely add authority.

One's body could only use formcast models until it passed a certain age. This meant that talented youths could increase their strength at mind-blowing speeds, and some of them were complete monsters. Youth Councils were organizations with the authority to educate, adjudicate, and conduct trials for the younger generation. Be it within the Great Yu Empire or elsewhere in the universe, they were privileged groups. Unlike the Zishan name which only held a modicum of power in one monarchy, Youth Council membership was recognized throughout both the Outerverse and Innerverse.

The appointments of the members of the Youth Council was something that the Great Yu Empire could not influence. If Lu Yin wanted to join the Council, being a member of the Zishan Family might give him a slight edge, but he would definitely need to work out a real plan.

Soon after he returned to his quarters, Xu San was brought over.

"I finally get to see you, Boss!" Xu San started whining as soon as they met. He had been suffering from the moment they'd been separated, with no one willing to associate with him due to his sketchy appearance. Not even Feng Hong and Luo Yi would talk to him; if not for the fact that he had reached the Realm of Earth, he might even have been kicked out of the camp. He still wasn't great in combat, but thankfully Zhou Shan had treated him well out of consideration for Lu Yin and not sent him anywhere too dangerous. Unfortunately, that ease of life had dissipated once the Executioner left for Beijing. Every captain had to protect an area and he had been no exception, forced to deal with many powerful mutant beasts to the point that he nearly died once.

The beast wave that had happened most recently had been particularly dangerous. If not for the few Realm of Sky experts who had appeared out of nowhere and helped save the stronghold, he definitely would have died. He had thought that he would live out the rest of his life at Jinlin, but to his surprise, he was suddenly carted off onto a spaceship! He had been on edge this entire time, terrified that he would be dissected and analyzed by aliens, so when he saw Lu Yin, he was so relieved that he nearly wept. Xu San had previously been quite wary of Lu Yin, but in this strange new environment, he was determined to cling onto the only person he knew.

Lu Yin burst out laughing, "Enough of that. You can stay with me. I'll have someone arrange another room, so just wait here."

Xu San exclaimed in surprise, "How 'bout I room with you, Boss? I won't go anywhere."

"Nope, I don't like staying with guys. Alright, just relax. You're safe here, and there will be people protecting you. I'm pretty important in this place," Lu Yin said airily.

Xu San was astonished, "Boss, this is an alien spacecraft, and you're saying you're pretty important?"

Lu Yin didn't have time to explain everything, so he had the soldiers lead Xu San away and arrange a room for him next to Zhang Dingtian. Now, there were four earthlings aboard this spacecraft, five if he included himself. This was actually quite a high number of natives to be joining the core of the Empire from a trial planet; in most other trials, there would be at most three and they would be sent out to battlefields. Compared to the cream of the crop in the empire's academies, the "geniuses" from the trial planets were nothing but trash. Earth was quite exceptional, especially considering that Liu Shaoge was able to enter the Inniverse.

A day later, Lu Yin was still studying star charts when the *Perseverance* shook a little, and there was a huge roar from the turtle. He went to the window to watch as the scenery outside disappeared in the blink of an eye, fading into the pitch-black darkness of space. He could see the beautiful blue Earth from his window, a dazzling sight.

Seeing the blue ball zooming away, he felt a bit troubled. He had lived on that planet for nearly two years and owed a majority of his memories to it; now that he was leaving, he had no idea when he would return.

Elsewhere in the spacecraft, Zhang Dingtian, Bai Xue, Xu San, and Seruzen were also staring at the beautiful planet. They had left this planet—their home—with no idea if they would be able to return. Perhaps, this was goodbye... The universe was vast and filled with all kinds of dangers, whether they be living creatures or the environment itself. As they were now, they didn't have the strength to protect themselves.

Zhang Dingtian clenched his sword tightly and walked away with a steely determination in his eyes. Bai Xue looked concerned, but no one could tell exactly what she was thinking. Xu San kept muttering to himself about something and looked unwilling to leave. He had not wanted to leave Earth, but he was smart enough to know that he had no choice, which was also why he had kept his thoughts to himself. Seruzen was the most tranquil of them all and simply watched quietly as the blue planet disappeared from sight.

Much later, once the Perseverance was steadily traveling through space, Lu Yin headed towards Sigmund's command center; as a general, the man was also the lead pilot of the spaceship. The command center was situated at the very top of the craft, but the interior seemed normal without the plethora of confusing buttons one would expect. There were only all sorts of star charts on various screens.

Sigmund looked out in the direction they were traveling with his hands clasped behind his back, "How does it feel to leave Earth?"

"Sad. I'm reluctant to leave," Lu Yin stated.

The General turned towards him, "I've had you investigated, but other than the data we could gather about you from Earth, we couldn't find anything. Can you tell me where you're from?"

"I lost my memories," Lu Yin answered, laughing as the man arched an eyebrow, "I don't care if you don't believe me. The only memories I have are those from Earth."

Sigmund nodded, "It's none of my business. I asked you to come here to tell you something."

"Is it about the Zishan Family?" Lu Yin inquired.

Chapter 66: Zishan King

Sigmund explained, "I believe you've heard some things already. The Zishan and Yushan families are the two most important families in the Great Yu Empire. When His Imperial Majesty The Undying Yushan ascended to his throne eight centuries ago, he conferred the title of King upon The Undying Zishan. However, that man died while out on an expedition, and some circumstances led to the entire family hiding itself until it gradually disappeared. You are the last living descendant of the Zishan Family."

Lu Yin's eyes glowed, but he kept quiet as the General continued, "I know what you might be thinking. The Undying Zishan was not killed by His Imperial Majesty; this is public knowledge."

Lu Yin was surprised, "How can you be so certain?"

Sigmund sighed. "Before His Imperial Majesty succeeded the throne, the Great Yu Empire had little influence in the Frostwave Weave. It was the combined effort of His Imperial Majesty and The Undying Yushan that allowed the Great Yu Empire to become what it is today. However, this wasn't enough. His Imperial Majesty's wish was to bring the Great Yu Empire into the Innerverse. The death of The Undying Zishan brought those ambitions to a halt; he wouldn't have destroyed his own dreams."

"That's enough. I don't really care about the Great Yu Empire's past; all I want to know is what kind of status I have now," Lu Yin said, feeling slightly annoyed.

"You are the successor of the title of the Zishan King, as ordered directly by His Imperial Majesty. From the moment your identity was confirmed, you became the Zishan King of the Great Yu Empire."

Lu Yin was astonished, "Just like that? Don't I have to go through some complicated procedures or something? No re-examination on the Capital Star?"

Sigmund shook his head, "There's no need for that. All the data on Perseverance is linked to the Empire. His Imperial Majesty is aware of everything and has already acknowledged that you are now officially

the Zishan King. When you arrive at the Capital Star and meet with him, everything that the Zishan King is entitled to will be given over to you."

Lu Yin's eyes lit up; this was exactly what he had wanted to hear. He had been forced to use up all of his star crystals to fight Qingyu, earning a measly two days in the Timestop domain. He had been agonizing over how to get more, but with this news it seemed like it would no longer be a problem.

"By the way, if there's anything you need help with when you're on the Capital Star, you can look for my family. I've already spoken to them, and they'll help you however they can," General Sigmund said before giving Lu Yin an ordinary gadget, "Take this, it'll help."

Lu Yin glanced at him and nodded, "Thank you. If there's nothing else you need, I'll be on my way."

Sigmund Mathers nodded, but when Lu Yin was at the door, he suddenly spoke up, "There's someone on the spacecraft called Mira. If you see her, be careful."

Lu Yin made a sound of acknowledgment and walked out of the command center. The General's words had left him puzzled; while he might now be the so-called Zishan King, he was still just some random rich kid with no power. There was no need for Sigmund Mathers to treat a Sentinel so well; was he somehow connected to the Zishans?

Around the same time, Raas was meeting with Shalosh.

"What? That bastard really is a descendant of the Zishan clan, and it's even been acknowledged by His Imperial Majesty that he'll take over as the Zishan King?" the youth shouted in disbelief.

Shalosh stared at Raas with a dark look on his face, sending a chill down the youth's spine. He quickly backed up two steps and went quiet, allowing the man to say coldly, "Shout at me again, and I'll remove your tongue."

Raas broke out in cold sweat and hastily apologized. His father might be the Vice-Treasurer, but his actual power couldn't come close to comparing with the Thirteen Imperial Squadrons. Shalosh was the vice-captain of the Twelfth Squadron and was far more influential than Sicar. If it weren't for his father having certain financial controls, the man wouldn't even bother with him.

"If you see Lu Yin again in the future, make sure you stay away from him. It might be nothing more than a name, but if he does try to use his status against you, you have no choice but to let him," Shalosh said coldly, to which Raas quickly agreed. The man then snorted and gazed towards the darkness of space. Zishan King? Let's see how long you'll last. The Empire will erupt the moment you cause trouble.

Elsewhere on the ship, Jenny Auna was raging as well, "How can this be? Becoming a king is no simple matter. How can a native like him receive any kind of inheritance?"

Torry could only smile wryly, "Please don't be angry, Miss. This has already been confirmed, and the head has ordered you to stay away from him."

"Why should I? Is being the Zishan King all that amazing?" Jenny answered in annoyance, leaving Torry tongue-tied. He wanted to tell Jenny certain things, but he knew that she would storm off the moment he brought them up. In the end, he decided to leave it to the head.

Lu Yin didn't leave his room for two days, focusing purely on recovering while studying the star charts. The fourth star of the Cosmic Palm was twice as powerful as the third, so he couldn't wait for the fifth to appear. If he had been able to use the five-star Palm, he wouldn't have needed a Melder's help to crush Qingyu. It was too bad that the Cosmic Art that he had retrieved was merely the elementary volume. With this, he would only be able to simulate a maximum of eight stars. He also feared that after becoming a Melder, the Cosmic Art's benefits might fade away. Its overwhelming might would dissipate in the face of geniuses with other powerful battle techniques.

"Do you study those charts every day because of some battle technique?" A sweet voice sounded from behind Lu Yin, quickly followed by a pleasant fragrance. He was startled and quickly turned around to see a beautiful woman with an air of purity, white hair hanging down to the ankles with a bun near the forehead. She was staring at him with interest.

"Who are you?" he asked cautiously, his instincts screaming that he was no match for this woman. She had gotten far too close to him without making a single sound; even the Cosmic Art hadn't reacted! This was a powerhouse.

"My name is Mira," the white-haired girl said with a smile, what seemed like a trace of red in her focused eyes.

Mira? Lu Yin quickly remembered Sigmund's words of caution regarding this woman. "Do you need anything from me?"

She laughed and walked past him with her hair drifting behind her, gracefully sitting down and crossing her right leg over the left. The round toes of her bare feet wiggled around, showing off her bright red nail polish as she looked straight at him and asked, "Can you tell me why you look at star charts every day?"

Lu Yin looked at her seriously, "I lost my memories, so I'm searching for the way home."

Mira played with the hair curled in her right hand, "Do you know who I am?"

Lu Yin shook his head.

Mira said, "I'm from the Inniverse, and am part of the Universe Youth Council."

Lu Yin's eyes widened. The Universe Youth Council was a terrifying organization that could theoretically try any youth in the entire universe. It had its own army and subsidiaries everywhere; the Great Yu Empire's Youth Council was one such subordinate organization.

"I was the one to disband your Great Yu Empire's Youth Council. Do you understand now?" Mira continued.

Lu Yin took a deep breath, "What does this have to do with me?"

Mira got up and slowly strolled over to Lu Yin, lifting his chin with her index that carried the same intoxicating scent, "I admire your abilities, so I can recommend you to the Outerverse Youth Council. My only condition is that you join Astral-10 and gain some accomplishments."

Lu Yin stared straight into her eyes, the bit of red more obvious now. This woman heated his body and was extremely tempting, but there was both a visual and instinctive feeling of danger to her that chilled him, "Why me?"

Mira's lips curled into a sensual smile, her captivating eyes threatening to drown him within their gaze, "Your innate gift is quite unique. May I know how it works?"

Lu Yin retreated a few steps, "All this just because of my innate gift?"

Mira retracted her hand, "The Ten Arbiters decreed that any cultivator with an innate gift can enter the Outerverse Youth Council. However, the Outerverse Youth Council oversees too vast a territory, including the Great Yu Empire's Youth Council. Most cultivators with innate gifts typically only join local councils, but exceptional ones can join the higher body. Where do you think you belong?"

Lu Yin hadn't even considered the possibility of joining the Youth Council by revealing his innate gift. His miraculous die was something that should remain a secret, not because it was too weak, but because it was too powerful. The die had six faces, and every one of them had a shocking ability. He didn't want to reveal it at all if possible, but it had been found out during his battle with Qingyu. Although Sigmund had not mentioned it, he definitely had his own thoughts. This woman was merely the first to ask about it.

"My innate gift isn't that special; it simply speeds up my healing rate."

Chapter 67: Mira's Terms

Mira's eyes glowed as she was informed about Lu Yin's innate gift, and she smiled, "It is quite average. Do you want me to recommend you to the Great Yu Empire's Youth Council? If you agree to my terms, I could perhaps recommend you to the Outerverse Youth Council instead."

"If I agree to your terms?"

"Well, if you fulfill them," she said tiredly, "You'll have to enter the Tenth Academy, but more importantly, do something that'll make me proud of you. Something the Red Lotus Witchbow would be proud of."

After saying this, she grinned at him, gave him a series of numbers, and turned to leave. Lu Yin simply narrowed his eyes; the Red Lotus Witchbow?

"By the way, it makes sense that you're protecting that barbarian planet. Who knows, you might even get more talents like Zhang Dingtian and Liu Shaoge. Treasure it," she said at the door, leaving Lu Yin even more surprised. Lu Yin was surprised. He understood why she mentioned Zhang Dingtian, but why Liu Shaoge? It was already a pity that he hadn't killed the man; had she discovered something?

He immediately left and headed towards the command center. It wasn't a place just anyone could enter, but his status on the Perseverance was second only to Lulu and Mira now, beyond even Sigmund's. He shot out an order right as he entered, "Show me all the footage of the battle in Tianzhu."

The people in the control room froze for a moment before carrying out his orders, and Sigmund, Torry, and Shalosh all got word right away. The trio quickly appeared at the control room themselves; while confused, the General didn't really mind. He'd already said before that Lu Yin could do anything he wanted, so long as he wasn't out of line.

Lu Yin focused on Liu Shaoge as he stared at the video of the battle, shock slowly turning into dread. The screen was showing footage of him sending Shaoge flying with one blow; that was normal, but what really drew his attention was what had happened just before. The man hadn't been injured helplessly; he'd chosen not to defend. Why?

The answer was simple. Liu Shaoge had stood on Qingyu's side, and Qingyu had been severely wounded in that battle. What would his master think of him if he was completely unharmed? He had to show his loyalty, even at the cost of taking on an attack that could kill him in one blow. This was the kind of person he was, someone who was vicious with others and even more so with himself. Lu Yin felt a sense of foreboding about the trickster.

It was no wonder that Mira admired Liu Shaoge's talents, the man was extremely cautious and could endure what others couldn't. He made sure that he didn't stand out and was comfortable with loneliness. Whenever he acted, every move was perfect; he would get injured when needed and his intelligence and cunning were far beyond Zhang Dingtian or Bai Xue. Lu Yin had the feeling that this person would not remain behind anyone. They would definitely meet again in the future.

"It's fine. There's plenty of time," he muttered to himself, drawing glances from the people in the command center. They had watched in the trial as he had captured dozens of students; they had assumed he was good as dead when he showed the gall to capture even Raas and Jenny Auna; who could have guessed that he would suddenly become a king? It was simply unbelievable, leaving them all curious.

"Show me all the footage of the surveillance cameras on the Perverserance," he asked bluntly.

A slightly older officer was put in a tight spot, "You may only see that if the pilot gives you permission, Your Majesty."

"Don't make me repeat myself. I'm ordering you as the King Zishan."

The officer hesitated for a moment before gritting his teeth, "Play it."

Screens all around them lit up immediately, constantly changing to show different locations. Lu Yin grinned in response; he didn't really care about the surveillance footage, he just wanted to test how far his status went. It seemed like this kingship would be more useful than expected.

Hmm? Right as he was about to leave, his attention was drawn to a scene where Xu San was getting beaten up. He narrowed his eyes and left.

.....

On the second level of the residential region, a few students had grabbed Xu San, "You're just a native, don't start thinking you're equal to us just because you managed to get on the ship! A savage is a savage, and will always be trash. Got it?!" Veron yelled, eyes glimmering with bloodlust.

Xu San's face was black and blue, but he remained silent. When Veron eventually snorted and called for the students to leave, he was coughing with his head bowed low, too afraid to fight back. Students kept passing by and glanced at him with mocking expressions before ignoring him. Most people who managed to leave the trial planets dealt with similar hazing, and no one thought Veron was being out of

line. To them, Veron had actually held back because of Lu Yin's status and merely beaten this man until he looked bad without doing anything lasting.

All of a sudden, a figure blocked the departing students. Veron looked up to see Zhang Dingtian and barked, "Scram!"

Zhang Dingtian pulled out his sword and moved it in front of Veron, "Apologize to him."

Veron's gaze changed and he burst into laughter, "Do you know where we are, bumpkin? If you use your weapon, you're dead."

As he spoke, a group of soldiers surrounded the students, "Lower your weapon immediately. Fighting is not allowed on the spacecraft."

Zhang Dingtian replied coldly, "So why didn't you stop them when they were beating him?"

"I'll say again. Put down your weapon immediately." A soldier shouted.

Xu San quickly ran to Zhang Dingtian, "I'm fine, let them go."

Zhang Dingtian's eyes narrowed and his grip on his sword tightened. More and more students arrived to watch the show, quite a few of them excited. They were the students who had run out of luck during the trial and been captured, so seeing an earthling in a bad state obviously delighted them.

It was at this point that Xia Luo arrived, threading his way through the crowd to move in front of Veron. He lifted a leg and drove his knee right into the youth's stomach, kicking so hard that Veron squealed and dry-heaved as his body curled up in agony. Everyone, Zhang Dingtian included, was stunned by his action.

Xia Luo turned and smiled at the Bladesage, "Is this okay?"

"Thank you," Zhang Dingtian put his sword away.

Xia Luo glanced at the soldier, "Do your job like you should. You can go now."

The soldiers gave him a long look and then left, but not before giving Zhang Dingtian one last warning glance. Veron kept coughing as he looked up and glowered, but Xia Luo's death glare forced him to hang his head. "Let's go," he said to the other students and left quickly.

Zhang Dingtian looked at Xia Luo again before leaving without a word.

It was only after nearly everyone had left that Lu Yin arrived, enquiring about the situation.

"He was the one who helped me, Boss," Xu San told Lu Yin.

Lu Yin nodded. "Thank you."

"No worries," the youth answered kindly, "They were annoying. I still have some things to do, so I'll be on my way."

Lu Yin thanked him once more and watched as Xia Luo walked away. After they were alone, Lu Yin turned to study Xu San, "Why were they picking a fight with you?"

Xu San shook his head, "I really don't know. I just came out to get some food and they approached me; said they thought I was an eyesore."

An eyesore? Lu Yin's eyes gleamed. Veron was certainly aware of Xu San's relationship to him, but still had the nerve to attack. Why? There was no way a mediocre student like that would have the guts to provoke the King Zishan; some sort of conflict had already started within the Great Yu Empire. Was someone already trying to eliminate him?

Lu Yin was positive that every move of his was being recorded and sent back to the Capital Star. Any trivial matter could be blown up by certain people, used to make assumptions about his personality, intelligence, morality, and more. It was all to gather information that could be used against him in the future, and this was only the start of the provocation. The people behind this affront would keep escalating until he'd had enough.

"I heard something interesting just happened. I wish I had been here to see it," Silver suddenly said with a grin, having appeared at some unknown time.

Lu Yin told Xu San to leave and turned to look at the man, "What were you hoping to see?"

Silver smiled, "I wanted to see a certain someone looking troubled. Maybe they'd curse you after you beat them up? Or maybe you'd just let them provoke you? It would have been fun to watch."

"Which kind of person do you think I am?" Lu Yin asked.

"Don't know," Silver answered nonchalantly.

Lu Yin didn't have the time to continue the discussion; he had to consider what his status as the King Zishan meant within the Great Yu Empire and gather more information.

"You don't want to chat some more? I know quite a lot about the Zishan Family. Maybe it could help you," Silver beamed at him.

Lu Yin looked back, "What do you know?"

Silver shrugged, "Not much beyond old news from a few centuries ago. For example, the old headquarters of the Zishan Family, their amazing food, battle techniques, the marriage agreement between the Zishans and Yushans, and so on."

Marriage arrangement? Lu Yin felt like he'd just heard something critical, "What marriage agreement?"

Chapter 68: Lu Yin And Silver

Silver's lips curved up as he watched Lu Yin with envy, "You're so lucky, kid. You get the fruits of your ancestor's labors, haha."

Lu Yin stared at the man, who simply continued laughing for a while before saying, "The Zishan Family had two marriages arranged in the past; one was with the Aunas, decided upon by the last head of that family. The other was with the Yushans, a promise between the two Undyings that's dragged on to this

day. While the Zishan Family was extinguished all this while, you're here now. That means those two marriages are yours too; I'm so jealous!"

Lu Yin frowned, "Marriage arrangements from centuries ago don't count for much in the present day."

Silver scoffed, "Oh? You think that's very long, now? Explorers typically live for centuries, The Undying Yushan has been in power for eight. Those promises from a few centuries ago aren't even half of one man's life; outside of The Undying Zishan, those that made these promises are still alive and well."

Lu Yin felt his heart drop at this revelation, feeling the incoming headache already. He'd thought he was a free soul, but now there were so many issues including an arranged marriage with the imperial family. If there was one thing he'd learnt about The Undying Yushan, it was that the Emperor took promises very seriously. There was a chance— no, it was almost certain that this marriage wouldn't be cancelled!

"That's not all you have to consider. The Zishan Family once controlled nearly half the Great Yu Empire's troops. While the Zishan Family vanished, quite a few of their former subordinates are still alive. Take Sigmund Mathers, for example; his family was once subordinate to yours as well."

"What else?" Lu Yin asked.

"A lot, but why would I tell you?"

"You've said so much already, what do you want? Just tell me."

Silver smirked, "Did you find something somewhere?"

"Nope!" Lu Yin's eyes flashed.

"You don't need to deny it, I can sense it in your cosmic ring."

"Oh? What can you sense?"

Silver laughed eerily and shook his head, pointing at his eyes, "Red."

Lu Yin narrowed his eyes, "That belongs to you?"

"Our first meeting was no coincidence. The things we were looking for weren't the same, but they were located at the same place."

"I can give it back."

Silver turned and looked into the distance, "It's fine, you can keep it. It might be useful in the future."

"That thing is useless to me."

"Only because you don't know what it represents."

"Does your assassination attempt on Zhang Dingtian have anything to do with it?"

"You really want to know?" Silver grinned like a fox.

"Two of the three times I saw you, there were zombie kings involved. You destroyed the ballistics and wanted to kill Zhang Dingtian because he ordered the extermination of the zombie horde. Are you connected to those things?"

Silver made a shushing gesture, "Don't say that; how could I be connected to any zombies? They're only a failed product of evolution, they have nothing to do with me. I just help move things around."

Lu Yin didn't understand; there were still far too many things in the universe that he didn't know.

"We're actually the same kind of person, my friend. I can sense it, which is why I came to look for you. Don't worry, I'll help you," Silver smiled.

"And when I reach a certain status, you'll make me help you?" Lu Yin asked.

Silver beamed, "I knew you were smart. We'll help each other out, it's a win-win situation."

"Heh, why would I work with someone I don't even know?"

"Eh, you can reject me, but I'm certain we'll be best friends in the future." The youth turned around and left, but not before tossing a piece of paper into Lu Yin's hands. It had some numbers, and the names of people in the Great Yu Empire and information about their duties. His voice trailed off into the distance, "The universe is brutal. If it weren't for you, Earth would have a dismal future. Just think about Qingyu, you couldn't even kill him in the end. And why? Because the world only considers itself first,"

Lu Yin sighed, took a look at the piece of paper, and stowed it away. He knew that one never had the advantage in a deal with the devil, but who was the devil here? Was it Silver, or was it himself? Only time would tell.

What Lu Yin wanted to do now was cause a commotion, the bigger the better. He wanted to know how much he could do as King Zishan in the Great Yu Empire before they reached the Capital Star, or it would be difficult to do anything once on it. If some people weren't afraid to make their moves, they had to be prepared for the repercussions.

Crash! The entrance to Perseverance's bar was smashed once more, which attracted everyone's attention. Ever since the students had returned from their trials, the door had not been able to stay undamaged. Lu Yin ambled into the bar and looked towards Veron in the corner, who paled and got up to flee at the mere sight. Star energy pushed all nearby students away, turning the chairs and tables to dust as a Spacerender Palm shot towards the escaping youth. A surprised Veron tried to block it with an arm, but was flung into the wall and started coughing up blood while glaring at Lu Yin with gritted teeth.

Everyone in the bar immediately left. Nobody had the courage to do anything about this, including the soldiers who had coincidentally been patrolling the area. In the meanwhile, the doors to the private rooms on the second floor opened and Huo Xiaoling and Yan Gang walked out, looking down in confusion. What was this guy up to now?

Lu Yin meandered over to Veron, looking annoyed. A look of horror filled Veron's face as he drew closer, and the student shouted, "What do you want?! This is a spaceship, not the trial. You can't attack me!"

However, Lu Yin simply grabbed the man by the throat and lifted him over his head, asking icily, "Who ordered you to bother me? Speak!"

Veron went red. He was the strongest in his academy, but could not fight back at all. It wasn't like he wanted to do that either, "I... don't know what you're talking about."

Lu Yin snorted, "I know you've got someone backing you. You must think I won't have the nerve to kill you, but the truth is your backer hopes I do just that. You'd better think this through."

Veron's expression changed. He had been ordered to challenge and provoke Lu Yin so that everyone on the Capital Star could see what kind of person the so-called King Zishan was like. If Lu Yin killed him now, the effects would be much better than not killing him. This would make it a fact that the King Zishan was stupid and cruel, making other families look down on him. This was perfect for many people, and the person who'd made him do this definitely wouldn't save him. Considering all this, he replied immediately, "I'll tell you, it's Raas! Raas made me provoke you!"

Lu Yin flung Veron aside and left the bar.

As he watched Lu Yin's disappearing figure, Yan Gang snickered, "What a fool. There's obviously someone targeting him and he's still causing a commotion? He thinks way too highly of himself."

Huo Xiaoling's eyes twinkled and she switched her gadget on to contact someone.

Meanwhile, Sigmund, Torry, and Shalosh got the news as well.

"What? He's gone looking for Raas? Quick, stop him!" Sigmund yelled, feeling vexed, "He's so, so stupid! How can he do this now?"

Shalosh sneered, "He's worse than I thought. Did being bestowed the title of King boost his ego? What a pitiful bumpkin."

Torry shook his head in disappointment, "Sis definitely can't get married to this kind of person."

Regardless of what these people were thinking, Lu Yin had already arrived outside Raas's room. He shattered the surveillance camera in the corner with a light tap and kicked the door in. Raas seemed to be waiting for him, and smiled disdainfully while saying politely, "Would you need anything from me, Your Majesty?"

Lu Yin simply kicked him without speaking a word. Not having expected the crazed violence, Raas subconsciously dodged only to be met with the Skybeast Claw. This was the seventh form of the attack, far more powerful than his own fifth form. Unable to avoid it, his body was flung outside the room and smashed into the metal frame. He coughed out blood and yelled, "How dare you hurt me, you barbarian!"

When approached again, Raas shouted and retrieved an energy gun from his cosmic ring. Lu Yin dodged the bolt easily; while such things could hurt Sentinels, that didn't apply to a realmbreaker like him who compared to Melders.

As he watched Lu Yin draw closer, Raas' expression quickly changed, "Save me!" Munoor quickly appeared nowhere, a loud explosion resounding and sending out shockwaves that sent Lu Yin a dozen steps backwards. Munoor himself retreated quite a few steps, fixing his eyes on Lu Yin's earnest gaze.

Chapter 69: The Great Yu Empire

The guards of the Perseverance had arrived by this point, including Sigmund, Shalosh, and Torry. Raas shouted in indignation the moment they arrived, "General Sigmund, he wants to kill me!"

Sigmund looked helplessly at Lu Yin, "Why did you try to kill him?"

Lu Yin glared coldly at Raas, "I didn't."

"You want to deny it with so many people looking?!" Raas hollered.

"Oh? Do you have any evidence?" Lu Yin scorned. It was only then that everyone turned to look at the monitoring camera, only to find that it had been destroyed long ago. Raas himself took out his gadget, having started recording the moment he learned Lu Yin was coming, but his face paled as he realized that it had been smashed as well. Lu Yin was no fool, and knew not to go overboard even when just probing someone. He still needed a reason to ward off public ire; one needed great power to break the rules.

"Trash," Shalosh muttered gloomily under his breath, but Raas continued to point at Lu Yin angrily, "You just injured me. Munoor saw it as well, right?"

"I saw everything," Munoor stepped forward, "If I hadn't intervened, Lord Raas would have been killed."

Lu Yin sneered, "Only an idiot would believe two people that were decimated."

"You!" Munoor was furious.

Secretly relieved, Sigmund leveled a cold glare at Raas, "Do you have any other evidence?"

Raas's expression warped, but then he retorted, "This is my room! He attacked me in my room! That's the evidence."

Everyone turned back to Lu Yin, who took out a gadget from his pocket. The screen lit up, revealing Veron's confession, "This man bribed Veron to deal with me; I was simply looking for him to return the favor. That isn't too much, is it?"

Everyone fell silent, and even Raas couldn't refute. He'd ended up taking a beating for free, and those on the Capital Star would only praise Lu Yin for expertly handling the situation. Lu Yin's arguments were sound, while his were the exact opposite.

"We have the facts of this matter, I'll deal with this. Now, disperse," Sigmund waved everyone off.

"Wait!" Lu Yin interrupted.

"Do you have any other requests, Your Majesty?"

Lu Yin's gaze swept across everyone, finally settling on Shalosh, "I just wanted to say that I might come from a primitive planet, but I'm no pushover. Some dogs better pull back their paws, or I'll chop them off one day."

Shalosh stared at Lu Yin with cold eyes, and he returned the glare. He was only an idle prince who couldn't handle an Explorer yet; even with higher status, it would be difficult to affect someone from the Thirteen Imperial Squadrons. However, a warning was still necessary, and this would allow him to probe the Empire's reaction. The type and extent of reprisal would determine how he could act in the future.

The crowd quickly dispersed, and Raas was brought away for treatment. Shalosh remained silent from start to end, while Sigmund didn't say much either. The matter thus came to a conclusion, and the

Perseverance continued to sail through the darkness of space. A few hours later, a punishment notice was sent to everyone, "Student Raas of Yu Academy showcased sheer indiscipline and defiance of his superiors. He will be demoted to a soldier upon return; let this be a warning to others."

Everyone was shocked by this news, and Lu Yin's silhouette appeared in their minds. The King Zishan wasn't simple at all. Even Lu Yin himself was shocked; his value in the Empire far exceeded his own imagination. The Vice Treasurer's son had been demoted publicly, which was a huge victory. It seemed like he had to adjust his own conduct in the future.

That scoundrel! A downcast Shalosh clenched his fist tightly; he was the one driving Raas all this while, and the blame for this would certainly fall back on him.

This incident suddenly left the Perseverance much quieter than before, with no one daring to create any more disturbances. One day later, Lu Yin was interrupted from his star chart reading by a middle-aged man in military garb.

"The Deputy General pays his respects, Your Majesty," the man saluted solemnly. There wasn't any custom of kowtowing in the Great Yu Empire, and military personnel saluted while courtiers only bowed to pay their respects.

Lu Yin smiled, "Good day, how should I address you?"

The middle-aged man replied, "You can call me Deputy, everyone on the Perseverance calls me so."

Lu Yin nodded, "You don't have to call me Your Majesty, it's awkward. Call me Lu Yin, Student Lu is fine too."

"Alright. The General sent me here to explain the Empire's situation to you. We'll be reaching the Capital Star in two weeks," the man explained, opening up a star chart when Lu Yin gestured for him to continue, "The Great Yu Empire spans thirteen filaments and is in the center of the Frostwave Weave, connecting north and south. Our domain is a straight line that roughly splits the weave into two equal halves, connecting to the Grandtop Weave and the Boundless Chaos Weave..."

Lu Yin had grown to understand the Great Yu Empire better over the past few days, so he knew this bit already. He was curious about the Capital Star itself; knowledge of the entire Empire was too broad a scope to understand in the time he had. However, all he knew was that the Capital Star was known as the Zenyu Star, and was ten thousand times larger in surface area than Earth. Three rings of land revolved around it, but what they were, he didn't understand.

The deputy pointed at a position on the star chart, "This is where the Zenyu Star is, and the three rings revolve around it. Different sections of the imperial forces are stationed there, and those armies are simply numbered according to the rings from the inside out..."

Lu Yin formed a mental map of a giant planet as the deputy introduced it, the capital of the Empire that was surrounded by the Ironblood Army and oversaw the thirteen filaments. After a long while of explanation, the man stowed his charts away, "Do you have any questions?"

"I would like to know more about the Thirteen Imperial Squadrons and the royal palace."

“My apologies; I do not have the authority to reveal that. You can ask General Sigmund for more details.”

Lu Yin felt it was a pity, “How long did you say it was before we reach the Capital Star?”

“About half a month.”

“So slow...” Lu Yin grumbled.

“It is average speed, and only because of the wormholes populating all thirteen filaments to speed up travel. Every warp crosses a vast distance that we couldn’t cover in even a thousandfold the time.”

Lu Yin thought of his time initially in the universe, when his family had discussed a sort of spaceship called the aurora spaceship that could disassemble materials to upgrade performance. That sort of spacecraft could theoretically be upgraded infinitely, and it was rumored that the best ones could tear apart black holes and protect themselves from top powerhouses. Those things were thousands of times faster than normal spaceships and were a man’s dream. Unfortunately, that kind of spacecraft was far too expensive for him to afford.

“Alright thank you, Deputy,” Lu Yin said, and the man saluted once more before leaving. He looked back at his own star charts and his gaze suddenly froze; from a bird’s eye view, the Great Yu Empire’s territory was like a sharp sword with the tip pointed directly at the Innerverse.

.....

Beams of light streaked across the dark skies; they could be meteors, or they could be star energy attacks by powerhouses. A lone spaceship was rapidly sailing through the emptiness, the man on its highest deck gazing at the stars. Qingyu swirled the wine in his glass, “I have a feeling that I’m forgetting something. Right, Starsibyl’s invitation letter. Pity I forgot about it.”

“Master,” Liu Shaoge came to Qingyu’s side and respectfully muttered.

Qingyu glanced at him, “Remember, you must not raise your hand when we are back in the clan. Don’t look around randomly, or you can be killed in an instant by anyone.”

“Yes, Master.” Liu Shaoge’s attitude was extremely deferential.

“Of course, don’t let anyone bully you either. You’re still my subordinate, the subordinate of a Nightking,” Qingyu continued proudly.

Liu Shaoge immediately nodded earnestly, leaving Qingyu pleased with his attitude. It was only this attitude that had convinced him to bring this native along; the family name was a little troublesome because of some ancient connotations, but that native planet had been under the Great Yu Empire’s control for so long that he had a legal identity, “In fact, I should be thanking you. If not for you, I wouldn’t have managed to rise from my deep slumber.”

Liu Shaoge’s gaze flashed, “It’s Master’s own innate luck to awaken as a Nightking, the future will definitely belong to you.”

Qingyu’s lips curved, “Well said, haha. When I formally inherit the Nightking title, I will return to that native planet and slaughter that garbage. You will return in glory.”

“Many thanks, Master,” Liu Shaoge bent his head lower, but his eyes were brighter than the stars.

Chapter 70: Genma Space Station

“The Perseverance has reached Genma Space Station. All departing students, please take all your belongings and leave in order.”

Standing beside the window, Lu Yin stared down at the space station below. Genma Space Station was a long distance from the solar system, and the first place that the Perseverance would perform a wormhole skip. It was quite ordinary to most people, but for earthlings like Zhang Dingtian and Xu San, it was a completely novel experience. The place was thousands of times larger than the Perseverance, a construct of all sorts of strange metals that looked like a giant beast brandishing its claws. Its flight machinery constantly adjusted its position ever so slightly, keeping it floating in one place.

Behind Genma was a protective net made of countless flying machines. Even though they were quite a distance away, Zhang Dingtian could feel the shocking fluctuations of Explorer-realm star energy from out back. The Perseverance settled down on a giant dock, and beam after beam of light flashed below as students left the ship.

Coming from all corners of the Empire, most students didn't need to go to the Capital Star. Over twenty of them stopped off at Genma and left the Perseverance, clearly in a more relaxed mood. One of them was Jeraldine, who finally left Lu Yin's side. Glancing back at the spaceship, she saw Lu Yin waving to her and glared firmly before mumbling something under her breath; they clearly weren't pleasantries. From his perch up above, Lu Yin raised a brow; this brat needed a beating.

Besides Jeraldine and Veron who were from the same school, Parlie's planet wasn't far and he left as well. Surprisingly, even Silver got off at this stop, leaving Lu Yin deep in thought as he watched the youth's back. That guy was unfathomable. Cooperation? They'd work out who'd played whom soon enough, but before that, he needed to understand Silver's backing.

Lu Yin noticed Sigmund's figure in the sky before returning to his observation of the star charts; it was only in outer space that he could truly feel its boundless nature. He was confident in getting to the fifth star within the month, so how strong would he be then? Every additional star was double the former's power, and he had suppressed a Sentinel Qingyu with four. Five could perhaps let him match Yu Academy's Melders; even Munoor might not be a rival at that point.

The Station Master of Genma was named Barudar, an Explorer whose combat level had broken past 10,000. He had been stationed here for over two centuries and worked conscientiously the entire time; while someone of his status didn't need to oversee the wormhole personally, he had made sure to be its primary guardian for the past 200-odd years and thus gained fame throughout the Great Yu Empire.

Sigmund quickly travelled behind the station and glanced at the wormhole before looking at the protective net of warships packed densely around it. Barudar's own ship was at the very center, and the door creaked open to reveal a middle-aged man in combat armor. He appeared before Sigmund in one step, “Greetings, General Sigmund.”

Sigmund respected this man quite a bit, so he smiled, “Station Master Barudar, we haven't met in thirteen years. How have you been?”

Barudar replied with a serious tone, "Haven't noticed any enemy invasion in these thirteen years."

"That's great. His Imperial Majesty has mentioned many times to thank you for protecting the borders."

Barudar immediately gave a military salute, "I'm a soldier of the Empire, it is my duty to protect the borders."

"You should be notified that there's a fringe planet called Earth that recently evolved. We have to trouble you to monitor it strictly, and dispatch people at the earliest opportunity to destroy the failed goods or the enemy may sneak in," Sigmund warned.

Barudar grew apprehensive, "The Neohuman Alliance?"

Sigmund nodded and looked towards Earth, "The zombies that failed to evolve cannot be discovered by the Neohuman Alliance. Even if they take just one corpse king, it will spell trouble for the Great Yu Empire. You must understand the importance of this matter."

Barudar remained stern, "I do. I'll send troops to Earth immediately."

"Also, don't harm the planet when you destroy the zombies. That planet belongs to the King Zishan now."

Barudar acknowledged and left immediately. Not long after, the Perseverance launched off again and flew towards the wormhole behind the space station. The moment it entered the wormhole, everyone felt their body growing weightless. But in the next moment, everything returned to normal, and the only difference was the change in the surrounding stars. They had appeared in another system's space station, not needing to pause for even a moment.

Xu San was relieved. He had been afraid in the moment they had entered the wormhole, as that darkness of the depths was not one that everyone could bear to look at. The wormhole had allowed them to traverse a rather vast distance, and they had moved from the solar system into another weave altogether.

The universe was divided as such. Galaxies were the smallest full units, followed by local clusters, and superclusters, and finally a filament. Most great powers of the universe were measured in the number of filaments they controlled; each one contained multiple superclusters and was vast beyond measure. The Great Yu Empire contained thirteen in total, almost dividing the Frostwave Weave into two halves.

Above the filaments were the weaves. The entire Outerverse contained 72 in total, of which the Frostwave Weave was just one. They each averaged about a hundred territories, and the Frostwave Weave was above average at 125. The Great Yu Empire only occupied about 10% of it in total.

The solar system was located in the fourth filament, and the Perseverance had just warped from the fourth to the third. They were headed to the Capital Star in the first filament, the center of the Great Yu Empire.

The training area was much emptier after the departure of a batch of trainees, but Lu Yin still saw a few familiar faces when he headed to the facilities. Those faces avoided him immediately, but he didn't particularly care; he had no plan to live with them in harmony anyway. The Zishan kingship was bound

to bring him trouble from the moment it had been granted to him, and he could already tell that he would be hated throughout the Great Yu Empire. But so what? It was a false identity anyway, and all he needed was the authority to influence some territory of the Great Yu Empire in the future. Of course, he didn't yet have that authority, but the kingship would help.

The training facility was quite large and could simulate different environments and regiments. Lu Yin ambled towards the gravity region which had a hundred gravity rooms, a place where he could train his physical body. Each gravity room was large enough to accommodate multiple people training at the same time.

Lu Yin found an empty room and increased the gravity to sixfold, warming up for a while before increasing it again. His body gradually felt heavier and the pressure on his organs grew stronger. His body was drenched by the time he reached 30x; this was the most that the average Sentinel could survive.

"Alright, time to train," he muttered, starting his normal regimen. It was a set of basic exercises that he'd used to toughen up his body so he could use the Shockwave Palm without using any star energy. Things like the Shockwave Palm and Spacerender Palm might not be as effective as other battle techniques, but he didn't wish to give up on them either. In a situation where he had no access to star energy, they would be a lifeline.

Outside the gravity room, student after student gazed in wonder at the figure posted on the console. Someone guessed, "Thirty times normal? Who's training there? Could it be Munoor or Yan Gang? Or Huo Xiaoling?"

"Or perhaps that one old soldier, there are Melders among the soldiers too."

"It's most probably a soldier. They can't get enough star crystals, so they train physically instead. There are many Sentinels with Melder-level strength."

"But they're just trash, so what if their bodies are so strong, they're just warslaves," someone retorted.

Not far away, several soldiers' expressions warped but they didn't retort. They had all come from trial planets themselves, and it wasn't easy to even enter the Perseverance. Unfortunately, they weren't qualified for the Great Yu Empire to pay for formcast remodelling, so they truly were warslaves.

"That's enough, why don't you just open the door if you want to know who's inside," another student was impatient.

Someone beside warned, "There may be trouble if you interrupt someone else's training. Thirty times normal gravity, it's very likely a Melder. Do you think you can take it?"

That student's face changed and he did not dare to proceed.